

Stories * Information
Tips * Results

SUMMER Matchpointer

2003

Unit 430
Bridge Magazine

The "Ernie" Transfer

by Ernie Dietrich

Partner opened 2NT and I "transferred" to 6♣, ending the auction. The 8♦ was led and this is what I saw:

Dummy: ♠ AQT ♥ A92 ♦ AQ74 ♣ A75

8♦ led vs 6♣

Declarer: ♠ 3 ♥ QT3 ♦ KT9 ♣ QJT962

I won the first trick with my K♦ after the jack was played by RHO. I ran the Q♣ and RHO won his king and returned the 2♦. What's the best play for twelve tricks?

(answer, page 15)

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It's Your Bid Problems

The *It's Your Bid* system is on the back of this *detachable* strip. No prizes for entrants with pseudos but no name. **Deadline: Oct. 10.**

Name: _____

Pseudonym: _____
(to comment anonymously)

Flight: A B C

(Name and flight are required)

Question 1 ♠ Q3
♥ KQJ83
Matchpoints ♦ KQJ
E-W vul ♣ T87

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♠*	Pass	???

(2♠ shows a 3-card limit raise)

Question 2 ♠ K3
♥ AK2
Matchpoints ♦ JT8743
E-W vul ♣ 83

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	Pass	???

Question 3 ♠ A9843
♥ —
Also Matchpoints ♦ AQJ
none vul ♣ AJT43

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
4♦	4♥	3♥	3♣
		Pass	???

Question 4 ♠ 643
♥ AK82
Again Matchpoints ♦ AT9
none vul ♣ K3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
3♣	Pass	Pass	???

Question 5 ♠ KT73
♥ A986
IMPs this time ♦ 95
both vul ♣ J72

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
10	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

What is your opening lead?

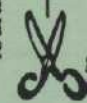
The "It's Your Bid" System (originally from the International Bidder's Club, a former monthly on-line bidding contest.) Problems may include other conventions explained within the question text.

- 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 2 NT 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.
- New Minor Forcing, 4th Suit Forcing
- 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, or phone in answers only to 604/438-9735. Name and flight is mandatory. Send us your problems for future issues!



This issue broke all records for size by eight pages and was begun only after a hectic week at the Puget Sound Regional. I regret the delay and hope it is worth the wait. Good reading! —McBruce



Opening Lead

by Bruce McIntyre

The September 26-28 Evergreen Sectional takes place during Rosh Hashanah, commonly known as Jewish New Year. Because of this, and especially because a similar conflict happened once before several years ago, the Unit Board has received several requests to avoid scheduling Unit events on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Pesach in future.

All of the requests we have received have been constructive and understanding. But as a member of the Unit Board the last time this happened, I take more of the blame for not seeing the conflict potential, so I took the job of writing this apology. On behalf of the Unit Board, I apologize to all bridge players affected by this error.

The 2003 Evergreen Sectional was originally penciled in for its usual spot on the second weekend of September. But at last year's Evergreen at the Days Inn in Surrey, we faced crowded conditions and discomfort: loud music in the adjoining room downstairs, and the boardroom on the top floor we were given as "consolation" was very warm and extremely crowded. We decided that this was the final straw for that site and resolved not to return.

With no suitable new site uncovered, we asked the Engineer's Hall, but were told that the desired weekend was unavailable. We were able to book the following weekend, the 19th-21st.

The next development came when the Victoria Unit discovered that their regular site was unavailable for the last weekend of September 2003! They asked us to switch dates and we checked with the Engineer's Hall—but didn't have a close look at the calendar.

Here we made a mistake. It was reasonable not to check the ACBL list of tournaments for conflicting nearby events, since these would also conflict with Victoria. But that ACBL list also contains other dates of potential conflict, from Christmas to Super Bowl, to Jewish holidays. And, as I wrote earlier, I should have seen the potential conflict when the dates kept being moved. I regret missing it.

The repetition of this problem as Unit Board people change and past problems fade into history is a major concern. Something is being done about it. Over the summer, I prepared a binder for each new member containing the Unit Bylaws, descriptions and duty lists for all of the positions on the Unit Board, and other important information for Board Members. It is a work in progress that will come to about 100 pages when complete, designed so that pages can be removed and replaced with new versions as policies and procedures change. I hope it will help new members and I hope it will continue to be maintained when I am voted off! If so, the notes that I add about not scheduling Unit Events on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Pesach will minimize the chance of a repeat occurrence of this conflict for the foreseeable future.

To our Jewish bridge playing friends who won't be able to be with us at the next tournament, apologies from me on behalf of the Board. We'll see you at the November tournament. *L'shanah tovah!*

President's Message

by Peter Morse

One of the topics that surfaces every year and is usually brought to the President's attention at least two or three times at each Sectional tournament is the issue of starting times for our various events. There is no doubt that there are strongly held views out there, and on at least one occasion in the past, this resulted in a poorly attended (as is the norm) Annual General Meeting being controlled by a group that wanted to change the times to 'their way', which happened to be that all starting times should be the same throughout the weekend events. While this went ahead for a year, it disadvantaged some (possibly minority) groups for reasons discussed below. A contrary motion returning control of starting times to tournament planners was passed at a subsequent AGM.

A recent discussion (via e-mail) amongst Unit Board members brought forth the various positions that I will try to summarize below. (It appears there is division amongst Board members similar to that within the membership!) There are two separate (but related) issues involved, the *actual starting times* for other than the final day of the tournament, and the *time allowed between the two sessions* each day.

It is customary at ACBL Sectionals that the starting time for the Swiss Teams event which takes place on the last day of the tournament (Sunday for a three-day Sectional, and usually Monday for a four-day Sectional) is in the mid-morning (10:00, 10:30 or 11:00 a.m. at most tournaments), and that the meal break is shortened to accommodate those who have ferries to catch, distances to travel and early work to prepare for the next morning. While some 'night people' would like to see a later Swiss Teams start time such as noon, and

(continued on page 4)

Matchpointer

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Fall 2003 *Matchpointer*

Deadline for submissions:
Friday, October 10, 2003.

Dates covered:
October 24, 2003–February 29, 2004.

feel that a mid-morning start matches the time they would set on their alarm clock if they were not playing bridge, there appears to be recognition that the common practice should prevail, although 11:00 a.m. would be better than 10:30 a.m.

There also appears to be acknowledgment of the need for a longer break time on the one tournament day each year when the Unit AGM is held (historically the Saturday of the Victoria Day Weekend Sectional), even though a limited number of players take the time to attend the AGM.

As for the *actual starting times*, one school of thought would suggest that they should all be the same, regardless of what is happening on the following day. The arguments usually heard include *we've always done it this way* and *it's easier to remember if all starting times are the same*. As one Board member suggested regarding the former, we would still be opening strong two-bids if we applied the same rationale to our bridge games. As for the latter, we have published schedules (in flyers, in the *Matchpointer* and in the *District 19 Gazette*) to enable determination of the starting time at a glance. We have all accommodated different start times for the club games we attend each week (morning games starting at 10:00, 10:30, 10:45 or 11:00 a.m., depending on which clubs you attend, and evening games at 7:00, 7:15 or 7:30 p.m.). The suggestion that a bridge player, who can remember the full layout of hands he or she played months ago, cannot remember the starting times if they are not all the same sounds somewhat stretched. Experience has indicated that the variable starting times have caused only one pair to arrive significantly late at a Vancouver Sectional in the last several years.

The reasons suggested for some variation in the starting times include: Friday afternoon should start a little later, to accommodate those who want to work a half-day. Friday evening's start should not be too early, to enable those working to have time to go home for dinner and then come to the game. Where Saturday or Sunday is the day before the Swiss Teams, an earlier start in the evening should be scheduled to enable those players who will compete in the Swiss Teams to get home, get a good night's sleep, and return for the next day's play. Also, some players feel 'safer' going home at 10:30 p.m. than they do at 11:30 p.m. Obviously, most of these reasons for variation will not get a sympathetic response from someone who doesn't work or can control his or her own work schedule, or who survives on limited sleep, or who lives within twenty minutes of the tournament site, or who feels safe wherever they go in the Vancouver area. Yet in scheduling the tourna-

ments we need to consider all potential attendees, as one objective is to maximize attendance.

Turning to the *time allowed between the two sessions*, it has been customary to allow 6 or 6½ hours between the afternoon and evening start times. Given that a session usually takes just under 3½ hours to play, including the time to get the game underway, the remaining time constitutes a rather long dinner break (one Unit Board member used the term *unbearable*). But how long is reasonable? We are not only concerned with players who rush away as soon as the last score is written up, but also have to consider the directing staff who must ensure the scores are entered properly, produce recap sheets for each section and respond to early requests for corrections and other information. At least one member of the directing staff may also have to be back about thirty minutes early to sell entries for the evening session, although this time can be cut back considerably if most players are already playing in a two-session event.

The majority of restaurants frequented by Sectional participants are reasonably close to our two playing sites (5 – 15 minutes by car), and given that we are ahead of the usual dinner crowd, there is seldom any waiting in line. Depending on the size of dinner ordered, and the nature of the eating establishment, most will have finished their dinner in 30 – 45 minutes, and not many beyond an hour.

But what about those who do not wish to eat in restaurants, for reasons of either economy or dietary choice, or due to family considerations? Will shortening the dinner break prevent them from going home for dinner? Perhaps, if they live a considerable distance away, but probably not if they live within 20–30 minutes drive of the playing site. If their travel time home is a problem or if a ride is not available, they may have to pack a lunch, or make other arrangements for those for whom they usually cook dinner.

I would like to see us cut back on the dinner breaks to produce starting times that are 6 hours apart at a maximum, and to experiment with a 5½ hour difference, particularly when the events are held at the Bonsor Community Centre, where there are a considerable number of eating establishments within walking distance.

What do you think? Last year the Unit Board used a survey, distributed at the Evergreen Sectional, to gather players' opinions on a range of topics. We will do the same this year on this topic, and others where player input will help guide Unit Board decisions. Please take the couple of minutes required to fill it in. And please remember that the Unit Board cannot treat the expression of opinion as a referendum, but must try to structure our tournaments so



Bridge Dialectics

by Aidan Ballantyne

PART 2: SCIENCE VS BASHING

It is often said that good bidding involves good communication. However, there is a disclaimer to

that statement in that opponents are bound to listen to your conversation and make use of the information. For example, as Terence Reese once explained regarding defense, "There are no blind leads, only deaf players."

It follows that a common dilemma is when and how much to reveal during the bidding. To begin this installment, take the following quiz:

Problem 1: As West, at IMPs, you hold the following at favourable vulnerability:

♠ xx ♥ Txxx ♦ AQxx ♣ QJT

You hear the bidding go:

WEST (YOU)	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	4♣	All Pass	1♣

The opponents are playing Precision and 4-card majors. What is your opening lead?

Problem 2: As East, at IMPs, you hold the following, again at favourable:

♠ xx ♥ KQx ♦ KJTxx ♣ xxx

The bidding unfolds as follows:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST (YOU)
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♦*	Pass
4♣	All Pass		

This time your opponents are playing 2/1 game force with assorted gadgets. The 3♦ bid is a short suit game try (shows a singleton or void diamond). What is your opening lead?

Turn to page 8 for the answers.

that they deliver the maximum of convenience and enjoyment to as many players as possible.

Have you checked the ACBL website, acbl.org recently? There is a wealth of information there, aside from tournament information and the ability to check your latest masterpoint total. One of the more interesting areas to go through is the Rulings section of the ACBL Information Forums segment (start with the Information button on the Introductory Screen). Particularly look for the answers provided by 'bluejak' who is **David Stevenson**, an expert on the rules from London, England, and those from 'rulingthegame' who is **Mike Flader**, who writes the Ruling the Game column in the monthly ACBL Bulletin.

A couple of interesting rulings drawn from this site answer questions like:

You are dummy and you notice that a defender has revoked. What do you do?

(a) Immediately leap to your feet and call for the Director?

(b) Start turning over that defender's cards to prove your assertion?

(c) Nothing and hope declarer has also noticed the revoke?

(d) Wait until the end of the hand, and call the Director at that time?

The correct answer is (d). Dummy should not affect the play of the hand while in progress.

You are defending a contract and after seven cards have been played, you notice that your partner has the third card played facing in the wrong direction, as your side won the trick. What should you do?

(a) Advise your partner of her error.

(b) Nothing until the end of the hand.

This one will come as a surprise to many players, the correct answer is (b). To point out the misplacing of the trick is to provide partner with unauthorized information. The same applies to dummy pointing out to declarer that a previous trick is facing in the wrong direction. (Both may call attention to the error until all four players have turned over their cards.)

The reason for this ruling is that a devious defender or dummy who notices partner's error early in the hand could wait until partner acquires the lead late in the hand before disclosing the error, thereby suggesting that only one more trick is required to defeat/make the contract. One exception is that information can be provided that will prevent an infraction such as a lead out of turn. Facing one's cards incorrectly is not an infraction.

Check out the ACBL Website in some detail. You will be surprised at what you will find.

—Peter Morse



Pat Landau

1928-2003

One of Vancouver's best known and most enthusiastic Bridge personalities passed away on May 26th. Although she had been in failing health for some time, her final illness was brief and she did not suffer long. She leaves her husband of thirty years, Louis, also well known in local bridge circles as a player, club owner and director; one daughter, Felicity (Rolf) Lowinger of Squamish and one grandson, Ryan of Calgary.

Before coming to Canada in 1981, Pat was one of the first Life Masters in Zimbabwe, but on arrival here she had to start over, & in a little over 20 years she became a Gold Life Master with over 3000 pts. This is an even more remarkable achievement, considering that health problems & the constraints of assisting Louis in running his club pretty well confined her recent activity to club games & local tournaments. However in earlier years she followed the tournament trail more often with frequent success. Her most notable victory was winning the 1989 Canadian Women's Championship with Kathy Adachi, Ina Andersen, Marge Neate, Joyce Peters and Allison Dorosh.

Pat regularly played with partners of all levels of ability, and won often with all of them. She played a very basic system and was very reluctant to adopt anything new, but this did not deter her from consistent success. Although fiercely competitive, she always insisted that partners and opponents alike maintain a friendly atmosphere at her table.

Pat was also a superb hostess. Private bridge parties were a fixture at Pat and Louis's and not only was the bridge of a high quality, the "goodies" were always especially tantalizing.

Pat was a legend among bridge players, especially on Vancouver's North Shore. She will be long remembered by all who knew her.

-Doug Cowan

More tributes to Pat, including the Pat Landau Memorial Trophy, which was awarded for the first time to **Aase Haines** and **Betty Harold**, the winners of the game closest to Pat's birthday, can be found at the Vancouver Bridge Club web site at this address:



www.vancouverbridgeclub.ca

Pat's support of the North Shore games was constant and unlimited: she helped get people together to play, and always kept the game running smoothly at her North-South at St. David's, no matter who she was partnered with or up against. When I played with Hushang Mohtadi regularly on Monday and Wednesday mornings, my job was to line up a comfortable North-South chair for "The Philosopher," to provide some physical stability to our always up-and-down game full of wild bidding and unpredictable play and defense. Occasionally I was unable to do this and we would travel the room and bring our high-wire act to Pat's table in the sunshine, where something goofy was sure to occur. I'll remember Pat's knowing glance when a low percentage shot worked out for the best, or the way she would smile and thank us "for the entertainment" in the far more likely case when our heroic bids would not work.

Pat was that rare player who you sat up in your chair to play against, whose post-hand thoughts you listened attentively to (knowing that any criticisms of your part would be only in order to improve your game and never to make you look bad), who knew that conventions are overrated (especially by the unfamiliar who insist on them), and who made the job of hostess her own and did it smoothly and perfectly for North Shore players for many years. This is a role that goes largely unnoticed and unthanked in our community of players, club managers, directors, and Unit Board members, but the big turnouts at St. David's owe a lot to Pat's excellent hosting. You can see the legacy Pat leaves by attending any of Louis's games and enjoying the friendly table atmosphere that she insisted on, and leaves as a glowing example.

-Bruce McIntyre



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. As the 2004 books become widely available from different sources, we ask local players to please make a small effort to help local bridge by purchasing their book(s) from Unit 430. Books can be purchased at the Evergreen Sectional Partnership Desk or pre-ordered from the booksellers:

Jennifer Ballantyne	438-3095	jaballantyne@hotmail.com
Zahra Jafroudi	925-9432	zahraj@yahoo.com
Louis Landau	984-8309	llandau@telus.net

Support local bridge! Buy yours from Unit 430.

(Here is the *Meet The Players* article written by David Schmidt for the March 1995 *Matchpointer* a few months after Pat won the Senior Pairs and finished second in a huge Stratified Pairs to win the 1994 Edie Bonnell Trophy race.)

Pat Landau

Edie Bonnell Trophy Winner

The thrill of victory—the agony of defeat. The thrill of victory is certainly one reason Pat Landau keeps playing her favorite game—duplicate bridge. It is a thrill she experiences on a regular basis: last year, she won the Edie Bonnell Trophy, awarded to the woman player winning the most points at Vancouver sectionals during a given year. She also regularly places among the top three in the Ace of Clubs competition, another indication of her prowess.

Nor are her thrills restricted to this continent. Before she and husband Louis immigrated to Canada in 1982, she was one of the top players, male or female, in Rhodesia, becoming that country's third Life Master.

In fact, it was the thrill of victory that got her hooked on duplicate bridge in the first place.

"Louis and I had a couple of friends who asked us to play duplicate (around 1970), we didn't know what we were doing but two days later I picked up the local paper and saw we had won. We went again the next week and that really got us hooked on bridge."

She considers achieving Life Master status in Rhodesia (you need 150 gold and 150 other points) a major accomplishment.

"The maximum you could win at a club was half a masterpoint for coming first and you could only get points once a week. Even at a tournament (there were five a year), first paid only three or four masterpoints," she recalls.

Landau has experienced the pinnacle of success in both Rhodesia and Canada. She was on the Rhodesian national ladies team three years in a row (Louis was NPC one year) and, with Margie Neate, Joyce Peters, Allison Dorosh, Ina Andersen and Kathy Adachi, won the Canadian Women's Team Championships a few years ago. She much prefers the Canadian approach where the players choose the team. In Rhodesia, players are rated and the bridge federation not only determines the team members but the partnerships.

"I didn't play one year because they had paired me with a player I didn't want to play with," she says.

Despite that, she is not the first in

her family to play internationally. Her father played bridge for England in the 1930s.

So what does Landau look for in a partner?

"Someone with a good sense of humour. A person needs to have a good sense of humour to play with me," she says, listing Joerg Schneider, Doug Cowan, Ev Hodge, Donna Morrison, and Peters among her favorites.

She plays Standard but adds a weak notrump with most partners. "The weak notrump is superior because of its preemptive value."

One bid she insists on including in her arsenal is pass. "Remember to pass," she advises, "that's a very important part of bidding. You can sit there with 20 points and RHO bids your suit, you just sit there and pass. Know when to come in with a double at the right time."

She thinks learning good bidding is far more important than the play since "you can rely on the opposition to help you play the hand but you can't rely on them to help you bid it."

As her high finishes in the Ace of Clubs suggest, Landau plays a lot of club bridge. She can be seen at all of Louis's games and many others as well. She enjoys the social atmosphere and although she finds Canadian bridge more aggressive, she believes it is less competitive than in Rhodesia.

"I find the clubs in Rhodesia less friendly. If you don't win there, people look down on you. They are very, very bad losers. Being a good loser is important and a lot of people aren't."

It is something she has worked on over the years.

"I'm not as hard on my partners as I used to be, but a daughter and a husband are different," she says with a chuckle, admitting that she can still be hard on Louis and her daughter, whom she is trying to interest in the game. In fact, her daughter's bridge teacher told her to "play with her father but never with her mother; I'd be too hard on her."

Too good as well, perhaps.

(written by David Schmidt for the March 1995 *Matchpointer*)

Vancouver Bridge Club

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

Louis Landau 604/984-8309

All games non-smoking.
Computer scoring.

Monday 10:00 am stratified
Wednesday 10:00 am stratified
Wednesday 7:15 pm stratified
Wednesday games are jackpot games
All holiday Mondays are PARTY DAYS
with door prizes, goodies, etc.

Club Championship Games:

Wednesday, September 24 (pm)
Monday, October 20
Wednesday, November 19 (am)
Wednesday, December 17 (pm)

Special Games:

Oct. 13: Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Pairs and Club Appreciation Game
Oct. 15: Both am and pm games are
Club Appreciation Games
Nov. 10: Remembrance Day
Holiday Pairs

Handicap Game:

Monday, November 24



In Problem 1, the 1♠ opener in Precision is limited to less than 16 HCP so responder can have quite a good hand but less than slam interest. The opponents have bashed to game with minimum disclosure so you have no idea whether they have stretched or have something in reserve. You do not know where they plan to take tricks (other than in spades) and you are not sure which suits will produce your own partnership's defensive tricks. In short, you are in the dark. Probably, you will settle on the "safe" ♣ lead.

In Problem 2 you have been given scads of information. You know that your opponents are unlikely to have anything in reserve. You know that they are likely planning to take tricks in both spades and clubs. You are also certain that you have at most one trick in diamonds. Clearly, your side's tricks belong in hearts so you determine to lead that suit. The normal lead from ♥KQx is the king but knowing that you likely need more than one heart trick and that RHO probably has at least some length in the suit (being short in diamonds), can it hurt to lead low?

The full deal:

Board Dlr: South 15 Vul: N-S	NORTH	4♣ by N or S Lead: x♥ or ♣
WEST	♠ KQxxx ♥ xxx ♦ x ♣ K987	EAST
♠ xx ♥ Txxx ♦ AQxx ♣ QJT	SOUTH	♠ xx ♥ KQx ♦ KJTxx ♣ xxx
	♠ AJxx ♥ AJ9 ♦ xxx ♣ Axx	

The lead of the ♣ from West is ineffective. Declarer wins the A♣, draws trumps in two rounds and ducks a club. It is too late for the defense to break hearts as one of South's hearts goes on North's long club. Game bid and made.

The lead of a low heart from East is deadly, however. North will surely put in the nine, hoping the lead was from K-T or Q-T. West will win the ten and continue hearts setting up two heart tricks for the defense before declarer can get the clubs going. The defenders take two hearts, a club and a diamond for down one.

Note that both Norths were appropriately aggressive, vulnerable at IMPs. However, the North in Problem 2 was perhaps guilty of abuse of science. Really, the good secondary club fit may

well be enough for North to shoot game without inquiring about the red suits.

Bridge science and related disclosure are invaluable tools in the expert's arsenal. However, as illustrated by the quiz above, disclosure can be expensive. The expert's art is to know when to tell and when to hide. The synthesis of this dialectic is:

—Disclose only when you expect the benefit to outweigh the cost—i.e. only when you will help partner or your partnership more than the opponents;

—Reveal the bare minimum information required to solve an actual or anticipated bidding problem.

To end this issue's installment, try your hand at another quiz. The answers are debatable and you may not agree with mine. However, I hope the quiz will stimulate you to think about this important dialectic.

1. You hold, South, at IMPs, vul vs not:

♠ AKQxxxx ♥ KQx ♦ xx ♣ x

You open 1♠, LHO overcalls 2♣, Partner bids 2♠ and RHO bids 3♣. What do you call?

2. You hold, as South, IMPs, vul vs not:

♠ Axxx ♥ Jxx ♦ xx ♣ QJxx

Your partner opens 2NT, RHO passes. What do you call?

3. You hold, as South, IMPs, none vulnerable:

♠ x ♥ AJxxx ♦ Ax ♣ KJxxx

RHO opens 1♠. What do you call? (As it happens, you play Michaels if that is your choice.)

4. You hold, as South, IMPs, none vulnerable:

♠ Kxxx ♥ xx ♦ AKQT ♣ xxx

Partner opens 1♠, you bid 2NT (forcing raise), partner rebids 3♣ (balanced hand, more than a strong NT). What now?

5. You hold, as South, IMPs, none vulnerable:

♠ xx ♥ xxxx ♦ AKJxx ♣ xx

Partner opens 1♠. RHO passes. What do you call?

Turn to page 12 for the answers

Give Me A Hand

by Joerg Schneider

Peter Morse showed us a hand from Philadelphia in the last issue...

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

...and asked three questions:

1. Can you make 6NT on the lead of the 6♦?
2. Can you make it on the lead of the 4♣?
3. Can you make 6♣ on a diamond lead?

