

Stories * Information
Tips * Results

Matchpointer

2003

Unit 430

Bridge Magazine

An *It's Your Bid* Quickie

by Doug Cowan

[The *It's Your Bid* answers were held over until we receive more responses, but **Doug Cowan**, one of the few who did respond, sent this problem which might be a good warm-up before the majority of readers who forgot to respond last time tackle the problems on the right edge of this cover page.]

You're North and the opponents are vulnerable. Partner deals and the news is good: a 1♣ opener, passed to you. You hold:

♠ Qxxx ♥ void ♦ A ♣ AKQ9xxxx

It's your bid. What is your response to 1♣?

(answer on page 9)

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It's Your Bid Problems

[Problems held over to next issue] The *It's Your Bid* system is on the back of this *detachable* strip. Or you can send answers on any scrap you find around. No prizes for people with pseudos but no name.

Name: _____

Pseudonym: _____
(to comment anonymously)

Flight: A B C
(Name and flight are required)

1. (IMPs, none vul.)

♠ T9832 ♥ JT7 ♦ 52 ♣ 754

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1NT	2♥*	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♥	5♣	???
(2♥=majors)			

2. (Rubber bridge, both vul.)

♠ A2 ♥ JT8762 ♦ KQ ♣ KJ8

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Double	2♣	2♠	???(a)
3♠	Pass	Pass	???(b)

A **two-part** question. If you claim to have bid 3♠ or more at the first query, we don't believe you.

3. (Matchpoints, none vul.)

♠ AJ53 ♥ AT98 ♦ 6 ♣ T642

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	???
(4♣=splinter raise)			

4. (IMP League, none vul.)

♠ — ♥ AJT96 ♦ AK65 ♣ KT86

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♣	3♣	Double
Pass	3NT	Pass	???

5. (Matchpoints, both vul.)

♠ K42 ♥ QJ6 ♦ AJ ♣ KJ743

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1NT	Pass	???

New deadline: August 8, 2003.

The "It's Your Bid" System (originally from the International Bidder's Club, a former monthly on-line bidding contest.) Problems may include other conventions explained within the question text.

- Natural, five-card majors. Limit raises.
- Over 1 in a major, 2 NT is game-forcing and shows 4-card support.
- Splinter bids: all double-jump shifts, by responder as well by opener.
- 2/1 promises a rebid; not game forcing.
- Strong jump shifts.
- After a reverse, responder's 2NT or fourth suit is negative.

- Opening 2♠, 2♥, 2♦: 6-card suit, 5-11. 2 NT=forcing, game try.
- Opening 1NT=15-17, 2NT=20-22, 3NT=gambling. Over NT openings or overcalls: Stayman, Jacoby transfers, Texas, Gerber. Lebensohl after 2-level overcalls (fast 3NT denies a stopper).
- Opening 2♣ artificial, strong. 2♦=waiting bid. Natural responses.
- Over opponent's take-out double, new suit is forcing at one level, 2NT=limit raise, jump shift is pre-emptive.
- Roman Keycard Blackwood (0314), 5NT asks specific kings.

- Support doubles and redoubles.
- Over overcalls cuebid is limit raise+, or any game-force.
- Negative, competitive and responsive doubles through 4♦, higher than that: value-showing.
- Weak jump overcalls.
- Direct jump cue-bid asks stopper.
- Common sense.

To enter: clip this portion of the cover and e-mail to ooga@shaw.ca, leave with your local club, or phone in answers only to 604/438-9735. Your name and flight is mandatory. Good luck!

Send us your problems for future issues!

Opening Lead

by Bruce McIntyre

One of these days—or years—I'm going to lose this gig. And when I do, it'll be because of this space, where it has become my tradition to explain in great detail (and small print) just why the *Matchpointer's* late-

In the early sixties my parents went to the home of a married couple to learn how to play bridge, mostly out of curiosity. The visit was not a success. They came away from the "lesson" thinking that bridge was some horrible game that provided reasons for couples to argue in the worst sort of way. The husband would correct the wife, the wife would contradict the husband, and very little bridge got taught. To my parents, then a young couple, bridge probably presented itself as a potential relationship killer.

So bridge was out as I grew up, learning instead fish and crazy eights and later rummy, cribbage, canasta, chess, backgammon. Poker even (as a spectator), but not hearts or spades, or any games with trumps or trick-taking. When chess books became boring I looked on the next shelf at the library and wondered about this game called bridge. I borrowed a Goren "learn to play" book and was baffled. What exactly was a *trick*? *Trumps*—what were they? I struggled through without really understanding.

Slowly, without ever seeing bridge actually played, I picked up the game just by reading, and when Mom saw the bridge books I'd borrowed, I learned how my parents had been turned off by one horrible night long ago. Could it be so bad? Nothing in the books or columns so indicated. At UBC I checked out the Bridge Club, and Gray

McMullin sensed that here was someone who wanted to learn bridge as a game and not as a social event. I must have been horrible, but eager to understand my errors, and Gray found ways to encourage that made me want to keep trying.

And now that I showed a clear interest in playing, my parents took notice. I got a copy of Alfred Shreiwold's *Five Weeks To Winning Bridge* for my twelfth birthday and tried to convert it into three weeks, then read it again and again. It wasn't long before my first visit to a bridge club, where I scored my very first slam, 6♣, against Nathan Dimitsky—slams I'd bid at UBC always went down—for a complete zero: the field was in 6NT. I laughed.

Fast-forward twenty years, and I still love this game. My father has a few friends who have taught him how it works, but he's reluctant to let me introduce him to duplicate: maybe some day it'll happen. Mom knows the basic rules but prefers the games she grew up with. They like to hear about my infrequent successes and they don't ask how often I win compared to others.

But in mid-April we had a sudden scare, involving hospital visits, uncertainty, and a mistyped e-mail by me that sent my brother and his family on a wild goose chase through the wrong hospital, all because of the proximity of B and V on a standard keyboard. *Matchpointer* work was relegated for a few difficult and scary weeks while we struggled to adjust to the new situation.

And so, instead of an issue a few weeks in advance of the Victoria Day Sectional, this will appear at the tournament. My apologies and my thanks for your inexhaustible patience and understanding.—Bruce McIntyre

Matchpointer

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Unit 430 clubs requiring more copies for their players may request them from the editor.

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President's Message

by Peter Morse

As the Unit Board year rolls to a close in June, there are a number of people to thank for their efforts in helping the various Unit 430 activities to operate successfully. First and foremost are the members of the Unit Board, who have worked hard to ensure that the Sectional Tournaments and Special Events are well-run with a minimum of disruptions for bridge players. It isn't always easy, as at times we have conflicting priorities of our two 'parents', the ACBL and District 19 on the one hand and the Canadian Bridge Federation on the other.

In addition to the Unit Board members, there are many others who have contributed to the success of our tournaments and other events. These include **Matt Smith** and **Brian Russell** and the other tournament directors who have conducted our tournaments with a maximum of organization and competence, and a minimum of disagreement and conflict. Also we owe a large thank you to **Audrey Loy** who works tirelessly behind the scenes at the tournaments, arranging the caddies, stocking the kitchen with coffee, snacks and drinks and managing our 'concession stand.' A recent feature at our tournaments has been the home-baked goodies that a long list of people have brought. Thanks to all of you and to **Diane Ayukawa** for coordinating this.

Your Unit Board has initiated a number of changes during the past year. The development and introduction of a Zero Tolerance Policy was the culmination of efforts that commenced in the previous Unit Board year, under the leadership of Past President **Bruce McIntyre**. A survey was conducted at the Evergreen Sectional to ascertain the opinions of players concerning Zero Tolerance, tournament sites, and the timing and site of Monthly Unit Games. This survey had an impact on subsequent Unit Board decisions. The

(continued on page 4)

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Summer 2003 **Matchpointer**

Deadline for submissions:
Friday, August 8, 2003.

Dates covered:
August 22—October 31, 2003.



Unit 430 relies on income from **Entertainment** books to help fund local bridge players of all levels competing in the national finals of ACBL and CBF multi-level events. **Jennifer Ballantyne** has been organizing this unique, win-win fundraiser for more than two decades, and because we are no longer the only group selling these books, we had been selling less each year. Last year and this year, many players made an effort to help local bridge by purchasing their book(s) **from Unit 430**. We thank them all!

Thanks also to our Entertainment booksellers:

Jennifer Ballantyne	438-3095	jballantyne@hotmail.com
Isabel Chernoff	531-6828	isabelc@telus.net
Louis Landau	984-8309	llandau@telus.net

Support local bridge! Buy yours from Unit 430. The 2003-04 books will be available for pre-order in September!

Monthly Unit Games returned to the VBC, with a change to Saturday nights, in accordance with the survey input. Our Unit Christmas party was a resounding success featuring an excellent 'home cooked' turkey dinner with many people contributing, under the leadership and coordination of Unit Board members **Pat Wotherspoon** and **Isabel Chernoff**.

The first three Monthly Unit Games of 2003 have drawn well, aided no doubt by the attraction of a favourable pricing structure and price reduction coupons, as well as the introduction of a 0-200 section when attendance permits. So, if you haven't come out yet, please come out to the next game on Saturday May 31 (7:30 p.m. at the VBC). If you have been out before, come back again. Thanks to Director **Richard Dunn** and to **Eugene Chan** of the VBC for all his help in structuring and promoting the MUGs.

Attendance at the last two Sectionals was up considerably over the comparable events in the previous year. While the attendance increase at the Fall 2002 Round-Up Sectional was assisted by the coincident running of the North American Open Pairs District Final, the 19% increase at the Winter 2003 Sectional (from 288.5 tables to 342.5 tables, on Super Bowl weekend) did not seem to be attributable to anything besides more people wanting to play bridge.

As for upcoming events, we have the Spring Sectional, which will be held May 16-19 at the Bonsor Recreation Centre in Burnaby. On Saturday May 17, following the afternoon session, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Unit 430 will be held. Please come along to voice your opinions on issues related to bridge in Vancouver and the Lower Mainland.

The AGM will also feature the election of new members of the Unit Board. A Nominating Committee comprised of **Cathy Miller**, **Gilbert Lambert** and **Peter Morse** is looking for candidates willing to participate in Board activities. Nominations may be made to any member of the Nominating Committee in advance of the meeting, or may be made at the AGM. If you have ideas, a little energy and time to attend one meeting each month please get involved.

Just being eligible to attend the year-end Unit Board party makes your efforts feel worthwhile.

Five members of the current Unit Board have indicated that they will not be seeking reelection. **Diane Ayukawa** has played a major role in the organization of our tournaments for the past several years, booking sites, negotiating contracts and ensuring that everything goes smoothly at the sites. **Larry Meyer** has served two terms on the Board, filling a number of roles including Special Events Coordinator, Secretary and Trophies Coordinator. **Isabel Chernoff** and **Pat Wotherspoon** did an excellent job setting up and running the Unit Game during 2002, and masterminding the Unit Christmas Party last year, which involved the participation of many Unit players. And **Carol-Ann Halliday** has served as STaC Coordinator for the past two years, a significant organizational job involving all the Units in District 19. All of them have contributed on Board issues beyond their area of responsibility. Thanks to all of them for their participation and our collective successes.

In closing, I would like to also acknowledge the tremendous assistance I have received from the two long-serving veterans on the Unit Board, **Bruce McIntyre** and **Jennifer Ballantyne**. As a new President, with only two years on the Board, there were (and still are) many issues on which I am historically and judgmentally challenged. Their input, offered willingly and supportively, has been most useful.

Thanks also to all the local Club Directors, who have assisted Unit Board ventures, including the MUGs and Sectional tournaments, by making announcements concerning our events and, in some cases, by closing their own games when the Sectional tournaments take place. A special thank you to **Ken Lochang** and **Eugene Chan** of the VBC for permitting the Unit Board to store our tournament supplies on their premises, and for their counsel and guidance throughout the past year.

And finally, thanks to the many players in Unit 430 who have offered helpful suggestions to me and to other Board members. While we may not have acted on all of them, we have listened and used your input to guide our activities.

Where's It's Your Bid?

Solvers baffled, contest held over

Apparently, hands with only one high card point are too difficult, as only a handful of people responded to the *It's Your Bid* questions in the Winter issue. In fact, I think I got more allegations that the first hand was a typo when it wasn't. They really did open INT, and I really am asking

what you would do over 5♣ with nothing more than a single jack. The new deadline is August 8.

Actually, a bigger problem may have been the backdrop "snowflake" graphic, which made it difficult to distinguish the ♣ symbol from the ♠ symbol, among other problems on the cover and in the contents column. Different photocopier settings, it seems, pick up these background graphics in different ways, and we must have gotten a scanner on steroids last time. We'll try to "lighten up" this time.

A Future Star At Last

by Bruce McIntyre

"On this deal," said the Hideous Hog (In Training) to an attentive assemblage of advanced improvers at the Future Stars Sectional, "we can see that East will pass as dealer and West will open 2♠ at favourable vulnerability, in third seat. If you opened 1♠ as dealer, I salute your courage and judgment: it's not that bad a hand. I think 2♠ may be a bit of an underbid in third seat, white vs red, but my exuberance in third seat when the colours are right is legendary."

The hands were:

WEST

♠ KQT843
♥ 43
♦ 72
♣ QT4

EAST (DEALER)

♠ J9652
♥ AJ
♦ T986
♣ AJ

North-South could make four hearts with careful play and East-West had only nine tricks in spades no matter how careful the play. I expected HHIT to try to explain the nuances of the Law of Total Tricks, but I should have known better: the Hog wanted simply to tell a joke, one he had heard from the morning speaker, a nuclear physicist.

"If both East and West wimp out and North gets to come in at only 2♠, what should he do with his fairly strong 0-5-3-5 hand? Double and risk a very likely diamond bid by partner? Pick a suit and hope partner hasn't got the other? What about 3NT: we can always hope that partner has a stopper!"

The audience was captivated but no suggestions emerged, so the Hog-In-Training continued:

"There's a solution for this: you leap to your five-card minor at the four level, and by bypassing 3NT the inference is that you have a good two-suited hand: the minor suit you have bid, and the unbid major. On this hand, North bids 4♣ and South will know what to do. This is called *Leaping Michaels* because it resembles the Michaels convention, and you always have to jump to the four level."

The joke was coming: slowly, but it was coming.

"Let me digress for a moment. We all play some form of the Jordan convention, where after one of a major, takeout double, 2NT shows a limit raise, right? The 2NT bid frees up a double raise to be preemptive."

The Hog delivered the set-up quickly so as not to get mired down in questions.

"On this deal, a similar thing may happen if the auction goes Pass, Pass, 2♠, 4♣ (Leaping Michaels). East has five-card support for spades and may feel it is

best to get to the five-level to exert maximum pressure. But with the two side suit aces, he might, instead of bidding 5♣ immediately, bid 4NT on the way, as an indication that he has defensive values and does not want West to consider bidding 6♣ over 6♥ if that is where the auction goes. The 4NT bid cannot be ace-asking by a passed hand opposite a weak two, so it must promise support. You can see the similarities to the Jordan convention, except for the fact that it is two levels higher."

Alert to reader: awful punch line coming.

"So in one of these rare cases when one side uses Leaping Michaels and the other side counters with a form of high-level Jordan, there can be only one name to be given to the convention: Leaping Michael Jordan!"

Only a few had followed along enough to laugh immediately, so the Hog-In-Training quickly attributed the joke to **Kelvin Raywood**, the morning speaker. HHIT forgot to mention that in Kelvin's opinion the hand didn't quite meet the requirements.

A few more problem deals later, the Hog uttered some platitudes and ended his talk, which had consisted of a few prepared remarks on some of the deals which almost made sense, followed by some ad libs on requested deals which often made no sense. Sheer audacity was required to bring this off, but HHIT is not lacking in this department. He even played a few deals for fun with some of the players while waiting for the afternoon session to begin, behaving himself admirably.

There was one session left in the tournament, a Swiss Teams, and at gametime, the Hog was informed that there were exactly twenty-seven eligible players in the room, and a fill-in was needed while a twenty-eighth could be lured to the site. The Hog sat down in the three-team round-robin and recited to himself the **Phil Wood Law** for allowing ineligible players to fill in temporarily for novice games: "no squeezes, no endplays, only the most basic of finesses whether necessary or not. No auction manipulations of any type. And no post-mortems."

Had there been anyone else around, wagering on how many boards the Hog-In-Training would last under these conditions would rival many national GDPs. Since the event, HHIT has been joking to all who would listen (and some that were trying not to) that "after twenty years of trying, I finally won an event at the Future Stars Sectional." The Hog's team did win, scoring up three wins by a large margin before losing in their last match but gaining more than enough VPs to win the event. The Hog played five

(continued on page 6)

boards of the first match with **Joan Steuart** and was replaced by **Ginger Chiew** for the last board of the set. Team captain **Manuel Espinosa** and **Gary MacDonald** were the other pair on the team.

Because of allegations that the Hog-In-Training affected the results during the five boards he played, the *Matchpointer* investigation squad has been asking questions about the suspect first match, won by the Hog's team in a blitz. The largest swing of the set was on board six, after HHIT had relinquished his chair. Thirty seconds after arriving to fill-in, Ginger Chiew found herself playing a doubled five of a major contract, and it made, while Espinosa and MacDonald made four of the other major with the other cards for a swing of 18 IMPs!

Boards four and five were both 12 IMP swings to ESPINOSA, as the Hog's opponents failed to get to vulnerable games reached at the other table. On one, the opponents played 3NT and went down on fairly normal defense, while 4♥ was unbeatable. On the other, a 1♠ opener reversed to 2♥ after a 1NT response and was left there. The 2♥ contract actually went down when trumps broke poorly, although nine tricks were available in notrump. The first two boards were routine pushes.

So, although it would seem then that the blitz was not due to the ineligible help, some questions were raised after the Hog-In-Training told us proudly about the third board of the set. This was his hand:

♠ AQ ♥ AQJxx ♦ QJxx ♣ Ax

HHIT's side was vulnerable and Joan Steuart opened 1♦ to the Hog's surprise. The Hog responded 1♥ with his 20 HCP (a jump shift might be taken as weak, leading to a disaster), and rebid 2♣ over the 1♠ rebid. Joan alerted 2♣ as fourth-suit forcing but raised to 3♣ anyhow, and the Hog sat back in his chair and wondered what was the best call under the Phil Wood Law.

"The biggest problem," said the Hog later, "was that I had run out of forcing bids. 4NT would be forcing, of course, but I could not remember whether we were playing keycard or not, so the responses would be useless to me. The question was whether the Phil Wood Law would recommend I bid 6♦ or 6NT, or even whether to chance a grand slam. I looked at my holdings in the major suits and chose the middle-of-the-road option: 6NT."

The Hog's later audience agreed that it would be a clear violation of the Phil Wood Law to bid a grand slam, and although a bid of 6♦ would put partner on play (an important point in the circumstances), it was really risking a needless loss of a few

IMPs if the opponents bid the likely 6NT.

Against 6NT, HHIT received a club lead:

♠ KJ53 ♥ void ♦ AK942 ♣ Q973

Small club led vs 6NT

♠ AQ ♥ AQJ63 ♦ QJ76 ♣ A2

"Thank you partner," said the Hog in that pleasing tone he adopts when prospects are not good. Eleven top tricks, no chance to take the heart finesse, and after the club lead, not even the option to force out the king of hearts to set up a twelfth trick. Not only that, 7♦ seemed a far better contract. It seemed the Hog's only hope was to try the queen of clubs from dummy, and if it lost to hope for some unlikely discarding error.

"Play low please," said the Hog, and when the ten appeared at his right, the Hog ducked! A spade was continued and the Hog won the ace without pause. He quickly unblocked the other spade winner from his hand, cashed the ace of hearts pitching a club from dummy, then sat back and considered his options.

The Hog finally continued with his five diamond winners, pitching a heart on the last. He now called for the king of spades from dummy, and pitched the queen of hearts on it! At trick eleven the last spade from dummy squeezed RHO, who held the king of hearts and the king-small of clubs.

Was partner's opening club lead from three to the jack or four to the jack? If partner began with three clubs, the Hog-In-Training also had three, and the only hope was to cover the queen of clubs if that was the Hog's next play. But the small club also had to be kept, in case HHIT continued with a low club from dummy. So the king of hearts would have to go.

But if partner began with four clubs to the jack, the Hog would have only two clubs and a fifth heart. Now the correct play was to bare the king of clubs, since the Hog could never return to dummy to score the queen. If partner began with four clubs, one might have been discarded, but then again partner might still be hanging onto them.

RHO thought for a few seconds before finally releasing the king of hearts, and the Hog-In-Training faced his cards. He behaved very well, pointing out sympathetically that either discard might have been right, and reminding the opponents that seven diamonds was there, so that they might in fact be winning a bunch of IMPs on the board, depending on what their teammates bid.

Trouble is, the Hog is wrong. Wrong to play for a squeeze under the Phil Wood Law? No, it was conceded later that even players in the Future Stars Sec-

Give Me A Hand

by Joerg Schneider

TALES OF WOE FROM VICTORIA

First, Board 4 on Friday evening. Both vulnerable, you pick up: ♠ KQJ932 ♥ AT6 ♦ 865 ♣ 2 and open 1♠ in second seat and eventually arrive in 4♠—no adverse bidding to warn of bad breaks! After the J♦ lead you see this:

Dummy: ♠ 85 ♥ 8432 ♦ AK ♣ AKJ74

J♦ led vs 4♠

Declarer: ♠ KQJ932 ♥ AT6 ♦ 865 ♣ 2

How do you play it?

In IMPs you have no problem as you have ten tricks on top, five trumps, AK♣, AK♦, and A♥. In pairs, however, the situation is not so simple after the diamond lead. Had a heart been led, you would only make four against best defense: A♥, A-K♣ pitching a heart, trump. West wins and must exit the T♠ to prevent the 8♠ from becoming a key entry, allowing you to set up the fifth club for a diamond discard.

But on a diamond lead eleven tricks are possible: A-K♦, A-K♣ throwing a heart, ruff a club to hand and play a diamond, trumping it for the eleventh trick. Should West overruff, you have lost nothing, or so I thought! Since the full layout was...

Board Dir: West 4 Vul: Both	J. Schneider ♠ KQJ932 ♥ AT6 ♦ 865 ♣ 2	4♠ by North Lead: J♦
WEST	SOUTH(dummy)	EAST
♠ AT4 ♥ QJ975 ♦ 2 ♣ QT63	♠ 85 ♥ 8432 ♦ AK ♣ AKJ74	♠ 76 ♥ K ♦ QJT9743 ♣ 985

tional are usually shrewd enough not to lead away from a king against 6NT, so the squeeze was the only hope, even though expressly forbidden by the Phil Wood Law—especially since it was in fact a pseudo-squeeze. But once again, there was a punch line:

"After being replaced, I wandered around for a bit, and then decided to go out and get a bite to eat. Imagine my surprise upon returning to find that my team was leading the field and my excitement when I found that they won their third round match as well, putting them far enough ahead to coast home. Especially since when I left, we were losing!"