First let's dispose of question 3. Making 6♣ *double dummy* is as easy as falling off a log. Win the A♦, cash the A♥, and pull three rounds of trumps. The position is:

Declare or defend?	NORTH(dummy)	6♣ by South N-S 5, E-W 0
WEST	♠ 85 ♥ 2 ♦ JT7 ♣ T6	EAST
♠ — ♥ — ♦ Q985 ♣ Q984	SOUTH	♠ J ♥ T974 ♦ — ♣ J32
	♠ — ♥ KJ86 ♦ K ♣ AK7	

Now a heart. East must split his T-9. Win the J♥, cash two top clubs, and ruff a club. The position is:

Declare or defend?	NORTH(dummy)	6♣ by South N-S 9, E-W 0
WEST	♠ 8 ♥ — ♦ JT7 ♣ —	EAST
♠ — ♥ — ♦ Q98 ♣ Q	SOUTH	♠ J ♥ T74 ♦ — ♣ —
	♠ — ♥ K86 ♦ K ♣ —	

Now exit with your last trump, throwing a heart and East is endplayed.

Should you find this play at the table? I doubt it unless you have ESP. If, for instance, you do not cash the A♥ first, you fail—in the first diagram position, when you come off dummy with the heart, East does not have to split his T-9, as the queen of hearts is still "at large." And when you cash the A♥ and the queen drops, wouldn't you now play West for length in spades and take the finesse? Another plan might be to cash the A-K♦ and try to ruff a diamond or two in dummy—not successful on this layout.

6NT on a diamond lead is close: A♦, A♥, K♦, spade to the ace, J♦ throwing a club. This is the position:

Declare or defend?	NORTH(dummy)	6NT by South N-S 5, E-W 0
WEST	♠ KQ85 ♥ 5 ♦ T ♣ T6	EAST
♠ 4 ♥ — ♦ 985 ♣ Q984	SOUTH	♠ J73 ♥ T974 ♦ — ♣ J
	♠ 9 ♥ KJ86 ♦ — ♣ AK7	

Now: a) West exits with the 9♦. Win the T♦ throwing a club and play the 5♥, forcing East to split the T-9, and win the jack, West pitching a diamond. Two high clubs now squeezes East out of his major suit guards.

b) West exits with a small club. Easy, win the ten and claim.

c) West exits with the Q♣. Cash your two high clubs, the K♣ and the T♦: East is again squeezed in the majors.

But...

d) West exits a spade. Now the dummy is one entry short and the squeeze does not work. Cashing one club before you go to the dummy with the A♣ doesn't help, and if you cash both club honours, West will have the Q♣ to cash. That extra entry—ruffing the club in a 6♣ contract—makes all the difference!

If West's opening lead is a low club, the play is effectively the same: the notrump slam must always fail on best defense.

—Joerg Schneider

[We need also to credit *Les Fouks* with the major elements of the correct answer. Les had the handicap of having to submit his answer to my answering machine, and his abbreviated version covered most of the bases rounded by Joerg above.

—McB]



"GSF" Revisited

by Allan Blair and Peter Tsang

Thanks, Bruce, for another quality issue of the *Matchpointer*—Spring 2003.

Thanks too, Doug Cowan, for whetting our appetite on the cover page with a responder hand:

♠ Qxxx ♥ — ♦ A ♣ AKQ9xxxx

...to partner's 1♠ opener. "What's your response?" you ask.

Page 9 bares the opener:

♠ AKxxxx ♥ Kxxx ♦ KQ ♣ x

"7♠ is as cold as any contract could be and should be reached in three bids: 1♠ – 5NT, 7♠," Doug goes on. And in a missive tone: "Yet... (one evening at St. David's Church) only two out of nine reached 7♠." Some narration of fruitless attempts via diverse instruments follows.

With due respect for Doug's intelligence and scholarship, we take academic liberty to disagree with part of his thinking. We feel he over-glorifies the Grand Slam Force while deserving credit for his well-intentioned reminder of it.

Opener
♠ AKxxxx
♥ Kxxx
♦ KQ
♣ x

Responder
♠ Qxxx
♥ —
♦ A
♣ AKQ9xxxx

All red honours on the left become superfluous,

irrelevant to slam considerations. The crucial point rests on how many of the ace and king of spades are in opener's hand. Doug takes for granted there *must* be one or the other, best both.

Fixing the responding hand, in the very favourable case of three trumps out, the probability, in responder's point of view, of the defenders holding the A♠ is 3/9 (three cards held by the defenders out of nine unseen spades). The probability that both A♠ and K♠ will be held by the defenders is $3/9 \times 2/8 = 6/72 = 8.33\%$. It is pretty unlikely but far from impossible for:

Opener
♠ Jxxxxx
♥ AKQ
♦ KQx
♣ x

Responder
♠ Qxxx
♥ —
♦ A
♣ AKQ9xxxx

...to pop up, where opener has full qualification to start 1♠. If responder applies Grand Slam Force as Doug encourages, the partnership launches itself into the River of No Return. Opener has to rebid 6♣ willy-nilly. The contract fails irrespective of how ♠AKx are spread with the opposing hands. There would be no beauty in Doug's simplicity of three bids as we all wish there were!

That motivates us to look for, think out some slam probe tools that check trump holding (call it trump quality) at a level well below 5NT. Precision offers:

Opener: 1♠

Responder: 2♣

Responder's single raise is stronger than a double

Winkle Free

by Greg Morse

It is always a lot of fun as declarer to make a contract by means of a well-executed end-play, squeeze, or similar coup. The defense rarely gets a chance to savor such opportunities however, so it is a double thrill whenever a defender can squeeze or end-play declarer.

A winkle is form of end play that is part end-play and part squeeze. It occurs very seldom in actual practice.

Terence Reese, who named this form of play, describes it as "Forcing an opponent to choose between end-play or an unblock, each of which costs a trick".



Here is a typical winkle in action:

The contract is notrump. The lead is in the North hand, and South as declarer needs two of the last three tricks.

North:		East:	
♠ K9 ♥ J		♠ J7 ♥ K	
West:		South:	
♠ — ♥ A85		♠ — ♥ T63	

South leads the J♥ and when it is West's turn to play, he is caught in a winkle. If he does not overtake, his partner is end-played in spades. If he does overtake, he himself is end-played in hearts.

Playing with Rangie Sylvestre at a club game, I had the opportunity to experience the following end position against South's 3NT.

raise, the latter being an invitation to game. Opener is requested to show trump quality by steps with his next call:

CARDS	AKQ	STEP(S)
5+	0	1
5	1	2
5	2	3
6+	1	4
6+	2	5
any	all 3	6

With a six-card spade suit containing the AK, opener bids the fifth step above 2♠: 3♠ (artificial). Responder can see an easy thirteen tricks and can bid the grand slam with 100% warranty of success.

We play the Chinese 1♦ (Refined Precision) System. If trumps are agreed at the two-level (not higher), the next bid shows trump quality on an even finer scale:

Steps: 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Quality: —	Q	K	A	KQ	AQ	AK	AKQ

Opener rebids 4♣ (the seventh step up from 2♠). Smooth sailing to Grand Venice.

Bridge books (too many!) by experts (too many!) hail the splinter as a magic bid aiding slam tests. It has two inherent defects: 1) it requires a double jump, and the loss of valuable bidding space; 2) it signifies either a singleton or a void, subject to further confirmation if wanted. We use Vienna system asking bids, a simple jump bid (non-jump if trump agreement is

established) to a key non-trump suit finds aces and kings at key positions bolstering a slam try.

(Editors note: I had my doubts that a simulation of the possible 1♠ openers facing the 4-0-1-8 responding hand on last issue's cover would give an 8.33% chance of opener having no spade higher than the jack. There is a very strong skew in the probabilities in that opener has found at least 12 of the remaining 25 HCP *and* has at least five spades. If East has neither the A♠ nor the K♠, his chances of finding an opener among the other 18 high card points must be seriously downgraded. But by how much?

I downloaded an amazing free program from Richard Pavlicek's web site called RPDealer, and read the clearly-written instructions. Within a few minutes I was able to instruct the computer to deal East the thirteen cards in the hand above and deal 39 other cards at random, throwing out all hands where West did not have an opener, or West did not have five or more spades. The program deals over a million deals every three seconds, and of the deals where West has a 1♠ opener, the probabilities are:

Both ace and king:	53.7%
Ace but no king:	25.9%
King but no ace:	17.8%
No ace, no king:	2.6%

The program can solve literally thousands of problems of this type and is not difficult to operate. Check it out at:

<http://www.rpbridge.net/rpbr.htm#11>

You'll find all kinds of other bridge goodies at the RP site as well. —McB

We were East-West, and needed two of the last three tricks to go plus.

North:	
♠ 9 ♣ A8	
West:	East:
♠ T ♦ T ♣ K	♥ 8 ♣ T7
South:	
♥ 7 ♦ 9 ♣ 9	

South led the 7♥, intending no doubt to end-play East. Rangie correctly discarded her K♣, so declarer discarded the 9♣, and I won the 8♥. I now returned the 7♣, and declarer found himself the victim of a wink. If he overtook in dummy, he would lose a club trick; if he won in hand he would lose a diamond. Down one either way!

I can imagine him thinking: "if only the 8♣ and 9♣ were interchanged!"

Did Declarer err by not unblocking the 9♣ earlier? Not in this case; his original holding was ♣J9 and he started the suit by leading the J♣.

So what do we call this? A defensive wink or a suicide wink? Either way, lots of fun for the defense; lots of aggravation for declarer.

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The Bridge Dialectics *Science vs Bashing* Quiz was on page 8. Here are my answers:

1. You hold, South, at IMPs, vul vs not:

♠ AKQxxxx ♥ KQx ♦ xx ♣ x

You open 1♠, LHO overcalls 2♣, Partner bids 2♠ and RHO bids 3♣. What do you call?

Your instinctive reaction may be to blast to 4♠, a game that you would expect to make a lot of the time. However, given the vulnerability and your general lack of defense, you can expect the opponents to bid on to 5♣, either to make or as a cheap sacrifice. Your side will be poorly placed to make a partnership decision at the five-level. Therefore, this is a hand to dis-close. Bid 3♥ (ostensibly a "game try") to give partner some idea of what you have. Who knows, this approach may trick your opponents into letting you play 4♠. Whatever happens, your side will have a tough choice over 5♣ but at least you will have improved your chances of a correct decision.

2. You hold, as South, IMPs, vul vs not:

♠ Axxx ♥ Jxx ♦ xx ♣ QJxx

Your partner opens 2NT, RHO passes. What do you call?

Ever since its invention, players trot out Stayman almost as a conditioned reflex. On this deal, while it is true that 3♣ would sometimes allow you to reach a successful 4♠ on a 4-4 fit, there is a danger that using

Stayman will greatly help your opponents find a good lead against 3NT. For example, let's say you bid 3♣, partner bids 3♥, you bid 3NT ending the auction. RHO will know you have spades, declarer has hearts, and your LHO could not double 3♣ to suggest a club lead. The opening leader may well attempt a short suit diamond lead that could strike gold for the defense. When the partnership is likely to have at least 28 HCP (but less than slam) and responder is relatively balanced, long-term winning strategy is to bid 3NT directly.

3. You hold, as South, IMPs, none vulnerable:

♠ x ♥ AJxxx ♦ Ax ♣ KJxxx

RHO opens 1♠. What do you call? (As it happens, you play Michaels if that is your choice.)

Michaels, Unusual 2NT, Top and Bottom Cue and other such conventions allow one to enter the auction competitively with a distributional two-suiter (normally at least 5-5 in the shown suits). Such agreements are potentially useful but give away a lot of information about the bidder's distribution. This often costs when the other side ends up playing the hand since declarer will find it easy to read the cards. In the example hand, the overwhelming problem is that the opponents have the master suit and are likely to either win the auction (in which case you will pay a price for having advertised your distribution) or push you too high (in which case you may go for a number—for example, after a 2♣ Michaels cuebid, even a minimum preference to 3♥ by partner may put you

What Would You Reach?

by H. K. Ho

In the second session of the COPC on the evening of Saturday, June 7, 2003 in Penticton, my partner (Kenny Chan) held:

♠ AQxx ♥ KQxx ♦ AKxxx ♣ —

We were using the TRAP (Transfer Relay atop Precision) System in our bidding. He opened 1♠ (the short definition for it is 17 or more HCP) and the bidding went:

Kenny	H.K.	The (Short) Explanation
1♠		(17+, artificial)
	1NT	(8+ HCP, 5+ clubs)
2♣		(relay, asking for shape)
	3♥	(12+ HCP, 6 or more clubs, no 4-card side suit)

Kenny	H.K.	The (Short) Explanation
3♣		(relay, asking side suit distribution)
	3NT	(6 clubs and 6322 shape)
4♣		(tell me the 3-card suit)
	4♥	(2-3-2-6 distribution, second step = middle suit)
4♠		(ace-asking)
	5♦	(two aces of different rank and colour)
5♥		(king-asking)
	6♥	(two kings; same colour)
???		

At this point, Kenny knew most my hand:

♠ K? ♥ A?x ♦ ?? ♣ AK?xx

In notrump, ten sure tricks were there. To make 6NT, the unknowns in my hand had to be:

well overboard). The benefit/cost ratio at this vulnerability is generally not conducive to bidding, particularly with poor suits. The following rule has been good to me over the years: when you have hearts and they have spades, you need a very good hand to enter the bidding competitively. With the example hand, pass and balance later at a low level (if possible), or give up entirely. You'll save yourself a lot of headaches. Obviously, if they opened 1♥ and you held a similar hand with spades and diamonds, you would enter the auction automatically.

4. You hold, as South, IMPs, none vulnerable:

♠ Kxxx ♥xx ♦AKQT ♣xxx

Partner opens 1♠, you bid 2NT (forcing raise), partner rebids 3♠ (balanced hand, more than a strong NT). What now?

Your side appears to be in the slam zone. Your first thought may be to invite that level with a 4♦ cue bid, but will that achieve the desired result? Your partner may well launch into Roman Key Card Blackwood and your response will be 5♥. LHO will either pass or double. Either action will help RHO in the lead department. Tactically, it is often better that the eventual dummy do the ace-asking. This prevents the opening leader from drawing inferences from a defender's double (or failure to double) a Blackwood response. On this deal, you might just bid 4NT yourself over 3♠.

5. You hold, as South, IMPs, none vulnerable:

♠ xx ♥xxxx ♦AKJxx ♣xx

Partner opens 1♣. RHO passes. What do you call?

A subset of the "reveal vs. conceal" dialectic is another dilemma: as responder, should you bypass diamonds to bid a 4-card major or bid up the line? As you will have figured by now, I am from the school that tries to conceal as much as possible. The idea is to release information only on an "as needed" basis. As part of that philosophy, a top bidding priority is to uncover a possible major suit fit while exchanging as little information as possible. Therefore, my choice on this type of deal is to respond 1♥. Experience shows that unless you have enough strength to bid diamonds and then hearts (you need at least game values for that), you should get the major in lest the opponents enter the bidding with spades and shut you out of the other major. For example, if you bid 1♦ and LHO overcalls 1♠ or 2♠, it is highly likely that you will lose a possible 4-4 heart fit. If you bid 1♥, however, you will be better placed to compete to the three-level in hearts or find your game, if you have one.

Next issue: Part 3: The "count vs attitude" dichotomy on defense.

- (1) the major suit jacks,
- (2) one major suit jack and one minor suit queen,
- (3) J♠ as long as hearts broke 3-3,
- (4) Q♣ as long as hearts broke 3-3, or
- (5) Q♦ as long as either red suit was 3-3.

If I had the queen and the jack of either minor, I could make 7NT unless one opponent held five to the ten in that suit. Even so, I would still collect thirteen tricks if the hearts broke 3-3.

Before I tell you how the auction ended, let's examine the chances for 6♥. Barring bad spade breaks, even if all the unknowns were small cards, 6♥ was cold when the hearts were 3-3. If they split 2-4, one unknown would need to be a major suit jack or a minor suit queen. To make 7♥, one major suit jack or a minor suit queen would be sufficient, if hearts broke 3-3. If they broke 2-4, the additional requirement would be the J♥. Superficially, 6♥ should be better than 6NT, but it was difficult to work out the differ-

ence during the auction. Besides, it was a pairs event, nobody would be blamed for choosing 6NT.

My partner chose 6NT. My actual holding was:

♠ Kx ♥AJx ♦xx ♣AKQxx

The rule is that the captain decides the final contract. If his choice was a suit contract, I would most probably pass. I thought that my partner had no idea that I possessed the Q♣, which was a sure trick after the ace and king in notrump, so I raised to 7NT. The final result was a sad one, because 7NT could not be made.

The result posted showed that one pair scored 1510, obviously 7♥ bid and made. It would be interesting to know how they got there!

A Letter To Myself

by Bob Faraci (and Bob Faraci)

Dear Bob,

How can I express some of my thoughts better than to send this letter to myself? I don't know who would want to listen to what I have to say or think, or for that matter who would care. I'm just thinking out loud here. *Do it fellow.* Well, I am defiantly hooked on bridge. I like the challenge and most of all I think that bridge players are fantastic. They're good lookin', witty, experienced in life, Mensa material and are most very versatile fun seekers, ie "Bruce the Matchpointer-meister and Pete Fountain impersonator," and most Bridge Directors. *Well Bob, what do you think about when arriving at the bridge club to play your favourite game?* Well, I have some thoughts on the subject. Do you want to hear them? *For sure, let it out.* OK, here are a few things that are going through my brain-damaged mind at this time.

Scenario # 1: When I arrive at a duplicate bridge club I want to find "my nest" or "my camp site." This is human nature isn't it? When I find a vacant table that I would like to sit at, be it 1, 4, 9, 11 or whatever, *that is why I came early.* I can then decide whether to be, if available, North-South or East-West. I am now a happy camper. Let the games begin! I put down glasses, keys, purse and convention card. I am now a squatter at that table. This is my own pri-

vate little domain that I picked by myself because I arrived early and didn't have to wait. *First come, first serve.* The age-old rule that possession is nine-tenths of the law. I then leave the nest to get a coffee, tea, water, refreshments or some nibbles provided by the Unit because they want me to feel at ease and at home. Bridge life is good. Hello. I chat with other early arrivers and discuss mistakes, brilliant plays, bonehead moves, conventions, tough hands, schedules to set up future games, talk about tournaments and local gossip. Bridge players like to feel loose and talk. Sometimes they ask where you are sitting and they ask to join you or vice versa if no one else is there. You feel comfortable playing the first round with someone you like or admire—or in some cases someone that you don't want to play at the end. You start off having a good feeling about the game and your fellow players and the club atmosphere. This makes you want to come back! I like the Director that has fun and keeps things moving briskly. What do you think, Bob?

Scenario # 2: When I arrive at a duplicate bridge club I don't want to stand in a long line up waiting a long time to pay and get assigned to a table by master-points or whatever. I get grumpy waiting. I came to have fun not to be prodded. In this day and age, no one likes to be herded like cows going to the slaughter. We come to play, socialize, learn, joke around, and above else *kick butt* and try my hardest to *win*. I was also going to say relax, but we all know duplicate

Finnegan's 'Wake

(No 'e's not...)

Finnegan O'Blarney's local medium of expression, **M. Julien Lévesque**, reports that although (like many sporting events from the British Isles that come to us on TV only months later) the King Boru's Calcutta ended many months ago, Finnegan himself has been on a severe regimen of whiskey, pretzels and beer nuts as he prepares himself to write the astounding conclusion.

With luck and sobriety it will appear in the *Matchpointer* before the Sky Sports network (where a million-dollar poker tournament was won by a former snooker star with another former snooker champion surviving the "grueling qualification against the world's best players" to make it to the final, leading one to wonder if Jimmy White and Steve Davis will combine as partners and win the Gold Cup) picks it up and in mid-2005 we can watch it on Sportsnet. Look for the first-hand report here next time.



players are strung tighter than that G-string once the game's on. I know an even playing field is the ultimate but this causes delays and in some cases confusion. But come on now, who the hell cares who you start the game with, as long as it's your choice. These are club games, not major tournament games and not for copious amounts of money. Relax a little. You have to play everyone anyway so why not just start play with your friends? If there is such a big discrepancy in ability at some tables I am sure the Director would come and make a friendly suggestion and have the people relocate for the benefit of the club game. Make it easy. I come to the club to play bridge. I go to an orgy to eat the grapes. *I think you're nuts Bob. This goes against the flow. Who cares?*

Scenario # 3: Pre-sell non-refundable tickets to all duplicate games for designated game sites, game type, dates, times, table numbers, N-S, E-W, beverages, food, kibitzers, lessons and for sure parking spots. *Now I know you're crazy Bob—or should I say Boob.*

Scenario # 4: Improve your game and mind Bob, take some bridge lessons. Then take three weeks off. Then quit. Go golf.

Clubs: An association of persons for the promotion of some common object, such as duplicate bridge, literature, good fellowship and fun thus forming an association supported by equal assessments or contributions of the members. A group of people organized for a common purpose, especially a group that meets regularly to try and give a case of whoop-

ass to their fellow bridge opponents: A fun place to be to meet unique and knowledgeable fellow peers. We are not the cast of *Roadwarriors*. We are Duplicate Bridge savants. The club is not a cattle barn, holding tank or a waiting room. It's my personal outlet for mea culpa and a good time.

Smoking: Have one or two five-minute smoke breaks for those people who want to shorten their lives. This will not hold up the game that much—when they go outside on their own and are nowhere to be found this will give slow players a chance to catch up, and the Director to deal with concerns that may arise. (This will also give you a chance Bob to run to the car and check your cell phone.)

Well Bobby, so much for now. Thanks for writing to myself. Maybe I'll keep this letter going. I seem to be my own best friend and audience and I know for a fact that I have only been wrong once in my life, and that was when I said I was wrong but I was right. I think I'll leave myself with these thoughts of the week.

No one listens to anyone else, if you try it for awhile you'll see why.

We read and write and play Bridge to know we are not alone.

Never play bridge with a guy named Pass.

I can hardly wait to hear from you again Bob. Have a nice game!

Respectfully yours,
Bob F.

Menace Transfer

by Ernie Dietrich

Board Dir: North 25 Vul: E-W	NORTH	Sunday Evening May Sectional	
WEST	♠ 9542 ♥ K8654 ♦ 83 ♣ 84	EAST	♠ AQT ♥ A92 ♦ AQ74 ♣ A75
♠ 3 ♥ QT3 ♦ KT9 ♣ QJT962	SOUTH		
	♠ KJ876 ♥ J7 ♦ J652 ♣ K3		

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
6♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
	Pass	Pass	Pass

I was sitting West and I "scientifically" bid to 6♣ as above. Got the favourable 8♦ lead and won the J♦ with my king. Now I floated the Q♣ and it lost to

the king. Back came a diamond and I won the ten. A trump trick revealed a two-two split.

Now I thought if I could find one opponent with both major suit kings, I could squeeze them. The A♥, two more diamond winners and three more clubs would leave this position:

West:	East:
♠ 3 ♥ Q ♣ 2	♠ AQT

When I play the last trump, pitching a spade, either defender, if he holds both major suit kings, is in trouble. If I see the king of hearts fall, the Q♥ and A♠ take the last two tricks. If I see the king of spades fall, I get two spade winners. If I don't see a king in the discards, I have to assume it will drop under the A♠, making the queen good.

But as you can see, the kings were in different hands and so I went down one. The way to make it is by a different type of transfer! Before cashing the A♥, leading the Q♥ from my hand forces a cover from North. This *transfers the menace* in hearts to South, and since South also holds the spade suit menace, in the ending he will be truly squeezed!

Time To Pull The Goalie

by Peter Morse

You are playing the first match of a KO event at the recent NABC tournament in Long Beach. After the first 14 boards, your team is down by 19 IMPs to a team you feel you should be beating, primarily because your partner went for 1100 opposite a non-vulnerable game. The second half of the match has had no foul-ups but you sense that you haven't yet gained back the 19 IMPs, because the opposition hasn't made many mistakes either, other than possibly missing a vulnerable 3NT game, when they stopped in 1NT and played cautiously to make eight tricks. And then along comes the last hand of the match. You hold this East hand:

♠ 65 ♥ J74 ♦ K863 ♣ KQ87

The opponents are vulnerable and this is the bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	??		

What would you do?

Well, borrowing from a common hockey tactic (which is rarely successful), **Eugene Chan** decided it was time to 'pull the goaltender' and laid the red X card on the table. This did not end the auction, as it was actually just getting underway. In fact, there were more calls after the double than there were before it!

The complete auction was:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Double!	Pass	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	4♣!	Double
4NT	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

During the auction Eugene ran out of green (pass) cards and his partner, your correspondent, ran out of red (double) cards. South had been getting a little

more stressed with each bid, and by the time the dummy was tabled, she was visibly demoralized. The reason was soon apparent.

The complete hands were:

Board	Dir:	NORTH	4NT* by South
21	Vul: N-S	♠ AJ2 ♥ KT95 ♦ A94 ♣ J63	Lead: A♣
Peter Morse		SOUTH	Eugene Chan
♠ KT94 ♥ AQ83 ♦ T2 ♣ A52		♠ Q873 ♥ 62 ♦ QJ75 ♣ T94	♠ 65 ♥ J74 ♦ K863 ♣ KQ87

After the opening lead of the A♣, and a club continuation, the defense came to eight tricks, probably one more than they were entitled to, for a tidy +1400. It turned out South had intended to bid 1♠ at her first opportunity, and only noticed her mistake after her partner bid 2♥. If South had noticed her misbid before her partner had made her second bid, she could have corrected her error. The misbid also explains the attempt to get out at 4♣. Hindsight is easy, but a pass of her partner's 2♥ bid would have resulted in little damage and, alas, no story to tell. At the other table, East-West had played in 2NT, making two for a gain for our team of 16 IMPs on the board. South's further attempts to find a better contract had been as effective as waving a red flag at a bull. In this case, the bulls waved back with red flags of their own.

Now if this were a fairy tale, Eugene's 'timely' double would have secured just enough IMPs to enable our team to move on to the second round. Well, we did advance, but by a healthy margin because not only had our partners bid the iffy game referred to above, but also had a bid another 3NT game where we had gone for -100, and the opponents at the other table had failed to get to another game which we had reached easily. The second half score ended at 53-3, for a final margin of 31 IMPs.

While we won our next match easily, we crashed in the event semi-finals, as three doubled contracts that were made by our opponents contributed to our defeat.

(McB: The bizarre auction did make the pages of the Long Beach Daily Bulletin, and although Eugene was listed as Eugene Chen of Vancouver WA, nobody in Unit 430 was fooled for a second...)

IMP League Report

Summer playoffs finally conclude!

Finally, the playoffs are over and we can give complete results! (2003-04 info is on page 38.)

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 tiebreaker 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, and the Flight C final was #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). In the regular season matchup, GAYMAN won 57-44 after rolling to a 30-4 lead at halftime. In the final match, GAYMAN led 32-23 at halftime and pulled away in the final frame to win 69-44. Congratulations to the 2002-03 champions of Flight C: Grant Gayman, Trent Appelbe, Linda Bell, Marla Gropper, Rosalee Hardin, and Dominique Baker!

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

In the playoffs, everything went according to form as #3 LAI defeated #6 MORSE 103-57 and #4 JEZ defeated #5 MCALLISTER 66-54 in quarterfinal matches. In the semifinals, #1 ROBSON (Sandra Robson, Les Baldys, Don Sharp, Patti Adams) defeated #4 JEZ 55-44 and #2 HIRA (Ram Hira, Marion & Jeremy Crowhurst, Chester Michno, Nurdin Kassam, Don Keith) defeated #3 LAI 142-64. This set up a repeat match of the regular season finale, where HIRA became the first team to beat ROBSON, leaving both teams at 10-1. Thirty-one boards of the final

solved virtually nothing, and the Director's final ruling on the remaining board, made in consultation with top-flight ACBL rules gurus in Long Beach, was appealed to the Unit Board at their September meeting on the 11th. The final decision: ROBSON prevails by 2 IMPs. The real story here is *not* about who won and who didn't, or about what arguments held sway at the appeal. The real story is the season-long friendly rivalry between two excellent teams whose members made their closing arguments and then *chose to play bridge together*, as the Unit Board reluctantly decided who would be first and who would be second. Congratulations to the 2002-03 Flight B champions, Sandra Robson, Les Baldys, Don Sharp, and Patti Adams; and congratulations as well to the runners-up, Ram Hira, Marion & Jeremy Crowhurst, Chester Michno, Nurdin Kassam, and Don Keith, who had a season that was just as good.

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

In the semi-final, #2 SKOROPADA (Garry Skoropada, Larry Chow, Dan Webster, Flora Tereposky, Brad Fletcher, John Richoux) defeated #3 MORSE 91-66. SKOROPADA had defeated BODLAK in the regular season, but BODLAK has pulled off a playoff reversal before and did so again this year, rolling to an 80-16 halftime lead and surviving the second half comeback to win by 83-69. Congratulations to 2002-03 Flight X winners Stan Bodlak, Pearl Minkoff, Sandi White, David Walker, Cheryl Brander, and Christina Jacob!

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

In the semifinals, #2 BALLANTYNE (Aidan Ballantyne, Don Sache, Gord McOrmond, Doug Hansford, Bryan Maksymetz, Katrin Litwin) defeated #3 LINDSAY 84-57 and after a lengthy scheduling delay #1 DIVINSKY (Nathan Divinsky, Gord Davis, Dan

(continued on page 18)



Shortly after the big win for team **BALLANTYNE** in the final, we were told that team member **Doug Hansford** composed this poem, read at a special occasion for teammate **Don Sache**:

To A Great Guy We All Know

by Doug Hansford

Our super guy Don, a broker elite,
Has every bridge partner and friend on his sheet.

Great service and form, are provided for all,
From his friendly staff at Delta Shoppers Mall.

A Caddy, a Corvette, and SUV,
Are some of the toys of his success, you see.

Although these cars can really rumble,
Our dear Don remains most humble.

His easygoing way and always pleasant style,
Ensured to all Sheila'd cling a long while.

Sheila his love, and able shipmate,
Travels with Don on seaside escapes

GRANDSLAM, the boat's name, known all around,
As the family fun vessel, Don never runs aground.

A curler, a sailor, a bridge champ is he,
Found every January, in sunny Waikiki.

His bridge play is awesome, his carding just right,
So why can't he beat Sheila, on Monday night?

Bridge tournaments are special, to Captain Don Sache,
A top seeded entry, always bought with our cash.

The leaderboard shows, he's usually Top Three,
But when he slips lower, says "Did you pay me?"

A father, a grandpa, who shares Canucks games,
And trips for loved ones, with all their cute names

A hubby, a teammate, an employer, and friend,
To you we all share, to the same end.

To wish you a wonderful sixtieth, and more,
Of what you've so much shown us before!

HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY, DON!

(IMP League Report, continued from page 17)

Jacob, Don Brazeau, Larry Hicks, John Hurdle) defeated #4 **FOUKS** 42-28.

We have a report from an anonymous *Matchpointer* reporter on the final match:

The first half featured a wild exchange of IMPs. Divinsky played the first half with John Hurdle and led 49-45 at the break.

The second half started well for Ballantyne when Litwin-Ballantyne bid uncontested to 6♦ on the following lay-out:

Board 17	Dir: North Vul: None	Don Brazeau	6♦ by East Result: Claim
Katrin Litwin			Aidan Ballantyne
♠ 9xxx ♥ AKTx ♦ Q9x ♣ Ax		♠ Qx ♥ xxxx ♦ xx ♣ Jxxxx	♠ ATx ♥ — ♦ AKJT8x ♣ QT9x
		Gord Davis	
		♠ KJxx ♥ QJxxx ♦ xx ♣ Kx	

Ballantyne: 1♦ 2♣ 3♦ 4♣ 5♦* Pass

Litwin: 1♥ 2♠* 4♦ 4NT 6♦

2♣ was a game-forcing fourth suit and 5♦ showed zero or three keycards. The slam was pretty much a claimer. At the other table Brian Maksymetz (South) doubled the 1♦ opener and EW did not get beyond 3NT.

A few hands later **BALLANTYNE** struck again.

Board 21	Dir: North Vul: N-S	Don Brazeau	6♥ by East Lead: 7♣
Katrin Litwin			Aidan Ballantyne
♠ Jx ♥ KJxx ♦ AJxx ♣ AQx		♠ AT98xxx ♥ x ♦ xxx ♣ xx	♠ KQ ♥ AQTxx ♦ KT ♣ KJxx
		Gord Davis	
		♠ 7x ♥ xxx ♦ Qxxx ♣ Txxx	

At the other table McOrmond had opened the North hand 2♣ and EW had reached 3NT after an auction in which both East (John Hurdle) and West (Dan Jacob) settled for slight underbids without doing anything particularly wrong.

In the replay, Don Brazeau opened 3♣ and this accelerated the auction (top of next page):

<i>D. Brazeau</i>	<i>A. Ballantyne</i>	<i>G. Davis</i>	<i>K. Litwin</i>
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
3♠	Double	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

East-West faced difficult choices after the 3♠ preempt. Ballantyne elected to double 3♠ though arguments can certainly be made for both 3NT and 4♥ overcalls. In response to the double, Litwin had a tough problem and settled for a slight overbid of 4♠ knowing neither the strain nor the level and having no spade control! Ballantyne felt his ♠KQ were wasted opposite a perceived spade shortage and made the slight underbid of 5♥ (generally, always subtract an ace when playing with a Mexican, as you will see). At least this solved the strain problem for Litwin who guessed to bid on to 6♥. The slam was a claimer. Well, when you're hot, you're hot!

DIVINSKY scored a bid swing of their own when Jacob-Hurdle bid and made 3NT on the next deal:

Board Dir: East 22 Vul: E-W	Gord McOrmond	3NT by West Swing: 10 IMPs
Dan Jacob	♠ JT× ♥ ×× ♦ Q9xxx ♣ Q9x	John Hurdle
♠ Axx ♥ AJx ♦ Jxx ♣ J8xxx	B. Maksymetz	♠ Kxxxx ♥ KQx ♦ KT8 ♣ Kx
	♠ Q9 ♥ Txxxx ♦ Ax ♣ ATxx	

John Hurdle opened 1♠ and rebid 2♦. As responder, Dan Jacob used Forcing Notrump and fol-

lowed with a 2NT rebid which John Hurdle raised to 3NT. This contract proved unbeatable and DIVINSKY won a deserved 10 IMPs when Ballantyne-Litwin stopped in 3♠ on a 1♠-1NT, 2♦-3♠ auction (well, you can't make 4♠!).

However, BALLANTYNE was playing in luck and drew steadily away to win decisively in a swingy match.

The DIVINSKY team is finally dethroned after a good run. Sign up for the 2003-2004 season and take a shot at the new champions!



The 2002-03 Flight A IMP League champions (shortly after the final tally). Back row: Don Sache, Katrin Litwin, Gord McOrmond, Aidan Ballantyne; front row: Doug Hansford, Bryan Maksymetz. (Photo credit: Sheila Sache)

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UPRS Rankings

Knockouts Triple In UPRS Value

The September 6 Unit Player Rating System tables are on the next page. It took more than two pages of the Spring issue to describe the systems details, and I refer those of you who need to know everything about how the UPRS system works to that article.

A quick explanation? All right. The UPRS system is a points-based rating system in which points won decay over time, so that a year later only one-quarter of the points won remain. This means you need to keep playing, and winning, to keep your ranking on the lists. Players are ranked as individuals. To win UPRS points, you need to finish in the overalls in any event run by Unit 430 within Unit 430: this means Sectional tournaments, Monthly Unit Games, the Unit Finals of special events, and the IMP League. Not included are the STaC and all other club-level events, District or Zone Finals of special events, Regionals, and NABCs.

There are three UPRS lists. Flight A points are awarded for any event that carries an upper master-point limit of 2500 points or higher (or none at all). Flight C points are awarded for events limited to non-Life Masters. Anything in between scores points toward the Flight B list. When there are multiple flights or strats counting toward the same UPRS list, like Flight A/X events (both unlimited), the lower flight(s) or strat(s) scores half of the points of the one above. Of course, with stratifying a player may win points on more than one UPRS list for a single win. And new Life Masters remain on the Flight C list until their points earned there decay once they become ineligible for non-LM events.

Each event covered by the UPRS has a Flight A first-place point value pre-assigned regardless of the

attendance. All other awards are derived from this Flight A first-place award. The highest award is for the IMP League regular season winners, who get 50,000; second-highest is 30,000 for winning a two-session event at a sectional. The Flight B first-place award is always one-eighth the Flight A first-place award. The Flight C first-place award is always 1% of the Flight A first-place award. This works well: developing players can tell when they are ready to move up. When your total on one list is about the same as your total on the next highest list, this is concrete evidence that you are ready to move up to the next level (although it might take a while before you are ready to challenge the leaders!).

The UPRS database now contains 5,257 lines of winners and is contained in a 14.6 MB Excel file...

One change was suggested to me and seemed reasonable. (I was surprised that many people didn't suggest changes that would vault them up the standings!) Sectional knockout teams awards seemed to be far lower than they should be, so the awards for these events have been tripled to 15,000, to make them more valuable than a sectional one-session event (10,000) but less than a two-session event (30,000). Knockouts are easier to win than pairs events because there are fewer entries to beat, but it still is three sessions of tough bridge to get to the top!

On the next page are "thirteen tables" of players for each UPRS flight, the standings computed at the end of the September Unit Game. The last column shows the percentage of the leader's total. When the points decay, this percentage stays constant, making it a useful indicator of the size of a lead.

Anyone not on these lists 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!

Upcoming UPRS Events

or, How to Improve Your UPRS Ranking

DATE	EVENT	FLIGHT A AWARD FOR FIRST PLACE
26-28 Sept.	Evergreen Sectional	30,000 for two-session open events 10,000 for one-session open events (limited events will score on the B or C lists)
4 October	Monthly Unit Game	1,000
mid-October	IMP League begins	50,000 (regular season), 25,000 (playoffs)
11 October	NAOP-A Unit Final	20,000
18 October	NAOP-B/C Unit Final	2,500 (B List), 200 (C List)
1 November	Monthly Unit Game	1,000
8-11 November	Round-Up Sectional	(see Evergreen Sectional for sectional awards)
6 December	MUG Christmas Party	1,600

Flight A UPRS Standings

1	Dan Jacob	110,709.17	(leader)
2	Gord McOrmond	105,088.62	94.923
3	Bryan Maksymetz	98,292.86	88.785
4	Larry Hicks	74,874.50	67.632
5	John Hurdle	74,090.43	66.923
6	Aidan Ballantyne	64,508.63	58.269
7	Katrin Litwin	62,952.09	56.863
8	Don Sache	62,782.11	56.709
9	Ben Takemori	55,911.04	50.503
10	Gerry McCully	55,879.13	50.474
11	Doug Hansford	55,633.29	50.252
12	Don Brazeau	52,867.25	47.753
13	Gord Davis	52,402.02	47.333
14	Nathan Divinsky	49,047.72	44.303
15	Ron Borg	47,937.51	43.300
16	Chris Christoffersen	41,935.47	37.879
17	Mike Dorn Wiss	39,448.97	35.633
18	Christina Jacob	38,999.68	35.227
19	Jane Fyfe	30,960.94	27.966
20	Ping Ding	30,960.94	27.966
21	Rhonda Foster	30,846.91	27.863
22	Dianne Isfeld	30,506.57	27.556
23	Cam Doner	30,506.39	27.555
24	Pearl Minkoff	29,988.96	27.088
25	Michael Yuen	29,947.31	27.050
26	Mike Takemori	29,672.62	26.802
27	Martin Henneberger	29,357.38	26.518
28	Stan Bodlak	28,771.03	25.988
29	Sandi White	28,771.03	25.988
30	David (Vcr) Walker	28,724.56	25.946
31	Brad Bart	28,145.72	25.423
32	Mike Wilson	28,122.55	25.402
33	Les Fouks	28,073.32	25.358
34	Greg Arbour	27,576.64	24.909
35	Larry Pocock	26,898.11	24.296
36	Mike Dimich	22,924.55	20.707
37	Craig Zastera	22,524.24	20.345
38	Tony Remedios	21,676.81	19.580
39	Bill Goldstone	20,487.64	18.506
40	Mark Eddy	20,055.55	18.116
41	Waldemar Jez	18,369.85	16.593
42	Stanford Christie	17,791.32	16.070
43	Greg Barszcs	17,210.58	15.546
44	Gilbert Lambert	16,639.68	15.030
45	Dan Watson	16,260.39	14.687
46	Doug Fraser	15,604.67	14.095
47	Gus Axen	15,567.21	14.061
48	Richard Christie	15,430.42	13.938
49	Cam Lindsay	15,280.88	13.803
49	Paul Hagen	15,280.88	13.803
51	Trudy Hurdle	15,234.69	13.761
52	Mike Hargreaves	15,158.61	13.692

Flight B UPRS Standings

1	Les Baldys	9,756.42	(leader)
2	Sandra Robson	8,098.44	83.006
3	Patti Adams	7,725.76	79.186
4	Don Sharp	7,531.45	77.195
5	Kenny Chan	6,455.30	66.165
6	Don Keith	5,034.10	51.598
7	H. K. Ho	4,986.12	51.106
8	Samuel Lai	4,650.85	47.670
9	Marion Crowhurst	3,973.98	40.732
10	Ping Ding	3,922.90	40.208
10	Jane Fyfe	3,922.90	40.208
12	William Ge	3,868.73	39.653
13	Jeremy Crowhurst	3,710.25	38.029
14	Richard Smillie	3,655.28	37.465
15	Ram Hira	3,389.12	34.737
16	Amirali Alibhai	3,377.88	34.622
17	Danny Lee	3,366.34	34.504
18	Nurdin Kassam	3,310.01	33.926
19	Chester Michno	3,158.35	32.372
20	Kam Tang	2,919.99	29.929
21	Larry Meyer	2,816.12	28.864
21	Jim McKenzie	2,816.12	28.864
21	Rod Coote	2,816.12	28.864
24	Dick Simpson	2,761.47	28.304
25	Sharon Erwin	2,613.19	26.784
25	Daniel Groves	2,613.19	26.784
27	Bruce McIntyre	2,506.53	25.691
28	Waldemar Jez	2,403.10	24.631
29	Carol-Ann Halliday	2,238.08	22.940
30	Andrew Zorawski	2,205.17	22.602
31	Ewa Wroblewicz	2,108.81	21.615
32	Marg Elligott	2,104.72	21.573
33	Jane (NVN) Craig	2,094.93	21.472
34	Tove Chen	2,063.69	21.152
35	Renlu Wang	2,049.05	21.002
36	Anita Morse	1,977.34	20.267
37	David Breton	1,973.51	20.228
38	Ross Lam	1,917.74	19.656
39	Kathy Bye	1,910.29	19.580
40	Tony Remedios	1,900.63	19.481
41	Bob Kiggins	1,829.94	18.756
42	Marylou Varga	1,751.52	17.952
43	Mark Rojewski	1,725.62	17.687
44	Patricia Stickland	1,700.79	17.433
45	Ann Andres	1,420.45	14.559
45	Wink Andres	1,420.45	14.559
47	Nomi Kaplan	1,401.74	14.367
48	Andy Hellqvist	1,373.06	14.073
48	Greg Morse	1,373.06	14.073
50	Alex Chuang	1,314.24	13.470
50	David Huang	1,314.24	13.470
52	Betty Jackson	1,312.97	13.457

Flight C UPRS Standings

1	Gail Heuchert	869.93	(leader)
2	Grant Gayman	714.41	82.123
3	Myra Johnston	697.17	80.142
4	Adelina Wong-Chor	691.46	79.485
5	Marlene Powell	586.86	67.461
6	Bernard Hoeschen	582.96	67.013
7	Yvonne Drane	493.95	56.781
8	Rosalee Hardin	439.50	50.521
9	Marla Gropper	398.71	45.833
10	Andrew Nalos	378.83	43.548
11	Dominique Baker	357.20	41.061
12	Linda Bell	356.53	40.984
13	Trent Applebe	354.32	40.730
14	Sima Sadri	329.86	37.918
15	Wuyen Ni	298.26	34.285
16	Hsiang Li	271.48	31.207
17	Ross Lam	252.76	29.056
18	Tony Shyu	243.44	27.984
19	Jack Lee	226.27	26.011
20	David Breton	205.50	23.623
21	Susan Mitchell	198.72	22.843
22	Henry Lai	197.72	22.729
23	Brian Ransom	195.03	22.419
24	Jocelyn Krug	192.00	22.071
25	Stuart Carr	183.99	21.151
26	Judy Christensen	177.59	20.414
27	Anne Smith	171.58	19.723
28	Cathy Miller	169.99	19.540
29	Chloe Clark	160.21	18.417
30	Janice Barr	159.77	18.366
31	Doreen Ransom	154.83	17.798
32	Joan Steuart	150.39	17.288
33	Mary June Young	146.11	16.795
34	Barry Yamanouchi	145.09	16.679
35	Samuel Lai	144.32	16.590
36	Michiyo Takeda	143.52	16.498
37	Kumiko Yoshimoto	143.45	16.489
38	Colin Ransom	143.17	16.457
39	Kam Tang	140.83	16.188
40	Marlene Barber	130.04	14.948
41	Jean Wilkinson	127.08	14.609
42	Philippe Westreich	125.74	14.454
43	Norma Doucette	123.60	14.209
44	Harvey Bridges	122.34	14.064
44	Jean Bridges	122.34	14.064
46	Bruce Partridge	121.93	14.017
47	Anna Ochnio	119.78	13.769
47	Jan Ochnio	119.78	13.769
49	Ian Ho	116.50	13.392
50	David Payne	107.23	12.327
51	Yi Yang	104.21	11.979
52	Dorothy Macleod	103.57	11.905

Leaders since the end of 2001 (lists are done at the end of each month): **Mike Hargreaves** (Dec. 2001-Apr. 2002), **Bryan Maksymetz** (to Dec. 2002), **Gord McOrmond** (to Mar. 2003), **Dan Jacob** (to present). The Flight A playoff win helped to close the gap to just a little over 5% for Jacob over McOrmond. **Chris Christoffersen** and **Mike Dorn Wiss** came from #157 and lower to 16th and 17th this time, with two wins and a second at the May Sectional!

Leaders since the end of 2001: **Ron Fox** (to Feb. 2002), **Kenny Chan** (to Apr. 2002), **Les Baldys** (to Aug. 2002), **Kenny Chan** (to Oct. 2002), **Ping Ding** and **Jane Fyfe** (to Mar. 2003), **Les Baldys** (to present). **Les Baldys** has won the Flight B IMP League two years in a row. He holds the #187 spot on the Flight A list with 2,647.02 points. **William Ge** moved into the #12 spot from #29 last time. **Richard Smillie** moved to #14, all the way from #44 last time.

Leaders since the end of 2001: **Andrew Nalos** (to Feb. 2002), **Alice & Gary Thomas** (to Apr. 2002), **Stuart Carr** (to Aug. 2002), **Brian Ransom** (to Oct. 2002), **Ross Lam** (to Dec. 2002), **Gail Heuchart** (to present). **Gail Heuchart** opened up a big lead with success in the Flight C IMP League regular season, but losing in the final made it a race again! Gail holds the #55 spot on the B list with 1,300.21 points, but no Flight A points yet.

On A Finesse?

by Greg Morse

We all know that when playing IMPs, we should bid our vulnerable games, even if they have a less than 50% chance of making. Most players also know that "You don't bid a grand slam that is *on a finesse*." The reason for this is the scoring table. If you bid 3♥ or 3♠ and make nine tricks you will score 140. If nine tricks are cold, then under what conditions should you risk your certain 140, in the hopes of making 620? Look at the following table, which shows the results when you bid 4♥ or 4♠ and the opponents stop in partscore:

RESULT	YOU	OPPONENTS	SCORE
Down 1 non-vul	-50	+140	Lose 5
Making non-vul	+420	+170	Win 6
Down 1 vul	-100	+140	Lose 6
Making vul	+620	+170	Win 10

If you bid a vulnerable game that the opponents do not bid, you lose 6 IMPs when you are wrong, but win 10 IMPs when you are right. If the vulnerable game makes 3 times out of 8 (37.5%), you will break even in the long run. A non-vulnerable game needs a 45% chance to show a profit; still less than "*on a finesse*."

What about slams?

If eleven tricks are cold, when should you bid six? If twelve tricks are cold when should you bid seven? (Assume that your opponents will always be in game at least.)

Here is the scoring table for bidding and making 6♥ or 6♠ when the opponents stop in game:

RESULT	YOU	OPPONENTS	SCORE
Down 1 non-vul	-50	+450	Lose 10
Making non-vul	+980	+480	Win 11
Down 1 vul	-100	+650	Lose 13
Making vul	+1430	+680	Win 13

You can see that a small slam is justified if it needs only a 50% chance; hence it is OK to bid a small slam that is "*on a finesse*". This means that it needs a finesse and *nothing else*. If you also need a 3-2 trump break for example, then your slam is not 50% but more like 34%.