...West not only ruffed the *second* diamond, but now returned a heart, which I took with the ace. I played two rounds of clubs pitching one of my hearts, and continued with the last trump from dummy. West hopped up with the ace, gave his partner a heart ruff, and trumped a diamond in return, for down two! **Robert Hamman** termed this type of event a *compression play*—you compress ten tricks into eight.

Next: the scene is the Sunday Swiss. You hold:

♠ Q9xxx ♥ KQxxx ♦ xx ♣ A

Your 1♠ opener meets a 1NT overcall from LHO, and is passed back to you. What now? Well, I bid 2♥, not the most brilliant bid in my bridge career. It went double, 2♠ by partner, passed around and doubled by the INT overcaller, and -1100 later (actually, by the time I was -500) I saw the error of my ways. Now, I hate to take minus 1100 to my teammates, but what happened there could make any grown man cry. At the other table this was how the auction began:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♠	1NT	Pass	Pass
2♥	Double	2♠	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	

Another mundane push, you say? Not quite! Our West player now bid 3♣ (!), got doubled (!!), and actually made it for +470 and (she thought) a nice pickup for our side. Sorry, pard, not this time! I did feel a little better knowing that I was not the only lunatic in the room to bid 2♥ on that hand.

(Editor's note: Joerg neglected to mention that I was his partner in Victoria on Friday. Very sporting of him to choose a hand on which I played a minor role, especially considering that over two sessions I provided him with enough poor play to fill the *Matchpointer!* You can see from the second deal that by Sunday Joerg had found better teammates! —McB)

We challenged this, of course. How could the Hog think he was losing when the opponents had missed two vulnerable games?

"On my way out, I saw Manuel Espinosa, and since he had finished the set of boards I asked him what happened on board three. The 1♦ opener somehow played in 6NT, heart void and all. Clubs were the unbid suit in the auction, and Manuel didn't want to lead away from the king of hearts or around to either of declarer's suits, but the club lead from KTx didn't work out well and they made all thirteen tricks! We lost one IMP!"

Philadelphia Tales

by Peter Morse

The 2003 Spring NABC was held in Philadelphia in mid-March and resulted in a number of successes for local players. The well-run tournament also featured some good late-night entertainment and snacks, and free beer (in small glasses) every night. My kind of tournament!

Dan Jacob and Gord McOrmond finished fifth in the four-session Open Pairs II event and combined with Bryan Maksymetz and former Vancouver resident Allan Graves to finish twelfth in the four-session Open Swiss Teams event. Julian Lévesque and Nigel Fullbrook placed in the top ten in the North American Pairs Flight C, having proceeded through local and District wide qualifying events. Also Samantha Nystrom finished off the tournament on a high note, placing second in the Sunday A/X Swiss Teams event.

Samantha also had a chance at fame and glory, having been selected as a contestant in one of the post-game entertainment shows, a *Hollywood Squares* simulation featuring top bridge personalities and bridge-related questions. Although she hadn't spent her younger years watching the real *HS* show on TV (ever), Samantha was eliminated in the semi-finals, on a 'trick' question for which the correct answer turned out to be the panelist whose 'square' had been selected.

Several interesting hands surfaced during the week. A couple came from a 0-3,000 knockout event which lasted six rounds. We had won our first four matches to survive to the semi-finals and, it turned out, were ahead by 18 IMPs heading into the last two boards, one at each table. The contract at each table was the same on the following hand, with E/W bidding to 4♠ without the opposition getting into the bidding. The hands were (North/South vulnerable, East dealer):

Board 18	Dir: East Vul: N-S	NORTH	4♠ by East Lead: K♦
WEST(dummy)		♠ A6 ♥ J842 ♦ 8753 ♣ K93	EAST
♠ Q85 ♥ 9 ♦ 9764 ♣ AQ852		SOUTH	♠ K97432 ♥ AKQ ♦ QJT ♣ 4
		♠ JT ♥ T7653 ♦ AK ♣ JT76	

(indicating a doubleton) and switched to a club. I played off three hearts, discarding the remaining diamonds from dummy, and considered the trump suit. I concluded that I could not handle a 4-0 trump split, and that 3-1 splits would generally be problematic, although some could be handled (as long as the singleton wasn't the 6), providing I was willing to 'bet on' the 3-1 split. But what if trumps were 2-2? As long as the A♠ of spades was with South, I was fine. So I proceeded based on this hope, by leading to the Q♣ but North won and led back a diamond. South now must make his J♠, setting the contract one trick. But with a little more thinking, I should have realized that if spades were 2-2 it was necessary to lay down the K♠, keeping the Q♣ in dummy in case it is needed for an overruff. Of course, laying down the K♠ loses an otherwise makeable contract if any spade honour is singleton with South. I would have liked to have had an entry to dummy, after cashing the high hearts, to be able to lead the first spade toward my hand, but South had removed that option by leading a club at trick three. When our teammates played this hand in the last round, South led the J♠, thereby killing any opportunity of beating the hand, and when a heart was returned, the clubs were set up for two diamond pitches, using the spades as entries to the club suit. 11 IMPs lost.

Now to the second hand:

Board 24	Dir: West Vul: None	NORTH	5♠ by North Lead: A♣
WEST		♠ AKJ86543 ♥ A4 ♦ QT5 ♣ -	EAST
♠ T2 ♥ K872 ♦ AJ93 ♣ QJ3		SOUTH(dummy)	♠ Q7 ♥ J5 ♦ 6 ♣ AKT97642
		♠ 9 ♥ QT963 ♦ K8742 ♣ 85	

The auction at our table was:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	1♠	4♣	Pass
Pass	4♣	5♣	Pass
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

The final contract reached at the other table was the same. I led the A♣, which was ruffed, and North then played five more spades, discarding a club, two diamonds and a heart from dummy. Partner has to find three discards and easily parted with a heart and a spade, but then, unclear as to the layout of the heart suit, discarded a club. This proved to be fatal, as de-

clarer now played A♥ and a small heart. Partner won the king and returned his last club, only to be endplayed. After declarer cashed his last trump (partner discarded his last heart and dummy a diamond) he threw partner in with the A♦, with a forced diamond return into declarer's Q-T tenace. If West has kept his third club, discarding a heart earlier, North cannot afford to cash his last trump or else West will be able to cash the setting trick in clubs when he wins the A♦. When the hand was played earlier at the other table, North had played only four spades before playing ace and another heart. West was then able to retain his clubs until the potential endplay became more evident, and therefore defeated the contract. Loss of another 11 IMPs—to lose the match by 4. Ouch!

A third hand shows that bidding conventions do occasionally pay off. The hand is taken from the final of a Morning Knockout Event, in which our teammates were **Mike Moffatt** and **Vicki Croome**. Holding ♠ Jxx ♥ AKxxx ♦ Axx ♣ x, I opened 1♥ in third seat. Partner responded 2♣, Reverse Drury. We play that 2♦ by opener now requests more information on responder's hand. Partner now bid 2♥, showing three-card support, with shortness somewhere. I bid 2♠ to enquire where the shortness was, and got a 3♦ response, which showed spade shortness (2NT would have shown club shortness and 3♣ would have shown diamond shortness). All of a sudden my 12 points looks a lot bigger so I bid 4♠. Partner's hand was ♠ x ♥ Qxx ♦ QJTx ♣ Axxx, a 9-point beauty. Even with the defense's best lead, a

trump, and a later trump continuation, the hand made five easily when trumps split 2-2. At the other table, Mike and Vicki played in a spade partial, making, generating an 11 IMP gain. This hand, along with a doubled game which partner made and a minor suit slam which Mike and Vicki bid while our opponents got themselves confused in a New Minor Forcing auction, pushed us to a 68 -7 margin in the second half, overcoming a 16 IMP first half deficit.

Finally, a double dummy problem, which my partner faced in Philadelphia. Having looked at it for a while, I don't think it can be made against best defense. Does anyone disagree? The contract is 6NT by South, and the opening lead is the 6♦.

Declare or defend?	NORTH(dummy) ♠ AKQ85 ♥ 52 ♦ JT73 ♣ T6	6NT by South Lead: 6♦
WEST	SOUTH	EAST
♠ 64 ♥ Q ♦ Q98652 ♣ Q984	♠ T9 ♥ AKJ86 ♦ AK ♣ AK75	♠ J732 ♥ T9743 ♦ 4 ♣ J32

Does your answer change if the opening lead is a small club? What if the contract is 6♣ by North, again with a diamond lead? Send your responses to the *Matchpointer* Editor. We will revisit this hand in the next issue.

(Cover Hand Answer)

How many of you remembered to use the Grand Slam Force? Partner had:

♠ AKxxx ♥ Kxxx ♦ KQ ♣ x

7♣ is about as cold as any contract could be and should be reached in 3 bids: 1♠, 5NT, 7♣. Yet in a reasonably experienced field at the Wednesday evening game at St. David's Church recently, only two pairs out of nine reached 7♣. I know of three cases in which responder bid 5NT but apparently opener forgot the convention! Two of them stopped in 6♣ along with the rest of the field, except for one pair where 5NT was

passed making six for a very cold bottom!

Almost everyone has read or heard about Grand Slam Force, but it comes up so rarely that when the right hand does come along, (the above is a classic), many would either forget to use it or forget to bid 7♣ with two of the top three spade honours.

For those unfamiliar with the Grand Slam Force convention, a sudden leap to 5NT, usually over an opening bid, shows trump support headed by a top honour (ace, king or queen) and a very strong hand. Partner of the 5NT bidder is asked to bid the grand slam with a suit headed by two of the top three: AK, AQ, or KQ. With less than

two top honours the partner of the 5NT bidder can bid the small slam as a negative response, although there are variations. Many bid 6♣ to show one top honour to cater for the possibility that the 5NT bidder has two. Others have a whole range of continuations, such as the scheme presented at the end of **Eric Kokish's** column in the May 2003 ACBL Bulletin (p. 41).

Another more modern option is Exclusion Blackwood. A leap to 5♥ asks partner to exclude hearts and show his keycards in steps, RKC style. The 6♣ response would show two spade keycards and the grand slam would then be easily reached.

—Doug Cowan

King Boru's Calcutta

Part 4 by Finnegan O'Blarney



Finnegan O' Blarney's tavern and mouthpiece...

Ah, there I am again, good old **Finnigan O'Blarney**, from the King Boru's Tavern.

When last I wrote, it was describin' after the second round of the Calcutta, but what ye didn't know was that even though **Gunther VanKanken** was the final cut to be sent fishin' for carp in

the Shannon, there was a last minute change. As we were all heavin' the lad for a dunk into the river, the thing was that me very own nephew, **C'Helain**, jumped into the river instead! "Sorry, me unc," said he, "but I have places to be, and things to do!"

E'en if he was in good position to maybe win the whole event, so into the river he jumped, and the "Rabid Bidder" remained in the contest as a result. "What a shame," says I to meself, "I was so much lookin' forward to seeing Gunther go fer a wee bit of a swim, hee hee hee."

So the new auction was held and was pretty much in line with the standings, thus yours truly, after winning the fine sum of 37,285 euros for the first half, went for the wee modest sum of 28,500 euros for the second half of the event, can ye believe that!

Barkeep—Whiskey!

As for that wicked brother o' mine, he again was sold to me wife, of all things, for 31,000 euros—what a shameless thing to do to yer husband, pure betrayal says I. But on the brighter side o' things, I got m'self one year's worth of whiskey, glory be! And the dear lad **Chris Diamond**, I got all to meself—hee hee hee—fer the wee modest bid of just 18,500 euros.

So, on with the fun and games, if I may say so. At one point, there I was with me own brother in the next-to-last round of the random round-robin team event, against both the rabid bidder **Gunther VanKanken**, and the lad **Chris Diamond**, a strange thing says I, as both me brother and m'self are standing at a dead tie for first place at this point. It was board number eight of the set, thus our 58th board of the day. The conditions were all vulnerable.

As North I held:

♠ KT72 ♥ T ♦ JT ♣ AKQJ3

G. Van Kanken	F. O'Blarney	C. Diamond	Me Brother
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2♥	Double	3♥	Pass
4♥	4NT	Pass	5♣

10 All Pass

A lively auction it was, my double showed four or more spades and a minor suit. My brother's pass I took as a forcing pass, showin' the values and a hand angled for the minors. 4NT asked for me brother to bid his cheapest minor if holding a marginal hand and to bid 5♥ if holding a good hand.

Board 58 Dir: West Vul: Both	F. O'Blarney	5♣ by South Lead: 6♣
G. Van Kanken	♠ KT72 ♥ T4 ♦ JT ♣ AKQJ3	C. Diamond
♠ 96 ♥ AQ987 ♦ A42 ♣ 865	Brother O'Mine	♠ QJ853 ♥ J652 ♦ Q63 ♣ 4
	♠ A4 ♥ K3 ♦ K9875 ♣ T972	

Bein' in the lead, West elected to make a passive lead of the 6♣, thus forcing me brother to pause and take stock of his combined holdings. Realizing that he needed to bring in the diamonds with one loser only, he set himself to work, by winnin' in the dummy with the A♣, and playin' off another round o' clubs only to find a 3-1 split, West holding three. As East pitched the heart jack, implying some heart values, now the trick was to keep East from the lead, and the only way to do so was by playing east for the QJ♥ and the Q♦, and West to hold the A♦. So me brother set upon to pull the last trump, and as expected East pitched the 3♣, showin' an odd number in the suit. Since West preempted 2♥ it was deduced that he started with two small spades, five hearts, three diamonds and three clubs o' no value (other than nuisance value), and had to have the A♦ or there was no reason for the preempt to be done. So me partner set to leadin' the J♦ from the dummy, and that was that, as one once said.

So the contract came home without any further problems.

Save one minor item: me lad **Chris Diamond** was in a bad way before the match, and now that result guaranteed that he was out of the tournament, and there went me money, all 18,500 euros of it. Both m'self and me brother continued to be amongst the leaders in the top four positions.

Goodness me: €18,500 lost! I need a drink, after takin' it on m'chin. *Barkeep: Whiskey!!!*

(Editor's note: We understand that this series has at least one more part, but at this time we invite **Mr. Diamond** to put pen to paper if he wishes revenge on **Finnegan O'Blarney**—or his mouthpiece—for calumnious writings in the last few installments.)

Overtrick Closeout Sale

by Bruce McIntyre

I arrived at the Victoria partnership desk ten minutes before gametime and they paired me up with **Tony Marsh** in the Thursday afternoon Continuous Pairs game. We filled out a convention card that had few frills and were ready to play in a few minutes. Few from Vancouver were playing in the side game, most in the main room playing Swiss Teams, and we had little trouble posting a 68% winning score, for 5.61 red points, some of which could have been converted to gold points if Tony or I had played in another morning side game. I thought I'd save some for our victims.

Tony played very well and I managed not to fall over myself as I usually do. By the end of the game I had sought out **Matt Smith** to ask if the side games were being scored in IMPs—by that time I had scored about nine undeserved and unexpected overtricks, and was wondering how many more I might have had if I had not claimed early on a few other deals. It seemed that an Overtrick Closeout Sale was in full swing. How many d'ya want? Here, we'll give you another one for free!

You can't score 68% without help, so with the guilty remaining nameless (all are from outside Unit 430), here are the *Top Ten Amazing Gifts* we received in that session. The purpose here is not to humiliate anyone. I know that no local players were involved since local players are taught better! What I want to show is that just because it's a Regional doesn't necessarily mean you have to "raise" your game. Not in the side game, anyhow. So here are the *Top Ten Things That Have To Happen In A Single Session For McBruce to Score 68%*:

Number 10—But I Thought I'd Be On Lead.

Board 29	Dir: North Vul: Both	NORTH	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST		EAST	
♠ 82 ♥ QJ 64 ♦ JT 62 ♣ AK5		♠ AQJT964 ♥ AK7 ♦ A ♣ 42	
		SOUTH	
		♠ K5 ♥ 85 ♦ KQ873 ♣ Q976	

We agreed to play few conventions, but one we did agree on was 1430, which I seldom play. I opened the East hand 2♣ and Tony bid 2♦ (artificial and game forcing and please note: if you play 2♥ as a bad hand you are not playing 2♦ "waiting."

"Waiting" refers to the structure where 2♦ may be followed by a cheap three-level bid to show a bad hand. If 2♦ promises a king or more, you are forcing to game with 2♦, not waiting.) After my 2♣ rebid, Tony went straight to 4NT and I responded 5♦ showing three keycards. When South failed to double this, apparently thinking that he would be on lead, Tony took a gamble and bid six *notrump* and without any clues, North tried a club and we had a shared top.

Number 9—Not Quite A Sequence.

Board 26	Dir: East Vul: Both	NORTH	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST		EAST	
♠ A42 ♥ KQ32 ♦ Q63 ♣ A74		♠ Q93 ♥ AJT54 ♦ JT94 ♣ 5	
		SOUTH	
		♠ K75 ♥ 87 ♦ 8752 ♣ JT32	

We had a INT transfer auction and North led a small spade from JT86 against 4♥. Tony played the nine from dummy and won the king with the ace. The remaining spade loser disappeared on the fourth diamond. North was careful to play his A-K doubleton in the right order to show his partner that he might have ruffed several tricks ago when he still had trumps.

Number 8—Don't Go Breakin' My Hearts.

Board 5	Dir: North Vul: N-S	NORTH	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST		EAST	
♠ AK ♥ JT9 ♦ Q8 ♣ AK9543		♠ T97632 ♥ A653 ♦ AKT ♣ —	
		SOUTH	
		♠ 5 ♥ 874 ♦ J97654 ♣ 876	

You may think it is impossible to make eleven tricks in spades with two trump losers and a heart loser that will not go away. A club was led and I pitched two hearts on the high clubs and ruffed one. I played the A-K of spades and found the bad trump break, and continued with the J♥, covered and won in hand with the ace. Now I played a third trump and North was in. Instead of cashing the high heart, North returned the last club hoping something impossible would happen. North was right: I ruffed,

(continued on page 12)

crossed to the Q♠ and cashed the 9♣, pitching my last heart. Presto! No heart loser!

Number 7—Unprepared Blackwood.

Board Dir: East 18 Vul: N-S	NORTH ♠ KQ64 ♥ KJT72 ♦ T8 ♣ KQ	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST	SOUTH	EAST
♠ JT982 ♥ A ♦ A763 ♣ 754	♠ A ♥ Q84 ♦ QJ94 ♣ AJ963	♠ 753 ♥ 9653 ♦ K52 ♣ T82

Opponents bid 1♠-(1♣)-2♥, 4♥-4NT, 5♣-Pass. No, not pass, RHO didn't mean to do that, and after a bit of a pause out came 6♥. Perhaps you think this is against the rules, but in the Continuous Pairs if they don't know what to do, you don't need the Director because they're not likely to get it right anyhow! Tony doubled 6♥ and I noted that he had not doubled 5♣, so I led dummy's first-bid (second-longest, to my surprise) suit, away from the king. Tony won the ace of diamonds, cashed the ace of trumps and led a diamond to my king and we had 500 for a shared top. Declarer had realized too late that 5♣ was the check-mating response to RKC.

Number 6—Count Your Tricks.

Board Dir: North 1 Vul: None	NORTH ♠ — ♥ AKQ94 ♦ A8654 ♣ A72	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST	SOUTH	EAST
♠ T6 ♥ T632 ♦ JT93 ♣ KQ3	♠ AKQJ943 ♥ J7 ♦ Q2 ♣ T6	♠ 8752 ♥ 85 ♦ K7 ♣ J9854

I don't remember what happened here at all; I have only the result to go by: 4♣ by South, making six. With thirteen top tricks, this is inexplicable. Perhaps declarer was superstitious.

Number 5—Spot The Spots.

[top of next column]

South played 3NT after Tony overcalled 1♠. Not wanting to give up a trick on the lead, Tony led a small heart and declarer risked immediate disaster by trying the ten, which held. With five heart tricks and the A♠, playing the club suit for three tricks without letting East in to shoot a diamond

Board Dir: East 23 Vul: N-S	NORTH ♠ 97 ♥ AKQT6 ♦ 742 ♣ J63	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST	SOUTH	EAST
♠ K432 ♥ J3 ♦ AQJT53 ♣ 9	♠ A85 ♥ 75 ♦ K86 ♣ AQ872	♠ QJT6 ♥ 9842 ♦ 9 ♣ KT54

through is not difficult. But when the J♣ fetched the king from my hand, declarer apparently missed the nine of clubs from Tony's hand, because declarer's next play was the queen of clubs. Note that it costs nothing to return to dummy in hearts, cash the hearts, leaving the ace of spades and the Kx of diamonds, then lead a club and finesse against the ten. Even if this loses, the suit is ready to run when declarer wins back the lead.

Number 4—Left-Eye Blind Defense.

Board Dir: North 21 Vul: N-S	NORTH ♠ 63 ♥ J96 ♦ A97 ♣ A6543	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST	SOUTH	EAST
♠ KJT84 ♥ A ♦ KQJ86 ♣ JT	♠ Q9752 ♥ KQ874 ♦ 5 ♣ Q8	♠ A ♥ T532 ♦ T432 ♣ K972

3NT (by East) was not exactly odds-on after the low heart lead, but I snuck a diamond trick, cashed my other singleton ace and then exited a diamond to North. North returned the J♥ and South overtook, handing me a second heart stopper and eight tricks. I won the ten of hearts and led a diamond to dummy, cashed the K♠ and ran the diamonds. My ninth trick came when South, looking at the J♠ and the T♠ in dummy, decided to keep the queen of spades and a small spade in the endgame, for reasons known only to himself. (Keep reading for what happens on Board 22 when this superstar declares.) Oddly enough, this was our only top. We had six "11"s and three "11½"s, so others got gifts as well, if not as often.

Number 3—No Finesse Untaken.

[hand record, top of next column]

South's astonishing line of play in 3♥ was this: a diamond lead won by the ace as I unblocked, a club to the ace and the queen of spades around to my king. I returned a small trump to the queen and Tony's king. Back came a diamond and I was in again. This

Board 31	Dir: South Vul: N-S	NORTH ♠ AT97 ♥ 743 ♦ AT87 ♣ 84	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST		SOUTH ♠ Q5 ♥ AQT86 ♦ 52 ♣ AKJ5	EAST ♠ K632 ♥ J92 ♦ QJ9 ♣ T97

time I tried a club and declarer finessed again and lost. Tony returned a spade and declarer wasn't finessing any more: she won the ace and led a heart to the ace, sealing her fate. Three other East-West pairs were +100, but I expect they were defending 4♥, which makes with normal play.

Number 2—The Undercall.