How about grand slams?

Once again here is the scoring table for bidding and making 7♥ or 7♠ when the opponents stop in six:

RESULT	YOU	OPPONENTS	SCORE
Down 1 non-vul	-50	+980	Lose 14
Making non-vul	+1510	+1010	Win 11
Down 1 vul	-100	+1430	Lose 17
Making vul	+2210	+1460	Win 13

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But the above assumes that your opponents will always be in the small slam. Many times

you will find that you are in six, making seven, while the opponents have stopped in game. Not everyone bids as well as you do, you know. (Check the results from your next pair game, and see if just bidding six, and making it with an overtrick, does not get you at least 80% of the matchpoints.)

If the opponents stop in game while you carry on to 7♥ or 7♠ the scoring table looks like:

RESULT	YOU	OPPONENTS	SCORE
Down 1 non-vul	-50	+480	Lose 10
Making non-vul	+1510	+510	Win 15
Down 1 vul	-100	+680	Lose 14
Making vul	+2210	+710	Win 17

You see that when you bid a grand slam you are taking quite a position; risking 17 IMPs to win 13 under the best of assumptions and you might be risking 13 IMPs (when they stop in game and you bid six) to win an extra 4 IMPs (the difference between 17 and 13.). Hence to justify bidding a grand slam, IMP scoring requires that the slam have a better than even chance of success. Even if you can assume that the opponents will bid six, your grand slam needs at least a 56% chance of success to be justified. That is why good players will not bid a grand slam "*on a finesse*."

But what if the finesse is "guaranteed" to win?

Keep that in mind, as you study the next deal which came up for Diane Ayukawa and myself, in a team event at the Penticton Regional. You are South and pick up a decent hand for once:

♠ KJxx ♥ A9x ♦ AQJx ♣ AK

Both sides vulnerable. Partner deals and opens 2♠. Small slam has excellent chances. Partner might have the K♦ or a stiff heart, or four clubs to the Q-J. Or the small slam might be "*on a (diamond) finesse*." The auction continues:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	2♠	3♥	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT ¹
Pass	5♣ ²	Pass	5♦ ³
Pass	5♠	Pass	???

¹ Roman Keycard Blackwood

² One or four keycards

³ Asking for the queen of trumps (why bother doing this when you have a known ten-card fit?)

What is your call?

Well which is it? Up or Down, Mr. Brown?

If you ask for kings with 5NT, partner denies having any, so you are back where you started. Looks like the grand slam is on the diamond finesse. On the other hand, East has made a vulnerable three level

2003 Sectional Trophy Race Standings

Phil Wood Trophy

1. Ben Takemori	55.19
2. Gerry McCully	46.72
3. Dan Jacob	46.10
4. Chris Christoffersen	40.51
5. Mike Dorn Wiss	36.78
6. Gord McOrmond	36.43
7. Mike Takemori	29.31
8. Michael Yuen	27.74
9. Jane Fyfe	27.10
9. Ping Ding	27.10
11. William Ge	26.68
12. Brad Bart	26.46
13. Martin Henneberger	26.35
14. Dianne Isfeld	25.89
15. Michael Dimich	24.57
16. Bryan Maksymetz	24.05
17. Rhonda Foster	24.00
18. Les Fouks	23.84
19. Allan Graves	23.26
20. Gus Axen	21.83
21. Danny Lee	21.62
22. Bob Gerrie	20.31
22. Aban Gerrie	20.31
24. Don Sache	19.98
25. Larry Pocock	19.25
26. Felipe Hernandez	19.09
27. Richard Smillie	18.71
27. Amirali Alibhai	18.71
29. Trudy Hurdle	17.94
30. Gilbert Lambert	17.84
A total of 2689.93 masterpoints have been won by 499 players (a further 86 have played but have not won any) at the first two open sectionals of 2003.	

Edie Bonnell Trophy

1. Jane Fyfe	27.10
2. Dianne Isfeld	25.89
3. Rhonda Foster	24.00
4. Aban Gerrie	20.31
5. Trudy Hurdle	17.94
6. Sheila Sache	16.83
7. Dee Segarich	16.50
8. Tove Chen	15.72
9. Katrin Litwin	14.45
10. Sharon Erwin	13.21
11. Marcia Christie	12.79
12. Patricia Stickland	12.63
13. Gail Heuchert	12.29
14. Margaret Elligott	11.86
15. Anita Morse	11.75

Phil Wood Under 200 Trophy

1. Renlu Wang	12.62
2. Julia Barsel	8.87
2. Andrey Artamonov	8.87
4. Sally Craig	8.76
5. Philippe Westreich	8.10
6. David Huang	7.62
6. Alex Chuang	7.62
8. David Payne	6.59
9. Ian Ho	5.69
10. Barry Yamanouchi	4.58
11. Kumiko Yoshimoto	3.99
11. Michiyo Takeda	3.99
13. Julianne Wooden	3.90
14. Harry Kublik	3.78
15. Sima Sadri	3.75
Any ACBL member who had less than 200 recorded masterpoints on January 1, 2003 is eligible.	

Leo Steil Trophy

1. Mike Dorn Wiss	36.78
2. Dianne Isfeld	25.89
3. Les Fouks	23.84
4. Danny Lee	21.62
5. Don Sache	19.98
6. Larry Pocock	19.25
7. Amirali Alibhai	18.71
8. Gilbert Lambert	17.84
9. Greg Arbour	17.50
9. Ron Borg	17.50
11. Dee Segarich	16.50
12. John Hurdle	16.44
13. Kenny Chan	16.40
14. Bob Kiggins	14.13
15. Sherman Kwan	12.79

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

Victoria Day Sectional Top Ten

1. Chris Christoffersen	34.97
1. Mike Dorn Wiss	34.97
3. Ben Takemori	34.93
4. Dan Jacob	32.93
5. Martin Henneberger	25.89
5. Dianne Isfeld	25.89
7. Gord McOrmond	23.26
7. Bryan Maksymetz	23.26
7. Allan Graves	23.26
10. Les Fouks	23.02
10. Michael Yuen	23.02
A total of 1507.29 masterpoints were won by 360 players (a further 77 played but have not won any) at the 2003 Victoria Day Sectional.	

overcall of a pre-empt, missing the ace of his suit. Furthermore, West did not make a lead directing double of the 5♦ bid. (That is the main reason South made the bid, to see if West would double.) Is the diamond finesse 50% or closer to 90%?

If I tell you that your opponents stopped in game at the other table, will that help you decide?

To be, or not to be...

You want to know the result? This is not about results! But here are some results anyway.

Partner's hand is as expected:

♠ AQxxxx ♥ xx ♦ xxx ♣ xxx

And here is what happened:

a) They led the K♥, and the K♦ was offside. You went down one or two depending on your bid, and lost the match.

b) You bid 7♣, they led the K♥ and the K♦ was onside and you won the match.

c) You bid 6♣, they led the K♥, and the K♦ was onside, but you lost the match anyway. Your teammates misdefended a game, and you misdefended a partscore; you needed those extra IMPs to win.

How did you do when the entire match was "on a finesse?"



It's Your Bid

Responses and Scores

Only 21 responses this time, but lots of comments, and several people sent problems for the next edition, apparently tired of mine. I thank all of the people who responded. If you're reading this and you've never responded before, take the time! Detach the right hand portion of the cover—steal the kid's scissors while he's struggling with homework or something. You'll find the bidding system—it's not too complicated—used on the back of the slip you've sliced off the cover, but nothing else will be missing. The *Matchpointer* will survive—it's designed to look nice without the front flap. Cut it off. Look, now you can see the contents *and* the cover *at the same time!* Mail the flap to me with your answers, or send me an e-mail with your answers and comments. Phone me if you want! It's that simple. Do it!

Of the 21 responses, 7 self-flighted themselves into Flight A, 11 in Flight B, and 3 in Flight C. The pseudonym option continues to have glitches so let's repeat: if you win without including your real name we cannot award a prize when we don't know who you are! If you want to use a pseudo but send no comments we will list your real name if you make the top ten or win your flight.

The scoring system for the contest takes Flight A responses as ten points, Flight B as three, and Flight C as one. The response with the most points is given

the award of 100, and the other awards are decided accordingly to their relative popularity with the consensus choice. In the first question the second best call attracted 34 voting points, compared to 62 voting points for the consensus bid. 34 is about 55% of 62, so 55 is the award.

Why score by popularity (weighted slightly by flighting)? Because it is objective! In other bidding contests, a judge is hired to collect the votes and decide which answers get how many points. The judge does so partly by popularity, partly by the comments, perhaps a little by the actual result at the table, and sometimes by the responses of those whose opinions he respects.

I think it's better to limit my role as judge to ensuring that the flights are correct and let the formula decide the results. Sometimes this will go against the table result, but we all know that what is right in theory may not always work in practice! Your mileage may vary.

Alert! This time, I goofed big time when I limited the responses on question 2(a) to pass, double, 2NT, 3♣, 3♦, and 3♥. Many wanted to bid something else, including the Hideous Hog-In-Training when he took his traditional quick look at the problems just before I began entering the responses into the spreadsheet. So, to diminish the effect of this flawed question I have scored part 2(a) out of 40, part 2(b) out of 20, and at the end I factored everything up to make the maximum total 500 as usual.

But there were no 500 scores this time! Let's find out who won:

Cent. 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

November 12: Club Championship

October 22: DINO Charity Week Game

May Club Championship Winners:

N-S: Sherman Kwan/Ron Fox

E-W: Peter Wong/Fred Powell

Big Games at Central Richmond!

Ernie Dietrich/Yuko Fujieda, July 17, 66.35%

Ashley Krisman/Les Fouks, June 11, 66.67%

Peter Wong/Fred Powell, May 14, 67.88%

Sherman Kwan/Ron Fox, May 14, 68.98%

Central Richmond players can find their game results online at the Vancouver Bridge Club website at <http://www.vancouverbridgeclub.ca>
We thank Louis Landau for posting our results online.

1. (IMPs, none vulnerable.)

♠ T9832 ♥ JT7 ♦ 52 ♣ 754

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1NT	2♥	2♣	Pass
Pass	3♥	5♣	???

Many felt something was goofy here. Was partner speeding with his 2♥ call, showing the majors?

Doug Cowan: 5♥. I really don't understand East's bidding. North has both majors(?), West has at least two spades. Was 2♣ intended as Minor Suit Stayman, or a transfer to 3♣ which East missed? If so, why didn't North pass 2♣? Anyway, they seem to have found their spot so I'm taking the sac.

A few tried to find a deal that fit the auction.

"HHIT": 5♠. East has long, really long clubs and probably no spades: what else could explain his psyche of 2♣? If partner has five, and West has at least two, what does that leave for East? And why not consider 3NT when partner sat for 2♣? So we have a ten or eleven card fit and trump finesses will work. A secondary heart piece makes this a "fun" 5♠ call.

"Stanley": 5♠. Partner must have great hearts and be trying for a game. Otherwise, he would leave East trapped in his cue bid, expecting the penalty values to exceed any part score values. My five spades and three hearts to the jack should provide enough. In any event, declaring with our two suit major fit seems better than defending against their two suit minor fit.

Some closed their eyes and bid on...

"Running Scared": 5♠. It smells of the old freak sided hands: call the doctor, partner has shown a real hand likely to be 4-6 or even 6-6. I'll edge on a 5-6 in the majors type hand. So do we have defense against 5♣? Not here, but we just might make 5♠ or at worst go for 300. 5♠ looks sick but it gets my vote.

Some closed their eyes and signed off...

"Sue": Pass. West erred with his second bid, why try to sort it out? I heard someone once say "when you're fixed, stay fixed." Sometimes things work out for the better.

Larry Meyer: Pass. With them shooting in the dark, and our length in one of their suits, we may already have a good score. Don't jeopardize this advantage by bidding.

The majority was swayed by the point count:

Josh Sinnett: Pass. Three question marks pretty much sum up how I'm feeling here. Why did partner disturb a 2♠ contract if he held both majors? Bidding now could push the opponents into a cold, but unbid-dable slam.

Sandra Robson: Pass. What else?

Andy Hellqvist: Pass. Bidding on just gives them a profitable penalty option, or may push them to a makeable slam.

And then there were those who thought the other features on the cover two issues ago might be a hint:

David Breton, Harold Hansen: Pass. "When you have nothing to say--say it!"

The sheep prevail!

Question 1				Total	Total	
Call	A	B	C	Votes	Points	Award
Pass	3	10	2	15	62	100
5♠	3	1	1	5	34	55
3♥	1	0	0	1	10	16

Source: IMP League match in January. Partner's hand was something like:

♠ AQJ54 ♥ AQ9842 ♦ Q6 ♣ —

East had this hand:

♠ — ♥ 52 ♦ K973 ♣ AQJT9862

...leaving a reasonable 15 HCP 3-3-5-2 1NT opener for West. 5♠ goes down only if declarer finesses with a nine-card fit, but after North shows out in clubs this is an inferior line. 5♠ goes down one unless the defense makes a grave error. In the actual match there was a different auction at the other table, but the board was a push: 5♠ down one doubled at both tables.

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.

"HHIT": 3♠. I don't care what you believe. 3♦ is the only forcing call below 3♠ and I don't like it.

Josh Sinnett: 3♠. Disbelieve me, all you like, but it's what I'm bidding.

"Sue": 3NT. Can't answer this the way you want.

Yep, I goofed here. As a result, this question is worth only a maximum of 40 and the second part is worth only 20. Scores will be factored up for the final total. It wasn't only the people who chose to go out of bounds that wanted the play reviewed:

"Running Scared": Who is the joker in this group? 3♦ is the only forcing bid allowed, so I'll make it.

Larry Meyer: 3♠. Of the five believable

(continued on page 26)

(It's Your Bid, continued from page 25)

bids available, double would show spades I don't have, 2NT would be non-forcing when we have game values, 3♦ would show suit length I don't have, 3♥ would show suit quality I don't have, so I'll show my club support.

Harold Hansen: 3♣. Don't like it, but the bidding is not over yet.

Of those who chose to stay inbounds, the question was not too hard:

"Stanley": 3♥. Hoping that partner treats it as forcing. If he passes, hoping that game is not make-able on the misfit.

Doug Cowan: 3♥. We've got to reach game somewhere.

Andy Hellqvist: 3♥. I intend this as a one round force, planning to show the club support later. 3♥ should be forcing since it's poor practice to fight partner about suits at the three level without forcing values. If my favourite partner happens to read this, note that I would bid it differently with him. We would use the Good/Bad 2NT to introduce a suit while clarifying strength, but I can't use in this contest.

David Breton: 3♥. Partner doesn't seem to care about my hand. Doubling won't be a lucrative proposition for us.

Sandra Robson: 3♥. A risk...

Question 2a				Total		
Call	A	B	C	Votes	Points	Award
3♥	2	7	2	11	43	40
3♣	2	0	0	2	20	19
3♠	1	2	0	3	16	15
3♦	1	1	0	2	13	12
3NT	1	0	0	1	10	9
4♣	0	1	0	1	3	3
Double	0	0	1	1	1	1

And now for the second part:

Sandra Robson: Double. ...but perhaps less risk than any other action

Harold Hansen: 3NT. If 3NT is an option, bid it. (Bob Hamman tip.)

Larry Meyer: 3NT. We belong in game somewhere, and I have a spade stopper. Gripe—with game going values and 3NT, 4♥, and 5♣ all possible, why didn't I bid 3♣ over 2♣, asking for a stopper? If partner has Qxx in spades, 3NT by him is much better than 3NT by me.

Guilty as charged.

"Running Scared": 3NT. We smell a rat on the road so we bid 3NT and be done with it.

A rat on the road?

26 Josh Sinnett: 4♦. After the 3♣ cuebid and partner's 3NT or 4♣, I'll bid 4♦ trying to drag

some sort of heart support out of partner. If I don't hear it, we'll play 5♣ and win the rubber that way.

David Breton: 4♣. Doubling won't be a lucrative proposition for us. We have a big fit so I choose to bid and if it makes the 80 leg will make us the favorite to win the slow rubber.

"Stanley": 4♣. But maybe 3NT is better, running nine or ten tricks.

Doug Cowan: 5♣. Apparently partner does not like hearts. 3NT is a possibility, but I'm not sure there are nine running tricks after a spade lead, and the game is not matchpoints.

"HHIT": 5♣. Assuming a 4♣ call after my 3♣ cuebid, I'll now bid 5♣.

Andy Hellqvist: 5♣. You have the values for game, with a club fit, and partner has no support for your long hearts. As for slam prospects, you don't have the values or a good source of tricks, so don't mess up the bidding with control showing or asking bids.

Well, we're all over the road (including the rat) here, which is what you get when you make goofy two-part questions. Only 20 points up for grabs on this one.

Question 2b				Total		
Call	A	B	C	Votes	Points	Award
5♣	3	2	0	5	36	20
3NT	2	2	2	6	28	16
4♣	1	6	1	7	28	16
4♦	1	0	0	1	10	6
Double	0	1	1	2	4	2

Source: I think this problem was sent to me, but because it worked out so badly I'm not going back through old e-mails to find out who.

Leaderboard: Andy Hellqvist has the maximum 160 so far, with Philippe Westreich, Peter Morse, Marion Crowhurst, Joan Richards, David Breton and David Hooey close behind at 156.

3. (Matchpoints, none vul.)

♠ AJ53 ♥ AT98 ♦ 6 ♣ T642

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	???

Not as close as I thought, here were the slammers:

Sandra Robson: 6♥. A bidder's game!

Sandra had some company, but none who sent comments.

"Sue": Pass. Quickly.

"Stanley": Pass. The odds on making 6♥ do not seem good.

Larry Meyer: Pass. Bail out. We're missing one of the five key cards as well as the trump queen, and our shortness is in pard's first bid suit.

"HHIT": Pass. Partner won't have the singleton A♣ here, leaving the slam riding on locating the heart queen. I think I am with the majority of the field here, so I will pass. On a 12 top I expect 5♥ will score 4½ for 450 and 7½ for 480, but 6♥ will score 1 for -50 and 11 for 980. Desperate for a swing I know what I'd do, but there's nothing in the question that indicates that.

Harold Hansen: Pass. Could already be too high, missing a keycard and the trump queen.

Josh Sinnett: Pass. I'm not bidding slam missing a keycard and the queen of trump, especially with shortness in partner's suit. This is a hand that should have told (with a 4♣ cuebid) rather than asked (with the 4NT call).

Andy Hellqvist: Pass. Slam is a poor prospect, missing one key card, and the queen of trumps, and with other holes to fill in.

David Breton: Pass. It seems I need to find partner with a club void or the J♥ just to have a play for this one. I'm not ready to take this risk at match-points.

Doug Cowan: Pass. We're off the Q♥ and one keycard and perhaps also the K♠. Slam is against the odds.

"Running Scared": Pass. Slam is at best 50% and at worst we'll catch a 4-1 trump break. A reverse double-dummy play may bring the slam home but I don't like the chances: pass, end of story.

Not much of a story!

Question 3				Total	Total	Award
Call	A	B	C	Votes	Points	
Pass	7	8	1	16	95	100
6♥	0	3	2	5	11	12

Source: It's been six months, I don't remember.

Leaderboard: Andy Hellqvist still leads with a perfect 260. Marion Crowhurst, Philippe Westreich, Peter Morse and Davids Breton and Hoocy all stayed at the five-level and trail by just four points.

4. (IMP League, none vul.)

♠ — ♥ AJT96 ♦ AK65 ♣ KT86

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

Let's start with the bashers...

Josh Sinnett: 5NT. Pick a slam. Partner should offer 6♣ with a four card suit, assuming that I have at least two possible places to play this hand. If he bids 6♦, I'll assume he's 4-3-3-3 and convert to 6♥.

"Sue": 5♥. I'm going to ramp it up here. Partner can assume I have a club fit and choose between slams.

Doug Cowan: 6♣. No scientific way of finding out if partner has the right cards so I'll wing it!

...let the dubious have their say...

Larry Meyer: Pass. Yes, I have a fifth heart, but that's not sufficient to override partner's decision.

Andy Hellqvist: Pass. Partner's values in spades opposite my void make any slam a poor bet, and trying for a possible heart or club contract gets ugly if he doesn't have which ever suit I bid.

Sandra Robson: Pass. Any attempt to correct this contract could be worse.

...and now for a word from the scientists...

David Breton: 4♣. In this auction this must be forcing and natural.

Harold Hansen: 4♣. Good chance for a slam or grand slam. 4♣ gives you the most room for further bidding.

"Stanley": 4♣. This five-loser hand is worth trying for slam.

...and the mad scientists...

"HHIT": 4♣. This should discover if partner has a real suit—he could be 4-3-3-3. I'll pass 4NT and raise any five-level call.

"Running Scared": 4♣. I'd like this to be exclusion keycard for clubs but if not I vote for it anyway: not elegant but practical.

Check those chads: mad scientists win by a nose!

Question 4				Total	Total	Award
Call	A	B	C	Votes	Points	
4♣	2	2	2	6	28	100
4♠	2	2	0	4	26	93
Pass	0	6	0	6	18	64
6♣	1	0	1	2	11	39
5♥	1	0	0	1	10	36
5NT	1	0	0	1	10	36
6NT	0	1	0	1	3	11

Source: Dunno. Good problem, though: if you sent me this one, send me more please!

Leaderboard: Peter Morse, a secret member of the mad scientists cartel, takes the lead with 356. The two Davids, Hoocy and Breton are close behind at 347 as we enter the final lap. Phillippe Westreich has the Flight C lead with 295.

(continued on page 28)

5. (Matchpoints, both vul.)

♠ K42 ♥ QJ6 ♦ AJ ♣ KJ743

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1NT	Pass	???

This time let's begin with the mad(dest?) scientist: "HHIT": 2♣. Stayman, but 3♣ next looks for a club fit in standard (3NT denies one). I'll look for 6♣ but 6NT on a maximum of 32 combined is risky.

And what standard is this, HHIT, when nobody else gave it a thought? I suspect a lot of people are playing Garbage Stayman when clubs are repeated. (HHIT agrees that this is garbage.)

Andy Hellqvist: 3NT. So what if you have a few extra HCP? Without an exotic system to explore for a possible club slam, you'll just get in trouble introducing clubs. Actually I do have a system for this with my favourite partner, but I can't use it in this contest.

"Sue": 3NT. Too many losers to pursue clubs.

More club bidders not showing clubs yet follow:

Harold Hansen: 4♣. Gerber. I can stop at 4NT if partner shows one ace. I can stop at 5NT if partner shows two aces and less than two kings.

Doug Cowan: 4♣. Easiest hand of the set, if not off two aces 6NT. Have I missed something here?

The majority used the Q-word:

Josh Sinnett: 4NT. Quantitative. I'm tempted to transfer to clubs first, but partner may play me for a six-card suit.

David Breton: 4NT. Partner will take the right decision and his superior declarer play will get us a good board.

Larry Meyer: 4NT. I'll take an extra point for the fifth club, so invite pard to 6NT.

"Running Scared": 4NT. If partner has a max he'll bid on so I quantify with 4NT. I may have only

16 HCP but that five-card club suit looks good enough to invite a slam.

Sandra Robson: 4NT. Opportunities here.

"Stanley": 4NT. Quantitative. I'm probably supposed to bid 2♣ (minor suit Stayman or transfer to 3♣) and brilliantly find the club slam, but I'll just make the same bid that I'd choose at the table.

Not one of my better sets; another large majority.

Question 5				Total	Total	
Call	A	B	C	Votes	Points	Award
4NT	3	9	1	13	58	100
4♣	2	1	1	4	24	41
3NT	1	1	1	3	14	24
2♣	1	0	0	1	10	17

Source: I thought the curiously-absent "Viktor Nullo" sent me this one but I can't find the e-mail. Note to solvers: this time we have sources for all problems! If you respond in sufficient numbers by October 10, I may actually remember them!

Leaderboard: We added 8.7% to all of the scores to get the perfect score up to 500. To make the top ten you needed a factored score of 397:

397	<i>Harald Hansen</i>
399	<i>Marion Crowhurst</i>
416	<i>Randy Corn, Julien Lévesque</i>
429	<i>Jiri Tichy, Larry Meyer</i>
439	<i>Steve Beaton</i>
488	<i>David Breton, David Hooey</i>
496	<i>Peter Morse</i>

Peter Morse wins two sectional free plays for winning Flight A. The two Davids will split two Monthly Unit Game free plays, and as Flight C winner with a score of 358, **Brian Ransom** gets a Monthly Unit Game free play. Congratulations to the winners, and thanks again (invite your friends) to the twenty-one people who responded.

The Matchpointer "P.R." Squad

Thanks to Matchpointer proofreaders

There isn't a perfect way to produce the largest *Matchpointer* ever and be sure there are no overlooked mistakes, but this time a crack squad of investigators received a preview of the Summer issue when it was 90% done, and their fielding percentage, as you might guess, is far better than that of the lone, harried editor. Without wishing to blame these kind people for any mistakes that may remain, I'd like to thank **John Lien**, **Peter Morse**, and **Aidan Ballantyne** for their work in quickly perusing a very large issue and finding some inconsistencies and typos (some of which I never would have found). The remaining 10% of the issue proved very time-consuming and their contributions were hardly even acknowledged, but very gratefully received.

Let me know if you would like to join the "P.R." squad. You will need broadband Internet access and a stand-alone e-mail application—the *Matchpointer* pdf I will send may be as much as 2 MB in size, enough to clog hotmail and other Web-based accounts. You won't have more than a few days before it's time to take it all to the printer, but I will appreciate your corrections! *Matchpointer* readers will too.

Enough Already

VBC pandering ends here and now

The Vancouver Bridge Centre refused to supply any club data in time for this issue of the *Matchpointer*.

This is not news. It has happened on several occasions before, and even at the best of times the club schedule comes in very, very late, usually after repeated pleas from the editor (me, or past editors) and several visits to collect promised material that "isn't ready yet." The VBC's opinion is that the *Matchpointer* has no value to them in promoting their events. Posted flyers state that "dates in the *Matchpointer* are often inaccurate." In any *Matchpointer* issue, there are about one hundred dated facts in the centre section alone. Apparently one or two of these that are wrong (often because the VBC changes them after publication) comprises "often" in the eyes of VBC management. I have gone out of my way for many years to give our largest club special consideration and I get the runaround more and more each deadline. As I say: this is not news.

What *is* news is that this time I have had enough and I am going to do something about it. No club ads for the VBC will appear in this issue. Repeatable information in the centre pages that is not updated will be the same as last time but with a note to check the club for details. And as *Matchpointer* club distributor, I will take my time in getting a reduced number of *Matchpointer* issues to the VBC: it will appear there a week or so after it is released at other clubs (who will get more than their usual share). After all, they themselves say the *Matchpointer* doesn't help them promote. It follows by VBC logic that releasing this issue at other clubs first will benefit them.

The VBC will complain that I am singling them out for special treatment. I am. Just as in the past, for virtually every *Matchpointer* issue, I have given the VBC special treatment by waiting for their club schedule, often well past deadline—something no other club ever requests.

The VBC will complain that I am not seeing the big picture: VBC events comprise about 25% of the club events listed because they run so many games; preparing their schedule takes more time than other clubs. Unfortunately, I do see the big picture and I know how long it takes the VBC to produce a club schedule. There is absolutely no reason that this process cannot begin much sooner and a provisional

schedule can be made available on deadline day, which I print clearly in every issue. At most, four or five events might need to be changed before printing, and I can do that easily. Other clubs occasionally ask me to add or change a date after deadline. But asking me to wait days and days and finally add *all* of the VBC's events at the last minute (or frequently after) is unacceptable. I don't believe the VBC when they say it cannot be done and I will not accept this excuse any more, because it can *easily* be done.

The VBC will complain that the Unit Board policy of not releasing minutes to clubs until they are approved at the next meeting is making it difficult for them to schedule their special games and events. Not true this time. I sent an e-mail to all clubs listing all events that I saw on the fall schedule, including dates from the most recent Board meeting. The VBC received this and was as up to date as everyone else.

The VBC will complain that by delaying delivery of the *Matchpointer* to the VBC, I am hurting their players. I agree that players who play only at the VBC will be inconvenienced. If they go elsewhere to play in order to pick up a *Matchpointer*, it will hurt the VBC, but what will that say about the VBC's opinion that the *Matchpointer* doesn't benefit them? Perhaps these players will complain to the VBC for causing this action to be taken. Perhaps the VBC will listen to them. They don't listen to me.

Various VBC owners and staff will complain that I have represented the attitude of the entire VBC here by the opinions and actions (or lack of action) of one person. As long as I am forced to deal with this individual to get the information I need and want for the *Matchpointer*, I expect no change in the current inability of the VBC to provide me with basic data. I know others at the VBC feel differently, but I cannot seem to get club data from them: I've tried. Again, perhaps the owners and staff who are misrepresented here may take it upon themselves to improve the situation. Until then, I have little choice but to take the action I am taking. The status quo is delaying production. That's not fair to the other clubs.

The VBC is entitled to its opinion on the usefulness of the *Matchpointer*. But at some point your editor has to draw the line and take action. Many club managers have been justifiably frustrated for years at my pandering to the VBC's leisurely event submission non-process. I see no reason why the situation cannot be improved, and until it is, the actions described above will continue.

—Bruce McIntyre

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Unit 430 Weekly Duplicate Game List

Most recent update: September 15, 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
	10:30	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	Introduction to Duplicate: 0-50 MP
	10:30	BBY	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified—new start time
	10:45	WIL	E. Dietrich	Dianne Wilson 521-0458	Open stratified
	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	SRV	A. Browning	Arlene Browning 870-9300	Open (first Monday stratified)
	7:15	VBC	B. Bart	Club telephone 255-2564	Non Life Masters Stratified (to 500 MP)
	7:30	HBN	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	CWK	J. Groves	Jim Groves 604/847-0107	Open (last Mon stratified)—new address, p. 34
Tue	10:30	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	Open Day-time Stratified: optional \$2 lunch
	11:00	S-W	F. Schultz	Finn Schultz 534-5025	Open stratified
	7:00	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	"Bragging Rights" Open Stratified
	7:30	NSW	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	WIL	E. Dietrich	Dianne Wilson 521-0458	Open stratified
	7:30	BBY	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified
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	Intermediate: 0-300 MP, stratified
	7:00	VBC	B. Russell	Club telephone 255-2564	Open; Stratified by number of Life Masters
	7:15	WRK	A. Browning	Arlene Browning 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	11:00	JCC	C. Delisle	Connie Delisle 263-9196	Open stratified
	7:00	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	Novice/Beginner: 0-50 MP
	7:15	NWR	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:30	MIS	M. Clements	Murray & Felice Clements 604/826-3557	Open—new address, p. 34
	7:30	ARB	A. Nagy	Jean Terry 733-2807	Now open to all
	7:30	VBC	G. Davis	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified
Fri	10:30	VBC	B. Russell	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified Opt. \$2 Soup & Bun
	10:30	LAD	R. Dunn	Richard Dunn 940-9809	Bi-weekly game. Dates, page 34
	7:00	MIS	M. Clements	Murray & Felice Clements 604/826-3557	Newcomer game—new address, p. 34
	7:30	PKB	W. Jez	Waldemar Jez 527-8854	Alternate Fridays, non-ACBL. Dates, p. 19.
	7:30	S-D	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:30	VBC	G. Davis	Club telephone 255-2564	Optional Lucky Number Jackpot Open
Sat	7:30	VBC	R. Dunn	Monthly Unit Game (see page 44)	Monthly (dates, page 57)—Open stratified.
	7:30	VBC	E. Chan	Monthly Unit Game (see page 44)	Monthly (dates, page 57)—0-200.
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

September 19—November 8, 2003.

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
19 Sep	10:30	LAD	First game after summer closure
19 Sep	7:30	PKB	Bi-Weekly Game
22 Sep	7:00	SQU	Trophy Race Game
24 Sep	10:30	HAS	Membership Game
24 Sep	7:15	VCR	Club Championship Game
25 Sep	7:30	MIS	Meals on Wheels Charity Game
26-28 Sep Evergreen Sectional at Engineer's Hall, Burnaby (most clubs closed)			
29 Sep	10:45	WIL	Charity Game
1 Oct	7:15	WRK	Charity Game
2 Oct	7:30	MIS	Stratified Game
3 Oct	10:30	LAD	Bi-Weekly Game
3 Oct	7:30	PKB	Turniej co 2 Tygodnie

Club Abbreviations and Ad Locations

Abbr	Club Name	Page
ARB	Arbutus Village Bridge Club	19
BBY	Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club	33
C.R	Central Richmond Bridge Club	24
CWK	Chilliwack Duplicate Bridge Club	34
HAS	Hastings Bridge Club	33
HBN	Hollyburn Bridge Club	11
JCC	Jewish Comm. Ctr. DBridge Club	19
LAD	Tsawwassen B. C. (Ladner location)	34
MIS	Mission Duplicate Bridge Club	34
NWR	New-West Bridge Club	33
NSW	North Shore Winter Club	33
PKB	Polish Bridge Club (non-ACBL)	19
RMD	East Richmond Bridge Club	33
S-D	Sur-Del Bridge Club	33
S-W	South-West Duplicate Bridge Club	33
SRY	South Surrey Bridge Club	35
SQU	Squamish Duplicate Bridge Club	35
TSW	Tsawwassen Bridge Club	34
VBC	Vancouver Bridge Centre (city)	29
VCR	Vancouver Bridge Club (West Vcr.)	7
WIL	Willingdon Bridge Club	32
WRK	White Rock Bridge Club	35

Date Time Club What's Happening

CLUB APPRECIATION GAMES			
<i>These games are special pairs or Swiss Team games which award much greater masterpoint award than regular games.</i>			
Throughout October			
3 Oct	7:30	S-D	Club Appreciation Game
4 Oct	7:30	VBC	October Monthly Unit Game (open and free 0-50 game)
6 Oct	7:15	TSW	Club Appreciation Swiss Teams
6 Oct	7:00	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
6 Oct	7:15	SRY	Semi-Monthly Stratified Game
8 Oct	7:15	WRK	Club Championship Game
9 Oct	7:30	S-D	Club Appreciation Swiss Teams
11 Oct	noon	VBC	Flight A NAOP Unit Final (see complete info, page 37)
13 Oct	10:30	BBY	Club Appreciation Game
13 Oct	10:00	VCR	Thanksgiving Holiday Pairs and Club Appreciation Game
14 Oct	7:30	BBY	Club Appreciation Game
14 Oct	7:30	WIL	Club Appreciation Game
15 Oct	10:30	HAS	Club Appreciation Game
15 Oct	10:00	VCR	Club Appreciation Game
15 Oct	7:15	VCR	Club Appreciation Game
16 Oct	7:15	NWR	Club Appreciation Game
16 Oct	7:30	MIS	Club Appreciation Game
17 Oct	10:30	LAD	Bi-Weekly Game
17 Oct	7:30	S-D	Club Appreciation Swiss Teams
17 Oct	7:30	PKB	Turniej co 2 Tygodnie
18 Oct	noon	VBC	Flight B/C NAOP Unit Final (see complete info, page 37)
19 Oct	1:00	RMD	Club Appreciation Game
20-26 Oct			DINO Charity Week (It's not too late to schedule a DINO Charity Game! See details and contacts on page 37.)
20 Oct	7:15	SRY	Semi-Monthly Stratified Game
20 Oct	10:45	WIL	Club Appreciation Game
20 Oct	10:00	VCR	Club Championship Game
20 Oct	7:00	SQU	Monthly Trophy Race Game
21 Oct	7:30	BBY	DINO Charity Week Game (hand records)
22 Oct	7:15	WRK	Club Appreciation Game
22 Oct	7:30	C.R	DINO Charity Week Game
23 Oct	7:15	NWR	DINO Charity Week Game
24 Oct	7:30	S-D	DINO Charity Week Game
27 Oct	7:15	SRY	Club Appreciation Game
27 Oct	7:15	TSW	Club Appreciation Game
27 Oct	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
28 Oct	7:30	BBY	Club Appreciation Swiss Teams
28 Oct	7:30	WIL	Club Appreciation Game
30 Oct	7:30	MIS	Club Championship Game
31 Oct	10:30	LAD	Bi-weekly Game
31 Oct	7:30	PKB	Turniej co 2 Tygodnie

(continued on page 32)

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

(Special Events at Clubs, continued from page 31)

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
1 Nov	7:30	VBC	November Monthly Unit Game (open and free 0-50 game)
2 Nov	1:00	RMD	Membership Game
3 Nov	7:00	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
3 Nov	7:15	SRY	Semi-Monthly Stratified Game
5 Nov	7:15	WRK	Club Championship Game
6 Nov	7:30	MIS	Stratified Game

ADVANCE NOTICE

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
8-11 Nov			Round-Up Sectional at Bonsor Community Centre in Burnaby. Odd dates: Saturday thru Tuesday. Some club sessions may be closed.

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
10 Nov	7:15	SRY	Club Championship Game
12 Nov	7:15	C.R	Club Championship Game
14 Nov	10:30	LAD	Bi-weekly Game
14 Nov	7:30	PKB	Turniej co 2 Tygodnie
17 Nov	10:45	WIL	Membership Game
17 Nov	7:15	SRY	Semi-Monthly Stratified Game
18 Nov	7:30	WIL	Membership Game
19 Nov	10:00	VCR	Club Championship
19 Nov	7:15	WRK	Swiss Teams
24 Nov	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
24 Nov	7:15	TSW	Club Championship
24 Nov	7:15	SRY	ACBL Charity Game
26 Nov	10:30	HAS	ACBL Charity Game
30 Nov	1:00	RMD	ACBL Charity Game
6 Dec	TBA	VBC	Monthly Unit Game Christmas Party. Details next issue.

A Tradition Continues

by Dianne Wilson

Many of you may not be aware of the colourful history of what is now known as the Willingdon Bridge Club. The Tuesday evening game originated in the fall of 1976 at Lochdale School. It was soon obvious from the keen interest in duplicate, that a move was necessary. A location that could accommodate lessons and a day game was scouted by the core group, who in 1977 selected Willingdon Heights Community Centre as home base. The club motto - "Encourage new players and promote the wonderful game of bridge."

Ours is a community oriented club, and as such a number of original members have worked to see this tradition carry on. Willingdon Bridge Club belongs to all of us. We would not have been able to continue operating had it not been for the generosity of a number of old faithfuls. Donations in the form of supplies, equipment, coffee, goodies, money, and even director services have been heartwarming. The assistance and cooperation from many volunteers have been downright fantastic. Thank you everyone. A sincere vote of thanks to all who continue to attend the games. We genuinely appreciate your support and welcome one and all.

Come join us at the Willingdon Bridge Club! Bring a friend!

Willingdon Bridge Club

Willingdon Heights Community Centre

1491 Carleton Ave., Burnaby

Dianne Wilson 604/521-0458 hm., 604/294-7935 wk.

Ernie Dietrich, director 604/936-2298

Grace Wakabayashi, partnerships, 604/298-9377

Mondays	"Same Time,	Tuesdays
10:45 am	Same Station"	7:30 pm
Sept. 29	Charity Games	Oct. 28
Oct. 20	Club Appreciation Games	Oct. 14
Nov. 17	Membership Games	Nov. 18
Dec. 15	Club Championship	Dec. 16

SUBURBIA CLUBS Gilbert Lambert 604/524-6617**All games stratified.**

Burnaby game results can be found online at the Vancouver Bridge Centre website at <http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/van-bc/stats/>
We thank the VBC for providing this service to Burnaby players.

Burnaby (am)

Vancouver Bridge Centre
2776 East Broadway
Mondays, 10:30 am
(note time change!)
September 8:
Club Championship Game
October 13:
Club Appreciation Game

Burnaby (pm)

Vancouver Bridge Centre
2776 East Broadway
Tuesdays, 7:30 pm
Sept. 9: Club Championship
Oct. 14: Club Appreciation
Oct. 21: DINO Charity Game
with hand records
Oct 28: Club Appr. Teams

New Westminster

Century House, 620 8th St.
New Westminster
Thursdays, 7:15 pm
Oct. 9: Club Appreciation
Swiss Teams
Oct. 16: Club Appreciation
Pairs Game
Oct. 23: DINO Charity Game

Sur-Del

St. Cuthbert Anglican Church
11601 82nd Ave., N. Delta
Fridays, 7:30 pm
Oct. 3: Club Appreciation
Pairs Game
Oct. 17: Club Appreciation
Swiss Teams
Oct. 24: DINO Charity Game

South-West Duplicate Bridge Club

White Rock Elks Club, 1469 George Street
Finn Schultz, 604/534-5025
Tuesdays at 11:00 am

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

September 7: Club Championship Game

September 28: Closed (Sectional)

October 19: Club Appreciation Game

November 2: Membership Game

November 30: ACBL-wide Charity Game

Recent Winners:

Club Championship: Ted Lai/Ram Hira

Intl. Fund Game: Rita Hasselbach/Thelma Hofstede

2003 Club Masterpoint Race Leader: Joerg Schneider

STAC Game: John & Trudy Hurdle, first district-wide!

Hastings Bridge Club

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

Ernie Dietrich 604/936-2298

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

September 24: Membership Game

October 15: Club Appreciation Game

November 26: ACBL-wide Charity Game

Club Championship Game Winners:

Dennis Groden/ Gilbert Lambert

STAC Winners: Gary Ge/Gilbert Lambert

2003 Club Masterpoint Leader: Gilbert Lambert

Richmond and Hastings players can find their game results online at the
Vancouver Bridge Club website at <http://www.vancouverbridgeclub.ca>
We thank Louis Landau for posting our results online.

North Shore Winter Club Bridge

1325 E. Keith Road, N. Vancouver Tuesdays at 7:30 pm

Louis Landau 604/984-8309 Bernice Mulock 604/987-8289

Game results now online at www.vancouverbridgeclub.ca

Chilliwack Duplicate Bridge Club

Jim Groves 604/847-0107
e-mail: j_groves@shaw.ca

New Location:

The Forrester's Hall, 7194 Vedder Road
(Vedder and Alder, just south of the freeway)

Mondays, 7:30 pm

Last Monday each month stratified

August Club Championship Winners:

A: Brian Lee/Roselle McRae, 61.01%

B: Doug & Donna Steinson, 56.30%

Mission Duplicate Bridge Club

Murray & Felice Clements 604/826-3557
e-mail: clements02@shaw.ca

New Location:

Sandcastle Preschool, 33345 2nd Ave.

Thursdays, 7:30 pm Open

Fridays, 7:00 pm Newcomers Game

October 30: Club Championship Game

August Club Championship Winners (tie):

Denis Lefebvre/Felice Clements

Rosemary Sontowski/Lorraine Brown

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

e-mail: rmdunn@dccnet.com

Special Games:

October 6: Club Appreciation Swiss
Teams (extra masterpoints)

October 27: Club Appreciation Game
(again extra masterpoints)

November 10: Closed for Sectional

November 24: Club Championship

December 1: Swiss Teams

*We plan a Swiss Teams every second
month following a recent player survey.*

Ladner Location:

Fisherman's Hall,
4481 Savoy St., Ladner

alternate Fridays at 10:30 am

September 19, October 3, 17, 31,

November 14, 28, December 12

OPEN STRATIFIED PAIRS

TSW & LAD Results & information:

www.user.dccnet.com/rmdunn/

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Limited to one coupon per visit

Your Business Card Ad Here? Advertising in the *Matchpointer* is inexpensive and reaches hundreds of bridge players in the Vancouver area. For just \$15.00 per issue, your business card can be seen by players in the local bridge community and many other readers four times annually. Volume discount offers and other advertising pricing details are listed on page 3.

I'm sure the statute of limitations has expired by now, does anyone know who was involved?

Speculation about the coming Spring 1974 Nationals was that a single event might attract as many as 425 tables, 30 sections! This was in the days when there was only one main event every day, apart from side games: the entire schedule for the Spring 1974 Nationals (the term NABC came later) fit easily on one page. Now there are two dozen different events you can choose from in any single day at an NABC.

It seems odd to devote two pages to manual matchpointing in the *Matchpointer*, but in the days before personal computers the only way to get scores out quickly was to have five or six matchpointing gurus to pencil-matchpoint all the boards and then hand them into the scorer who would enter the scores on a large sheet.

In 1973 Unit 430 had 93 Life Masters and they were listed in the June-July issue. Many names are familiar, but I'm sure that **Sefton Levine** will want to see a correction after thirty years, since his first name was missing an 'f'!

All twelve Unit Board Officers for 1973-74 are pictured for the first Nagy *Matchpointer*. Photos, didn't always turn out so well after photocopying, but would be a major feature of the *Matchpointer* issues produced by Anne and Andy.

A new feature by the previous editor was *Bob's Bits*, and in the first installment, **Bob Brooks** wrote that the Unit had "written to the ACBL with a proposal for computer scoring at the Spring Nationals in Vancouver in 1974," and "made early preparation for putting our Unit members on a computer addressing system." I was unable to find any further details—I wonder when computer scoring made its debut at Nationals. Anyone know?

Old copies of the *Matchpointer*, back to the early 1970s, 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.

Squamish Bridge Club

1471 Pemberton Street, Squamish
Mondays at 7:00 pm
Monthly Handicap & Trophy Race Games
Don Lecky 604/892-9027

South Surrey Bridge Club

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

Director: Arlene Browning 1-604/870-9300

Partnerships: Dot Carnegie 604/535-8286

Mondays at 7:15 pm

First and Third Monday of each month: Stratified
Computer Scoring Partners Guaranteed

October 27: Club Appreciation Game
(extra masterpoints)

November 10: Club Championship

November 24: ACBL Charity Game (hand records)

Club Championship Winners:

Norm Delaire/Terry Val Jean

StaC Winners:

Kathy Adachi/Ina Andersen

NAOP Qualifying Game Winners:

Joni & Brian Johnston

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

October 1: Charity Game

October 8: Club Championship Game

October 22: Club Appreciation Game

November 5: Club Championship Game

November 19: Swiss Teams

Swiss Team Winners: Gay Parrish,

Jay Brandt, John Lien, Liz Stoneman

Club Championship: Ted Deeder/Carrie Stockman

NAOP Qualifying Game Winners:

Gerry Ferguson/Daniela Zezulka

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	Club qualifying period: Sept 1-Dec. 31, 2003. Top score in a Q-game eligible for Unit 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 2004 Bridge Week: <i>St. Catherines ON June 19-26, 2004</i> <u>National Finals In:</u> COPC: June 25-26 CNTC Flt. A: June 19-26	About \$209 in Unit subsidy, and a CBF subsidy (we think).
CNTC Canadian National Team Championship Flight A unlimited Flight B 0-1000	Club qualifying period: September 1, 2003-January 31, 2004.	none	Spring 2004	CNTC Flt. B: June 20-24 CWTC: June 20-24	\$569 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.		Spring 2004		\$1,222 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	Club Qualifying normally scheduled September-January, exact dates unknown at press time.	none	April 2004, exact dates to be announced. Expected: Championship Flight and Flight B in Vancouver, two weeks after Flight A and Flight C in Seattle.	Summer NABC: New York NY July 9-18, 2004 (all flights)	\$400/team from DINO, about \$151 in Unit subsidy.
NAOP North American Open Pairs Flight A unlimited Flight B 0-2000 Flight C 0-500 NLM	Club Qualifying ended at the end of August. The club qualifying period for the 2005 NAOP is June-August 2004.	Flt A: Oct. 11 Flight B/C: Oct 18 Both at VBC noon, TBA	Seattle Autumn Sectional Renton WA, Nov. 15, 2003 (noon and 6pm) Renton Community Center 1715 Maple Valley Hwy.	Spring NABC Reno NV March 8-18, 2004 (all flights)	District Final 2nd, 3rd teams split \$555 subsidy. (ACBL pays top team each flight.)

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS:

September: North American 49ers Pairs. 0-50 games in September qualify for the ACBL-wide championship.

October: Club Appreciation Games (pairs or Swiss Teams). These games offer increased masterpoints!

DINO Charity Week: October 20-26, 2003. Not too late to run this game! See details below.

CBF Canada-wide Erin Berry Rookie Master Game: Tuesday, October 28, 2003.

Ask your local club to participate in these events! The more the merrier!



The 2003 silver medalists at the CWTC. Congratulations to (left to right): **Rhonda Foster, Samantha Nystrom, Marcia Christie, June Pockock.** (Photo credit: www.cbf.ca)

Special Events

Information from various sources...

...but your Unit Special Events Co-ordinator is **Julien Lévesque**. He will be happy to help you find out what you need to do to run any of these events.

Canadian Bridge Week in Penticton featured many Unit 430 players, five of which became national champions!