Board 19	Dir: South Vul: E-W	NORTH ♠ 872 ♥ Q3 ♦ KQJ754 ♣ 92	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST		SOUTH ♠ QJ ♥ KJ98764 ♦ 2 ♣ K54	EAST ♠ AT53 ♥ 52 ♦ T6 ♣ AJT86

South opened 3♥, Tony doubled and North thought a bit and then *undercalled* 2♦. This had two interesting effects. First, it allowed me to accept the insufficient call and "jump" to 3♣, clearly an invitational bid which expressed my values nicely. Had North passed, I would be on a guess as to what to do. Second, it fetched a diamond lead from South against 4♣, so that after the trumps came down and the club finesse lost, South had no diamonds to lead and no hearts to cash, the ace of hearts still in dummy. Eleven tricks, eleven and a half matchpoints.

Number 1—Trumps Are Always My Longest Suit.

Board 22	Dir: East Vul: E-W	NORTH ♠ J8 ♥ K9832 ♦ Q ♣ AQ432	Victoria Regional Side Game
WEST		SOUTH ♠ AKT93 ♥ J ♦ AK97654 ♣ —	EAST ♠ 64 ♥ A7654 ♦ T2 ♣ KJ65

An agonized wife-husband auction ended at 5♦ by South. Tony led the T♣ and declarer won the ace and pitched away his heart loser. A club ruff followed and a diamond to the queen put declarer in dummy for the last time—we thought. Declarer now led a small heart from dummy and "ruffed" it with the 3♣. Tony won his queen and just as Tony continued with a third round of clubs, declarer led a small diamond from his hand. Two cards hitting the table at once baffled the declarer, and when the Director was called, there was much confusion, a little bit of coaching by dummy, and a grumpy admission by declarer that he was in *spades* and was going to make seven! The Director heard from everyone, including dummy who chattered throughout, then informed declarer that he was in diamonds, and ruled that the small diamond led could be returned to declarer's hand without penalty. "Fine," said the declarer, and the Director left the area. The club lead was not covered and declarer again "ruffed"—with *another* small spade. Sure enough, once again declarer and Tony led a card to the next trick at the same time, and dummy began yammering away again while I called the Director back trying not to laugh out loud. This time the declarer was *adamant* that he was in spades! "Why would I want to be in diamonds when my spades are longer?" (They were at that point.) "I don't understand why this guy keeps playing cards out of turn deliberately!" Final result was down one, and somehow we got only 10½ on this one!

I spent the rest of the tournament in the main room where opportunities were harder to come by, but all Regionals and NABCs these days have these side games (often called the Continuous Pairs) where the road is smoother and you can win a fair amount of masterpoints with a little luck. You can see that the level of mistakes we saw during our set, mostly simple errors in defense or declarer play, were such that would be seldom seen in the main room. And yet most of the players we encountered had oodles of conventions marked on their cards and spent most of the time talking about bidding, even after blowing two tricks on defense inexplicably, or compressing twelve tricks into ten as declarer. Some people seem to play the game as though trick-taking is trivial and bidding is all-important: if the opening lead is a heart from KQJxx against 4♣-Pass-Pass-Pass, and various declarers make anywhere from seven to twelve tricks in 4♣, these folks will look at the traveler and assume that others made different opening leads! They're all there waiting for you in the Continuous Pairs at your local Regional. Play a simple game well there and you'll do fine, and you'll be amazed at the masterpoints you bring home.

[The Matchpointer welcomes Aidan Ballantyne as a regular contributor. With this issue, Aidan begins a series of articles that investigates, through *dialectics*, the qualities that make up the complete player.]

Bridge Dialectics

by Aidan Ballantyne

PART I: SMALL PICTURE, BIG PICTURE

It is often said that lawyers make good bridge players. Perhaps one reason is that winning a case, like winning a bridge hand, requires the mental agility to shift focus back and forth between the small detail and the big picture. For example, the detail for an O.J. attorney could be the specific procedures used by the police and lab to respectively collect and analyze a sample of DNA, while the big picture is the broader objective of using related testimony to create doubt in a jury's mind that DNA science is reliable. For an expert bridge player, the detail could reside in the best way to play a suit combination, while the bigger picture could be the best way to combine chances in many suits to attain the overriding goal of making a contract. Here's an illustrative deal borrowed from the recent CNTC zone final in Victoria:

Dummy: ♠ AKQ3 ♥ J85 ♦ AJ9 ♣ J86

Declarer: ♠ 9 ♥ A64 ♦ K764 ♣ AKT74

You are in 6♣ and receive the K♥ lead. East plays the 3♣ as you win in hand with the ace. Plan the play.

The obvious options are:

—Pitch the two heart losers away on the top spades and then hope to bring in the clubs and diamonds with only one loser;

—Pitch two diamonds on the spades, hoping to avoid a club loser and eventually lead up to the J♥, playing West for Q♥ (likely, given the lead).

An evaluation of those options requires analyzing the best way to play clubs for five winners. Since you cannot handle 5-0 club breaks or any hand where the Q♣ is third or longer offside, the relevant combinations are those listed in

the table:

	WEST	EAST
1.	♣Q	♣9532
2.	♣2	♣Q953
3.	♣3	♣Q952
4.	♣5	♣Q932
5.	♣9	♣Q532
6.	♣Q2	♣953
7.	♣Q3	♣952
8.	♣Q5	♣932
9.	♣Q9	♣532
10.	♣32	♣Q95
11.	♣52	♣Q93
12.	♣92	♣Q53
13.	♣53	♣Q92
14.	♣93	♣Q52
15.	♣95	♣Q32
16.	♣532	♣Q9
17.	♣932	♣Q5
18.	♣952	♣Q3
19.	♣953	♣Q2
20.	♣9532	♣Q

If you elect to pitch hearts first and then play clubs, it is impractical to assume combinations #1 and #20, due to limited dummy entries. It would seem that, focussing primarily on the club suit, the percentage play is to begin by leading the J♣ which is a winner in 14 out of 20 cases (#2-5, and #10-19).

Does the above analysis reflect the way you would approach the hand? If so, you getting bogged down in the detail and are forgetting the bigger picture: how best to combine your chances in clubs, diamonds and hearts (rather than placing too much weight on the club suit).

How about this line of play? Win the heart and play two top clubs. If the Q♣ drops you are a cinch. Draw the remaining trump and play two top diamonds ending in dummy. If the ♦Q-10 happen to drop you can pitch your two losing hearts on the spades and claim. If nothing miraculous happens in diamonds, pitch the two diamond losers and arrange to lead up to the J♥.

If the Q♣ does not drop but the clubs are 3-2, abandon trumps, leaving the Q♣ out, pitch your heart losers on the spades, play a diamond to the ace and finesse the J♦. If that works, you can claim (ruffing the fourth diamond if the suit is 4-2).

If the clubs break 4-1 and you do not catch the Q♣ when playing out the ace-king, you will need some luck but you are far from dead. You can pitch your heart losers on the spades, and use the J♣ to force out the Q♣. You plan to draw trumps and hope for a successful diamond finesse, and then either find diamonds breaking or a successful squeeze variant).

You don't need to get into the detail to appreciate the attractiveness of this third option. Usually, your attempt to drop the Q♣ singleton or doubleton will fail, but the trump suit will break 3-2 and you need only a successful diamond finesse. At that point, you are no worse off than those who banked on the club finesse, but you have given yourself many extra chances in the meantime.

The full deal:

2003 CNTC BC
Zone Final

WEST

♠ 862
♥ KQT2
♦ 853
♣ Q5

NORTH

♠ AKQ3
♥ J85
♦ AJ9
♣ J86

SOUTH

♠ 9
♥ A64
♦ K764
♣ AKT74

6♣ by South
Lead: K♥

EAST

♠ JT754
♥ 973
♦ QT2
♣ 932

Here are a few more examples of small picture—big picture dichotomies in bridge:

SMALL PICTURE

- ♠ Defense:
Figuring out what card to use for a particular high-low defensive signal.
- ♥ Bidding:
Concentrating on finding a fit (the “where should we play?” question).
- ♦ Declarer play:
Establishing a side suit.
- ♣ Declarer play:
Analysing *a priori* odds in a particular suit.

BIG PICTURE

- ♠ Defense:
Appreciating the broader context and purpose of the signal (suit preference, count, attitude).
- ♥ Bidding:
Understanding the overall bidding objective: is it a partscore, game or slam hand (the “level” question).
- ♦ Declarer Play:
Managing related hand entries.
- ♣ Declarer play:
Appreciating how the change during the course of play, based on what is happening in other suits.

Serious students of bridge are encouraged to explore such dialectics through reading, thoughtful analysis and experimentation. The result will be “synthesis” in the form of improved mental agility and a better understanding of which dichotomy prevails in various circumstances.

Next issue we will explore the following bidding dialectic: “blasting” vs. “science.”

Readers are invited to send their thoughts on bridge dialectics to the author (write c/o the *Matchpointer*).

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The UPRS Explained

by Bruce McIntyre

At the end of this article you will find a list of players ranked in order of how well they have fared in recent local events. The rankings are determined by a new system I devised last year. Instead of using the masterpoint system, I created a system where the points given to winners do not depend on attendance, and decay over time, so that the ratings always depend most on who has done well *recently*. The result is the UPRS, the Unit Player Rating System.

To me, it seems there is an inordinate amount of interest in these types of lists, but that's just me: you will probably want to know, so this gives me a chance to explain how it all works.

First of all, it is important to note that the only games that count in these lists are Unit-run events that take place entirely within Unit 430. Sectionals—including the Future Stars, IMP League, Monthly Unit Games, Unit Finals of the NAOP and other special events. Not covered: NABCs, Regionals, STaC games, Club games, District or Zone Finals of Special events.

The ACBL masterpoint awards for an event are based on how important or prestigious the masterpoint system determines it to be, and on how many players participate. UPRS awards do not distinguish between a 37-table two-session open pairs and a 38-table two-session open pairs. Similar events pay the same amount of points regardless of their attendance.

The people who win UPRS points are those who finish in the overalls for each strat, according to the ACBL system. This does depend a little bit on attendance, but there's no easier way to do it. Second wins half of the award for first place, third wins one-third, fourth wins a quarter, and so on. In the ACBL, ties split the points, two pairs tied for seventh-eighth share one-seventh plus one-eighth of the first place award (13.39%). The UPRS simplifies this a little and gives both pairs $1/7\frac{1}{2}$ of the first place award (13.33%), but this is splitting hairs.

There are three separate, UPRS lists, and players may qualify for any or all three. The system is designed so that a Flight A win is eight times as much as a Flight B win, which in turn is worth $12\frac{1}{2}$ times as much as a Flight C win. If your total in Flight B or Flight C is about the same as your total in the next higher list, you may not be as high on the higher list, but you have concrete evidence that you are ready to move up to the next level! It's not intended that you add your totals on the three lists together: the sum would be meaningless.

How does the system decide what events

score points towards which list? Any game or strat restricted to non-Life Masters scores points toward the Flight C list. Any game or strat without an upper masterpoint limit, or with a limit which allows a player with exactly 2500 masterpoints to play, scores points towards the Flight A list. Anything in between scores points towards the Flight B list.

(More hair-splitting: I thought there was a problem in the programming when I discovered that I had somehow gotten some Flight C points somewhere, but it turns out that bracketed knockouts are a rule unto themselves, and occasionally a Life Master will get a few C points by doing well in a low bracket.)

Quite often in a stratified or stratiflighted game there will be two or more sets of overall winners counted toward the same UPRS list. For example, the Flight A and Flight X IMP League winners both score on the UPRS A list. In this and similar cases, the lower ranked strat or flight scores one half the points of the one above it. In a Future Stars Sectional stratified games, all UPRS awards are on the Flight C list, but the games have three strats. The top strat gets the full award, the second gets one half, and the third gets one-quarter. If you place in two or three strats, the system gives you only the highest award towards any of the three UPRS lists, but you might still score on two or even all three UPRS lists for the same game. For example, if two non-Life Masters win Flight B and Flight C of a pairs game, they get the Flight C award on the C list, and the Flight B award on the B list.

Now for the fun part. Every time the sun rises, everyone loses 0.3788354% of their accumulated total on all lists. No kidding. This is not a number I picked out of thin air. Doing this means that an award of 1,000 points will decay to be worth only 500 after six months, 250 after a year, 62.5 after two years, and less than one point after five years. (It's averaged out to take leap years into account.) This means that to keep your standing in the lists you have to keep playing—and winning overall awards! If you win a bunch of local events over the course of two or three months and then leave town for a year, you will slide further down the list as time goes by. If you become ineligible for Flight B or C events, your points there will decay, giving rising stars a chance to take your place.

Notice how this differs from the ACBL masterpoint system, where some who have played for decades have huge masterpoint totals that are mostly indicative of experience and how often they play at the big tournaments, but don't always indicate how well they've done recently. Some years ago Bob Cole on Hockey Night In Canada noted Maurice Richard

in the stands and asked Harry Neale how many goals he thought the Rocket would get in the modern NHL. Harry said, "two or three. You have to remember—Maurice is nearly seventy years old." If the tennis rankings were based on career wins Martina Navratilova would still be ranked #1.

I think a modern ranking system should indicate recent success and not career totals, like the ranking systems for pro tennis and golf do, and the "power rankings" for professional sports teams do. Part of the reason I have entered into my computer over 4,800 winners of local events since the year 2000 is to show that this type of ranking system is possible with today's home computers. (Don't worry: there were shortcuts—it really didn't take as long as you think.)

Let me list the events included in the UPRS and the awards for first place in Flight A. From the Flight A first-place award you can compute the Flight B award by dividing by 8 and the Flight C award by dividing by 100. From most important downwards, here they are:

IMP League Regular Season—50,000. All teams finishing average or better in Victory Points, or having more wins than losses, or making the playoffs, receive UPRS awards dated April 30.

This year for the first time I noticed a small problem with this rule: in Flight B the eighth place BRETON team won more than they lost but missed the playoffs. The rule says they get points, but the seventh place PAUL team also missed the playoffs by a few VPs, but lost more than they won. It seems silly to give points to #8 but not #7, so the revision is that the lowest-ranked team eligible for points, plus everyone above them, gets UPRS points.

Sectional Two-Session Event—30,000. This can be a pairs event or a teams event.

IMP League Playoffs—25,000. To receive UPRS awards for the playoffs a team must win at least one playoff match, or be awarded a bye based on its regular season standing. These awards are dated June 30.

Why is the IMP League the highest ranked event in the UPRS? Because teams spend seven to sixteen sessions to decide the final outcome! No other Unit-run event is tougher to win by lucky breaks.

NAOP Unit Final—20,000. Almost as tough as a Sectional championship to win: you need to qualify at a club game, then survive the two-sessions of the Unit Final against the best pairs in the Unit.

Sectional One-Session Event—10,000. This must be a championship pairs or teams event: open side games concurrent with trophy events count less.

CWTC/COPC/CNTC Unit Final—6,000. These days, the Unit Finals of these events have gone the way of the dodo bird, but if there is ever some sort

of revival of these events, they do tend to attract a good field and deserve decent UPRS awards.

Sectional Open Side Game—5,000.

Sectional Bracketed Knockout Teams. A top bracket win is scored on the A list and is worth 5,000 for a three-round knockout, 15,000 for a (rare) four-round knockout. If there are two brackets, the second bracket is scored on the B list. A third bracket is scored on the C list. With four brackets, the second goes on the A list at half-rate, and with a fifth, the fourth is added to the B list at half rate. And so on.

MUG Christmas Party Game—1,600. A 60% bump for the Christmas Party Game, because of the increased turnout—and because it seems right to have the final event of the calendar year worth a bit more.

Sectional Consolation Final—1,000. You don't really expect a major award for winning an event full of people who had a bad game in the afternoon, do you? (If the consolation is not stratified, a recent innovation, all awards are on the B list and first place is worth 200.)

Monthly Unit Game—1,000. In some months this is the only UPRS event on the schedule.

Future Stars Sectional Events—50 (on the C list). Not so long ago the Future Stars Sectional was raised to 0-200 MP from its original limit of 0-100. If they raise it again in future (nobody has yet suggested it yet, but masterpoint inflation may make that necessary) to NLM, the award will be raised to 125.

Sectional Future Master (0-100) Events—20 on the C list, **50** for a two-session event.

Again: NABCs, Regionals, District Finals of the NAOP or GNT, Zone Finals of the CNTC or CWTC, all STaC games, and local club games of all types do NOT count toward the UPRS rankings. There are two reasons for this. One is that my computer would explode if my fingers survived the data entry. The other is that one objective of the UPRS to promote attendance at Unit-run events. If the publication of the leaders encourages a few more people to come out to improve upon or perhaps to protect their position on the leader board, it will be worth my time and effort in setting it up.

Is the UPRS affected by my own biases about which events are more important than others? Sure, probably. My idea in devising the system was to award the most points for winning events that were significant statistically by their nature. A two-session event is harder to win by lucky breaks than a one-session event. The IMP League is a lot of fun but it is tough: if you survive eight to twelve matches in a round-robin and finish first, this is strong evi-

dence that you deserve to go up in the UPRS rankings. Sectional games are tougher to win than Monthly Unit Games. I think the awards are reasonable, but some may disagree.

Another small point is that only events since 2000 have been entered. The Flight A first place award for the 1998-99 IMP League would be worth about 250 points now, so the rankings presented may be off a small bit because of the lack of earlier events. As time goes on, those small errors will become miniscule: by 2005 virtually all potential effects from the pre-2000 events would be eliminated.

As an illustration of how success can affect your ranking, let me show you my ups and downs in 2002. Going into 2002 my #29 ranking on the B list (with 38.2% of the leader's total) was mostly due to a series of low overall awards at 2001 Swiss Teams, a few Unit Game placings, and a Flight B IMP League shared victory in 2000. I managed to hold on to #29 despite winning nothing until the March sectional, where winning nothing cost me ten places, down to #39 with 30.2% of the top score. Fine teammates in the Flight B IMP League staged a rally and we snatched a playoff spot with a late run. I was in the right place at the right time at the April Unit Game, and managed to get a good partner in **Ken Danielsen** but still couldn't quite win. At the end of April I was up to #18 (44.5% of the leader's total).

There are no UPRS points for chairing the Annual General Meeting, which was the most exciting thing I did at the May 2002 Sectional, and I went back down to #27 in the end of May standings. The IMP League

playoffs were not a success and I dropped another spot to #28 (30.7% of the top score) by the end of June, where I stayed for two months.

At the September sectional I managed a rare win (for me) with **Diane Ayukawa** in the Flight B pair game on Saturday and suddenly I was up to #5, with (79.9% of the leader's total)! My only result at the November sectional was a low overall in the Swiss Teams, and I dropped to #6 (63.0% of the leader) by the end of the year. I missed the January sectional and failed to score in the early 2003 Monthly Unit Games, and as a result I stand in an uneasy #11 spot on the end of February lists as this is written, with 3,726.82 points, 51.5% of the leader's total.

At that point (end of February) I had only 281.67 points in the Flight A list and I needed a telescope to see the leaders at #327. Just below me on the B list at #12 was **Don Keith** at 3,597.48. Don was #154 on the A list with 4,141.01 points. This indicates that Don is more than ready to do battle comfortably in Flight A, and exposes me for the sniveling Flight B coward that I am. Clearly the system works well!

Anyone not on the lists presented here may be on the monthly Top 200 lists the computer churns out once the data is entered. Let me know if you are interested and I'll tell you how you are doing.

(On the next page are "thirteen tables" of players for each UPRS flight, with the standings computed at the end of the May Monthly Unit Game. The last column shows the percentage of the leader's total. When the points decay, this percentage stays constant.)

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Wednesday, July 2 (am)

Monday, August 18

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February 2003:

Rick Smilie

March 2003:

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Flight A UPRS Standings

1	Dan Jacob	127,694.01	(leader)
2	Gord McOrmond	113,661.33	89.011
3	Larry Hicks	104,416.06	81.771
4	Bryan Maksymetz	102,781.10	80.490
5	John Hurdle	99,836.55	78.184
6	Aidan Ballantyne	72,359.61	56.666
7	Ron Borg	71,556.96	56.038
8	Gerry McCully	70,279.79	55.038
9	Katrin Litwin	69,867.54	54.715
10	Don Brazeau	69,181.76	54.178
11	Gord Davis	68,069.00	53.306
12	Nathan Divinsky	63,066.57	49.389
13	Don Sache	56,421.12	44.185
14	Doug Hansford	52,994.72	41.501
15	Cam Doner	44,269.51	34.668
16	Greg Abour	43,985.20	34.446
17	Rhonda Foster	41,881.69	32.798
18	Ben Takemori	38,871.29	30.441
19	Christina Jacob	36,552.99	28.625
20	Craig Zastera	36,062.01	28.241
21	Bill Goldstone	32,305.33	25.299
22	Pearl Minkoff	32,237.77	25.246
23	Mark Eddy	32,109.57	25.146
24	Mike Takemori	31,748.09	24.863
25	Mike Wilson	31,600.05	24.747
26	Stan Bodlak	30,602.95	23.966
26	Sandi White	30,602.95	23.966
28	David (Vcr) Walker	30,528.55	23.908
29	Stanford Christie	28,222.80	22.102
30	Doug Fraser	24,983.57	19.565
31	Paul Hagen	24,465.17	19.159
31	Cam Lindsay	24,465.17	19.159
33	Mike Hargreaves	24,269.40	19.006
34	Trudy Hurdle	23,693.48	18.555
35	Brad Bart	22,759.80	17.824
36	Sheila Sache	22,281.18	17.449
37	Richard Christie	22,078.13	17.290
38	Gilbert Lambert	21,773.37	17.051
39	Michael Yuen	21,417.65	16.773
40	Ray Miller	20,680.27	16.195
41	Tony Remedios	20,382.06	15.962
42	Greg Barszcs	19,063.68	14.929
43	Jan Groom	18,967.73	14.854
44	Doreen McOrmond	18,456.43	14.454
45	Les Fouks	18,417.33	14.423
46	Waldemar Jez	18,283.27	14.318
47	Vicki Croome	18,143.92	14.209
48	Mike Moffatt	17,983.55	14.083
49	Dan Watson	17,726.39	13.882
50	Marcia Christie	17,536.88	13.734
51	Aban Gerrie	16,555.60	12.965
52	Bob Gerrie	16,555.60	12.965

At the end of 2001, the Flight A UPRS leader was **Mike Hargreaves**. **Bryan Maksymetz** took the lead in April 2002, and **Gord McOrmond** took the lead in January 2003. **Dan Jacob** was on the Flight A regular season IMP League winners, and that win vaulted him into first place at the end of April 2003. We'll see if this changes after the Victoria Day Sectional and the IMP League playoffs!