In the **COPC**, **Mike** and **Ben Takemori** finished sixth in the National Final. Also in the running in the two-session event were **Aidan Ballantyne** (second with **Doug Fraser** of Victoria), **Shi Yan** and **Renlu Wang** (13th), **Mike Dorn Wiss** (15th with Victoria's **Karen Billett**), **Ian Boyd** and **Gerry McCully** (18th), and **Cam Doner** (20th with **Leo Glaser** of Winfield BC).

In the **CWTC**, local players played on the silver and bronze medalists. Finishing second was the team of **Rhonda Foster**, **Samantha Nystrom**, **Marcia Christie** and **June Pocock**. Third was the team of **Sheila Sache**, **Kathy Adachi**, **Ina Andersen** and **Leslie Gold**.

In the unlimited **Flight A CNTC**, the team of **Brian Maksymetz**, **Dan Jacob**, **Gord McOrmond** and **Allan Graves** of Victoria, finished a grueling week of bridge with the bronze medal.

In the **CNTC Flight B** event, the team of **William** and **Gary Ge**, **Philip Chen**, **Renlu Wang** and **Shi Yan** survived a most strange appeal in absentia and won the National under 1000 championship! As you can see in the winners lists in this issue, the "Chinese Connection" have been familiar sights at West Coast regionals and NABCs this year, and as a result **Renlu Wang** is #1 (**Shi Yan** is close behind) on the ACBL rookie mini-McKenney list as this issue goes to press. Who are these guys, who have all won hundreds of points already this year?



The 2003 under-1000 Canadian National Team Champions! Congratulations to (left to right): **Shi Yan**, **Renlu Wang**, **William Ge**, **Gary Ge**, **Philip Chen**. (Photo credit: www.cbf.ca)

NAOP Unit Finals will take place at the **Vancouver Bridge Centre** in **October**. Again this year the Unit Final will be two events, the **Flight A** event taking place on **Saturday, October 11** and the **Flight B/C** event on **Saturday October 18**. Both are two-session events, with the first session beginning at noon and the second session ending before 10:00 pm. All profits from the entry fee of \$50/pair go directly into the **NAOP Subsidy Fund**.

A complete list of **NAOP** qualified players is currently being put together and will appear at the **Evergreen Sectional**. You may play in the Unit Final with any other qualified player. The **NAOP Unit Final** is one of the four best ways to improve your standing in the **Unit Player Rating System**: winning the **Flight A Unit Final** is worth 20,000 **UPRS** points!

Having two Unit Finals gives many **Flight B** and **C** pairs an extra chance to qualify for the **District Final** in **Renton** in **November**. If you and your partner found a way to earn a **Flight A "Q"**, you can play in both the **Flight A** event and the **Flight B/C** event a week later. If such a pair manages to earn qualification to the **Flight A District Final**, they may play in the **Flight B** or **C** (if eligible) **District Final**. This means such pairs have two chances to qualify! **Flight A** pairs will also benefit from the extra pairs in the **Flight A** final since every second extra pair adds an additional qualifying pair. A win-win situation!

Pairs or individuals who play in both the **Flight A** game and the **Flight B/C** game will get a 40% discount off the **Flight B/C Unit Final** entry fee.

DINO Charity Week, October 20-26: Still not too late to sign up for this event. Tuesday evening is the "hand records" game, but all other "shuffle, deal, and play" daytime and evening games are also part of the event. For each "shuffle, deal and play" session, the top three pairs in **DINO** will win 2004 **Regional** free plays (two per player, maximum one pair per club). For the hand records game on Tuesday evening, the top pair in each Unit will win 2004 **Regional** free plays (two per player). Participating in any game fulfills a club's annual **ABCL** charity requirement. Charity money raised by attendance at clubs in **Canada** goes only to **Canadian** charities. For full details, send an e-mail to organizer **David Schmidt**:

davidschmidt@shaw.ca

Last year, the **DINO Charity Week** raised \$702 for **YWCA** **Shelters Children's** programs and other organizations to support the homeless. **American** clubs raised **US\$916** for the **Twin Towers Orphans Fund**.

IMP League 2003-2004

Is Your Team Ready?

Entries for all flights of the IMP League will be accepted at the Evergreen Sectional and at the October 4 Monthly Unit Game (and later in Flight C). League Commissioner **Bruce McIntyre** (604/438-9735 home, e-mail ooga@shaw.ca) will want to get a head start on the captain's packages once he returns from a work trip to the island in early October.

Yes, that is correct: McB Bruce is the new Commissioner. My first must-do item is to congratulate and thank **Brad Bart** for his services as Commissioner and Web Page maintainer over the past five years. Brad opened up many new fronts—results online, e-mails instead of phoning for match scheduling and results reporting, the creation of Flight X and the excellent balance among divisions that resulted. His will be a tough act to follow, but I will do my best!

The entry fees and masterpoint limits are the same as last year and the year before: **Flight A** is open to anyone and the entry fee is \$36 per team. **Flight X** is limited to players under 3000 masterpoints on September 1, 2003. The entry fee is \$36 per team. **Flight B** is limited to players under 1000 masterpoints on September 1, 2003. The former limit of 1500 masterpoints has been lowered this year in order to more evenly balance out the divisions. The entry fee is \$36 per team. **Flight C** is limited to non-Life Masters under 500 masterpoints on September 1, 2003. The entry fee is \$24 per team. Flight C has a later deadline for entries of October 31. Matches are slightly shorter (26 boards instead of 28).

Entry blanks will be available at the sectional partnership desk and you may also enter the League by sending e-mail to McB Bruce, who will be out of town.

The four flights are all expected to draw anywhere from six to twelve teams, making for an easier schedule than the days when fourteen Flight A teams had to play a match every ten days! We expect that two matches a month should suffice in all flights. In Flight C a match every three weeks will be the average.

All proceeds from the IMP League (minus the ACBL sanction) go directly into the Unit subsidy fund, which assists players at all levels traveling to National Finals in all flights of the NAOP, GNT, COPC, CWTC and CNTC.

All teams must have at least four players at the start and no more than six. Captains may arrange matches to be played at their convenience (within the boundaries of the schedule), either at a bridge club or in homes. The IMP League season lasts from early October to the end of April, with playoff matches stretching a few weeks beyond that.

Breaks are made in the schedule where the local tournament schedule and holidays intrude. About half of the teams qualify for the May playoffs.

The new Commissioner wants to eliminate the four biggest problems that have made previous years difficult:

- 1) The entry fee must be paid on or before the deadline for the first match of the season. If you are late you will be asked (by a large fellow named Vito) to pay \$1 per person extra per day (to the IMP League profits, which go directly into the Unit Subsidy Fund). Vito is an understanding kind of a guy though. He will give you a choice before he considers which bones he will break first: the monetary fine (which goes to a good cause), or 1 VP per day from your team's final total. Up to you.

- 2) When year after year the final few matches of the regular season and many playoff matches are dragged well past their deadlines, there can only be one reason: teams are jockeying to get the most favourable dates instead of getting the matches played. Teams getting behind in their schedule will be penalized if they do not make a full effort to catch up, regardless of the potential for unfamiliar partnerships and pairings this makes necessary. If necessary, I will ask teams to quickly canvas their players for available dates, and I will impose a date for a late match without regard to which partnerships are unable to play.

- 3) Six players on a team is the limit. "Free substitutions" are severely limited to one "emergency player" per match and two per season. Tread carefully if you want all of your earned VPs.

- 4) Sportsmanship dictates that you play all your matches, even after you are eliminated from contention. Even the teams that benefit don't want playoff spots to be decided by somebody's forfeit.

Now, all that makes it sound like the IMP League is a haven for rulings and discord. For most teams and most matches, especially in the first half of the season, this is not the case, and leniency will prevail. But some teams in the past have pushed the boundaries, and this year the playoffs in some cases stretched into August! Even though there were no complaints from the teams involved about the delays, we must realize that the precedent is a dangerous one and will keep some players from entering if allowed to continue.

The IMP League is an excellent way to improve your UPRS ranking! And it is a great way to practice your IMP strategy so that you can roll through the bracketed knockouts at the next big tournament. By February the action heats up as the web site and the wall displays at the VBC show who is in, who is out, and who is on the bubble. It's too much fun to miss, so form your teams now!

25 years ago in the Matchpointer

May-Jun., Jul.-Aug. 1978 (Gary Harper, editor)

The wildest deal of the 1978 IMP League final:

Board 25	Dir: North Vul: E-W	NORTH ♠ XXXX ♥ XX ♦ XX ♣ Q97xx	1978 Flt. A IMP League Final
WEST ♠ AQT9x ♥ — ♦ QJxxx ♣ KTx		SOUTH ♠ Jxx ♥ AQJTxx ♦ XXXX ♣ —	EAST ♠ K ♥ K9xxx ♦ AK ♣ AJ86x

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass...	

East considered pulling to 6NT but eventually passed. The spade lead was won in hand, and a club to the dummy discovered the bad trump break. Two diamonds, a heart ruff and three spades later, this was the position with West on lead:

North: ♥ x ♣ Q97x

West: ♠ 9 ♦ QJx ♣ T East: ♥ K ♣ AJ86

South: (Immaterial)

The queen of diamonds from dummy finished North. If he ruffed, declarer would overruff and ruff the K♥ to lead another diamond for a second over-ruff. North and East both discarded hearts and the J♦ was ruffed and overruffed. Declarer now led a club to the ten and claimed twelve tricks for +1540.

Good result, you say? +1540 lost twelve IMPs! This was the auction at the other table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Double
Pass	Pass	Redouble	Pass*
Pass	Pass		

South had requested a heart lead with the double and thought about pulling the redouble but left it in. South won the requested heart lead but did not cash the ace, so declarer had the rest of the tricks for a score of +2150!

The report states that **Sandra Borg** played in both Flight A and Flight B and prepared a wonderful dinner at half-time in the 64-board Flight A final held at the Borg residence. The Flight A winners were **Jim Andrews, Ron Borg, Bob Connop, Jim Donaldson, Paul Hagen and Mike Wilson**. In Flight B, the 1978 winners were **Hobart and Hanna Liang, Art and Noni Hein, Peter Morse and Bob Taylor**.

In the summer of 1978 a Women's IMP League was formed by **Shiela Dickie and Debbie McCully**. Eight teams played in the league and the roster list contained the note that each team had at least one novice. **Gary Harper** warned that anyone able to find a novice on each of the teams would be considered a male chauvanist pig!

In the first half of 1978 **Aidan Ballantyne, Diane Kinakin, Delphine Tablotney, Doug Thomas, Marcia Kostynyk, and Bob Percher** all became Life Masters. The top players in Unit 430 at the beginning of 1978 were **Jim Donaldson, Allan Graves, Otto Leesment, Adrian Hicks, Buddy Crapko, Ron Borg, Paul Hagen and Bruce Ferguson**—all on the list of the top 25 Canadian masterpoint holders.

Andy Nagy wrote an interesting report on the 1978 World Bridge Olympiad, held in New Orleans. This may be the first mention of bidding boxes in the *Matchpointer*. Andy commented that "the bidding boxes seem to cut down on discussions, it's so quiet in the room that you feel conspicuous if you say anything. **Sandra Borg** recommended that they be mandatory for all mixed pairs events."

An even earlier attempt at a new Flight C IMP League (0-200) was announced by **Doug Andrews**, who was set to take over the editorship of the *Matchpointer* from **Gary Harper**, who had been editor for three years.

30 years ago in the Matchpointer

June-July (Bob Brooks, editor), August 1973 (Anne Nagy, editor)

Bob Brooks became Unit 430 President in August 1973 and **Anne Nagy** took over the job of *Matchpointer* editor. Bob's last issue contained a list of dates and a few interesting tidbits:

A local player said to her out-of-town friend, "Let's go up to Lily Hills." It was midway through the session that the visitor, playing at the Northside Bridge Club, discovered that **Lily Hills** was a person and not a place.

A local team trounced an Edmonton team and won a \$1,000 bet plus their airfare to Vancouver in early 1973. Editor **Bob Brooks** claimed that local laws prevented him from naming the teams. Hmm.

(continued on page 35)

Ace of Clubs, Mini-McKenney

Home stretch in 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 September 6 but this does not necessarily mean that all August results will be included. IMP League masterpoints won't show up until the fall.

—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.

—These results are taken from 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

Unit 430 Ace Of Clubs September 6, 2003 Standings (points won at club games only)		
ROOKIE (0-5, ANY COLOUR) 1. Renlu Wang, Delta..... 23 2. Julius Keresztesi, Vancouver... 16 3. Zhilong Shi, Chilliwack..... 11		
JUNIOR MASTER (5-20, ANY COLOUR) 1. Felice Clements, Mission 24 2. Felicity Lowinger, Squamish... 20 3. Robert Luo, Burnaby..... 15		
CLUB MASTER (20-50, ANY COLOUR) 1. Gladys Adilman, Vancouver.. 26 2. Zohreh Bassiri, W. Vanc..... 25 3. Fatimeh Pazand, W. Vanc..... 23		
SECTIONAL MASTER (50, 5 SILVER) 1. Antoinette Sheffield, Surrey.. 50 2. Gail Heuchart, Vancouver..... 27 3. Norman Delaire, Surrey 20		
REGIONAL MASTER (100, 15S, 5R OR G) 1. Melinda Ponto, Pt. Moody 50 2. Sima Sadri, West Vancouver... 40 3. Brian Ransom, West Vanc. 33		
NABC MASTER (200, 25S, 15R, 5G, 50P) 1. Richard Smillie, North Vanc.. 72 3. Marla Gropper, Vancouver..... 53 2. John Ashwell, Vancouver..... 52		
LIFE MASTER (300, 50S, 25G, 50R OR G) 1. Debbie Williams, Langley..... 52 2. Charlotte Alekson, Richmond. 34 3. Peggy Ross, Vancouver..... 34		
BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500-1000) 1. Nomi Kaplan, Vancouver 50 2. Marion Crowhurst, W. Vanc... 45 3. Adam Dabrowski, N. Vanc. 45		
SILVER LIFE MASTER (1000-2500) 1. Amir Alibhai, North Vanc. 76 2. Sandra Robson, New Westm. .69 3. John Lien, Surrey..... 68		
GOLD LIFE MASTER (2500-5000) 1. Wilf May, New Westminster.. 83 2. Ernie Dietrich, Coquitlam..... 81 3. Bonnie Anderson, Vancouver .75		
DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5000-10,000) 1. Kathy Adachi, Delta..... 51 2. Cam Doner, Richmond 16 3. Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver.. 10		
Unit 430 Mini-McKenney September 6, 2003 Standings (points won from all ACBL sources)		
ROOKIE (0-5, ANY COLOUR) 1. Renlu Wang (#1 in ACBL!).. 279 2. Shi Yan, Burnaby..... 204 3. Walter Zielinski, M. Ridge 38		
JUNIOR MASTER (5-20, ANY COLOUR) 1. Marke Antonsen, M. Ridge 55 2. Robert Luo, Burnaby 37 3. Felice Clements, Mission 30		
CLUB MASTER (20-50, ANY COLOUR) 1. Gary Ge, Vancouver 157 2. Gladys Adilman, Vancouver.... 68 3. Rowena Huberman, Vanc. 61		
SECTIONAL MASTER (50, 5 SILVER) 1. Gail Heuchart, Vancouver 75 2. Antoinette Sheffield, Surrey .. 63 3. Jocelyn Krug, Vancouver..... 60		
REGIONAL MASTER (100, 15S, 5R OR G) 1. Brian Ransom, W. Vanc. 171 2. Sima Sadri, W. Vanc..... 167 3. Melinda Ponto, Port Moody. 125		
NABC MASTER (200, 25S, 15R, 5G, 50P) 1. Richard Smillie, N. Vanc. 112 2. Rosalee Hardin, Vancouver . 109 3. Marla Gropper, Vancouver 96		
LIFE MASTER (300, 50S, 25G, 50R OR G) 1. Alice Thomas, Langley 110 2. Debbie Williams, Langley 108 3. Karin Dunlop, W. Vanc. 93		
BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500-1000) 1. William Ge, Vancouver..... 373 2. Philip Chen, Vancouver 308 3. Samantha Nystrom, Bby. 287		
SILVER LIFE MASTER (1000-2500) 1. John Lien, Surrey..... 282 2. Liz Stoneman, Surrey..... 253 3. Ben Takemori, Burnaby..... 230		
GOLD LIFE MASTER (2500-5000) 1. Gerry McCully, N. West..... 313 2. Bryan Maksymetz, Coq..... 263 3. Rhonda Foster, N. West..... 244		
DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5000-10,000) 1. Cam Doner, Richmond..... 628 2. Dan Jacob, Vancouver..... 268 3. Aidan Ballantyne, Vanc..... 249		

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 430 '02-03 Financial Statements

Joan Richards presented the full version of these

numbers at the July meeting. This is a hastily prepared abbreviation; you can get the full version from Joan. (Typos and errors are McBryce's department...)

Balance Sheet as at June 30, 2003 (unaudited at press time)			LIABILITIES			2001-02	2002-03
ASSETS			Current				
	2001-02	2002-03					
Current Assets			Accounts Payable			1,932.97	0.00
Chequing Account	6,320.54	9,072.74	GST Collected			1,011.99	(19.69)
\$US Chequing Account	3,447.12	1,695.81	GST Paid			(141.37)	0.00
\$US Exchange Conv. Acct.	1,478.92	684.92	Total Current Liabilities			2,303.59	(19.69)
Accounts Receivable	0.00	22.00	Subsidy Funds (at end of fiscal year 2002-03)				
Credit Union Share	108.00	50.86	Previous Event Years			1,808.83	1,630.00
Term Deposits	11,063.36	8,000.00	Next Event Year			607.05	0.00
Total Current Assets	22,417.94	19,526.13	Total Subsidy Funds			2,415.88	1,630.06
Other Assets			LIABILITIES TOTAL			4,719.47	1,610.37
Deposits + Prepaid Expenses	1,113.69	3,144.03					
Property & Equipment			MEMBERS EQUITY				
Original Cost	10,345.71	12,592.50	Retained Earnings			26,522.38	21,508.05
Accumulated Depreciation	(6,904.71)	(8,102.30)	Current Year Earnings			(4,269.22)	4,041.94
Total Property & Equipment	3,441.00	4,490.20	Balance at Year End			22,253.16	25,549.99
ASSETS TOTAL	26,972.63	27,160.36	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS EQUITY			26,972.63	27,160.36

REVENUES (net of GST), with comparative figures for the year ended June 30, 2002.					Current (not year-end) 2003-04 Available Subsidy Amounts		
Event	2002-03 Revenues	2002-03 Costs	2002-03 Profit (Loss)	2001-2002 Profit (Loss)	CNTC \$ 569.02	COPC \$ 209.64	
Evergreen Sectional, Sept. 2002	10,044.41	10,343.84	(349.43)	(543.08)	CWTC \$ 1,222.46	GNT \$ 151.18	NAOP \$ 554.96
Round-Up Sectional, Nov. 2002	14,433.57	12,826.55	1,607.02	1,574.67	2002-03 Expenses (net of GST) with comparative figures for the previous year, ended June 30, 2002.		
Trophy Sectional, Jan. 2003	11,554.80	8,856.89	2,697.91	1,170.58			
Future Stars Sectional, Mar. 2003	1,162.62	1,823.57	(660.95)	137.37			
Victoria Day Sectional, May 2003	14,427.80	11,020.35	3,407.45	641.16			
District-wide STaC, May 2003	5,298.92	4,655.25	643.67	359.58			
Multi-Level Events	2,606.08	1,513.92	1,092.16	511.98			
Monthly Unit Games	3,311.03	3,889.20	(578.17)	(860.76)			
Unit Christmas Party, Dec. 2002	1,194.39	1,488.70	(294.31)	(1,254.19)			
2002-03 IMP League	942.05	504.67	437.38	1,313.01			
Events Subtotal	64,975.67	56,972.94	8,002.73	3,000.32			
OTHER REVENUES							
Unit-earned portion of ACBL Membership			4,663.17	4,765.44			
Entertainment Book Sales			(222.00)	354.76			
Interest, Currency Conversions, Sales of Free Plays			(438.06)	477.88			
Other Revenue subtotal			4,003.11	5,598.08			
TOTAL REVENUE (Event Net Profits + Other Revenues)			12,005.84	8,598.40			
					THE BOTTOM LINE		
					TOTAL REVENUE	12,005.84	8,598.40
					TOTAL EXPENSES	7,963.90	9,343.51
					PROFIT (LOSS)	4,041.94	(745.11)

Special Event Subsidies

Exposé! The Truth Finally Revealed!

Rumors abound that winners of the "alphabet events" (which include some—not all—of the following: NAOP, GNT, COPC, DDT, BCTV, IOC, and PDQ) actually get *bribed* from the local Unit Board to go and play in the next level. The Unit Board, say the rumors, sits down and reviews the results and gives out money if it approves of the winners. In this way, the Board's favorites can be supported, while people who complain about local bridge can be denied funding and forced to pay their own way when they steal a local win and become eligible to travel to the National Finals. This is the way government money has been handed out in this country for many years—why should local bridge politics be any different?

In response, the Board was about to instruct me to say that "nothing could be further from the truth" until it was discovered that, in fact, "nothing" is what the Board actually does when it comes time to decide who gets the dough. There is a policy; over fifteen years old, that decides who gets how much, and the Board consults the policy and gets the treasurer to write the cheques. Once in a blue moon the Board may actually amend the policy, but only for the coming year. When they do they get this article reprinted in the *Matchpointer*.

So what exactly is the policy? We obtained a copy of the rules on a sweltering day in July from a man in a raincoat. The *Matchpointer's* crack editing staff found it far too complicated to reprint, so for enhanced readability we'll paraphrase and hope that the tinier details can be safely ignored.

What events are subsidized? There are five annual events which the subsidy plan provides for. Three are run by the Canadian Bridge Federation, and two are run by the ACBL. These are:

- **NAOP:** The North American Open Pairs, a four-stage pair event which begins with a club qualifying period from June—August, continues with a Unit Final in early fall, a District Final a few weeks after that, and a National Final at the Spring NABC. There are currently three separate events, one for unlimited masterpoints, one for players under 2000 MP, and one for non-life Masters under 500 MP. At club and Unit Final qualifying games these three may be stratified together, but at the National Final (and usually at the District Final) they are separate events. At the end of August there was \$554.96 in the NAOP subsidy fund, mostly the result of profits from last Fall's Unit Final.



- **GNT:** The Grand National Teams, a three-

stage team event which begins with a club qualifying period in the fall and winter, from which players qualify directly to the District Final in the spring. The District winners in each flight (same limits as the NAOP) are eligible to play in the National Final at the Summer NABC. At the end of August there was \$151.18 in the NAOP subsidy fund.

- **COPC:** The Canadian Open Pairs Championship, a two-stage CBF-run pair event that begins with games at clubs in the fall. The qualifying players are eligible to play in the National Final, along with players eliminated in the early rounds of the team events, at the annual CBF Bridge Week in early summer. At the end of August there was \$209.64 in the COPC subsidy fund.

- **CNTC:** The Canadian National Team Championship, a three-stage CBF-run team event that begins with club qualifying games in the fall. Qualifying teams may play in the B.C. Zone Final in the spring, and the top two or three teams are invited to the National Final at CBF Bridge Week. A Flight B event also is held for teams of players under 1000 MP, but the club qualifying games may combine the two strats. At the end of August there was \$569.02 in the CNTC subsidy fund.

- **CWTC:** The Canadian Women's Team Championship, a two-stage CBF-run event that begins at the B.C. Zone final stage in the spring. The top two or three teams are invited to the National Final at CBF Bridge Week. At the end of August there was \$1,222.46 in the CWTC subsidy fund.

Where does the money come from? There are six funds kept by the Unit treasurer for subsidy money: one general fund and one fund for each of the five events. At the end of the fiscal year for the Unit (June 30), the proceeds of the IMP League and the sale of Entertainment books from the past year are added directly to the fund, plus any donations or contributions for Special Events in general. The Unit Board donated \$1,000 into the fund for 2003-2004 as a result of the profits of the previous fiscal year. This money is then transferred to the specific funds in the following percentages: NAOP: 0%, GNT and COPC: 15% each, CNTC and CWTC: 35% each. The event subsidy funds are also credited directly with any money raised from the Unit Final stage of the event (if there is one), and any funds raised or donated specifically for that event, which is usually where your 50-50 dollars at local sectional tournaments go.

Why are the allocations different? The Unit subsidies are meant to supplement the subsidies given by the event organizers. The amount of subsidy you can win from the event organizers are different for each

event, so the Unit tries to equalize the benefits as much as possible. The ACBL, through District 19, gives the top pair in each flight of the NAOP free airfare and accommodation at the National Final. The second place pair receives airfare only. In the GNT, District representative teams currently receive only \$400 U.S. to attend the National Final. The CBF subsidizes players to attend Bridge Week through a complicated formula based on event turnout and distance traveled.

Who is eligible for a subsidy? To be eligible for a Unit subsidy, a player must be a member of Unit 430 (ACBL membership, including Life Master Service Fees, must be paid up) **before** the start of the Unit Final, or the last qualifying stage before the National Final. CBF dues must be paid in order to qualify for CBF event subsidies.

In the NAOP, subsidies are paid to eligible pairs finishing in second or third place in the District Final who attend the National Final. The top pair receives a free trip to the National Final from the ACBL.

In the GNT, the top eligible team in each flight at the District Final receives a small subsidy from the District. All players from Unit 430 who play on District Champion teams in the National Final will receive a subsidy to supplement this amount, from the balance in the GNT fund.

In the COPC, the eligible Unit 430 pair with the highest score in a reported COPC club qualifying game will receive a subsidy to the National Final from the CBF. Unit 430 will supplement this amount (assuming one or both players attend and play in the event) with the contents of the COPC fund.

In the CNTC, there is a CBF subsidy which is subsidized by a Unit subsidy for the highest ranking eligible team that attends the Flight A National Final. Remaining funds will be split equally between the second-highest eligible team in Flight A that attends the National Final, and the Flight B team that wins the Zone Final, if that team contains members of Unit 430 and there were at least six teams competing in the Flight B Zone Final.

In the CWTC, there is a CBF subsidy which is supplemented by a Unit subsidy for the highest-ranked teams in the Zone Final which attend the National Final.

In most of these events it is possible to play in the National Final with partners or teammates from out-

side Unit 430. If so, you will get the appropriate percentage of the funds available: halves for pairs, quarters for teams (regardless of how many players are on the team). For example, a team containing three members of Unit 430 would receive three-quarters of the funds available (one-quarter each), leaving one-quarter of the funds for the next eligible team or carried over to the next year. It wouldn't matter whether the total number of players on the team was four or five or six. But a team containing five members of Unit 430 and one member from elsewhere would split the funds equally, one-fifth each.

What's the limit? Unit subsidies are limited to the amount in the event subsidy fund. The amount reimbursed for airfare will not exceed the cost of the lowest reasonable round-trip direct airfare. The amount reimbursed for accommodation (per player) will not exceed the cost of half a double room for the scheduled length of the event plus one night.

Subsidies that supplement other subsidies by the ACBL, District Nineteen, or the CBF, may not bring the total reimbursement to more than the airfare and accommodation total calculated above. Entry fees are not subsidized.

Players eligible for subsidies will need to provide the Unit Treasurer with receipts showing the amount paid for accommodation and airfare, and the amount received from other subsidies for

the same event. Players are responsible for providing such receipts before thirty days pass after the end of the event to be eligible for a subsidy. Advances of up to 80% of the expected subsidy may be paid before the event if the Treasurer is satisfied that the player(s) will attend and play in the event. In the recent past, not many have supplied the Treasurer with receipts, and those who "forgot" may find it more difficult to obtain advances this year. Those who "forget" this year may find that they are ineligible.

What's it all mean? It means that you play in these events at your own expense, at the club games, the Unit finals, and the Zone or District Finals. Usually this is not a hardship, it requires a few entry fees and perhaps a two-day trip to Seattle or perhaps Victoria for a District or Zone Final. But if you represent our Unit at the National Final, we want to make it easier for you to do so. We'll give you some money to keep the costs down a bit. It might not cover everything, but it's better than nothing.

"...if you represent our Unit at the National Final, we'll give you some money to keep the costs down a bit. It might not cover everything, but it's better than nothing."

event, or to run one that was sure to be poorly attended. Either clearly meant losing a lot of money, while subsidizing offered the Unit a way to break even on the Friday evening. Plus, by getting people out to a new and unfamiliar site with a special event on Friday, the attendance for the rest of the weekend would get a small boost. Unfortunately, the fiasco led to some grumbling by many club owners who lost a popular event in 1988.

Despite the setback in 1988, the Epson continued to be a successful event at many local clubs each June until the WBF raised the sanction fee so much (while cheapening the quality of the souvenir booklet) that now very few clubs even bother to run it. I would imagine that this scenario played itself out in several other areas that had Sectional or Regional tournaments, with the result that the dates were set further in advance in years to come. But the cost to most clubs is now so high that they cannot afford to run the World-Wide Pairs (Epson ended its sponsorship of the event in the 1990s).

The Phil Wood Trophy Race leader after the June sectional was **Aidan Ballantyne**. Aidan was also leading the Seattle sectional trophy race! We'll have to see how this all played out in future issues...

Inflation, inflation. The Chilliwack club advertised their annual two-session charity Swiss Teams, held at the Abbotsford Arts Centre, with a buffet dinner between sessions. The cost: \$60 per team—\$15 for two sessions of bridge and a catered dinner, with proceeds going to charity. With today's prices in mind one wonders if there were any proceeds!

20 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

August 1983 (Sandy McIlwain, editor)

The ad for the second edition of the Future Stars tournament, another installment of the *Doing It Right* series by **Aidan Ballantyne**, and the announcement of a new Flight C (0-100) IMP League made for an issue with much for intermediate and novice players. But there was news for experienced players too. **Martin O'Reilly** asked clubs throughout Unit 430 to make an

effort to run CNTC qualifying games. Among the attractions was the fact that teams with four players over 1,000 masterpoints were exempt from club qualifying! (Nowadays, virtually all teams in CNTC qualifying games meet that standard: it might be better to give an entry-fee break to any team all under 1000 who had not played in the previous Zone Final!)

The program for the second annual Future Stars tournament featured a panel show on Saturday evening at 11:30, covering the most difficult deals from the day's play. With an 11:00 Swiss Teams the next morning, I wonder how that went. Both the Saturday and Sunday events were two-session events, at odds with the 21st century conventional wisdom that intermediate players will not play all day. Maybe we're wrong, the turnout in 1994 was 112 tables, far more than we attract these days. (I note perhaps the first ever attempt at stratification, as the flighted open pairs, 0-100 and 0-20, appears to have been combined to form a single event, but the announcement of the winners included the top 0-20 pair, who probably won a trophy!)

Only twenty years ago it was considered reasonable and even considerate to run a non-smoking game on Saturday night at the Haida Club after people had been lighting up inside the club all week. Does that seem reasonable now (even assuming there were no local bylaws prohibiting it)? I thought not.

Aidan Ballantyne's second installment of the *Doing It Right* series concerned the use of conventions and treatments and also discussed the alert procedure, explanations, and how psychic bids fit in. Today, the perception of the Alert procedure is that its major flaw is in the rules that decide what is and is not alertable or announceable. Aidan pointed out in 1983, when the system was far simpler, that the real drawbacks to the procedure are in what happens when an alert is missed or is made when unnecessary. In our zeal for full disclosure over the past sixty years, we have introduced more and more detailed convention cards, more and more intricate alert procedures, and now even announcements. What's next?

(continued on page 39)

Speed Bumps

Club Managers Alert!

The next issue of the *Matchpointer* needs to be released before the November Sectional, and the sectional after that is not until March 2004. This means that the Winter 2003-04 *Match-*

pointer, to properly promote the sectional, will not be released until mid-February. Club information for the Fall 2003 issue should include holiday season parties and closures: there will not be a December issue as there has been in the past. The October 10 deadline for submissions is coming up sooner than usual because of the

delays with this issue. Please have as much information through to February 2004 as you can prepare.

Quick Note to Players: the Round-Up Sectional in November is a Saturday-Tuesday sectional, around the November 11 holiday. There are no events on Friday. Please check the flyer before making plans!



LOCAL WINNERS

UNIT 430-SPONSORED DISTRICT-WIDE STAC
(SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT AT CLUBS)

MAY 5-11 AT CLUBS IN BC, AK, AND WA

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 779½ TABLES (⊗ DOWN 10.9% ⊗)

Rank	Top 25 STaC Masterpoint Winners (all silver points)
1.	Gary Ge, Vancouver BC..... 23.26
2.	Frank Brown Jr., Port Townsend WA..... 22.44
3.	Samantha Nystrom, Burnaby BC 21.93
4.	William Ge, Vancouver BC..... 18.71
5.	Kathy Adachi, Delta BC..... 17.62
6.	Kirk Homis, Victoria BC..... 17.06
7.	Jeanette Greenhut, Vancouver BC..... 16.85
8.	John Maki, Bothell WA..... 14.65
9.	Wilf May, New Westminster BC..... 14.62
10.	Caroline Yurovchak, Bellingham WA..... 14.27
10.	Jack Miller, Bellingham WA 14.27
12.	Amy DeShaw, Seattle WA..... 13.32
13.	Arlene Nunnally, Seattle WA..... 13.12
14.	Duncan Smith, Victoria BC..... 13.09
15.	Robert Butler, West Vancouver BC..... 13.08
16.	Doug Cowan, West Vancouver BC..... 12.98
17.	John Coone, Vernon BC..... 12.58
18.	Hal Keller, Issaquah WA..... 12.43
18.	Carol Keller, Issaquah WA..... 12.43
20.	Paul Burma, Sunnyside WA..... 12.40
21.	Isabelle Anderson, Vancouver BC..... 12.04
21.	Elizabeth Michno, New Westminster BC..... 12.04
23.	John Perry, Prince George BC..... 11.93
24.	Tai Eng, Vancouver BC..... 11.57
25.	Michael Schmahl, Fairbanks AK..... 11.51

Listed below are the Unit 430 overall winners and the top scores in each strat, for games in which Unit 430 clubs participated. Several other games are not included here. For complete results from the STaC go to the ACBL web page: www.acbl.org

Pts.	A B C	Monday Morning/Afternoon (139 pairs)
12.43	1	Carol Keller - Hal Keller; Sequim DBC..... 68.59%
7.22	5 1 1	Louise Edwards - Claire Norris; Skyline/Lakewood..... 63.25%
2.95	6	Kathy Adachi - Evelyn Hodge; Burnaby DBC..... 63.19%
4.06	3	Bobby Wood - Brenda Cameron; Vancouver Bridge Club..... 59.65%
3.05	4	Robert Butler - Malcolm McDonald; Vancouver Bridge Club..... 59.26%
1.57	4	Mary Gaston - Shirley Dirk; Vancouver Bridge Club..... 57.88%
1.18	5	Parvin Grigg - Sima Sadri; Vancouver Bridge Club..... 55.79%

Pts.	A B C	Monday Evening (213 pairs)
14.27	1	Caroline Yurovchak/Jack Miller; Bellingham DBC..... 68.45%
9.71	3 1 1	Alan King/Dick Scott; Let's Play Bridge..... 66.20%
7.28	4 2	Gary & William Ge; Hollyburn Country Club..... 64.77%
3.39	6	Mary Fines/Jean Katz; Hollyburn Country Club..... 63.83%
2.54	7	Kathy Adachi/Ina Andersen; South Surrey..... 63.66%
1.90	8	Ernie Dietrich/Dorothy Carnegie; South Surrey..... 62.96%
3.47	6 3	Jocelyn Krug/Henry Lai; Vancouver Bridge Centre..... 61.08%
1.95	5	Jackie Phillips/Linda Wormworth; Tsawwassen Bridge Club..... 59.95%
1.75	6	Bonnie Purcell/Gerry Purcell; Vancouver Bridge Centre..... 58.97%

Pts.	A B C	Tuesday Morning/Afternoon (139 pairs)
11.17	1	Allan Graves/Duncan Smith; Victoria Bridge Centre..... 74.84%
8.38	2 1	Teddy Hanson/Mary Ann Williams; Seattle Tennis Club..... 67.01%
4.85	5 2	Marguerite Chiarenza/John Koster; Vancouver Bridge Centre..... 61.81%
3.64	6 3	Bob Faraci/Bill Henning; Vancouver Bridge Centre..... 60.65%
2.73	4	Philip Chen/Gary Ge; Vancouver Bridge Centre..... 60.19%
3.03	1	Barry Cochran/Ann Figg; Sixth Avenue Bridge Club..... 57.69%

Pts.	A B C	Tuesday Evening (88 pairs)
11.00	1 1	John Perry/Richard Symyk; Prince George Bridge Club..... 74.48%
8.25	2	Glenn Ponto/Melinda Ponto; North Shore Winter Club..... 65.49%
6.19	3	Doug Cowan/Julie Cowan; North Shore Winter Club..... 64.07%
4.64	4	Kathy Adachi/Leslie Gold; Burnaby DBC..... 64.06%
3.48	5	Samantha Nystrom/June Pocock; Burnaby DBC..... 62.66%
3.27	6 2 1	Gloria Ferrey/Shirley Fraser; North Shore Winter Club..... 61.83%
1.15	4	Olga Guitelmakher/Brian Ransom; North Shore Winter Club..... 57.72%

Pts.	A B C	Wednesday Morning/Afternoon (174 pairs)
13.37	1	Jeanette Greenhut/Samantha Nystrom; Vancouver Bridge Centre..... 75.00%
10.03	2	Robert Butler/Tai Eng; Vancouver Bridge Club..... 73.84%
8.59	3 1 1	Marlene Powell/Bernard Hoeschen; Vancouver Bridge Centre..... 69.68%
5.64	4	Shirley McKinney/Julia Smith; Vancouver Bridge Club..... 67.36%
6.44	5 2	Hugh Auld/Bonnie Scott; Vancouver Bridge Club..... 65.05%
4.83	6 3 2	Marla Gropper/Rosalee Hardin; Vancouver Bridge Centre..... 64.35%

(continued on page 46)



More Winners!

(Winners, continued from page 45)

Pts.	A	B	C	Wednesday Morning/Afternoon (cont.)
2.38	7			Claire Burns/Sharon Hughes; Vancouver Bridge Club 64.12%
1.78	8			Gary Ge/Gilbert Lambert; Hastings Bridge Club 62.73%
3.62	4			Bradley Bart/Ryan Park; Vancouver Bridge Club 61.34%
1.96	7	4		Michiyo Takeda/Kumiko Yoshimoto; Vancouver Bridge Centre 58.56%
1.58		5		Bonnie Purcell/Gerry Purcell; Vancouver Bridge Centre 58.10%

Pts.	A	B	C	Wednesday Evening (171 pairs)
13.32	1			John Maki/Amy DeShaw; Seattle Bridge Center 68.52%
9.99	2	1		Dave Meyer/Kent Meyer; Cariboo Bridge Club 66.67%
7.49	3			Kathy Adachi/Wilf May; White Rock Bridge Club 64.81%
5.62	4			David Walker/Stan Bodlak; Central Richmond BC 64.58%
4.21	5			Doug Cowan/Stephen Beaton; Vancouver Bridge Club 63.89%
2.77	6/7			Aidan Ballantyne/Joyce Satanove; Central Richmond BC 63.30%
2.77	6/7			Ashley Krisman/Les Fouks; Central Richmond BC 63.30%
6.44	9	2	1	Sima Sadri/Jean Katz; Vancouver Bridge Club 61.20%
4.83	3			Patricia Stickland/Anita Morse; Vancouver Bridge Club 60.94%
2.72	5			William Ge/Gary Ge; Vancouver Bridge Club 60.42%
1.53	7			Hing Kong Ho/Kenny T.K. Chan; Vancouver Bridge Centre 58.89%
3.63		2		Jiri Tichy/Douglas Russell; Vancouver Bridge Centre 58.52%
2.04		4		Malcolm Tindale/Mona Taylor; Vancouver Bridge Club 57.81%

(No Unit 430 players made the overalls in Thursday morning/afternoon STaC games)

Pts.	A	B	C	Thursday Evening (139 pairs)
12.43	1	1		Elizabeth Michno/Isabelle Anderson; New Westminster 66.03%
5.24	4			Chris Christoffersen/Mike Dorn Wiss; New Westminster 63.30%
2.58	6/7			Mary Fines/Rosalyn Richardson; New Westminster 60.74%
3.73		1		Jean Mekie/Marjorie Papple; Let's Play Bridge 57.81%
2.10		3		Denis Lefebvre/Felice Clements; Mission D.B.C. 57.08%

Pts.	A	B	C	Friday Morning/Afternoon (163 pairs)
13.12	1			Arlene Nunnally/Frank Brown Jr; Sequim DBC 71.53%
7.38	3			Kenny T.K. Chan/Kathy Bye; Vancouver Bridge Centre 66.86%
8.21	4	1		Donna Wyatt/Dorothy Davis; Sixth Avenue Bridge Club 66.67%
3.11	6			Samantha Nystrom/Jeanette Greenhut; Vancouver Bridge Centre 63.84%
2.34	7			Charlotte Alekson/John Horne; Vancouver Bridge Centre 63.83%
6.16	8	2	1	Susan Howe/Karen Wilson; Sixth Avenue Bridge Club 63.39%
1.40		6		Gail Heuchert/Felicity Fane; Vancouver Bridge Centre 58.71%

Pts.	A	B	C	Friday Evening (96 pairs)
9.67	1	1		Gordon Bower/Michael Schmah; Farthest North 67.31%
7.25	2			Debbie Williams/Ernie Dietrich; Sur/Del Bridge Club 65.83%
5.44	3			Wilf May/Sherman Kwan; Sur/Del Bridge Club 64.17%
3.06	5			Ken Lochang/Arun Chopra; Vancouver Bridge Centre 61.86%
2.33	6			Gerry McCully/Rhonda Foster; Vancouver Bridge Centre 61.06%
1.82	6	1		Bob Roth/Mardee Roth; Farthest North 56.63%
1.37		2		Grant Gayman/Andrew Nalos; Vancouver Bridge Centre 56.57%
0.77		4		Olga Guitelmakher/Luda Tchivaleva; Vancouver Bridge Centre 52.08%
0.87		5		Daniela Zezulka/Gerry Ferguson; Sur/Del Bridge Club 50.83%

(no Unit 430 clubs held STaC games on Saturday or on Sunday evening.)

Pts.	A	B	C	Sunday Morning/Afternoon (86 pairs)
8.83	1			John Hurdle/Trudy Hurdle; East Richmond Bridge Club 68.52%
6.62	2	1		Gary Ge/William Ge; Vancouver Bridge Centre 65.51%
3.73	4			Arun Chopra/Narinder Malhotra; East Richmond Bridge Club 63.66%
2.99	5/6	2		Ewa Wroblewicz/Andrew Zorawski; East Richmond Bridge Club 63.19%
2.45	5/6			Albert Yallouz/Mike Manica; East Richmond Bridge Club 63.19%
2.24		3		Rangie Sylvestre/Kenny Chan; East Richmond Bridge Club 58.33%
1.92		4	1	Stuart Carr/Brian Ransom; Vancouver Bridge Centre 56.02%
1.26		5		Hoshang Shroff/Adi Wadia; East Richmond Bridge Club 53.94%
1.44		6	2	Anne Smith/Clancy Dodd; Vancouver Bridge Centre 53.01%
0.81		4		Peter T.P. Tsang/Kun Shao; East Richmond Bridge Club 51.85%
0.70		5		Chloe Clark/Norma Doucette; Vancouver Bridge Centre 50.23%



VICTORIA DAY SECTIONAL
BURNABY, MAY 16-19
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 430½ TABLES
LAST YEAR: 372 TABLES (☺ Up 15.7%!! ☺)

Friday Afternoon Open Pairs (36 tables)		
A	B	C
1		Christina & Dan Jacob
2	1	Tony Remedios - Tove Chen
3		Ian Boyd - Gerry McCully
4		Barry Yamanouchi - Ben Takemori
5	2	Ping Ding - Jane Fyfe
6		Hoshang Shroff - Andrew Ross
	3	H. K. Ho - Kenny Chan
	4	Arun Chopra - Narinder Malhotra
	5	Carol-Ann Halliday - Kathy Bye
	6	Karin Dunlop - Priscilla Brown
	1	Marjorie McDonald - Sally Craig
	2	Douglas Macmorland - Bernie Lewis
	3	Jerry & Linda Haynes
	4	Gerry Ferguson - Daniela Zezulka
	5	Henry Lai - Jocelyn Krug
	6	Alice & Bill Butler

Friday Afternoon Senior Pairs (12 tables)		
A	B	C
1		Stella Alliston - Marge Neate
2		Dee Segarich - Isabelle Anderson
3	1	Harold Hansen - Ian Hayter
4		Joan Richards - Mary Fines
5		Phyllis Gerber - Delphine Tablotney
6/7	2	Annerita Hasselbach - Thelma Hofstede
6/7	3	Don Keith - Marion Crowhurst
	4/5	Rangie Sylvestre - Yuko Fujieda
	4/5	Bill Henning - Beatrice Sadgrove
	1	Walter Zielinski - Michael Stickland
	2	Fatemeh Pazand - Zohreh Bassiri

Friday Evening Open IMP Pairs (26 tables)		
A	B	C
1/2	1	Flora So - Sandy Poggemiller
1/2		Mary Fines - Evelyn Hodge
	3	Phyllis Gerber - Delphine Tablotney
4/5	2	David Huang - Alex Chuang
	4/5	Bob & Aban Gerrie
6	3	Gus Axen - Duane Tilden
	4/5	Ted Deeder - Carrie Stockman
	4/5	Tony Remedios - Tove Chen
6/7		Nomi Kaplan - Jerry Growe
6/7	3	Manuel Zahariev - David Breton
	4	Edward Hui - Sophie Cymbalista

Friday-Saturday Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockouts (32 teams)		
Brkt	Rank	
I	1	Brad Bart, Michael Yuen, Mike Dimich, Les Fouks
	2	Dan Jacob, Bryan Maksymetz, Allan Graves, Gord McOrmond
II	1	Dianne Isfeld, Martin Henneberger, Greg Barszcs, Waldemar Jez, Anthony Remedios
	2	Terry & Fran Gould, Gay Parrish, Jay Brandt
III	1	Renlu Wang, Danny Lee, William & Gary Ge, Philip Chen
	2	Monica Angus, Doreen McOrmond, Julia Barsel, Andrey Artamonov
IV	1	Gail Heuchert, Marlene Powell, Adelina Wong-Chor, Myra Johnston
	2	Isabel Chernoff, Joan Brooks, Marlene Barber, Norma McNamara

Saturday Afternoon Future Master 0-100 Pairs (3½ tables)		
Rank		
1		Jerry & Linda Haynes
2		Kun Shao - Peter Tsang
3		Walter Zielinski - Marke Antonsen

Saturday Qualifying/ Final Open Pairs (43, 20 tables)		
Rank		
1		Ping Ding - Jane Fyfe
2		Mike Dorn Wiss - Chris Christoffersen
3		Mike Wilson - Felipe Hernandez
4		Anna Boivin - Carol Waters
5		Sherman Kwan - Ron Fox
6		Ron Groome - Elaine Levins
7		John Lien - Liz Stoneman

Saturday Evening Consolation Pairs (23 tables)		
A	B	C
1/2	1	Kenny Chan - Hing Kong Ho
1/2		Trudy & John Hurdle
	3	Kelvin Raywood - Stephen Pickett
	4	Gerry McCully - Stan Christie
5/6	3/4	Mariann Hutton - Gypsy Sturrock
5/6	3/4	Amirali Alibhai - Richard Smillie
	5	James Sache - Jim Groves
6/7	1/2	Jocelyn Krug - Henry Lai
6/7	1/2	Philippe Westreich - David Breton
	3	Ataollah Amiri - Zahra Jafroudi
	4	Ted Moens - Nathan Moens
	5	Brenda Scharf - Sylvia Frazer

Sunday A/X StratiFlighted Pairs (20, 20 tables)		
A	X	
1	1	Mike Dorn Wiss - Bjarne Christoffersen
	2	Ben & Mike Takemori
	3	Balusu Rao - Gerry McCully
	4	Don Sache - Dan Watson
	5	Ron Fox - Sherman Kwan
	6	Wilf May - Gary Ge
	7	Les Fouks - Michael Yuen
	8	Marcia Christie - Douglas Baldwin
	5	Debbie Williams - John Horne
	6	Richard Christie - John Hurdle
		Sunday B/C/D

StratiFlighted Pairs (33, 26 tables)		
B	C	D
1		Amirali Alibhai - Rick Smillie
2	1	Nomi Kaplan - Marylou Varga
3	2	Pat Blackall - John Demeulemeester
4		Doreen McOrmond - Trudy Hurdle
5		Sharon Erwin - Dan Groves
6	3	Malcolm McDonald - Joan O'Flynn
	4	Andrew Nalos - Grant Gayman
	5	Barry Kirkham - Michael Hurley
	6	Mike Stickland - Gordon Burns
	2	Jean Wilkinson - Frances Gunn
	3	Eric Pan - Tao Feng
	4	Susan Mitchell - Judy Christensen
	5	Jim Shaw - Dorothy Macleod
	6	Jocelyn Krug - Henry Lai

Monday A/X StratiFlighted Swiss (32 teams)		
A	X	
1		Dianne Isfeld, Martin Henneberger, Larry Pocock, Ben Takemori
2		Allan Graves, Bryan Maksymetz, Dan Jacob, Gordon McOrmond
3	1	Gustav Axen, Douglas Russell, Bjarne Christoffersen, Mike Dorn Wiss
4	2	John Anthony, Stephen Beaton, Doug Cowan, Barry Kirkham
5		Brad Bart, Mike Dimich, Michael Yuen, Les Fouks
6/7	3	Sandra Hawk, Toyo Nunoda, Ruby Jackson, Beverly Kanee
6/7		Don Sache, Doug Hansford, Wilf May, Gilbert Lambert
8/9	4/5	Bernice & Al French, Bob Kiggins, John Demeulemeester
8/9	4/5	Amirali Alibhai, Malcolm McDonald, Richard Smillie, Robert Butler
	6	Tai Eng, Insa Fricker, Kelvin Raywood, Waldemar Jez

Monday B/C StratiFlighted Swiss (24 teams)		
B	C	
1		Larry Meyer, Rod Coote, Jim McKenzie, Dick Simpson
2		Kenny Chan, Hing Kong Ho, Dan Groves, Sharon Erwin
3		Renlu Wang, Ying Xiong, William Ge, David Yu
4		Stuart Carr, Doreen Ransom, Colin Ransom, Brian Ransom
5	1	Hsiang Li, Jack Lee, Wuyen Ni, Tony Y N Shyu
6	2	Myra Johnston, Gail Heuchert, Bernard Hoeschen, Adelina Wong-Chor
	3	Harvey Bridges, Jean Bridges, William Gibson, Leonard Wild
	4	Allan Blair, Peter Tsang, Kun Shao, Frank Chin

(The top ten masterpoint winners from the Victoria Day Sectional, and the updated trophy race standings are on page 23.)