Flight B UPRS Standings

1	Les Baldys	11,538.03	(leader)
2	Sandra Robson	8,900.63	77.142
3	Patti Adams	8,504.09	73.705
4	Don Sharp	8,192.99	71.009
5	Kenny Chan	6,308.00	54.671
6	Don Keith	5,866.55	50.845
7	Ping Ding	5,629.05	48.787
7	Jane Fyfe	5,629.05	48.787
9	Samuel Lai	5,237.53	45.394
10	Marion Crowhurst	4,169.27	36.135
11	Jeremy Crowhurst	4,007.69	34.735
12	H. K. Ho	3,955.79	34.285
13	Bruce McIntyre	3,923.06	34.001
14	Kam Tang	3,570.69	30.947
15	Ram Hira	3,493.55	30.279
16	Marg Elligott	3,369.72	29.205
17	Nurdin Kassam	3,366.88	29.181
18	Jane (NVN) Craig	3,354.06	29.070
19	Carol-Ann Halliday	3,301.95	28.618
20	Anita Morse	3,139.51	27.210
21	Chester Michno	3,124.08	27.076
22	Ross Lam	3,070.35	26.611
23	Danny Lee	3,057.36	26.498
24	David Breton	2,939.02	25.472
25	Bob Kiggins	2,929.79	25.392
26	Kathy Bye	2,761.78	23.936
27	Waldemar Jez	2,743.13	23.775
28	Patricia Stickland	2,723.02	23.600
29	William Ge	2,513.49	21.784
30	Andrew Zorawski	2,426.24	21.028
31	Ewa Wroblewicz	2,271.96	19.691
32	Andy Helliqvist	2,198.32	19.053
32	Greg Morse	2,198.32	19.053
34	Ann Andres	2,113.81	18.320
34	Wink Andres	2,113.81	18.320
36	Betty Jackson	2,102.10	18.219
37	Diane Ayukawa	2,101.86	18.217
38	Brad Bart	2,038.95	17.672
39	Vicki Croome	2,015.00	17.464
40	Richard Dunn	1,985.54	17.209
41	Victor Finberg	1,962.48	17.009
42	Mike Moffatt	1,923.56	16.672
43	Kelvin Raywood	1,907.81	16.535
44	Richard Smillie	1,875.17	16.252
45	David Hoey	1,859.68	16.118
46	Theresa Kong	1,707.01	14.795
47	Glenn Ponto	1,685.26	14.606
48	Melinda Ernsberger	1,683.84	14.594
49	Mark Rojewski	1,658.46	14.374
50	Karin Dunlop	1,642.66	14.237
51	William Sit	1,550.10	13.435
52	Tove Chen	1,513.53	13.118

At the end of 2001, the UPRS Flight B leader was **Ron Fox**. **Kenny Chan** took the lead in March 2002, and **Les Baldys** grabbed top spot in April 2002. A string of victories at local sectionals vaulted Kamloops players **Jane Fyfe** and **Ping Ding** to the shared lead in November 2002. This held up until the IMP League regular season results came in at the end of April 2003, putting **Les Baldys**, #150 on the A list, back on top.

Flight C UPRS Standings

1	Gail Heuchert	887.96	(leader)
2	Myra Johnston	619.08	69.719
3	Yvonne Drane	618.42	69.645
4	Adelina Wong-Chor	612.35	68.961
5	Marlene Powell	604.63	68.092
6	Bernard Hoeschen	599.54	67.519
7	Sima Sadri	512.55	57.722
8	Grant Gayman	493.66	55.595
9	Ross Lam	392.27	44.176
10	Rosalee Hardin	378.60	42.637
11	Marla Gropper	314.77	35.449
12	Brian Ransom	298.81	33.651
13	Andrew Nalos	277.70	31.273
14	Stuart Carr	274.93	30.962
15	Anne Smith	268.52	30.240
16	David Breton	265.53	29.904
17	Cathy Miller	259.42	29.216
18	Janice Barr	250.04	28.159
19	Dominique Baker	249.81	28.133
20	Linda Bell	248.76	28.015
21	Chloe Clark	247.97	27.926
22	Trent Applebe	245.30	27.625
23	Doreen Ransom	235.90	26.566
24	Joan Steuart	235.36	26.505
25	Susan Mitchell	232.20	26.150
26	Mary June Young	228.65	25.751
27	Samuel Lai	225.86	25.436
28	Michiyo Takeda	224.60	25.294
29	Kumiko Yoshimoto	224.49	25.282
30	Henry Lai	223.55	25.176
31	Bary Yamanouchi	220.46	24.828
32	Kam Tang	220.39	24.820
33	Jocelyn Krug	220.12	24.789
34	Collin Ransom	217.64	24.510
35	Judy Christensen	199.13	22.426
36	Bruce Partridge	190.83	21.490
37	Norma Doucette	190.68	21.474
38	Jan Ochnio	187.46	21.111
38	Anna Ochnio	187.46	21.111
40	Phillippe Westreich	186.50	21.003
41	Ian Ho	182.32	20.532
42	David Payne	167.82	18.899
43	Yi Yang	163.08	18.366
44	Harry Kublik	159.15	17.923
45	Jo Ann Smith	154.15	17.360
46	Eda Kadar	153.29	17.263
47	Babak Taati	152.49	17.173
48	Wuyen Ni	150.39	16.937
49	Kristina Bohdanowicz	149.96	16.888
50	Matt Bohdanowicz	138.09	15.552
51	Gary Thomas	137.43	15.477
51	Alice Thomas	137.43	15.477

The Flight C leader at the end of 2001 was **Andrew Nalos**. **Alice** and **Gary Thomas** took over the lead in March 2002, followed by **Stuart Carr** in April. **Brian Ransom** took the lead in October, and **Ross Lam** took top spot in November. Current leader **Gail Heuchert** took the lead in January 2003. A Flight C regular season title with the Hoeschen team increased her lead substantially. Gail is tied for #61 on the B list.

Matchpointer Mailbag

Stiff Huddles and Old Photos

Letters and e-mails received since last time:

From Greg Morse: There have been a couple of mentions in the *ACBL Bulletin* recently regarding the ethics of hesitating with a singleton, or pretending to have a problem when you don't. The rules are quite clear that this sort of behavior is unethical. While there are no rule stating what the offender's *partner* should do if he suspects that one of these violations has taken place, here is a story of how one famous player handled the situation. I found it an inspiring example of Active Ethics. Thanks to **Eddie Kantar** for permission to use this.

Over to Eddie:

This club suit brings to mind my favorite Alvin Roth story. Al was defending 7NT in a money rubber-bridge game and the declarer had to bring in this very same club suit for three tricks to make the grand. Accordingly, he played off all the other suits reducing to this:

	North (dummy)	
	A x x	
West		East (Al Roth)
x x x		Q x x
	South	
	K J T	

The declarer had started originally with four clubs and had discarded one. Declarer had a count on the hand, but unfortunately the count told him that clubs were originally divided 3-3 so he was on his own. He played the J♣ hoping West would cover with the queen, which would take him out of his misery.

West, trying to act like a player who had the Q♣, hemmed and hawed when the J♣ was led, giving an an Oscar-winning performance of a man who had the Q♣, before finally playing low. Declarer, taken in by this unethical gambit, also played low—and the jack won the trick! When the last two cards were played and West saw that Al Roth had the Q♣ and didn't take the trick to defeat the grand slam, he was beside himself. "Al," he practically screamed, "why didn't you take the Q♣?!"

"Because I thought you had it," said Roth, who was

willing to concede a grand slam rather than benefit from his partner's poor ethics.

McB: Bravo! I expect Al Roth or Eddie Kantar might think twice before trying that at matchpoints though. It would be unfair to the other North-South players to hand this pair a grand slam. Better, I think, to take the Q♣ and encourage the opponents to call the Director. In a money game, though, it's a good object lesson—if you can afford it!

In matchpoints, East-West would get minus 2220 (assuming North-South are vulnerable, as they usually are in stories like this!), and North-South would get average plus, but I think if more than half the field go down in 7NT this might actually be unfair to North-South, who ideally (and I believe according to the Laws, although the ACBL of course has a different interpretation to keep things "simple") should get 50% of the matchpoints for making seven, plus 50% of the matchpoints for down one, since without the razzle-dazzle South has a straight guess and we have no way of knowing what he would do.

From Jack Marsch: We don't know each other (I live in Winnipeg now) but I was active in Vancouver bridge circles from the late 60's to about 1980. A couple of years ago I undertook a little project to try and pull together a bit of a pictorial record, of the players of that era. It has worked out quite well but there are still a lot of "personalities" unrepresented. I was e-messaging **Sheila Dickie** the other day and she was wondering if Unit 430 might have an archive of pictures from, say, the annual Christmas parties, etc. that took place during that period. She suggested that you would be a good person to consult. If there is something, perhaps you and I could go into it in greater detail. I would be happy to share the final result with the Unit, if there is any interest in it.

McB: I haven't looked closely at all of the old Matchpointers in the collection, but I don't recall seeing anything like that. However, if pictures were taken, a local player may still have them! If so, contact me at the number or e-mail address on page two and we can find a way to send a copy of the photos to Jack for his collection—which of course the Matchpointer will have a great interest in!

TSAWWASSEN BRIDGE CLUB

Tsawwassen Location: South
Delta Rec. Centre, 1720 56th Street

Mondays at 7:15 pm

OPEN STRATIFIED PAIRS

Richard Dunn: 604/940-9809

20 e-mail: rmdunn@dccnet.com

Special Games:

June 16: Club Championship Game

July 7: Swiss Teams

Closures:

May 19 (Victoria Day Sectional)

June 9 (Penticton)

Club Championship Winners:

Diane McNames/Heather Sheppard

STaC Winners:

Jackie Phillips/Linda Wormworth

Ladner Location:

Fisherman's Hall,
4481 Savoy St., Ladner

alternate Fridays at 10:30 am

**May 23: final game before summer
closure; back September 12**

OPEN STRATIFIED PAIRS

TSW & LAD Results & information:

www.user.dccnet.com/rmdunn/

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

SUBURBIA CLUBS Gilbert Lambert 604/524-6617

All games stratified.

Burnaby (am)	Burnaby (pm)	New Westminster	Sur-Del
Starting June 2, games played at VBC, 2776 E. Broadway <i>Mondays, 10:45 am</i>	Starting June 3, games played at VBC, 2776 E. Broadway <i>Tuesdays, 7:30 pm</i>	Century House, 620 8th St. New Westminster <i>Thursdays, 7:15 pm</i>	St. Cuthbert Anglican Church 11601 82nd Ave., N. Delta <i>Fridays, 7:30 pm</i>
June 2: Club Championship June 9: May be closed for Penticton Regional (TBA) June 24: North American Open Pairs Qualifying Game	June 3: Club Championship June 10: May be closed for Penticton Regional (TBA) July 15: ACBL International Fund Game	June 12: Closed (Penticton) July 3: Swiss Teams July 17: Int. Fund Game Aug. 7: NAOP Qualifying Aug. 27: Club Championship	June 13: Closed (Penticton) June 27: Club Championship July 18: Int. Fund Game July 25: Swiss Teams Aug. 22: NAOP Qualifying

Club Players Alert

Burnaby Bridge Club location change

Starting June 2, the games at the Willingdon Heights Community Centre, Gilbert Lambert's Monday morning and Tuesday evening Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club games, will be moving to a new permanent location: the Vancouver Bridge Centre at 2776 East Broadway. Gilbert's club will continue to be called the Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club, and the VBC will be making a few changes to its schedule.

The change is a win-win-win situation for Burnaby players, for Gilbert and for the VBC. Burnaby club players will be able to play Monday morning duplicate on holiday Mondays, something not possible at the community centre. Burnaby players who have not been to the VBC in some time will be impressed by the improvements made over the past year. There will be no need to set up and take down tables at the new site, which is only five minutes drive from the former site. Gilbert hopes that the move to the VBC will make it possible for him to resume teaching, to help bring new players into the bridge community. And the VBC gains a new tenant to help it meet the rising costs of operating a full-time bridge centre.

Several changes at the VBC will result from the move. The VBC Tuesday evening game will be cancelled at the end of May, although of course the BBY game will take its place (and veterans of the former VBC game are welcome). The VBC 0-50 Monday morning game, replaced by the BBY game, will be moved to Thursday mornings, beginning on May 22.

Both clubs are keeping their former starting times: the BBY Monday morning game begins at 10:45, and the Tuesday evening games begins at 7:30. The new VBC Thursday morning 0-50 game keeps the 10:30 start time it had on Mondays.

Vancouver Bridge Centre

2776 East Broadway, Vancouver, ph. 604/255-2564
lessons, books, seminars

We welcome Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club players to our site on Monday mornings and Tuesday evenings, beginning in June. All players are encouraged to attend the new games.

VBC WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday	7:15pm	Non-Life Masters (max 500 MP)
Tuesday	10:30am	Open Day-Time Stratified
Wednesday	10:30 am	Intermediate, 0-300 MP
	7:00 pm	Open (Stratified by # of LMs)
Thursday	10:30 pm	Introduction to Duplicate 0-50 MP
	7:00 pm	Novice/Beginner Game 0-50 MP
	7:00 pm	Open Evening Stratified
Friday	10:30 am	Open Day-Time Stratified
	7:30 pm	Open (Optional Lucky # Jackpot)
Saturday	check	Occasional Special Events
Sunday	1:00 pm	Open Stratified, occasionally Teams

Optional Inexpensive Lunch At Weekday Afternoon Games

Masterpoint-limited Games include pre-game Mini-Lesson

Starting May 22, the Monday morning 0-50 game moves to Thursday morning at the same time...Welcome to our newest VBC Director (Wednesday evenings): Samantha Nystrom!

Thanks to all of our players for continuing to attend VBC games in record numbers month after month!

Check out VBC Game Results Online at
www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/van-bc/stats/

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Unit 430 Weekly Duplicate Game List

Most recent update: May 12, 2003. Not including invitation-only clubs.

Day	Time	Club	Director	Club Contact/Phone Number	Game Details
Mon	10:00	VCR	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	10:45	BBY	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified: new location starting June 2: VBC
	7:00	SQU	E. Tenta	Don Lecky 892-9027	Monthly handicap and trophy race games.
	7:15	TSW	R. Dunn	Richard Dunn 940-9809	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:15	SRY	A. Browning	Arlene Browning 604/870-9300	Open (first Monday stratified)
	7:15	VBC	B. Bart	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Non Life Masters Stratified (to 500 MP)</i>
	7:30	HBN	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	CWK	J. Groves	Jim Groves 604/847-0107	Open (last Monday stratified)
Tue	10:30	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Open Day-time Stratified: optional \$2 lunch</i>
	11:00	S-W	F. Schultz	Finn Schultz 534-5025	Open stratified
	7:00	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Final Game: May 27</i>
	7:30	NSW	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	BBY	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified: new location starting June 3: VBC
Wed	10:00	VCR	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	10:30	HAS	E. Dietrich	Ernie Dietrich 936-2298	Open stratified
	10:30	VBC	B. Russell	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Intermediate: 0-300 MP, stratified</i>
	7:00	VBC	S. Nystrom	Club telephone 255-2564	Open; Stratified by number of Life Masters
	7:15	WRK	A. Browning	Arlene Browning 604/870-9300	Open (last Wednesday stratified)
	7:15	VCR	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	C.R	A. Yallouz	Albert Yallouz 321-1891	Open stratified
Thu	10:30	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	NEW DAY! <i>Intro. to Duplicate: 0-50 MP</i>
	11:00	JCC	C. Delisle	Connie Delisle 263-9196	Open stratified
	7:00	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Novice/Beginner: 0-50 MP</i>
	7:00	VBC	A. Ballantyne	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified
	7:15	NWR	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:30	MIS	M.& F. Clements	Murray & Felice Clements 604/826-3557	Open stratified
	7:30	ARB	A. Nagy	Jean Terry 733-2807	Now open to all
Fri	10:30	VBC	B. Russell	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified <i>Opt. \$2 Soup & Bun</i>
	10:30	LAD	R. Dunn	Richard Dunn 940-9809	Bi-weekly: after May 23, resumes Sept. 12
	7:30	PKB	W. Jez	Waldemar Jez 527-8854	Alternate Fridays, non-ACBL. Dates, p. 18.
	7:30	S-D	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:30	VBC	G. Davis	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Optional Lucky Number Jackpot</i> Open
Sat	check	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	Occasional special games.
	7:30	U430	R. Dunn	Monthly Unit Game (see page 44)	Monthly (dates, page 41)—Open stratified.
	7:30	U430	E. Chan	Monthly Unit Game (see page 44)	Monthly (dates, page 41)—0-200 stratified.
Sun	1:00	RMD	E. Dietrich	Ernie Dietrich 936-2298	Open stratified (occasional hand records)
	1:00	VBC	C. Miller	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified, occasional team games

Please check the listings on the next page for special events and club closures before attending club games. Errors in this table? Changes? Let me know!

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Special Events at Clubs

May 16—August 31, 2003.

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
16-19 May		Victoria Day Sectional at Bonsor Community Centre (most clubs closed). Additional info, page 26, 44.	
19 May	10:00	VCR	Victoria Day Holiday Pairs
22 May	10:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
22 May	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly game
23 May	10:30	LAD	Club Championship Game (last game before summer closure, re-opens September 12)
26 May	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
27 May	10:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
28 May	7:15	WRK	Monthly Stratified Game
31 May	7:30	VBC	"June" Monthly Unit Game (open stratified and 0-200)

Club Abbreviations and Ad Locations

Abbr	Club Name	Page
ARB	Arbutus Village Bridge Club	24
BBY	Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club	21
C.R	Central Richmond Bridge Club	24
CWK	Chilliwack Duplicate Bridge Club	25
HAS	Hastings Bridge Club	25
HBN	Hollyburn Bridge Club	18
JCC	Jewish Comm. Ctr. DBridge Club	24
LAD	Tswwassen B. C. (Ladner location)	20
MIS	Mission Duplicate Bridge Club	25
NWR	New-West Bridge Club	21
NSW	North Shore Winter Club	24
PKB	Polish Bridge Club (non-ACBL)	18
RMD	East Richmond Bridge Club	25
S-D	Sur-Del Bridge Club	21
S-W	South-West Duplicate Bridge Club	24
SRY	South Surrey Bridge Club	25
SQU	Squamish Duplicate Bridge Club	15
TSW	Tswwassen Bridge Club	20
VBC	Vancouver Bridge Centre	21
VCR	Vancouver Bridge Club	18
WRK	White Rock Bridge Club	25

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
1 June	1:00	VBC	Monthly Winners Free Play
2 June	10:45	BBY	Club Championship Game (first game at new VBC location)
2 June	7:15	VBC	Club Championship Game (NLM)
2 June	—	SRY	Closed (site unavailable)
2 June	7:00	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
3 June	7:30	BBY	Club Championship Game (first game at new VBC location)
4 June	10:30	HAS	Club Championship Game
4 June	7:00	VBC	Club Championship Game (with hand records)
4 June	7:15	WRK	Club Championship Game
6 June	7:30	PKB	Turniej co 2 Tygodnie
6 June	7:30	VBC	Worldwide Bridge Contest I
7 June	1:00	VBC	Worldwide Bridge Contest II (both games scored in Instant Match-points, with hand analysis booklets)
8 June	1:00	RMD	Club Championship Game

ALERT: Many clubs close during the week of the Pentecost Regional (week of June 3-9). Confirmed closures: TSW, HAS, WRK, NWR, S-D. Both BBY games may or may not be on; check with Gilbert Lambert. VBC and VCR will be open all week. Other clubs have not indicated that they will be open or closed: check first!

9 June	7:15	SRY	Monthly Stratified Game
11 June	7:15	VCR	Club Championship Game
16 June	7:00	SQU	Final Monthly Trophy Race Game
16 June	7:15	TSW	Club Championship Game
18 June	7:30	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
20 June	7:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
20 June	7:30	PKB	Last Bi-Weekly Game Before Summer Closure (reopens Sept. 5)
21 June	TBA	VBC	Goofy Pairs Calcutta (tentative)
23 June	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
23 June	7:00	SQU	Last Game Before Summer Closure (reopens September 8)
23 June	7:15	SRY	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
24 June	7:30	BBY	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
25 June	7:15	WRK	Monthly Stratified Game
27 June	7:30	S-D	Club Championship Game
30 June	7:15	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game (all flights, stratified)
1 July	10:30	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
2 July	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
3 July	7:15	NWR	Swiss Teams
5 July	7:30	VBC	July Monthly Unit Game (open stratified and 0-200)
7 July	10:00	VCR	Club Championship Game
7 July	7:15	TSW	Swiss Teams
7 July	7:15	SRY	Monthly Stratified Game
8 July	10:30	VBC	Club Championship Game

(continued on page 24)

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

(Special Events At Clubs, continued from page 23)

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
10 July	7:00	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
14 July	7:15	SRY	Swiss Teams
15 July	7:30	BBY	International Fund Game
17 July	7:00	VBC	Club Championship Game (0-50)
17 July	7:00	VBC	Open Club Championship Game
17 July	7:15	NWR	International Fund Game
17 July	7:15	WRK	Swiss Teams
18 July	7:30	S-D	International Fund Game (with hand records)
18 July	7:30	VBC	International Fund Game
20 July	1:00	RMD	International Fund Game
23 July	7:15	WRK	Stratified NAOP Qualifying Game
25 July	7:30	S-D	Swiss Teams
28 July	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
30 July	10:30	VBC	NAOP Qualifying Game
30 July	7:00	VBC	Club Championship Game
31 July	7:00	VBC	Club Championship Game
3 Aug	1:00	VBC	Club Championship Game
4 Aug	10:00	VCR	B.C. Day Charity Holiday Pairs
4 Aug	7:15	SRY	Monthly Stratified Game
6 Aug	7:00	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
7 Aug	7:15	NWR	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
8 Aug	10:30	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
9 Aug	7:30	VBC	August Monthly Unit Game (open stratified and 0-200)
10 Aug	1:00	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
11 Aug	7:15	VBC	Club Championship Game
13 Aug	7:15	WRK	Club Championship Game
18 Aug	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
20 Aug	10:00	VCR	Club Championship Game
20 Aug	7:30	C.R	Club Championship Game
21 Aug	7:15	NWR	Club Championship Game
22 Aug	7:30	S-D	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
25 Aug	7:15	SRY	Swiss Teams
25 Aug	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
27 Aug	10:30	HAS	Club Championship Game
27 Aug	7:30	WRK	Monthly Stratified Game
29 Aug	7:30	VBC	Hands Across The Border Special Game Welcoming Tourists From Finesse West Tours (details TBA)

ADVANCE NOTICE

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
1 Sept	10:00	VCR	Labour Day Holiday Pairs
3 Sept	10:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
5 Sept	7:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
7 Sept	1:00	RMD	Club Championship Game

Central Richmond Bridge Club

7891 Cambie Road, Richmond
(Rod & Gun Club)

coffee & goodies computer scoring

Albert Yallouz 604/321-1891

Wednesdays at 7:30 pm sharp

All games stratified

August 20: Club Championship

February Club Championship Winners:

Adi Wadia/Jackie Phillips

International Fund Game Winners:

Les Fouks/Ashley Krisnan

ACBL-wide Charity Game:

Trudy Hurdle/Jennifer Ballatyne

STaC Game Winners:

N-S: Aidan Ballantyne/Joyce Satanove

E-W: David Walker/Stan Bodlak

Game results now online at:
www.vancouverbridgeclub.ca

North Shore Winter Club Bridge

1325 E. Keith Road, N. Vancouver Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
Louis Landau 604/984-8309 Bemice Mulock 604/987-8289
Game results now online at www.vancouverbridgeclub.ca

South-West Duplicate Bridge Club

White Rock Elks Club, 1469 George Street

Finn Schultz, 604/534-5025

Tuesdays at 11:00 am

Jewish Community Centre Bridge Club

☆☆ 950 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver ☆☆

Thursdays at 11 am All players welcome!

Connie Delisle 604/263-9196, or 604/671-3884 (cell)

Partnerships: Marge Groberman 604/266-7722

Arbutus Village Bridge Club

Arbutus Village Recreation Centre 28-4255 Arbutus Street, Vancouver

OPEN TO ALL PLAYERS coffee, tea, cookies

Thursdays at 7:30 pm sharp Jean Tarry 604/733-2807

White Rock Bridge Club

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

Arlene Browning 1-604/870-9300

Partnerships: Dot Carnegie 604/535-8286

Wednesdays at 7:15 pm

Stratified games last Wednesday of each month

June 4, August 13, and September 17:

Club Championship Games

July 23: NAOP Club Qualifying

July 17: Swiss Teams

Closed for Penticton Regional June 11

2003 "Three-peat" Winners: Wilf May/Kathy Adachi/
(Club Championship, Junior Fund Game, STaC)

Club Championship: Mike Wiss/Felipe Hernandez

Big Game: Antoinette Sheffield/Rekha Shah (69.91%)

South Surrey Bridge Club

1469 George St., White Rock
(new site since March 24)

Director: Arlene Browning 1-604-870-9300

Partnerships: Dot Carnegie 535-8286

Mondays at 7:15 pm

First Monday of each month Stratified
Computer Scoring Partners Guaranteed

Closed May 19 (sectional), and June 2 (site unavailable)

June 23: NAOP Club Qualifying

July 14: Club Championship

August 25: Swiss Teams

Club Championship Winners:

Rita Hasselbach/Joyce Rhodes, 67.73%

STaC game Winners: Kathy Adachi/Ina Andersen, 83.66%

Junior Fund Game: Brian & Joni Johnston

Big Game: Kathy Adachi/Ina Andersen, 70.92%

East Richmond Bridge Club

7891 Cambie (at River Road), Richmond
(Richmond Rod & Gun Club)

Ernie Dietrich 604/936-2298

\$6.00 entry includes lunch *Sundays at 1:00 pm*

All games stratified, hand records for special games

May 18: Closed (Sectional)

June 8: Club Championship Game

July 20: International Fund Game

September 7: Club Championship Game

Recent Winners:

Club Championship: Adi Wadia/Rangie Sylvestrie

ACBL Charity Game: Joerg Schneider/Pat Stapff

2002 Club Masterpoint Race Leader: Joerg Schneider

Hastings Bridge Club

1950 Windermere St. (at 4th Ave), Vancouver

Ernie Dietrich 604/936-2298

(new manager)

Wednesdays at 10:30 am, open stratified
(lunch included)

June 4: Club Championship Game

June 11: Closed (Penticton Regional)

August 27: Club Championship Game

September 24: Membership Game

Recent Winners:

Club Championship: Debbie Williams/Ernie Dietrich

ACBL Charity Game: Angela Fenton/Daisy Neilson

2003 Club Masterpoint Leader: Daisy Neilson

East Richmond and Hastings game results are now available online at www.vancouverbridgeclub.ca

Chilliwack Duplicate Bridge Club

New Manager: Jim Groves 604/847-0107

e-mail: j_groves@shaw.ca

Royal Canadian Legion, 9350 Mary St.

Mondays, 7:30 pm

Last Monday each month stratified

March Club Championship Winners:

Jim Sache/Louis Vervoort

Mission Duplicate Bridge Club

New Managers: Murray & Felice Clements

604/826-3557

Masonic Hall, 33219 1st Ave (next to Scotiabank)

Thursdays, 7:30 pm

Open stratified

March Club Championship Winners:

Murray & Felice Clements

Volunteers Needed

Must Be Able To Follow Suit

The Unit 430 Annual General Meeting will take place shortly after the Saturday afternoon session at the Victoria Day Sectional. This would be Saturday, May 17, at about 4:15 pm or so. An extra half-hour has been added to the break time so that you can attend and still have lots of time for a leisurely dinner at one of the many area eateries. The meeting takes only thirty to forty-five minutes.

The Annual General Meeting has several purposes. It allows Unit executives to present short reports on the Unit's business, it gives the membership a chance to discuss Unit policies and it serves as a convenient way to gather the membership to nominate and elect members to the Unit Board.

(Plus, our By-Laws say we have to hold one, and they go further and stipulate that if less than twenty-five of us are present it doesn't count! So even if you are completely uninterested in what goes on, do us a favour and spend a few more minutes checking your scores—at least until we determine that there are twenty-five in the room. Otherwise we may have to keep trying until it works.)

At the AGM, we will adopt the minutes of the last AGM, and then hear short reports from the President of the Unit and from the Treasurer. We'll hear short reports from representatives for the CBF and from District Nineteen on coming events affecting Unit 430. If there are motions to amend the Unit By-Laws (none received this year) or other important issues the Board feels should be discussed and voted on by the membership (again, none this year), we will deal with those issues. At the end of the meeting we will open the meeting to questions and suggestions from the membership.

But the important part is electing new members, because this list of people...

Peter Morse	Marion Crowhurst
Julien Lévesque	Bruce McIntyre
Samantha Nystrom	Joan Richards

...experienced and (other than that McIntyre guy) hard-working as they are, they cannot hope to do all of the tasks that need doing. And without some new

people, they won't be getting any help.

That's where you come in.

There are six seats on the Board of Directors which need to be filled for two-year terms from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005. A committee of **Peter Morse, Cathy Miller, and Gilbert Lambert** is collecting nominees for these positions, so if you or someone you know would like to make a volunteer contribution to local bridge, let them know! Nominees must agree to serve on the Board.

A side note: there seems to be a belief out there that serving on the Unit Board is harder than raising septuplets while working at McDonalds. Not so. The Unit Board meets once a month for a few hours to discuss issues and coordinate business. Members, especially new members, are given tasks geared to their experience. Bridge expertise is not required. We meet to schedule events, to manage Unit supplies, to keep track of where the money goes, to discuss

ways to promote the game, to create services for players—but not to figure out what to bid when partner opens 5♠ and you hold thirteen black cards. You won't be overwhelmed, you won't be hopelessly baffled—and you'll have lots of help. Board members receive a handful of free plays for their services, but the real benefits are in gain-

ing experience in how the bridge world works, and in knowing that you've helped to keep duplicate bridge working in this area.

And—you'll become a better player. No kidding. We have a graduation rate of over 90%: almost every non-Life Master who serves a term or two on the Unit Board leaves with their gold card.

Once the Nominating Committee announces the nominees, the President will call for nominations from the floor. Once all nominees are in, if there are six or less, they will all be elected by acclamation, and the Board will try to find more volunteers if necessary. If there are more than six, ballots will be available at the start of the evening session and all Unit members will be entitled to vote for the six candidates of their choice. The polls will close on Monday afternoon at the end of the first half of the Swiss Teams, and the election results will be announced before the end of the tournament.

May 17 at 4:15 pm. It's important that you attend; it would be splendid if you volunteered.

“...there seems to be a belief out there that serving on the Unit Board is harder than raising septuplets while working at McDonalds. Not so. Bridge expertise is not required...”

Ace of Clubs, Mini-McKenney

First looks at the 2003 races

These are the players from Unit 430 who have won the most masterpoints at club games (the Ace of Clubs list, which includes all clubs in the ACBL) and won the most masterpoints anywhere you can get them (the Mini-McKenney list).

Over the years I have developed a set of standard announcements about these lists designed to deflect questions. Please read before you ask, and then ask Memphis (it's free, see below):

—Memphis only tracks the games that they re-

ceive. These results were compiled May 7 but this does not necessarily mean that May results will be included. There is a fair amount of evidence that the Victoria Regional results are included.

—Whichever category you are in on January 1 is the category you're stuck in for that calendar year's race. Note the additional silver (S), red (R), gold (G) and pigmented (P: silver, red or gold) point requirements for many ranks up to Life Master.

—This time I took the results off the ACBL Web Page, where they round totals to the nearest masterpoint and, I suspect, do not recognize ties. You can view 2003 frequent updates online at this Internet address: www.acbl.org/internet/unitawar.nsf/unitaraces?openform

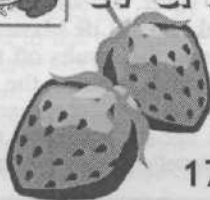
<p>Unit 430 Ace Of Clubs May 7, 2003 Standings (points won at club games only)</p> <p>ROOKIE (0-5, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. <i>Renlu Wang</i>..... 11 2. Barbara Chase..... 6 3. Zhilong Shi..... 5</p> <p>JUNIOR MASTER (5-20, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. <i>Felice Clements</i>..... 12 2. Felicity Lowinger..... 12 3. Robert Luo..... 10</p> <p>CLUB MASTER (20-50, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. <i>Zahra Jafroudi</i>..... 16 2. Ata Amiri..... 16 3. Zohreh Bassiri..... 13</p>	<p>BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500-1000)</p> <p>1. <i>William Ge</i>.....31 2. Adam Dabrowski.....24 3. Tove Chen.....22</p> <p>SILVER LIFE MASTER (1000-2500)</p> <p>1. <i>Sandra Robson</i>.....43 2. Amir Alibhai.....40 3. John Lien.....33</p> <p>GOLD LIFE MASTER (2500-5000)</p> <p>1. <i>Ernie Dietrich</i>.....44 2. Wilf May.....43 3. Joerg Schneider.....43</p> <p>DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5000-10,000)</p> <p>1. <i>Kathy Adachi</i>.....27 2. Gord McOrmond.....7 3. Dan Jacob.....6</p>	<p>SECTIONAL MASTER (50, 5 SILVER)</p> <p>1. <i>James Shaw</i>.....35 2. Antoinette Sheffield.....32 3. Susan Mitchell.....29</p> <p>REGIONAL MASTER (100, 15S, 5R OR G)</p> <p>1. <i>David Breton</i>.....76 2. Sima Sadri.....76 3. Melinda Ponto.....71</p> <p>NABC MASTER (200, 25S, 15R, 5G, 50P)</p> <p>1. <i>Marla Gropper</i>.....65 2. Richard Smillie.....61 3. Rosalee Hardin.....48</p> <p>LIFE MASTER (300, 50S, 25G, 50R OR G)</p> <p>1. <i>Bachan Buttar</i>.....63 2. Adi Wadia.....58 3. Karin Dunlop.....43</p>
<p>SECTIONAL MASTER (50, 5 SILVER)</p> <p>1. <i>Antoinette Sheffield</i>..... 30 2. Alan Binley.....12 3. Leonard Wild, William Gibson11</p> <p>REGIONAL MASTER (100, 15S, 5R OR G)</p> <p>1. <i>Melinda Ponto</i>..... 30 2. Andrew Zorawski.....18 3. Howard & Jane Shimokura..... 17</p> <p>NABC MASTER (200, 25S, 15R, 5G, 50P)</p> <p>1. <i>Richard Smillie</i>.....38 2. Marla Gropper.....27 3. John Ashwell.....23</p> <p>LIFE MASTER (300, 50S, 25G, 50R OR G)</p> <p>1. <i>Debbie Williams</i>..... 27 2. Adi Wadia.....20 3. Ann Andres.....19</p>	<p>Unit 430 Mini-McKenney May 7, 2003 Standings (points won from all ACBL sources)</p> <p>ROOKIE (0-5, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. <i>Renlu Wang</i>.....81 2. Barbara Chase.....7 3. Zhilong Shi.....5</p> <p>JUNIOR MASTER (5-20, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. <i>Robert Luo</i>.....31 2. Marke Antonsen.....21 3. Barbara Antonsen.....15</p> <p>CLUB MASTER (20-50, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. <i>Zahra Jafroudi</i>.....28 2. Ata Amiri.....28 3. Gladys Adilman.....13</p>	<p>BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500-1000)</p> <p>1. <i>William Ge</i>..... 145 2. Samantha Nystrom.....143 3. Philip Chen.....122</p> <p>SILVER LIFE MASTER (1000-2500)</p> <p>1. <i>John Lien</i>.....149 2. Liz Stoneman.....131 3. Peter Morse.....105</p> <p>GOLD LIFE MASTER (2500-5000)</p> <p>1. <i>Gerry McCully</i>.....124 2. Katrin Litwin.....124 3. Rhonda Foster.....121</p> <p>DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5000-10,000)</p> <p>1. <i>Cam Doner</i>.....261 2. Cord McOrmond.....141 3. Dan Jacob.....141</p>

Questions about these lists? Contact the ACBL Membership Assistance Department at 1-800-467-2623, toll free, or send e-mail to MAD@acbl.org

Unit 439



Strawberry Sectional



June 27-29, 2003

FIDALGO SENIOR CENTER

1701 22ND ST., ANACORTES WA

Friday 2:00 pm	Saturday 1:00 pm	Sunday 10am & TBA
Open Pairs (one session)	Open Pairs (1st of 2 sessions)	StratiFlighted Swiss Teams (two sessions) 9:15 am Free rolls and coffee
Newcomer Pairs (one session)	Newcomer Pairs (one session)	
	Knockout Teams (second of three sessions)	All events stratified DOOR PRIZES Free parking, strawberries, cookies Entries: US \$7.50
Friday 7:30 pm	Saturday 6:30 pm	
Open Pairs (one session)	Open Pairs (second session)	
Newcomer Pairs (one session)	Newcomer Pairs (one session)	
Knockout Teams (first of three sessions)	Knockout Teams (final session)	

Strats for pairs events:

Open Events: 1500+, 500-1500, 0-500
Newcomer Events: 100-200, 50-100, 0-50
Newcomers 0-5 PLAY FREE!

Sunday Swiss Teams:

Flight A/X: unlimited, 0-3000
(separate, Victory Points)
Flight B/C: 500-1500, 0-500

Partnerships:	Sue Agramonte 360/466-4893 Susie Boruta 360/299-3155	ragramonte@aol.com bridgequeen@aol.com
Tournament:	Jerry Burns 360/588-1009	jburns@aol.com
Co-Chairs:	Lynda Cole 360/293-7078	pdi@bridge@msn.com

Accommodations: Anacortes Chamber of Commerce www.anacortes.org (360/293-7911)

Driving Directions: From I-5 Exit #210 (Burlington), drive 15.4 miles west to Anacortes on Hwy 20. Turn right onto Commercial Ave and drive fourteen blocks north. Turn left (west) on 22nd Avenue and drive seven blocks. Turn left just after Fidalgo Swim Pool into the parking lot. The Senior Center is located at the back of the parking lot between the pool and the church.

2003 Sectional Trophy Race Standings

Phil Wood Trophy

1. Bryan Maksymetz.....	25.32
2. Lynda Cole.....	19.86
2. Ralph Cole.....	19.86
4. Dennis Groden.....	17.00
5. Doug Fraser.....	16.39
5. Sandra Fraser.....	16.39
7. Sheila Sache.....	15.24
8. Dan Jacob.....	15.08
9. Don Sache.....	14.72
9. Doug Hansford.....	14.72
11. Mike Hargreaves.....	12.97
12. Christa Mead.....	11.78
13. Peter Morse.....	11.47
13. Claire Burns.....	11.47
15. Katrin Litwin.....	11.11
16. Gilbert Lambert.....	10.61
17. Arun Chopra.....	10.51
18. Jay Brandt.....	9.83
18. Gay Parrish.....	9.83
20. Dan Groves.....	9.27
20. Sharon Erwin.....	9.27
22. Ron Groome.....	9.14
22. Jean Groome.....	9.14
24. Greg Arbour.....	9.02
25. Kenny Chan.....	8.83
26. Marylou Varga.....	8.61
27. H. K. Ho.....	8.51
28. Terry Gould.....	8.44
29. Ben Takemori.....	7.90
30. Sandra Robson.....	7.83

A total of 907.94 masterpoints was won by 314 players (a further 60 played but did not win any) at the 2003 Trophy Sectional.

Edie Bonnell Trophy

1. Lynda Cole.....	19.86
2. Sandra Fraser.....	16.39
3. Sheila Sache.....	15.24
4. Christa Mead.....	11.78
5. Claire Burns.....	11.47
6. Katrin Litwin.....	11.11
7. Gay Parrish.....	9.83
8. Sharon Erwin.....	9.27
9. Jean Groome.....	9.14
10. Marylou Varga.....	8.61
11. Sandra Robson.....	7.83
12. Vicki Croome.....	7.38
13. Debbie Williams.....	7.07
14. Carol-Ann Halliday.....	7.01
14. Priscilla Brown.....	7.01

Phil Wood Under 200 Trophy

1. Narinder Malhotra.....	3.86
2. Beverley Hall.....	3.27
2. Edite Phillpotts.....	3.27
4. Marvin Lee.....	3.02
5. Ruth Winkler.....	2.77
5. Dawn Smith.....	2.77
7. Rosalee Hardin.....	2.26
8. Joyce Preston.....	2.20
9. Mary June Young.....	2.19
10. Gerald Paul.....	2.14
11. Michiyo Takeda.....	2.13
11. Kumiko Yoshimoto.....	2.13
13. Alan Lee.....	1.92
14. Sharon Chercover.....	1.90
15. Parvin Grigg, Sima Sadri.....	1.87

You are eligible if you are an ACBL member with less than 200 recorded masterpoints on Jan. 1, 2003.

Leo Steil Trophy

1. Lynda Cole.....	19.86
1. Ralph Cole.....	19.86
3. Dennis Groden.....	17.00
4. Doug Fraser.....	16.39
4. Sandra Fraser.....	16.39
6. Sheila Sache.....	15.24
7. Don Sache.....	14.72
8. Christa Mead.....	11.78
9. Peter Morse.....	11.47
9. Claire Burns.....	11.47
11. Gilbert Lambert.....	10.61
12. Ron Groome.....	9.14
12. Jean Groome.....	9.14
14. Greg Arbour.....	9.02
15. H. K. Ho.....	8.51

To be eligible you must be an ACBL member born before 1948. I'm guessing as usual here.

Future Stars Top Ten

1. David Breton.....	4.01
2. Wuyen Ni.....	3.33
3. Tony Shyu.....	2.88
4. Gary MacDonald.....	2.36
4. Manuel Espinosa.....	2.36
6. Frankie Tsoi.....	2.19
7. Joan Steuart.....	2.17
8. Mary June Young.....	1.98
8. Sima Sadri.....	1.98
10. Hsiang Li.....	1.90
10. Felicity Fane.....	1.90

A total of 65.98 masterpoints were won by 57 players (a further 21 played but did not win any) at the 2003 Future Stars Sectional.

(Only Yesterday, continued from page 31)

wrote Anne and Andy Nagy, "but let's face it, fellow bridge nuts—true addicts can't live on love alone. Having driven as far as San Diego, bridgeless, the time had come for us to impress our southern neighbours." Anne and Andy were so impressed by the San Diego club that they forgot to win, but from their glowing description of it you can see the Haida Club a few years down the road.

In the February/March issue, editor Bob Brooks wrote that the Vancouver Unit had been assigned number 391. Unit 391 was the Unit Bob came from in Northern Alberta. It was revealed in the following issue that Unit President Henry Smilie quickly wrote a letter to the President of Unit 391: "In a daring raid

into territory of neighbouring tribes, our Matchpointer editor stole Unit number 391. His instructions included stealing news, but the particular theft in question had not been authorized. Summary Western justice will be meted out."

Old copies of the Matchpointer, back to the early 70s, are collected and bound by the Vancouver Public Library's Central Branch downtown. The Unit also has a collection of old Matchpointer issues including several from the 1960s. Donations to this collection of any issues, especially those prior to 1973 are happily accepted: we'll copy them and return them to you if you'd like to keep the original. We are also looking for old pictures of bridge events for Jack Marsch's pictorial record of Vancouver bridge.

IMP League

It's Playoff Time Again

The regular season is over and playoffs have begun in all flights. Here's what happened, and what's happening:

Flight A: Eight teams played a round robin to decide the four playoff spots. The top four:

DIVINSKY	152 VPs
BALLANTYNE	121 VPs
LINDSAY	120.4 VPs
FOUKS	110 VPs

The **Hideous Hog (In Training)** did well to score +61.90% on the correlation scale for his October predictions of the final order of finish.

One semi-final match has been played: #2 **BALLANTYNE** (Aidan Ballantyne, Don Sache, Gord McOrmond, Doug Hansford, Bryan Maksymetz, Katrin Litwin) defeated #3 **LINDSAY** (Cam Lindsay, Ron Borg, Paul Hagen, Cam Doner, Brad Bart, Mike Wilson). The **BALLANTYNE** team will play the winner of the match between #1 **DIVINSKY** (Nathan Divinsky, Gord Davis, Dan Jacob, Don Brazeau, Larry Hicks, John Hurdle) and #4 **FOUKS** (Les Fouks, Howard Rubin, Sid Segal, Ken Lochang, Arun Chopra, Mike Yuen) for the Flight A championship.

Flight X: Six 0-5000 teams played a double round robin to decide which three would survive to the playoffs. All six teams were in with a chance until the final rounds, and these were the survivors:

BODLAK	188 VPs
SKOROPADA	161 VPs
MORSE	151 VPs

The **Hideous Hog (In Training)** did a little better in Flight X, scoring +77.14% on the correlation scale for his October predictions of the final order of finish.

The Flight X semi-final has #2 **SKOROPADA** (Garry Skoropada, Larry Chow, Dan Webster, Flora Tereposky, Brad Fletcher, John Richoux) against #3 **MORSE** (Peter Morse, Claire Burns, Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome). The winner will face #1 **BODLAK** (Stan Bodlak, Pearl Minkoff, Sandi White, David Walker, Cheryl Brander, Christina Jacob) for the Flight X championship.

Flight B: Twelve 0-1500 teams in the wild Flight B fought a long eleven match round robin and there were six survivors:

ROBSON	247 VPs
HIRA	241 VPs
LAI	229 VPs
JEZ	185 VPs
MCALLISTER	178 VPs
MORSE	166.7 VPs

The best *Matchpointer* prognostications this year were by "Bottom Board," whose Flight B predictions scored +82.52% on the correlation scale.

In the playoffs, #1 **ROBSON** (Sandra Robson, Les Baldys, Don Sharp, Patti Adams) and #2 **HIRA** (Ram Hira, Marion & Jeremy Crowhurst, Chester Michno, Nurdin Kassam, Don Keith) receive byes to the semi-finals. One quarterfinal match has already been played, #4 **JEZ** (Waldemar Jez, Ewa Wroblewicz, Jan & Anna Ochnio, Marek Rojewski, Andrzej Zorawski) beat #5 **MCALLISTER** (Neil, Maureen and Harold McAllister, Linda Morgan, Joan Campbell). The other quarterfinal, #3 **LAI** (Samuel Lai, Kam Tang, Kenny Chan, Jack

Lee, Ted Lai, H.K. Ho) against #6 **MORSE** (Greg Morse, Andy Hellqvist, Bruce McIntyre, Richard Dunn), will take place as the *Matchpointer* is at the printers. (In the semi-final round, the lowest ranked survivor plays against #1 **ROBSON**.)

Flight C: A sixth non-Life Master team was added just after the holidays, but one of the original five dropped out, forfeiting all of their remaining matches, so with five teams only, there were two playoff spots up for grabs, and the second was decided by the tie-breaker of most wins:

HOESCHEN	93 VPs
GAYMAN	86 VPs (4 wins)
DOUCETTE	86 VPs (3 wins)

The **DOUCETTE** team missed the playoffs by the smallest of margins, so the Flight C final will be #1 **HOESCHEN** (Bernie Hoeschen, Yvonne Drane, Myra Johnston, Adelina Wong-Chor, Marlene Powell, Gail Heuchert) against #2 **GAYMAN** (Grant Gayman, Trent Appelbe, Linda Bell, Marla Gropper, Rosalee Hardin, Dominique Baker).

Alert to all playoff teams: the team rosters listed above include everyone who was listed as a team member in mid-season. To play for your team in the playoffs, you must have played in at least 40% of the matches (playing one half of a match counts as an "appearance"). Team captains can check if any members of their team are ineligible with just a few clicks at **Brad Bart's IMP League Web Page** at this address:

www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS

Good luck to all teams in the playoffs!

(Only Yesterday, continued from page 34)

in the March issue, tournament chairman (the gender-neutral term *tournament chair* was years away) **Doug Cowan** asked for support in the form of volunteers, prizes, and attendance, especially as the dates were close to the Hawaii NABC and fewer out of town players were expected. In the May issue Doug thanked everyone for their hard work and especially for their attendance: 2,649 tables was a few short of the DINO record (Victoria 1980), despite the lack of traveling bridge players. The tournament made a fair profit and negotiations with DINO began to re-obtain the Vancouver Regional as a bi-annual event (as it is today, except for the hiatus as we hosted the 1999 NABC). New Life Masters at the Regional: **Hal Rodd**, **Pat Carruthers**, and **Mariann Hutton**.

At the Hawaii NABC, **Martin O'Reilly** played against a series of famous players in the Men's Pairs Final and towards the end, one "short, quiet, curly haired man" looked familiar but Martin couldn't tell who he was. The quiet man played in 3NT on the last board of the round and had nine tricks, but spurned the working finesse that would give him nine and ended up with only seven, playing for a squeeze that hadn't materialized. It was only later that the Martin learned he was "one of the very few people in that room who hadn't recognized **Benito Garrozo**."

A *Matchpointer* article on tennis? Yes, reprinted from the *New York Times* and titled *Divorce Doubles*, about married couples playing mixed-doubles. A few sentences will make the connection clear: "The squabbling with her husband, Ralph, would begin whenever she made an error, and he would ask her questions like 'What do you call that shot?' During one such quarrel, she walked off the court, saying to the other couple 'Bye everybody. Ralph is going to play you by himself.'"

25 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

March/April 1978, **Gary Harper**, editor

Gestetner ink shortage: only two things I have been able to decode from this issue. First, a hand from a quarter-century ago at the tough Haida Club Tuesday night game:

Dummy: ♠ Txx ♥ x ♦ AK9xx ♣ AQTx

Small ♦ led vs 3NT

Declarer: ♠ AKxx ♥ AJxxx ♦ T ♣ 98x

The diamond lead was ducked to LHO's queen and a spade came back, which declarer, a "young rising star," won in hand with the ace. The 9♣ was led to trick two—and it won! Another club fetched the king from LHO and the ace won in dummy. Now

declarer played the ace and king of diamonds, and another diamond to clear the suit. Back came the J♠, won in hand.

"Declarer now led his last club, triumphantly inserted the ten, and when the smoke cleared, old 'Always Duck the First Time' Jones and 'Second Hand High' Smith had chalked up another top. And that is why, to this day, a forlorn figure with glazed eyes can be seen wandering around 12th and Arbutus muttering 'but who were those masked men?'"

And, a view from outside the bridge world:

"They all sit in this big room and there's four of them at each table, which is naked save for a small square doily in the centre, and the tables all have numbers on them so they don't have to count them, and all the people have the same names—North, South, East, West—and the master of ceremonies sits at the head table and yells at the people and they all sit down, and then a servant delivers long silver trays to every table with a thud on top of the square doily, and little children run back and forth with these trays, but never get to keep any, and then the master of ceremonies yells again and the people take the insides out of the little silver trays and mix them up and put them back in, and then they pick them up and look at them and become extremely quiet. Finally someone says "one club," which must be some sort of hello 'cause his left-hand neighbor responds "one spade," and the lady on the other side jumps a little and says "double," and the first fellow says "negative," and then they all chatter each one getting his own turn, and finally one of them gets annoyed and shouts "four hearts" and the lady throws a lot of cardboard pieces on the table, and they do this two or three times and then the emcee yells something about what goes up and who goes down, the bells go off, and they all table hop, some of them don't want to move, but they do, and seat themselves at a nearby table and continue fooling around with the little silver trays until the man yells at them again. I think I heard someone say they pay money to do this—I can't believe it!"

30 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

Feb./Mar., Apr./May 1973, **Bob Brooks**, editor

Thirty years ago there were no alerts. Or maybe there were. Opinion was divided on the best way to inform RHO of partner's conventional bid before he took action that he wouldn't had he known. A request to ACBL headquarters found the answer: the acceptable (in 1973) way was to say "please wait." I'll have to watch for the first *Matchpointer* mention of the skip bid warning.

"Honeymoons are a real fine institution,"

(continued on page 29)

Special Events in a Box

For more information, contact Unit Co-Ordinator Julien Lévesque (254-5677) spindrifter@yshaw.ca

EVENT	Qualifying Club Level Games	Unit Final	District or Zone Final	National Final	Subsidies Available
COPC Canadian Open Pairs Championship	Qualifying completed Top score in a Q-game is eligible for subsidy.	none	None. Any two CBF members may play in the National Final, but if you didn't qualify at the club level, buy-in fee is \$100	Canadian Bridge Federation 2003 Bridge Week <i>Penticton BC, June 3-9 (the week before the Penticton Regional)</i> National Finals in: COPC: June 7-8	About \$560 in Unit subsidy, and a CBF subsidy (we think).
CNTC Canadian National Team Championship Flight A unlimited Flight B 0-1000	Qualifying completed	none	Completed	CNTC Flight A: June 3-9 CNTC Flight B: June 3-7 CWTC: June 3-7	\$682 in Unit subsidy fund, also a CBF subsidy.
CWTC Canadian Women's Teams Championship	There are no club or unit qualifying games. Any team of female CBF members may enter the Zone Final.		Completed		\$897 in Unit subsidy fund. No CBF subsidy.
GNT Grand National Teams Championship Flight: Unlimited Flight A 0-5000 Flight B 0-2000 Flight C 0-500 NLM	Qualifying completed	none	Completed	Summer NABC: Long Beach CA July 17-27, 2003 (all flights).	\$400/team from DINO, \$461 in Unit subsidy.
NAOP North American Open Pairs Flight A unlimited Flight B 0-2000 Flight C 0-500 NLM	Qualifying period for 2004 NAOP is June-August 2003.	Fall 2003 (dates TBA)	Seattle Autumn Sectional Renton WA November 15, 2003 (to be confirmed)	Spring NABC Reno NV March 8-18, 2004 (all flights)	2nd/3rd teams in Dist. Final split Unit subsidy. (ACBL pays top team each flight.)

Special Events Report

by Julien Lévesque

A busy period lately, as the CWTC, CNTC and GNT Zone Finals were all held within a very short span of time. The CWTC Zone Finals was a most successful event, held on two different dates at two different sites. The first version was March 22 in Victoria, with an attendance of seven teams, three qualifying for the National Final in Penticton. The second version was March 30 at the VBC, alongside one half of the District 19 GNT Finals, and thanks to **Eugene Chan** and **Connie Delisle** (who encouraged their developing players to participate) it was a major success, as eleven teams attended! Thanks to the Victoria team of **Merv Adey**, **Tim Ayers** and **Mike Roberts**, and thanks for the support given by **Jennifer Ballantyne**, **Steve Hosch**, **Jan Anderson**, **Eugene Chan**, **Connie Delisle**, and all the participants in the hastily-organized but successful Vancouver event!

The CNTC Zone Final was held on March 29-30 in Victoria, with ten teams. The highest

score in a COPC qualifying game in Unit 430 went to **Don Sache** and **Doug Hansford**. They're eligible for a Unit subsidy to attend the National Final in June.

The GNT District Final in Flight B (0-2000) was won in Seattle by a B.C. team, **William Ge** and **Philip Chen**, playing with **Ping Ding** and **Jane Fyfe** of Kamloops. We wish them luck in Long Beach this summer! Other local winners for events mentioned above are listed with the winners lists in this issue.

The CBF Helen Shields Rookie-Master game at the VBC (18 tables) was won by **Ted Drew** and **Carrie Beavington**. The next Rookie-Master game is Tuesday, October 28. **John Berry** topped all masterpoint winners in the second CBF STaC, with 23.33 silver points in a single week!

Coming up in June: the start of NAOP qualifying, which continues to the end of August. Ask your local club manager to run a club qualifying game. Extra masterpoints, plus the chance to qualify for the Unit Final, the District Final, the National Final even!

(Editor's note: Julien should know—it happened to him and **Nigel Fullbrook**, who placed 8th in the NAOP Flight C in Philadelphia.)

“Q” It Up

NAOP about to begin

The NORTH AMERICAN OPEN PAIRS. A grass-roots, local, regional, and national event in which Unit 430 players have a very bright record of past successes. An event in which every participant, at every level, has a chance to win greatly increased masterpoints. And it all begins in June, with:

Stage One: CLUB QUALIFYING GAMES. It's a regular night at the club, stratified matchpoints, nothing special—until you win three or four masterpoints for first overall. Or you get some masterpoints (more than usual) along with a mysterious “Q” beside your name. What's this all about?

Clubs may schedule NAOP qualifying games between June 1 and August 31, up to three games for each weekly session that they run. Qualifying games can be stratified (all flights together) or limited to Flight C (0-500, non-LM) only, or limited to Flight C and Flight B (0-2000) only. Anyone finishing at average or better qualifies to play in the next level in any flight they are eligible for. And if you finish ahead of more people in a flight than you are behind (or right in the middle), you earn a qualification for that flight even if you didn't quite make it to average. That's what the “Q”s are all about: qualification for the next level! A further wrinkle: if you earn a “Q” in Flight A or B, you get an automatic qualification into any lower flight you are eligible for. (You can continue to play in other qualifying games with other partners once you have qualified; in fact, your presence increases the attendance, which bumps up the masterpoint awards a little bit.)

But even if you play only at the club level, you have the benefit of increased masterpoint awards for

winners, sometimes three times as much as a regular club game would award. And, the small extra fee you pay goes to the District to help support the travel for the lucky ones who survive to the final stage. In an indirect way, this means your extra dollar or two tends to support local players, since Unit 430 sends far more players to the Nationals than our Unit merits by population.

So why on earth wouldn't you want to play this event at your local club? If your club manager has not scheduled an NAOP Club Qualifying game, ask for one! It could be the beginning of a national championship for you and your partner!

Stage Two: THE UNIT FINAL. At the end of the qualifying period, a list of players who have qualified in each flight is prepared by the Unit and displayed at the September sectional. The Unit Final is a two-session event, usually held in October or November, which qualifies players to the next stage. The Unit makes no money from the Unit Final: all profits from it are cycled back into the NAOP Subsidy fund to help players who get to the National Final.

Last year, we embarked on a successful experiment as we split the Unit Final into two games, one for Flight A, and a later game for Flight B and C stratified together. This allowed some players, who earned a “Q” in Flight A to test the waters in and still have a second chance in Flight B or C later. (We encouraged this last year by giving a 40% discount in the Flight B/C Unit Final to individuals who played in the Flight A Unit Final.) Dates and locations for the Unit Final will be announced in the August *Matchpointer*.

At the Unit Final, you may play with anyone else who qualified at the club level. You aren't forced to play with the player you

qualified with.

Again, average or better, or top half of the field, qualifies for the next level, which is:

Stage Three: THE DISTRICT FINAL. Unit 430 is one of 24 Units in ACBL District 19, which consists of B.C., Washington State, and Alaska. The District Final location rotates between the Seattle Unit, the Vancouver Unit, and the Tacoma Unit. The 2003 District Final is scheduled for the Seattle Autumn Sectional (in Renton) in mid-November. Usually the event begins Saturday afternoon and concludes Saturday evening.

Again, at the District Final, you may play with anyone else who qualified in any Unit Final. The top three pairs in each flight are invited to play in the next stage, with ACBL subsidies going to the top two pairs in each flight (although, as we found out last year, the second-place subsidy has been reduced). Unit 430 also kicks in with subsidy support for pairs attending the next stage, which is:

Stage Four: THE NATIONAL FINAL. The next NAOP National Final will be at the 2004 Spring NABC in Reno, from March 18-28. Usually the National Final in each flight is a four-session event, a two-session qualifier and a two-session final. In an average year, there are two or three Unit 430 pairs competing in the big show, and in 1997 **Aidan Ballantyne** and **Gord McOrmond** won the Flight A Championship in Dallas!

It may seem like a long shot to even get to the National Final, but it's not. Consider: more than 50% of the players qualify in the first two stages, and the top three pairs in the third. You can qualify for the big show by putting together just three sessions of average bridge and one good two-session game. Now how hard is that?

(Only Yesterday, continued from page 39)

robin would be followed on display boards in the main tournament site. The Epon Pairs Instant Matchpoint event was to be held Friday evening at the tournament, subsidized by the Unit, along with a beer, wine and cheese party afterwards. Only one problem, which we'll get to next time.

"It must have been," wrote **Greg Arbour**, "about the eleventh round of the second session of the Master Pairs at the Portland Regional. **Mike Passell** was probably contemplating a possible win when he felt a very cold wind at his back." The 'cold north wind' was a huge second session by Greg and **Elliott Netto**, 244½ on a 156 average (12 top), enough to win the event by over two boards. Their scorecard, reprinted in the *Matchpointer*, shows this:

Board	MP	Board	MP	Board	MP
1	11	11	6	19	7½
2	8	12	8½	20	10
3	11	13	8½	21	11½
4	11	14	7½	22	8½
5	10	15	12	23	6
6	11	16	9½	24	11½
7	8	17	12	25	8½
8	11	18	10½	26	10½
				27	10½
				28	4½

Total: 244½ (78.37%)

This included 81 out of 96 matchpoints on the final eight boards (1-8). To score 244½, Greg wrote, the opponents have to be overly generous, but you have to play very well and not let opportunities slip away. Unusual actions? Not needed! Just good, tough bridge.

New Life Master (in 1988): **Sheila Girotto!** (Ask **Don Sache** what Sheila calls herself now.)

20 years ago in the *Matchpointer*
March, May 1983, **Sandy McIlwain**, editor

New Life Master (twenty years ago): **Dave House!** (Still goes by the name Dave House; occasionally David.)

A three-part series by **Aidan Ballantyne** began in the March issue. Titled *Doing It Right*, the first installment discussed hesitations at length (get it, at length?). Reading this I was struck with the impression that the rules regarding hesitations, and how Directors deal with them have not changed much, but the standard governing what is a hesitation has changed a lot. In 1983 Aidan listed examples like minute-long pauses, loud penalty doubles, and forward-leaning "maxi-minimum" raises. Today we are getting the Director when a bid is out of tempo by a few seconds or less in some cases.

As mentioned earlier, the 1983 Vancouver Regional was fought for in the DINO Boardroom, and

(continued on page 31)

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LOCAL WINNERS

FUTURE STARS 0-200 SECTIONAL
VANCOUVER BRIDGE CENTRE, MARCH 22-23
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 34½ TABLES
LAST YEAR: 66 TABLES @ DOWN 47.7% @

Saturday Afternoon			
A	B	C	0-200 Pairs (12½ tables)
1			Frankie Tsoi/David Breton
2			Jim Munns/Marybeth Harrison
3	1	1	Tony Shyu/Xin Chen
4			Harry Kublik/Bruce Partridge
5	2		Judy Christensen/Susan Mitchell
6			Norma Doucette/Joan Steuart
	3		Jerry & Linda Haynes
	4	2	Beverley Rose/Edward Frazer
	5	3	Don Stewart/Barrie Gillmore
	4		Barbara & Marke Antonsen

Saturday Evening			
A	B	C	0-200 Pairs (5 tables)
1			Tony Shyu/Wuyen Ni
2			Barbara & Marke Antonsen
3			Geraldine May/Sophie Cymbalista
4			Parvin Grigg/Felicity Fane

(not enough pairs in lower flights for overalls)

Sunday Morning			
A	B	C	0-200 Pairs (10 tables)
1	1		Hsiang Li/Wuyen Ni
2	2	1	Jim Bodner/Lynn Humphries
3			Sima Sadri/Mary June Young
4			Harry Kublik/Bruce Partridge
5			Babak Taati/David Breton
6	3		Parvin Grigg/Felicity Fane
	4		Patricia Chen/Susan Mitchell
		2	Manuel Espinosa/Gary MacDonald

Sunday Evening			
A	B	C	0-200 Swiss (7 tables)
1			Manuel Espinosa, Gary MacDonald, Joan Steuart, Ginger Chiew
2			Babak Taati, David Breton, Philippe Westreich, Ben Ong
3			Sima Sadri, Mary June Young, Yvonne Drane, Myra Johnston

(not enough pairs in lower flights for overalls)

(A list of the top ten masterpoint winners at the Future Stars Sectional is on page 29.)

GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS
FLIGHT A (0-5000), FLIGHT C (0-500 NLM)
MARCH 29-30, VANCOUVER BRIDGE CENTRE

GNT District Final	
Rank	Flight A (0-5000) (4 teams)
1	Dave Grubbs, Seattle WA; Barbara Nist, Randy Corn, Bellevue WA, Howard Epley, Kent WA, Steven Handley, Edmonds WA
2	Stanford Christie, Des Moines WA, Craig Zastera, Woodinville WA, John Maki, Bothell WA, Kevin Bolan, Snohomish WA
3	Donald & Sheila Sache, Doug Hansford, Jean Groome, Delta BC
4	Evelyn Hazelton, Barbara Keller, Juneau AK, David Morrone, Anchorage AK, Bigsby Gregg, Haines AK

GNT District Final	
Rank	Flight C (0-500 NLM)(3 teams)
1	Theresa Venhuis, Maple Valley WA, Min & Fan Zheng, Andrew Hoskins, Matthew Lahut, Redmond WA
2	James Wilson, Roy Josephson, James Studley, Stanley Jones, Haines AK
3	John Emmerson, Federal Way WA, Terezinta Traynor, Mill Creek WA, Becky Chapman, Redmond WA, Asa Martin, Seattle WA

CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
B.C. ZONE FINAL—VANCOUVER SITE
VANCOUVER BRIDGE CENTRE, MARCH 23

Canadian Women's Team Championship Zone VI Vancouver Final (11 teams)	
Rank	
1	Rhonda Foster, Marcia Christie, Samantha Nystrom, June Pocock
2	Kathy Adachi, Leslie Gold, Patti Adams, Ina Andersen
3	Marge Neate, Stella Alliston, Claire Burns, Monica Angus
4	Dianne Isfeld, Pat Carruthers, Ev Hodge, Mary Fines

OUT-OF-TOWN WINNERS

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION
2ND ANNUAL NATION-WIDE
SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT AT CLUBS
HELD AT CLUBS THROUGHOUT
CANADA FEB 17-23

Unit 430 Players in the CBF StAc Top 200	
Rank	MP
1.	23.33
7.	20.79
36.	13.95

John Berry
Rob Luo
Richard Smilie

Unit 430 Players in the CBF StAc Top 200 (Cont.)	
Rank	MP
74.	10.95
90.	10.07
146.	7.53
156.	7.32
162.	7.16
166.	7.01
170.	6.90
189.	6.38

(The Top 500 winners, and links to lists of winners for each session, can be found at the CBF Web Site: www.cbf.ca/Archives/030206.html)

OREGON TRAIL REGIONAL
PORTLAND OR, FEB 17-23

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Swiss
4			Joerg Schneider, Pat Stafff

Bracket	Rank	Quick Knockout Teams
3	2	Eda Kadar

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Side Game
5			Gloria Allan

A	B	C	Wednesday Morning Side Game
2	1		John Lien/Liz Stoneman

A	B	C	Wednesday Afternoon Side Game
3			Bob Butler

Bracket	Rank	Seniors Knockout Teams
1	1	Tom Cross
2	3/4	Geraldine Cross

A	B	C	Wednesday Open Pairs
1			John Lien/Liz Stoneman

A	B	C	Thursday Morning Side Game
1			Les Fouks

A	B	C	Thursday Afternoon Side Game
2/3			Bob Butler

A	B	C	Thursday Evening Side Game
3			Bob Butler

A	B	C	Thursday Swiss Teams
8/9			Samantha Nystrom, Cam Doner

A	B	C	Friday Morning Side Game
1			Les Fouks

Bracket	Rank	Early Bird Knockout Teams
1	2	Cam Doner

Bracket	Rank	Compact Knockout Teams
1	1	Samantha Nystrom

Bracket	Rank	Weekend Knockout Teams
1	3/4	Cam Doner

(continued on page 36)

(Winners, continued from page 35)

A	X	Saturday StratiFlighted Pairs
6		Mike Yuen/Les Fouks
	6	John Lien

A	B	C	Saturday Senior Pairs
4			Dee Segarich

A	B	C	Fast Open Pairs
	4		John Lien/Liz Stoneman

A	X	Sunday StratiFlighted Swiss Teams
7/8		Samantha Nystrom, Cam Doner

A	B	C	Sunday Senior Swiss
	4/5		Geraldine Cross

SEATTLE SWEETHEART SECTIONAL
SEATTLE WA, FEB 14-16

A	B	C	Friday Senior Pairs
4/5			Dee Segarich

A	B	C	Friday Evening Open Pairs
	3	3	Marke & Barb Antonsen

D	E	F	Saturday Afternoon 199ers Pairs
3	3	1	Marke & Barb Antonsen

OKANAGAN NON-LIFE MASTER SECTIONAL
VERNON BC, FEB 22-23

A	B	C	Sunday Afternoon NLM Pairs
	3		Anne Smith/Mary June Young

WARM VALLEY SECTIONAL
CHEMAINUS BC, FEB 28-MAR 2

A	B	C	Saturday Open Pairs
1			Aidan Ballantyne/Katrin Litwin

A	B	C	Sunday Swiss
1			Aidan Ballantyne/Katrin Litwin

ACBL SPRING 2003 NABC
PHILADELPHIA PA, MAR 6-16

A	B	C	Henry Grier Side Game
5			Peter Morse

A	B	C	Sunday Evening IMP Pairs
4	2		Mike Moffat/Vicki Croome

A	B	C	Monday Reading Open Pairs
6			Cam Doner/Samantha Nystrom

Molly McGuire

Bracket	Rank	Compact Knockout Teams
1	1	Bryan Maksymetz, Gord McOrmond, Dan Jacob

Rank	0-3000 Knockout Teams
3/4	Peter Morse

A	B	C	Wednesday Zip Swiss
5			Samantha Nystrom

Rank	Open Pairs II
5	Gord McOrmond/Dan Jacob

A	B	C	Chambersburg Open Pairs
	6		Mike Moffat/Vicki Croome

Bracket	Rank	Friday-Saturday Compact Knockout Consolation
1	2	Peter Morse

A	X	StratiFlighted Swiss
2	1	Samantha Nystrom

Rank	Open Swiss Teams
12	Dan Jacob, Gord McOrmond, Bryan Maksymetz

Rank	President's Cup NAOP Flight C
8	Julien Lévesque/Nigel Fullbrook

CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
B.C. ZONE FINAL:
VICTORIA B.C., MARCH 22

Rank	Canadian Women's Team Championship Zone VI Victoria Final
3	Doreen McOrmond, Christina Jacob

CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
B.C. ZONE FINAL:
VICTORIA B.C., MARCH 29-30

Flight	Rank	Canadian National Team Championship Zone VI Final
A	1	Peter Herold, Aidan Ballantyne
	2	Brad Bart, Mike Dimich, Les Fouks, Mike Yuen
B	1	Kenny Chan, H.K. Ho, Sam Lai, Kam Tang

VICTORIA REGIONAL
VICTORIA BC, MAR 31-APR 6

A	B	C	Heino & Assoc. Charity Pairs
1			Mike Yuen
4			Stella Alliston/Marge Neate
6			Garry Skoropada
	6		Angela Fenton/Anne Scott

D	E	F	Hinton Charity 199er Pairs
4/5			Sachi Yamikami/Mona Blusson
	3		Walter Zielinski
		5	Patricia Chen/Chieko Ota

A	B	C	Tuesday Morning Side Game
4			Glenn Ponty

D	E	F	Bob Peacock 99er Pairs
3			Rowena Huberman/Gladys Adilman
	5		Barb & Marke Antonsen
	6/7		Patricia Chen/Chieko Ota
		1	Donald & Dianne McDonald

A	B	C	Tuesday Afternoon Side Game
3/4	2/3	1	Walter Zielinski
		3	Mary June Young

Bracket	Rank	WTV Knockout Teams
1	3/4	Cam Doner
2	2	Don Sharp
	3/4	John Lien, Liz Stoneman
	3/4	Gray McMullin
	5/8	Ram Hira, Don Keith
3	1	William Ge, Bachan Buttar, Renlu Wang
	2	Jeannette Greenhut, Marla Gropper, Rosalee Hardin, Samantha Nystrom
	5/8	Marti Oppenheimer, Greg Lam, Adi Wadia, Rangie Sylvestre
	5	3/4 Alice & Gary Thomas
	6	2 Jocelyn Krug
	5/8	Harvey & Jean Bridges, Dorothy & Don Macleod

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Swiss
1			Cam Doner
5			Claire & Gordon Burns, Patricia & Mike Stickland
	2		Alice Thomas
	3		Don Keith, Ram Hira

D	E	F	Tuesday Evening 99er Pairs
1			Rowena Huberman/Gladys Adilman
	2		James & Daphne Shaw
	6		Patricia Chen/Chieko Ota

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Newcomer Pairs
	6		Beverley Rose/Edward Fraser

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Side Game
1			John Lien/Liz Stoneman
	3		Jenny Ballantyne
		5/6	Howard & Jane Shimokura

A	B	C	Pic-A-Flic Open Pairs
4	2		Brad Bart/David Breton
	5	3	Diane Ayukawa/Richard Dunn
		3	Andy Hellqvist/Greg Morse

A	B	C	Tuesday Senior Pairs
5	4		Joan O'Flynn/Malcolm McDonald
		7	Art Frazer
		6	Rosemary Cunningham/Eileen Sayers

A	B	C	Wednesday Morning Side Game
4			Larry Chow/Tony Marsh
	6	3	Ronald Dixon

D	E	F	Bill Taylor 99er Pairs
2	2		Ata Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi

A	B	C	Wednesday Senior Pairs
1			Bob Kiggins/Donna Morrison
4	1		Art Frazer
7			Tom & Geraldine Cross
6			Gloria Allan

A	B	C	Wednesday Senior Pairs (cont.)
5			Don & Shirley Warner

A	B	C	Anne Saunders Open Pairs
8			Mike Takemori/Martin Hennberger
5			Carol-Ann Halliday
5			Walter Zielinski

D	E	F	Wednesday Evening 99er Pairs
3	2		Marke & Barb Antonsen
4/5	3/4		Ata Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi

A	B	C	Wednesday Evening Side Game
1			Tony Marsh
4			Gordon Burns/Mike Stickland

A	B	C	Sheila MacDougall Swiss
5/7			Peggy Ross, Karin Dunlop, Sandra Robson, Marina Page
5/7	3/4	1	Beverley Hall, Jean Katz, Sidney Robinson
3			Julianne Wooden, Jeannette Bourbonnais, Freda Cryer, June Knight
4/6			Harvey & Jean Bridges, Dorothy & Don Macleod

A	B	C	Thursday Morning Side Game
2	2		Les Baldys
3	3		Claire Burns/Peter Morse
5	4	3	Pattie Lamb
6			Jeannette Bourbonnais/June Knight

A	B	C	Thursday Afternoon Side Game
1			Tony Marsh/Bruce McIntyre
4			William Sit

D	E	F	W. & R. Sinclair 199er Swiss
1			Bruce Partridge, Harry Kublik, Susan Mitchell, Judy Christensen
4			Mary June Young, Rowena Huberman, Sharon Chercover, Gladys Adilman
5	2		Marke Antonsen, Denny Gibson
5/6			Alice & Bill Butler

Bracket	Rank	Jones Emery Knockout Teams
1	1	Gerry McCully, Rhonda Foster
	2	Cam Doner
2	1	Martin Johnson
3	1	Rangie Sylvestrie, Adi Wadia
	2	William Ge, Danny Lee, Philip Chen, Bachan Butlar, Renlu Wang
4	3/4	Denise Goodkey
5	3/4	Sima Sadri
6	3/4	Jane & Howard Shimokura

A	B	C	Paul Waters Open Swiss
2	1		David Breton, Brad Bart, Greg Morse, Andy Hellqvist
3			Liz Stoneman, John Lien
4			Katrin Litwin, Aidan Ballantyne
8			Mike Dom Wiss
10/12			Carol Waters
13/14			Mike Yuen
2			Malcolm McDonald, James Shaw, Les Baldys
3/4			Stephen Pickett
4			Sidney Robinson, Jean Katz, Beverley Hall
5			Bernard Hoeschen, Gail Heuchart, Myra Johnston, Yvonne Drane

A	B	C	Wood Gundy Senior Swiss
1			Kathy Adachi, Sheila Sache, Ina Andersen, Marge Neate
4/5			Tom Cross
7/8			Claire Burns, Peter Morse, Bernice & Al French
3			Don Keith, Bob Kiggins
5/7			Pattie Lamb

D	E	F	Milestones 199er Swiss
1			Howard & Jane Shimokura, Leo & Joan Dear
3/4			Mary June Young, Sharon Chercover, Gladys Adilman, Rowena Huberman

A	B	C	Thursday Evening Side Game
1/2	1/2	1	Sima Sadri
6	5		Samantha Nystrom
6			Tony Remedios/Tove Chen
4			Gerry & Bonnie Purcell

A	B	C	Friday Morning Side Game
4/5			Claire Burns/Peter Morse
4/5	3		Melinda Ponto/Kathy Bye
6			John Demeulemeester/Al French
5	2		June Knight/Jeanette Bourbonnais

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Side Game
1			Cam Doner/Mike Dorn Wiss
3			Bob Kiggins/Olive MacDonald
6/7	2/3	1	Bernard Hoeschen/Mary June Young
5	2		Malcolm McDonald/James Shaw
5			Jeannette Bourbonnais/Julianne Wooden

D	E	F	Monk Office Supply 199er Pairs
5/6	3		Leo & Joan Dear
4			Ata Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi

D	E	F	Friday Evening 199er Pairs
1			Myra Johnston/Marlene Powell
5	2	1	Joan & Leo Dear
6			James & Daphne Shaw
4			Marke & Barb Antonsen

A	B	C	Friday Senior Pairs
2			Leslie Gold/Kathy Adachi
3			Ev Hodge
6	1		Carol-Ann Halliday/Terry Scott
2	1		Neil & Maureen McAllister
3			Victor & Angeline Bennington
3			Shirley & Don Warner
4			Gail Watson/Bobby Wood

A	B	C	Friday Evening Side Game
3	2		Matt & Kristina Bohdanowicz
6			June Knight/Julianne Wooden

A	B	C	Friday Open Pairs
1			Mike Dimich
3			Howard Rubin/Les Fouks
7			Mike Yuen
9	1		Brad Bart/David Breton

(continued on page 38)

A New Tactic From Victoria

The Ballantyne Finesse

Among the amazing stories from Victoria that didn't get into the Daily Bulletins was this one told to the *Matchpointer* tattler by **David Breton**, a teammate of the perpetrators. Leading the field at the break, **Andy Hellqvist** and **Greg Morse** were conducting a round five auction towards a possible club slam, with alerts and explanations, and when they stopped in 5♣, **Aidan Ballantyne** decided to double. When informed before the opening lead that a bid in the auction had been slightly mis-explained, Aidan summoned Director **Gilbert Lambert**, who allowed the auction to be rolled back, cancelling the final double.

5♣, now undoubled, went two down.

Aidan's team lost the match by a single IMP.

(Vulnerability was withheld from the tattler, no doubt for fear that the Victory Point effectiveness of the Ballantyne Finesse would be calculated and printed in this report.)

But upon further investigation, both Ballantyne and Lambert hastened to testify that 5♣ was in fact cold, rendering the Ballantyne Finesse of dubious actual value. Hellqvist and Morse, happy with the end result, had no comment. Both teams ended in the high overalls of the event.

(Winners, continued from page 37)

A	B	C	Friday Open Pairs (cont)
3	2		Olga Guitelmacher/Dmitri Chatokhine
6			Brian Cross
	4		Jim Kerr/Maarten Tjebbes

A	B	C	Stockli Maytag Swiss
3	2	1	Diane McNames, Norma McNamara, Marlene Barber
5			Mike Dorn Wiss, Cam Doner
	3/4		Denise Goodkey
	5	3	Sidney Robinson, Jean Katz, Beverley Hall
A	B	C	Fraser McColl Zip Swiss
3			John Lien, Liz Stoneman, Bob Kiggins, Peter Morse

TEAM	A	B	C	4	3	2	1
1. BARRETT'S PIONEERS	x	x		47	28	21	1
2. BRUCE & A. RIES, MICH	x	x		41	39	32	2
3. MARIE & J. MORGAN	x			37	30	24	3
4. HOLL & A. HOLL	x			34	27	5	
5. LAY LOW	x			23	17	6	5
6. PAUL PRINCE	0	x		65	45	28	4
7. WALLACE & GIBSON	x			42	36	33	7
8. BILLY & BOB STALE	x			9	8	3	
9. HARRISON & THE PAIR	2	0		62	53	35	20
10. WISS TEAMS	x	x		55	37	19	0
11. DONALD & MURRY	x			21	19	8	
12. HANCOCK & VAUGH	x			33	17	13	0
13. MURPHY & SHAW	x			36	18	4	
14. HENRY & FRASER	x			29	23	26	6
15. ROBERT & KATZ	x			24	10	4	
16. ABE & DANIEL SHARP	x	x		40	33	20	10
17. ROSEMARY & BOB				16	8	7	
18. TERRY & THE TEAMS				45	35	32	13
19. STANLEY & GIBSON				39	20	5	
20. VAK & BERGER				20	17	5	
21. WILSON'S BEARS				9	0	0	
22. DENISE & JIM GALE	5	2	0	61	41	27	20
23. COOK & ROBERT				34	32	24	5
24. THE COOPER'S DUO	x	x		57	46	33	15
25. BECK & GIBSON IN THE HUNT				43	43	25	20
26. PULLOFT & THE PAIR				13	1	0	
27. BELLETT & THE KING	x	x		50	32	16	7
28. ROBERTSON, SMITH & SANDY	x			24	23	13	

FRIDAY EVENING SWISS

A	B	C	Afternoon Side Game Overall
1			Tony Marsh
"Matt is 30" (that'd be Director Matt Koltzow of Redmond WA, who directed this event on his birthday)			

Bracket	Rank	Compact Knockout Teams
1	3/4	Rhonda Foster, Gerry McCully
2	1	John Lien, Liz Stoneman, Gerry McCully
4		Patti Adams, Les Baldys, Sandra Robson, Don Sharp
3	3	Denise Goodkey
4	1	Diane McNames, Norma McNamara, Marlene Barber

Bracket	Rank	"Matt is 30" Compact KO Teams Consolation
1	2	John Hurdle
3	2	Linda & Les Ellis
4	2	Bruce McIntyre, Richard Dunn, Jocelyn Krug, Henry Lai

Bracket	Rank	C. & J. McAvoy Knockout Teams
1	2	Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin
3/4		Don Sache, Doug Hansford, Mike & Ben Takemori
2	3/4	Tai Eng, Martin Henneberger, Dianne Isfeld, Gary Skoropada
3	1	Glenn & Melinda Ponto, Kathy Bye, Brian Ranson
2		Philip Chen, Danny Lee, Renlu Wang

Bracket	Rank	C. & J. McAvoy Knockouts (cont.)
4	2	Priscilla Brown, Karin Dunlop, Catherine MacKinnon, Samantha Nystrom
5	1	Bruce Partridge, Harry Kublik, Susan Mitchell, Judy Christensen

A	X	Saturday Stratiflighted Pairs
4		Dan Jacob/Gord McOrmond
8		Jenny Ballantyne/Jean Groome
9	2	Tony Remedios/Greg Barscsz
4		Aban & Bob Gerrie
5		Maarten Tjebbes/Jim Kerr
6		Brad Bart/David Breton

B	C	D	Saturday Stratiflighted Pairs
3			Diane Ayukawa/Tove Chen
6	2		Gloria Allan
	4		Gail Heuchart/John Reid

D	E	F	Saturday Evening 99ers Pairs
5/6	3		Barb & Marke Antonsen

A	B	C	Saturday Senior Pairs
4			Delphine Tablotney/Helen Montgomery

A	B	C	Saturday Evening Side Game
1/2			Mike Dorn Wiss
5			Lotte Elias
6			June Pocock/Ben Takemori
	6		Carol-Ann Halliday/Terry Scott
	5		Sidney Robinson

Rank	Evening Side Game Overall
5/6	Liz Stoneman, John Lien

A	B	C	Sunday Fast Pairs
2			Maarten Tjebbes/Jim Kerr

A	X	John Keech Stratiflighted Swiss
1		Cam Doner, Felipe Hernandez, Mike Dorn Wiss
4		Gerry McCully, Rhonda Foster, Samantha Nystrom, June Pocock
7	2	Brad Bart, David Breton, Mike & Ben Takemori
8		Greg Barscsz, Tony Remedios, Gord Davis, Don Brazeau, Mike Dimich
10/11		Mike Yuen
	4/5	Carol Waters
	7	Diane Ayukawa, Tove Chen, Olga Guitelmacher, Dmitri Chatokhine

B	C	D	John Keech Stratiflighted Swiss
1			Doreen McOrmond
2			Wink & Ann Andres, Shirley & Ozzie Isfeld
3	1	1	Diane McNames, Norma McNamara, Marlene Barber
4			William Ge, Danny Lee, Philip Chen, Renlu Wang
5			Carol-Ann Halliday, Bachan Buttar, Brian Ranson
6	2	2	Alice & Gary Thomas
7	3		Don Keith, Marion Crowhurst, Greg Lam, John Demeulemeester
6			Linda & Les Ellis
5			Jocelyn Krug, Henry Lai

A	B	C	Sunday Senior Swiss
1			Tom Cross, Jenny Ballantyne
3			Al & Bernice French, Helen Montgomery, Delphine Tablotney
4	1	1	Judy Murphy, Rangie Sylvestre, Adi Wadia, Gail Watson
	4/5		Victor & Angeline Bennington

Victoria Regional: Top Fifty in Unit 430

1.	Cam Doner, Richmond BC	93.35
2.	Gerald McCully, New West. BC	68.20
3.	Rhonda Foster, New West. BC	63.40
4.	David Breton, Burnaby BC	61.99
4.	Brad Bart, Burnaby BC	61.99
6.	William Ge, Vancouver BC	54.03
7.	Liz Stoneman, Surrey BC	52.42
7.	John Lien, Surrey BC	52.42
9.	Bachan Buttar, Surrey BC	52.16
10.	Danny Lee, Vancouver BC	48.77
11.	Katrin Litwin, Vancouver BC	46.99
12.	Samantha Nystrom, Burnaby BC	42.67
13.	Michael Takemori, Burnaby BC	39.02
14.	Rangie Sylvestre, Vancouver BC	37.77
15.	Ben Takemori, Burnaby BC	37.03
16.	Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver BC	36.63
17.	Adi Wadia, Vancouver BC	36.22
18.	Kathy Adachi, Delta BC	33.16
19.	Alice Thomas, Langley BC	31.14
20.	Michael Dimich, Burnaby BC	30.35
21.	Kathy Bye, Burnaby BC	30.16

A	B	C	Saturday Morning Side Game
2			Glenn Ponto/Kathy Bye
4	2		Brian Ranson/Les Baldys
5			Al French/John Demeulemeester
6	3		Melinda Ponto
Rank	Morning Side Game Overall		
3	Glenn Ponto		

Bracket	Rank	Early Bird Knockout Teams
2	3/4	William Ge, Danny Lee, Renlu Wang, Philip Chen, Bachan Buttar
	5/8	Don Keith, Adi Wadia, Marion Crowhurst, Rangie Sylvestre
4	3/4	Rudy Notzl

D	E	F	Saturday Afternoon 99er Pairs
2			James & Daphne Shaw
4/5			Mark Antonsen/Denny Gibson
4			Ata Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi

Victoria Regional: Top Fifty in Unit 430 (cont.)

22. Felipe Hernandez, Pt. Coquitlam BC.....	29.89
23. Martin Johnson, Vancouver BC.....	29.36
24. Gary Thomas, Langley BC.....	29.09
25. Andy Hellquist, Surrey BC.....	28.97
25. Greg Morse, Richmond BC.....	28.97
27. Melinda Ponto, Port Moody BC.....	28.90
28. Brian Ransom, West Vancouver BC.....	28.49
29. Don Sharp, Salt Spring Island BC.....	28.36
30. Leszek Baldys, Maple Ridge BC.....	27.44
31. Peter Morse, North Vancouver BC.....	26.44
32. Donald Sache, Delta BC.....	25.93
33. Don Keith, New Westminster BC.....	24.35
34. Tom Cross, N. Vancouver BC.....	24.09
35. Sheila Sache, Delta BC.....	23.80
36. Doug Hansford, Delta BC.....	23.68
37. Bob Kiggins, Burnaby BC.....	23.47
38. Marge Neate, West Vancouver BC.....	23.20
39. Sima Sadri, West Vancouver BC.....	23.01
40. Ina Andersen, Surrey BC.....	22.83
41. June Pocock, Coquitlam BC.....	21.45
42. Diane McNamara, Delta BC.....	21.39
43. Malcolm McDonald, Bowen Isl. BC.....	21.34
44. Norma McNamara, Delta BC.....	21.33
44. Marlene Barber, Surrey BC.....	21.33
46. James Shaw, Bowen Island BC.....	21.18
47. Howard Rubin, N. Vancouver BC.....	20.79
48. Jennifer Ballantyne, Vancouver BC.....	20.36
48. Michael Yuen, Vancouver BC.....	20.36
50. Martin Henneberger, Vancouver BC.....	20.24

(thanks to Matt Smith & Brian Russell for the list)

**GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS
FLIGHT B (0-2000 NLM)
SEATTLE WA, APRIL 12-13**

Rank	GNT District Final Flight B (0-2000)
I	William Ge, Philip Chen (with Ping Ding and Jane Fyfe of Kamloops)

**KOOTENAY SPRING SECTIONAL
KIMBERLEY BC, APR 25-27**

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Open Pairs
4			Sam Nystrom
5			Philip Chen/Gary Ge
6			Gladys Mackie/Arlene Browning

Rank	Friday Afternoon Novice Pairs
4/5	Donald & Dianne McDonald

A	B	C	Ted Herron Open Pairs
6			Gladys Mackie
7			Don Sharp

A	X	Stratified Swiss
3		Philip Chen, Gary Ge

B	C	Stratified Swiss
4		Alex Jack, Barbara van Blankenstein

D	E	F	Sunday Afternoon 99er Teams
3	2		Donald & Dianne McDonald

**QUALICUM SECTIONAL
QUALICUM BEACH BC, MAY 2-4**

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Open Pairs
3	3		Dianne Sterling/Janet Banning
4			Harvey & Jean Bridges

A	B	C	Friday Evening Open Pairs
3			Neil & Maureen McAllister

A	B	C	Saturday Open Pairs
6			Larry & June Pocock
7			Mike & Ben Takemori
5			Neil & Maureen McAllister

A	B	C	Sunday Swiss
3			Joan & Tony Marsh
7/8			Larry & June Pocock, Mike & Ben Takemori
3			Harvey & Jean Bridges

Apologies for the typos and/or accidental omissions I am sure to have made in preparing these lists. If you win an overall place in an ACBL event outside of BC or Washington State, let me know and I will find it online. —MCB

(Only Yesterday, continued from page 40)

**15 years ago in the Matchpointer
May 1988, Jude Goodwin-Hanson, editor**

Not long after winning an event at the Vancouver Regional named for him, and in fact just days short of his eightieth birthday, **Henry Smilie** passed away on March 28, 1988, and the *Matchpointer* led off with three tributes:

Phil Wood: In the 1980s, Henry and I often journeyed to Regional tournaments on both sides of the border. It was during these somewhat hectic trips that I became painfully aware of Henry's heavy foot. We spent considerable time at the roadside while the authorities added to their state's local records of Henry's driving peccadilloes...Henry served in many capacities with Unit 430, The Western Conference, District 19 and the CBF. In all of these pursuits he was regarded as one with no axe to grind, with a pure desire to serve tournament bridge...At times he was the bane of the Director's existence for his constant unsuccessful attempts at punctuality, but somehow he always arrived.

Joanne Elliott: When I am feeling a little blue, I can conjure up the memory of a man in his seventies, dressed as a duck, dancing to the strains of *Disco Duck*, and winning a trophy to boot. We'll all remember the trademark—that ever-present, drooping cigarette

glued to Henry's lower lip, ashes cascading to vest, vest riddled with burn holes. Sometimes I even catch myself unconsciously smiling, and realize that I've been reminiscing about a Henry story. What better legacy can a person leave?

Doug Cowan: My favorite Henry story was the time he arrived at the Pemberton club ten minutes late as usual, to proudly announce how he couldn't believe how light the traffic was that night—he really sailed through and every light was green! Heaven knows when he would have arrived if it were otherwise...Along with **Phil Wood** and **Percy Bean**, he was virtually the founder of District 19, and was a stalwart on the District Board for many years. He sometimes showed up on Saturday when the meeting was scheduled for Friday, but he always represented Canadian interests and vigorously refused to be overwhelmed by the US majority on the Board. One notable achievement was defending Vancouver's right to hold a Regional in 1983, when many on the Board wanted to move it elsewhere because of what they viewed to be outrageous hotel costs.

The June 1988 sectional was held at the Student Union Building Ballroom at UBC, along with the CNTC National Finals at several rooms in the Gage Towers. The progress of the CNTC round-

(continued on page 34)

back in the second half with some partscore doubles and a few low-percentage passes of 3NT with a ten-card major suit fit. Who was this supersub? **Hushang Mohtadi!**

Greg Morse introduced a nemesis to the Hideous Hog (In Training), who goes by his initials **HHIT**. The nemesis was **HITT**, an abbreviation for "Hindsight Is Twenty-Twenty."

10 years ago in the Matchpointer

March, May 1993, David Schmidt, editor

Following the editorial in the previous issue about criticizing players vs. pointing out errors without mentioning names, the March issue featured several reports of errors from players proud to have their manes appended to them! **Doug Cowan** admitted to being the unnamed player in the original article, and **Jude Goodwin-Hanson** submitted a deal in which **David Schmidt** had bid a diamond void in the auction, allowing her side to try 6NT without being sure of a club stopper, because it was clear that a diamond was about to be led! Result: down six when a club was led instead. All in all, the March issue resolved the issue of whether we editors should take great pains to avoid revealing who made the errors. Answer: errors count, and you don't always have to name the people who make them, but it's silly to go to great lengths to conceal them.

In early 1993 the Unit decided to purchase bid-boxes, enough for all Unit events, including sectionals. Players at the 373-table Winter Sectional enjoyed the novelty, and an article by **Chuck Campbell** explained the fine points of using bid-boxes without transmitting unauthorized information. (The more commonly heard term *bidding box*, used in the 1993 article, is falling out of favour because the box doesn't do the bidding.) First rule: decide what you're going to do *before* you reach for the bid-box.

The **Hideous Hog (In Training)** won a wager but had trouble collecting: the bet was that **HHIT** could not score 55% or more under the following conditions: no bids of exactly 3NT from the Hog's side at any time, and partner must remain unaware that this is happening. You can imagine the wild auctions that resulted. Ten years later I feel the need to point out (I didn't in 1993) that the article was written after a game in which I discovered that I had not bid 3NT all night. Some would be critical of the field-skewing that would result had such a bet actually taken place.

New in 1993, a special type of stratified event: Flightified! This is the familiar Flight A standalone, Flights B, C and maybe D together that is today known as StratiFlighted. Actually, I am begin-

ning to see a trend towards just calling everything Open Pairs again in winners lists, with the default assumption being that some form of stratifying is involved. This is good because I have never been able to type stratified without activating the spell-check alert.

So you want to play transfers but you like forcing and non-forcing Stayman as well? Try Simcoe, where the 2♣ call over INT is the forcing Stayman call, and transfers are on. Ask **Dick SIMPSON** or **Rod COOTE** how it all works, or go to the library and read the article in the March 1993 issue.

The Bermuda Bowl's second spot from North America was decided between teams from Mexico, Bermuda, and Canada in February 1993 at the Delta Pacific hotel. Canada's team was **Jim Dickie**, **Bruce Ferguson**, **Peter Herold**, **Jim McAvoy**, **Duncan Smith** and **Mike Strebing**. **Fred Gitelman** brought his VuGraph software and a lively show was set up for spectators, with **Nathan Divinsky**, **Allan Graves** and **Aidan Ballantyne** among the commentators. Canada finished in the middle of the three team match but the crowds of people who paid a few dollars to watch the match and hear the commentary was something not seen here for a while!

Lauren Miller presented an instructive deal on which the opening leader's partner wins trick one and, holding the trump ace, decides to return a club around to **KQJTx**. Should partner win his ace or encourage? Lauren's point was that if the club is returned immediately it may seem like a singleton, while if the club return is a few minutes later it "feels" like a doubleton. The solution is to take a few moments at trick one *always*, whether you are declarer or a defender. A little time taken at trick one keeps from giving unauthorized information later.

"**Marshall Smiles**" made another appearance in the May issue, to laud the innovations of a "senior guru." The "Resarf Trump Double Duck" involved a declarer who led the queen, then the jack, towards a dummy with **Txx** and no apparent entry. Sadly, declarer held six trumps to the **AQJ** and had no trouble figuring out what to do when the jack also won and **RHO** showed out. Next was the "Resarf Trump Safety Play." Our hero led the jack from **AJ9xx** towards **K8xx**, and when **LHO** followed low, went up with the king! Disaster ensued when **RHO** discarded. "Resarf's teammates spent a fruitless hour trying to find the combination the play guarded against." We're assuming that the name "Resarf" is subtly coded by the well-known local who writes under the "Marshall Smiles" pseudo. Next time you see Mr. Kaldob, ask him for the key.

Monthly Unit Games

by the Matchpointer Movie Reviewer

Are you bored with the current crop of over-hyped movies? Come to the Vancouver Bridge Cinema on selected Saturday nights and see the movie Richard Ebert and Eugene Siskel are raving about: *the Monthly Unit Game*, already known to a cult of fans as *MUG*.

In memorable bookend scenes, the film begins and ends at a bridge club on East Broadway. The tension heightens as players arrive, some with partners and a few without, some for the "open game," some for the "0-200" game, all effortlessly handled by the two main characters. **Richard Dunn** should grab an easy Oscar nomination for his role as "Rick," the main game Director. **Eugene Chan** may well be a consensus choice for best Supporting Actor as "E.C.," the 0-200 game Director.

An early highlight is the "gametime" scene, as repeated shots of the wall clock are combined with ticking sound effects as the ensemble cast hurry to find their places before 7:30. Rick and E.C then embark on a series of hilarious scenes interacting with the cast. There are Director Call scenes, All Change scenes, East-West Skip scenes, and the announcing of the winners scene (different on every viewing, thanks to a new technology called *cinematic shuffling* that will

win an Oscar for Special Effects) brings the viewer to the edge of his seat. Interspersed with the scenes involving the main characters are *film noir* bid-box chase sequences, and split-screen cardplay scenes that intensify the action to a level never imagined before.

How refreshing to be able to see an exciting new film one month, return a month later to the same film and find the details completely changed, yet the central themes of friendly, yet social competition remain constant! We talked to the stars of the film and asked if they knew they had a hit on their hands.

"On a film like this," said Dunn, "a lot depends on how many people see it, and discover how it varies every showing. You can see *MUG* every month and you'll keep finding new things in it. If you've seen it once, you certainly haven't seen all of it!"

"The turning point," said Chan, "will be when we reach the younger crowd and show them that *cinema verité* can be just as exciting to a less experienced viewer as someone who has been going to the movies for forty years or more. When we turn that corner, there's no limit to how big this could be!"

The thriving VBC theatre charges just \$9.00 to see *MUG*, which runs only once per month, and offers a special \$2.00 off coupon to encourage people to return the next month, to view the film again after it has been "cinematically shuffled." Future *MUG* dates are May 31, July 5 and August 9. Don't miss it!

March 1 Open		
A	B	C
Monthly Unit Game (17 tables)		
1		<i>June Pocock/Rhoda Taffler</i>
2	1	<i>Glenn Ponto/Melinda Ponto</i>
3	2	<i>Sandra Robson/Gus Axen</i>
4		<i>Isabel Chernoff/Dot Carnegie</i>
5	3	<i>John Lien/Liz Stoneman</i>
6	4	<i>Andrew Zorawski/Ewa Wroblewicz</i>
	5	<i>Gary Phelan/Patti Adams</i>
	6	<i>Brad Bart/David Breton</i>
	2	<i>Greg Lam/Veronica Peacock</i>

March 1 0-200		
D	E	
Monthly Unit Game (6 tables)		
1		<i>Yvonne Drane/Bernard Hoeschen</i>
2	1	<i>John Prevedoros/Harold Egilson</i>
3		<i>Myra Johnston/Marlene Powell</i>
4	2	<i>Patricia Chen/Alex Louie</i>
	3	<i>Felicity Fane/Gail Heuchert</i>

April 12 Open		
A	B	C
Monthly Unit Game (13 tables)		
1	1	<i>Nigel Fullbrook/Julien Lévesque</i>
2		<i>Rhonda Foster/Gerry McCully</i>
3	2	<i>Ewa Wroblewicz/Andrew Zorawski</i>
4		<i>Rhoda Taffler/June Pocock</i>
5	3	<i>Sandra Robson/Gus Axen</i>
6	4	<i>Liz Stoneman/John Lien</i>
	5	<i>Carol-Ann Halliday/David Hooley</i>
	6	<i>Samantha Nystrom/Chris Diamond</i>
	2	<i>Norma Doucette/Joan Steuart</i>
	3	<i>Harry Kublik/Doug Rose</i>

(Not enough 0-200 pairs on April 12, a playoff hockey night, to run a separate game.)

May 3 Open		
A	B	C
Monthly Unit Game (15 tables)		
1		<i>Doug Baldwin/Gerry McCully</i>
2	1	<i>Tony Remedios/Grzegorz Barszcz</i>
	3	<i>Nigel Fullbrook/Julien Lévesque</i>
	4	<i>Trudy Hurdle/John Hurdle</i>
	5	<i>Dennis Groden/Gilbert Lambert</i>
	6/7	<i>Gus Axen/Sandra Robson</i>
	6/7	<i>Estelle Lo/Ken Lochang</i>
	6/7	<i>Waldemar Jez/William Ge</i>
	6/7	<i>Gary Ge/Danny Lee</i>
	1	<i>Chloe Clark/Norma Doucette</i>
	2	<i>Yvonne Drane/Bernard Hoeschen</i>

May 3 0-200		
D		
Monthly Unit Game (3 1/2 tables)		
1		<i>Kun Shao/Peter Tsang</i>
2		<i>Myra Johnston/Marlene Powell</i>
3		<i>Barb Antonsen/Marke Antonsen</i>

(not enough pairs eligible for lower strats to stratify)

A	B	C	MUG Race Standings	MP
1	1		<i>Rhoda Taffler</i>	11.12
	2		<i>June Pocock</i>	10.88
	3	2	<i>Julien Lévesque</i>	9.94
	3	2	<i>Nigel Fullbrook</i>	9.94
	5		<i>Gerry McCully</i>	9.10
	6	4	<i>Tony Remedios</i>	8.16
	7	5	<i>Gilbert Lambert</i>	6.07

A	B	C	MUG Standings (cont.)	MP
8	6	2	<i>Gus Axen</i>	6.01
	9		<i>Gord McOrmond</i>	5.38
	9		<i>Dan Jacob</i>	5.38
	11	7	<i>Liz Stoneman</i>	5.28
	11	7	<i>John Lien</i>	5.28
	13		<i>Rhonda Foster</i>	5.25
	14	9	<i>Sandra Robson</i>	5.24
	15	10	<i>Trudy Hurdle</i>	5.12
	16	11	<i>Tove Chen</i>	4.97
	12	3	<i>Ewa Wroblewicz</i>	4.46
	12	3	<i>Andrew Zorawski</i>	4.46
	14		<i>Doug Baldwin</i>	4.25
	15		<i>Glenn Ponto</i>	3.51
	15		<i>Melinda Ponto</i>	3.51
	5		<i>David Hooley</i>	2.30
	6		<i>Norma Doucette</i>	2.17
	7		<i>Bernard Hoeschen</i>	2.15
	9		<i>Greg Lam</i>	1.74
	9		<i>Veronica Peacock</i>	1.74
	11		<i>Harry Kublik</i>	1.64
	12		<i>Marlene Powell</i>	1.55
	12		<i>Myra Johnston</i>	1.55
	14		<i>Janet Banning</i>	1.53
	15		<i>Barbara Antonsen</i>	1.46
	15		<i>Marke Antonsen</i>	1.46

121 people have won 249.75 masterpoints in the first five Monthly Unit Games of 2003.

Only Yesterday

by Bruce McIntyre

Why, I keep hearing, does this article wend it's way back through the *Matchpointer*? Wouldn't it be easier to read if laid out normally? Yes and no. The idea was to start a series that would begin on the last "white" page, and extend into the many white spaces that the *Matchpointer* produces. You should think of it as moving backward through the magazine as you move backward through time. Off we go.

5 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

April 1998, Bruce McIntyre, editor

In 1998 Unit 430 applied for and got the four-day Victoria Day weekend as a sectional date for the first time, and since the Bonsor site and the Victoria Day weekend has proved to be a great success in the five years since, it seems a good idea to note that the tournament chairs at the time were **Sandra Hawk** and **Dan Webster**, and the Unit President was **Felipe Hernandez**. There was a lot of last-minute scrambling to get the dates changed—the original plan was to run a regular sectional the week before the STaC, which in turn would be followed by the Pentiction Regional. A hasty decision that worked out very well in the long run.

Unit President **Felipe Hernandez** was unavailable at press time, so in the place of the President's Message was something called *Scales of Justice* by "your Court Reporter" which began as follows: "The highlight of the day at the Law Courts was the trial in absentia of Unit 430 President Felipe Hernandez, represented by his counsel, Mick Bruce." Among the charges: "Monthly Unit Game Split-Site-I-Cide,"

"Carrying a Concealed STaC," and "Claiming that Bridge Is Cool." Eventually the court erupted at the end of Mick Bruce's stirring defense until Judge Matt Schpointer had to bang the gavel for quiet. Yes, it was an April issue...

Another five and a half pages completed **Anne-Marie Bullis's** Tunis Travelogue, and among the highlights:

—photos with **Omar Sharif** at the end of the World Championships

—A French sign saying *Autoroute coupé à Lyon* is bad news

—A bridge tournament played entirely in pubs in Sehagen, Holland

Five years ago the VBC had raised enough money for a new carpet and several players were auctioned off. **Aidan Ballantyne** had been purchased by **Bernice French**, and wrote about one slam deal that put them into contention, and another that didn't go so well after a misguess. **Joerg Schneider's** *Give Me A Hand* feature also mentioned the first hand, so the two pieces were spliced together! The punch line was delivered by ACBLScore: but for the misguess on the second hand, an overtrick instead of down two would have won the event for Ballantyne & French, but without the overtrick, the event would have been won by **Gord Davis** and **Nathan Divinsky!**

In IMP League gossip, a wild match where the underdogs beat the heavily favored Pocock team—whose players that night were diplomatically unidentified—despite having to use an emergency player. The substitute, playing in his first ever IMP League match in any division, helped engineer a big come-

(continued on page 40)

Unit Board 2002-03

The Abbreviated List

If you would like the full list, with addresses and other details, e-mailed to you in Word or pdf format, send an e-mail to McBruce.

Peter Morse (President, Supplies)	604/988-3927 pamorse@shaw.ca
*Diane Ayukawa (Tournament Co-Chair)	604/940-9809 rmdunn@dccnet.com
*Jennifer Ballantyne (VP, CBF/DINO Liaison)	604/438-3095 jballantyne@hotmail.com
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Bruce McIntyre (<i>Matchpointer</i> editor)	604/438-9735 ooga@shaw.ca
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Samantha Nystrom (Partnerships, Tourn. Ch.)	604/603-1248 nystromsamantha@hotmail.com
Joan Richards (Treasurer)	604/926-6354 r-richards6332@shaw.ca
*Pat Wotherspoon (Monthly Unit Games)	604/535-1964 pwotherspoon@telus.net



Nominations needed now for 2003-04: see page 26

Asterisks indicate members whose term expires June 30, 2003.

Tournaments & Dates

May 30—August 31, 2003

MAY 2003

- 23-25 Victoria BC Sectional
23-26 Renton WA Sectional
31 "almost June" Monthly
Unit Game at VBC (7:30,
open and 0-200 games)

JUNE 2003

- 30-1 Spokane WA Sectional
3-9 CBF Bridge Week in Pentic-
ton: CNTC, CWTC, COPC
National Finals
9-15 Penticton BC Regional
16-22 Anchorage AK Regional
27-29 Anacortes WA Sectional
(see ad, page 28)
23-29 Las Vegas NV Regional

JULY 2003

- 5 July Unit Game at VBC
(7:30: open and 0-200)

JULY 2003 (CONT.)

- 11-13 Rossland BC Sectional
17-27 ACBL 2003 Summer NABC
in Long Beach CA

AUGUST 2003

- 4-10 Eugene OR Regional
8 Matchpointer deadline for
the Spring 2003 issue,
which covers events up to
October 31, 2003.
9 August Monthly Unit
Game at VBC (7:30, open
and 0-200 games)
15-17 Nanaimo BC Sectional
15-17 Vancouver WA Sectional
18-24 Seattle WA Regional
22 Spring Matchpointer target
release date.
29-1 Olympia WA Sectional
29-1 Spokane WA Sectional

Most dates on this list come from tentative lists of tournaments on CBF, DINO and ACBL
Web Pages. Please—check their accuracy before packing up and leaving town!

Unit 430 Main Events

A One Year Planner

2003 Evergreen Sectional
September 26 – 28, 2003 at the
Engineers Hall in Burnaby
(note date change from last time)

2003 Round-Up Sectional
November 8 – 11, 2003, at the Bonsor
Community Centre in Burnaby

2003 Unit Christmas Party
Saturday, December 6, 2003 at the
Bonsor Community Centre
in Burnaby (date to be confirmed)

2004 Vancouver Regional
January 6 – February 1, 2004 at the
Ramada Plaza Hotel in Richmond

**3rd Annual Canadian Bridge
Federation Canada West STaC
(Sectional Tournament at Clubs)**
Silver points at your local club!
Dates TBA, probably will be held in
late February 2004.

2004 Trophy Sectional
March 12 – 14, 2004 at the
Engineers Hall in Burnaby

2004 Future Stars Sectional
(0-200 masterpoints)
(dates and location to be confirmed)

**2004 Unit 430-sponsored
District-wide STaC (Sectional
Tournament at Clubs)**
More silver points
at your local club!
May 3 – 9, 2004.

2004 Victoria Day Sectional
May 21 – 24, 2004 at the
Bonsor Community Centre
in Burnaby

Unit 430 Annual General Meeting
May 15, 2004, at the Victoria Day
Sectional, after the first Saturday
session (about 4:15 pm).

Contributors

Thanks for your help!

*Diane Ayukawa
Aidan Ballantyne
Brad Bart
Eugene Chan
Lynda Cole
Doug Cowan
Richard Dunn
Harry Friedman
The Hideous Hog (In Training)
Gilbert Lambert
Julien Lévesque
Tony Marsch
Greg Morse
Peter Morse
Finnigan O'Blarney
Brian Russell
Joerg Schneider
Matt Smith*

All "It's Your Bid" Responders (so far)

*Unit 430's many Club Managers
and the growing number of helpful,
excellent local club web sites
all Matchpointer advertisers*

www.acbl.org www.cbf.ca www.d19.org
www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS

...and anyone missed

MATERIAL (SEND SOME!)

All suggestions and contributions are
welcomed. Articles, letters, e-mails, in-
formation, club news, or other submis-
sions to the *Matchpointer* may be mailed,
or given to any Unit Board Member or
dropped off at a Unit 430 club. We en-
courage **all** members, from beginner to
expert, to send bridge-related original
material for publication.

MATCHPOINTER schedule

(really, there is one)

SUMMER: mid-August

FALL: mid-October

WINTER: mid-January

SPRING: mid-April

NEXT ISSUE: Summer 2003

Deadline: Friday, August 8, 2003.

Dates Covered:

August 22—October 31, 2003.

Vancouver ACBL Unit 430 welcomes you to the

Victoria Day Sectional



May 16-19, 2003

Bonsor Community Centre
6550 Bonsor, Burnaby
(near Metrotown Centre)



"We are **NOT**
amused...
REDOLIBLE!"



EVENT SCHEDULE



FRIDAY, MAY 16

FRIDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: 1:30 PM

Open Stratified Pairs

unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300

Senior Stratified Pairs

unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

FRIDAY EVENING START TIME: 7:30 PM

Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams

first of three sessions (two more Saturday)

Side Stratified IMP Pairs

unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

*** ACBL Members with 0-5 masterpoints play free! ***

SATURDAY, MAY 17

SATURDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: NOON

Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams

semi-finals in all brackets

Open Pairs Qualifying

not stratified; single session entries accepted

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

The Unit 430 Annual General Meeting will follow the afternoon session. If an election is necessary to choose Board members, ballots will be distributed at the meeting.

SATURDAY EVENING START TIME: 7:30 PM

(later than usual—the Annual General Meeting follows the afternoon session)

Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams

final—top bracket winner wins the Ben Lapidus Trophy

Open Pairs Final

Consolation Pairs

not stratified; single session entries accepted

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

SUNDAY, MAY 18

SUNDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: NOON

StratiFlighted Open Pairs, first session

Single session entries accepted. Flight A/X: unlimited, 0-3000. Flight B/C/D: 750-1500, 300-750, 0-300

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

SUNDAY EVENING START TIME: 6:30 PM

StratiFlighted Open Pairs, second session

Single session entries accepted. Flight A/X: unlimited, 0-3000. Flight B/C/D: 750-1500, 300-750, 0-300

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

MONDAY (VICTORIA DAY), MAY 19

MONDAY START TIMES: 10:30 AM, TBA

StratiFlighted Swiss Teams (two sessions, VPs)

Flight A/X: unlimited, 0-3000

Flight B/C: 300-1000, 0-300

Tournament Co-Chair: Diane Ayukawa, 604/940-9809, e-mail hyflex@globalserve.com

Tournament Co-Chair and Partnerships: Samantha Nystrom, 604/603-1248, nystromsamantha@hotmail.com

Director-In-Charge: Brian Russell

2003 Entry Fees: \$9.00 (paid ACBL members), \$9.50 (non-members, unpaid LMs). \$5.00 discount for junior players and/or full time students (with student ID). ACBL members with 0-5 MP play free in the Friday evening 0-100 game.

ADVANCE NOTICE: 2003 EVERGREEN SECTIONAL
SEPT. 26-28 AT THE ENGINEER'S HALL IN BURNABY