(continued on page 48)

OUT-OF-TOWN WINNERS

SILVER STAR SECTIONAL
VERNON BC, MAY 2-4

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Stratified Pairs
5	Anne Smith/June Young		

VICTORIA SPRING SECTIONAL
VICTORIA BC, MAY 23-25

A	B	C	Friday Evening Open Pairs
3	Carol Waters		

D	E	F	Saturday Evening 0-100 Pairs
5	Barbara & Mark Antonsen		

A	X	Sunday Flight A/X Swiss
1	Michael Yuen	
5	Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin	

CALIFORNIA CAPITAL REGIONAL
SACRAMENTO CA, MAY 26-JUNE 1

A	B	C	Sutter Swiss Teams
2	Cam Doner		

A	B	C	Saturday Open Pairs
7	Cam Doner		

SPOKANE LILAC SECTIONAL
AIRWAY HEIGHTS WA, MAY 30-JUNE 1

A	B	C	Friday Evening Open Pairs
5	Dee Segarich		

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION
BRIDGE WEEK 2003
PENTICTON BC, JUNE 3-9

Rank	Flight B (0-1000) Canadian National Team Championship
1.	William & Gary Ge, Philip Chen, Shi Yan, Renlu Wang

Rank	Canadian Women's Team Championship
2.	Rhonda Foster, Marcia Christie, Samantha Nystrom, June Pocock
3/4.	Kathy Adachi, Sheila Sacke, Leslie Gold, Ina Andersen

Rank	Canadian Open Pairs Championship
6.	Mike & Ben Takemori
10.	Aidan Ballantyne
13.	Shi Yan/Renlu Wang
15.	Mike Dorn Wiss
18.	Gerry McCully/Ian Boyd
20.	Cam Doner

Rank	Canadian National Team Championships
3/4.	Bryan Maksymetz, Dan Jacob, Gord McOrmond

PENTICTON REGIONAL
PENTICTON BC, JUNE 9-16

D	E	F	1999er Charity Pairs
3	3	1	Jim & Rochelle Graf
4	4		Mona Vassos/Muriel O'Brien
6	5		Bruno & Margaret Moras

A	B	C	Charity Open Pairs
5	Carol-Ann Halliday		

A	B	C	Tuesday Morning Side Game
1	1	1	Jim Graf/David Pritchard
6	Doreen Ranson/Maureen Crompton		

D	E	F	Tuesday Afternoon 1999er Pairs
1/2	1	1	Leo & Joan Dear
4	2	2	Jim & Rochelle Graf
5			Ataollah Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi

A	B	C	Tuesday Afternoon Side Game
4/5	4/5		William Stitt
4/5	4/5		Rangie Sylvestre/Greg Lam
6	6		Priscilla Brown
		2	Clarence Dodd/Maureen Crompton

D	E	F	Tuesday Evening 1999er Pairs
2	2		Patricia Chen/Chieko Oka
3			Elsie Mackinnon/Ivy Pye
4	3	2	Yvonne Gibson/Alice McKenzie
6			Ataollah Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi
4			Jim & Rochelle Graf

A	B	C	Tuesday Open Pairs
2	Mike & Ben Takemori		
6	Claire Burns/Peter Morse		
	4		Colin & Brian Ransom
	6		David Harvey

A	B	C	Tuesday Senior Pairs
2	Arlene Browning/Dot Carnegie		
5/6	Joerg Schneider/Pat Stapff		
2	Don Keith/Bob Kiggins		
4	Harold Hansen/Ian Hayter		
5	Rosalyn Richardson/Pat Carruthers		
3	Kathleen Boothroyd/Lorraine Hurren		

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Side Game
4	John Lien/Liz Stoneman		
4	1		Gordon Burns/Michael Stickland
5/6	2/3		Alex Jack/Barbara van Blankenstein

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Swiss Teams
1	Wilf May, Don Sacke, Doug Hansford, Dennis Groden		
2	Marina Page		
3/6	Avril & Harvey Sawyer, Thelma Hofstede, Mariann Hutton		
4	Jane & Howard Shimokura		

Welcome To Penticton
Knockout Teams

Brkt.	Rank	Knockout Teams
I	3/4	Philip Chen
II	2	Brad Bart
	3/4	Doug Hansford, Don Sacke, Wilf May, Dennis Groden
III	1	Debbie Williams, John Horne, William Ge, Danny Lee
	3/4	William Phelan, Dan Watson
	3/4	John Lien/Liz Stoneman
IV	1	Don Sharp
	2	Renlu Wang, Shi Yan, Nurdin Kassam, Gary Ge
	3/4	Glenn & Melinda Ponto, Kathy Bye, Anne Scott
	3/4	Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome
VI	2	Sidney Robinson, Beverley Hall
VII	3/4	Barbara Green, Ellen Seale, Marilyn Phillips
VIII	2	Anne Smith, Sima Sadri
	3/4	Kathleen Orr, Anne Knowlan, Bonnie & Gerry Purcell
IX	2	Harvey & Jeab Bridges, Dorothy & Don McLeod
	3/4	Howard & Jane Shimokura
	3/4	Pauline Kay, Jill Watson, Virginia Forrester, Denise Cunningham

A	B	C	Wednesday Morning Side Game
1	1	1	Maureen Crompton
2			Claire Burns/Peter Morse
4	3		Gray McMullin
5	4		Don Keith/Marion Crowhurst
6			Len Feeny/Zhilong Shi

D	E	F	Wednesday Afternoon 1999er Pairs
1	1	1	Jim & Rochelle Graf

A	B	C	Wednesday Afternoon Side Game
3	2		Gray McMullin
	4		Shirley Dirk/Joyce Goddard

D	E	F	Wednesday Evening 1999er Pairs
1	1		Ataollah Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi
2	2		Patricia Chen/Chieko Oka
4			Holly Boyson/Sheila Gentry
5			Leo & Joan Dear
6	1		Jim & Rochelle Graf
	2		Alice & Bill Butler
	3		Jan Argent/Barb Tracey
	4		Lois Pritchard

A	B	C	Wednesday Open Pairs
4	Gerry McCully		
9	Connie Deslisle/Paul Hagen		
5	Elsie Mackinnon/Ivy Pye		

A	B	C	Wednesday Senior Pairs
1	1		Marion Crowhurst/Don Keith
2			Phyllis Gerber/Harry Friedman
4	2		Les Baldys/Hobert Liang
6			Arlene Browning/Rosalyn Richardson
	2		Gypsy Sturrock/Shirley Laidlaw
	4		Maureen Crompton/Dominique Baker

A	B	C	Wednesday Evening Side Game
3/4	3/4		Terry Scott/Audrey Loy
	3		Norma Saltzberg/Clarence Dodd

A	B	C	Wednesday Swiss Teams
2			Mike Dorn Wiss
3/4			Gray McMullin

Brkt.	Rank	Peachy Keen Knockout Teams
I	1	<i>John & Trudy Hurdle, Richard & Marcia Christie</i>
	2	Larry Chow
II	2	Doug & Julie Cowan, Keith & Rose Miller
	3/4	Theo Deeder
III	2	Carol-Ann Halliday, Bachan Buttar
IV	1	<i>Rosalee Hardin, Sharon Chercover, Rowena Huberman, Gladys Adilman</i>

A	B	C	Thursday Morning Side Game
1/2			Claire Burns/Peter Morse
3	1		Alice Thomas/Rangie Sylvestre

A	B	C	Thursday Afternoon Side Game
6/7			Joan Campbell
	4		Doreen Ransom/Maureen Crompton
	6		Doreen Jensen

D	E	F	Thursday Afternoon 199ers Pairs
1	1		<i>Pat Galland/Elsie Mackinnon</i>
3	3		Patricia Chen/Chieko Oka
6	5		David & Lois Pritchard
	6		Ataollah Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi
	2		Alice & Bill Butler

D	E	F	Thursday Evening 199ers Pairs
1	1		<i>Bruno & Margaret Moras</i>
3	3	2	Larry Jacobson
	4		Claire Broderick/Hedy Hartmann

A	B	C	Thursday Open Pairs
7	1		<i>Tony Remedios/Tove Chen</i>
8			Ernie Dietrich/Harry Friedman
	2		Peter Cooper/Julie Smith
	5		Marina Page
	5		Marilyn Phillips

A	B	C	Thursday Senior Pairs
3			Mike Dorn Wiss
6	1		<i>Joan Olson</i>
	4		Rangie Sylvestre
	5		Don Keith/Bob Kiggins
	2		Gypsy Sturrock/Shirley Laidlaw

A	B	C	Thursday Evening Side Game
3	2		Frances & Terry Gould
	4		Bachan Buttar

A	B	C	Thursday Evening Swiss Teams
1	1	1	<i>Greg Lam</i>
3			Doreen & Gord McOrmond
5			Dee Segarich
	5	2	Dorothy & Don MacLeod, Daphne & James Shaw

A	B	C	Thursday Evening Swiss (cont.)
6			Linda Morgan, Anne Paris, Joan Campbell
3			Don & Shirley Warner, Terence & Eileen Creaney
4			Diane McNames, Norma McNamara, Marlene Barber

Brkt.	Rank	Peach Fuzz Knockout Teams
I	2	Cam Doner
II	1	<i>William Ge, Nurdin Kassam, Danny Lee</i>
III	1	<i>Vicki Croome, Harold Hansen, Brian Ransom, Kathy Bye</i>
	2	Denise Goodkey
V	1	<i>Alice & Gary Thomas, Peggy Ross, Karin Dunlop</i>
VI	2	Sima Sadri, Anne Smith
VII	1	<i>Marke Antonsen, Walter Zielinski</i>
	3/4	Bruce Partridge, Harry Kublik, Judy Christensen, Susan Mitchell

A	B	C	Friday Morning Side Game
2/3	1/2		<i>Don Keith/Marion Crowhurst</i>
4			Debbie Williams/Ernie Dietrich
	5	3	Dave Pritchard/Jim Graf
	5		Mary June Young

D	E	F	Friday Afternoon 199er Pairs
1			<i>Jim & Daphne Shaw</i>
2	1	1	<i>Larry Jacobson</i>
	4		Yvonne Gibson/Alice Mackenzie

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Side Game
1			<i>Debbie Williams/Ernie Dietrich</i>
	3		Joan Campbell

D	E	F	Friday Evening 199er Pairs
5	5	4	Larry Jacobson

A	B	C	Friday Open Pairs
7			Pete Walton/Jean Groome
	3		Tony Remedios/Tove Chen
	5		Theo Deeder
	6		Isabelle Anderson
	4		Olga Guftelmacher/Luda Tchvialeva
	5		Jocelyn Krug
	6		David Huang/Alex Chuang

A	B	C	Friday Senior Pairs
1			<i>Mike Dorn Wiss</i>
3			Claire Burns/Stella Alliston
6/7	1/2		<i>Robert Liang/Don Keith</i>
6/7	1/2		<i>Don Sharp</i>
	1		<i>Sima Sadri</i>
	2		Don & Shirley Warner

A	B	C	Friday Evening Side Game
4	1		<i>Ken Lochang</i>
	6		Rangie Sylvestre

A	B	C	Friday Evening Swiss Teams
6	2	1	<i>Stuart Carr, Bill & Alice Butler, Cathy Miller</i>
	6/7		Graham Thomas

Brkt.	Rank	Peaches 'n Cream Knockout Teams
II	3/4	Les Baldys
III	1	<i>Shi Yan, Gary Ge</i>
	3/4	Greg Morse, Joan Brooks, Isabel Chernoff, Diane Ayukawa
	3/4	Thelma Hofstede, Breda Prestage, Rekha Shah, Antoinette Sheffield
IV	2	Sidney Robinson, Beverley Hall
	3/4	Graham Thomas
V	1	<i>Rosalee Hardin, Rowena Huberman, Gladys Adilman, Sharon Chercover</i>

Brkt.	Rank	Morning Knockout Teams
I	3/4	Cam Doner
II	2	Kathy Bye, Marina Page, Brian Ransom
	3/4	Renlu Wang, Shi Yan
III	5/8	Betty Reynolds, Clarence Dodd, Colin & Doreen Ransom
IV	1	<i>Marke Antonsen, Walter Zielinski</i>
	3/4	Anne Smith, Sima Sadri
	3/4	Rosalee Hardin, Rowena Huberman, Gladys Adilman, Sharon Chercover

A	B	C	Fri-Sat. Morning Swiss Teams
2			Marguerite Chiarenza
3			Tai Eng, Joerg Schneider, Insa Fricker, Pat Stapff
4	1		<i>William & Gary Ge</i>
6/7			Bernice & Al French, Glenn & Melinda Ponto
	3		Les Baldys
	4		Maureen Crompton, Marion Crowhurst

A	B	C	Saturday Morning Side Game
4	2		Philip Chen
6			Claire Burns/Peter Morse
	5	3	Ataollah Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi

Rank	Morning Side Game Overalls
1.	<i>David Pritchard</i>
4/5.	Peter Morse, Claire Burns
6.	Jim Graf

D	E	F	Saturday Afternoon 199er Pairs
3	2	1	<i>Jim & Rochelle Graf</i>
	6		Ataollah Amiri/Zahra Jafroudi
	4		Pamela Rattenbury/Audrey Russell

A	B	C	Saturday Afternoon Side Game
6	5	3	Yvonne Drane/Myra Johnston
	5		Harvey & Jean Bridges

A	B	C	Saturday Open Pairs
3			Samantha Nystrom
4			Katrin Litwin
6			Aidan Ballantyne
7	1		<i>Tony Remedios/Tove Chen</i>
8			Paul Hagen/Connie Delisle
	6		Ken Lochang/Luda Tchvialeva
	3		Shi Yan/Gary Ge
	4		Alex Chuang/David Huang

(continued on page 50)

(Winners, continued from page 49)

A	B	C	Saturday Senior Pairs
2			Bob Kiggins
1			Kathleen Boothroyd/Lorraine Hurren
3			Doreen Jensen

A	B	C	Saturday Evening Side Game
1			Keith Miller/Gordon Burns
2			Ron Groome
5	1		Joan Campbell
6	2	1	Linda Morgan/Anne Paris
5	2		Yvonne Drane/Myra Johnston

D	E	F	Saturday Evening 199er Pairs
6	5	3	Larry Jacobsen
6	4		Judy McGough

A	B	C	Saturday Evening Swiss Teams
3/6			Don Sharp, Claire Burns, Peter Morse
4			Patricia Lamb
5	3		Alice & Gary Thomas, Peggy Ross, Karin Dunlop

Brkt.	Rank	Peach Pie Knockout Teams
I	1	Cam Doner
	3/4	Gerry McCully
II	1	Dee Segarich, Wilf May, Danny Lee, William Ge
	3/4	Mike & Ben Takemori, Nathan Divinsky, Don Brazeau
	3/4	Terry & Frances Gould, John Lien, Lize Stoneman
III	1	Renlu Wang, Philip Chen
	2	Sandra Robson, Marguerite Chiarenza, Greg Lam, John Demeulemeester
V	1/2	Diane McNames, Norma McNamara, Marlene Barber
	3/4	Sandra Hawk, Ruby Jackson
VI	3/4	Bruce Partridge, Harry Kublik

A	B	C	Sunday Open Pairs
2	1		Isabelle Anderson
6			Daisy Neilson/Angela Fenton
	2		Pauline Kay/Jill Wilson
	3		Gail Heuchart/Jocelyn Krug

Brkt.	Rank	Come Back in 2004 Knockout Teams
II	1	Martin Henneberger, Stuart Carr, Cathy Miller, Dianne Isfeld
	3/4	Theo Deeder

A	X	Sunday Flight A/X Swiss Teams
1		Katrin Litwin, Aidan Ballantyne, Mike & Ben Takemori
2		Jean Groome
4		Mike Dorn Wiss
9/10		Jennifer Ballantyne
11/12		Samantha Nystrom
13	1	Eugene Chan, Graham Putnam, Ron Groome, Gina Diamond
	2	Trudy & John Hurdle, Jim & Audrey Norman

A	X	Sunday Flight A/X Swiss (cont.)
3		William & Gary Ge, Shi Yan, Renlu Wang
4		Bob Kiggins, John Lien, Liz Stoneman
5		Don Sharp, Claire Burns, Peter Morse

B	C	Sunday Flight B/C Swiss Teams
1		Alex Chuang, David Huang, Philip Chen
4		Marina Page
7/8		Terry Scott, Carol-Ann Halliday
2		Luda Tchivaleva
4		Doreen Jensen

A	B	C	Senior Swiss Teams
1			Phyllis Gerber, Delphine Tablotney, Helen Montgomery
2			Martin Johnson, Ron Fox, Sherman Kwan
3			Doug & Julie Cowan, Keith & Rose Miller
4			Denise Goodkey
7	1		Don Keith, Hobert Liang, Marion Crowhurst, Rangie Sylvestre
3			Kathleen Orr, Anne Knowlan, Patt Carruthers, Joan Olson

D	E	F	199er Swiss Teams
3	2		Marke & Barbara Antonsen, Walter Zielinski, Jim Verner
4	3		Judy Christensen, Susan Mitchell, Alice & Bill Butler

LAS VEGAS REGIONAL LAS VEGAS NEVADA, JUNE 23-29

Brkt.	Rank	Las Vegas Rocks! Knockout Teams
I	1	Cam Doner

A	X	Thursday Flight A/X Swiss Teams
6	2	Doug Hansford, Ken Danielsen

A	B	C	Saturday Afternoon Side Game
3			Gina Diamond

STRAWBERRY SECTIONAL ANACORTES WA, JUNE 27-29

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Open Pairs
6	2		Chris Moore/Isabelle Anderson

A	B	C	Saturday Evening Side Pairs
4/5	3/4	2	Shi Yan/Renlu Wang

D	E	F	Saturday Afternoon 199er Pairs
2	2		Marke Antonsen/Walter Zielinski

A	B	C	Saturday Open Pairs
5			Lauren Miller/Linda Sims

Brkt.	Rank	Strawberry Knockout Teams
I	1	Gerry McCully, Rhonda Foster, Samantha Nystrom
	2	Les Baldys

A	X	Sunday Flight A/X Swiss Teams
2		Samantha Nystrom, Rhonda Foster, Gerry McCully

B	C	D	Sunday Flight B/C/D Swiss Teams
2			Alice & Gary Thomas

GOLD RUSH SECTIONAL ROSSLAND BC, JULY 11-13

Rank	Friday Evening Flight A Pairs
2.	Alice & Gary Thomas

A	B	C	Saturday Open Pairs
4			Martin Johnson
	3		David Harvey

A	B	C	Sunday Swiss Teams
3/4			Alice & Gary Thomas

SUMMER NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS LONG BEACH, CA, JULY 16-27

Brkt.	Rank	Surfin' Safari Knockout Teams
IV	3/4	William Ge, Renlu Wang

A	B	C	First Saturday Evening 0-300 Pairs
4			Shi Yan

Brkt.	Rank	Porpoiseful Knockout Teams
I	2	Grace Jeklin
II	3/4	Al & Bernice French

Brkt.	Rank	An All Day Affair Knockout Teams
I	1	Shi Yan
III	2	Philip Chen

A	B	C	Saturday Stratified Open Pairs
7			Peter Morse

Rank	Life Master Pairs
49.	Bryan Maksymetz

A	B	C	Monday Evening Side Game
4			Janis & Nick Parker

A	B	C	Pasadena Unit 559 Swiss Teams
7			Cam Doner

A	B	C	Monday Evening 299er Pairs
6			Jill Wilson

Brkt.	Rank	Dodger Knockout Teams
II	3/4	Peter Morse, Eugene Chan

Brkt.	Rank	Waymish Knockout Teams
III	3/4	Katrin Litwin

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening 299er Swiss Teams
2/3			Henry Lai

B	C	D	Tuesday Flight B/C/D Pairs
4	1		Nick & Janis Parker

A	B	C	Wednesday Morning Side Pairs
2/3			Peter Morse
5	1		Shi Yan

A	B	C	Wednesday Evening Stratified
			Swiss
4	2		Ram Hira

A	B	C	Thursday Open Pairs
			3
			Janis & Nick Parker

Rank	Spingold Knockout Teams
9/16.	Bryan Maksymetz

A	B	C	Thursday Evening 299er Swiss Teams
			1
			Henry Lai

Brkt.	Rank	Queen Mary Knockout Teams
III	3/4	Philip Chen, Shi Yan

A	B	C	Friday Morning Side Pairs
3	3		Ram Hira

A	B	C	Friday Stratified Swiss Teams
2/4	1		Philip Chen

Rank	Bridge Pro Tour Los Angeles 2003 Open
9/10.	Kal Kaleem, \$100

A	B	C	Friday Morning Side Game
5			Peter Morse

A	B	C	Morning Side Game Overalls
6/7			Peter Morse

Rank	Unit 430 Members on the Top 1000 List in Long Beach
217.	Brian Maksymetz 69.66
570.	Shi Yan 39.24
809.	Philip Chen 29.99
839.	Peter Morse 29.07
883.	Grace Jeklin 27.95

5,193 players won a total of 87,800.12 masterpoints (of various colours) at the Summer NABC.

NANAIMO SECTIONAL NANAIMO BC, AUGUST 15-17

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Stratified Pairs
5			Dennis Groden

A	B	C	Friday Evening Stratified Pairs
6			Dennis Groden

A	B	C	Saturday Stratified Pairs
2			Dennis Groden
6			Marion Crowhurst/Don Keith

A	B	C	Sunday Swiss Teams
1			Kal Kaleem
3/4			Marge Neate, Marion Crowhurst, Joy Berry, Don Keith

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL SEATAC WA, AUGUST 18-24

A	B	C	Tuesday Morning Side Game
1	1	1	Sima Sadri

Brkt.	Rank	Monday-Tuesday Knockout Teams
II	2	Larry Chow

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Side Game
4	2		Renlu Wang
	4		Jane & Howard Shimokura

A	B	C	Tuesday Open Swiss Teams
1			Cam Doner

A	B	C	Wednesday Morning Side Game
2	1	1	Sima Sadri

A	B	C	Wednesday Senior Pairs
			2
			Jane & Howard Shimokura

A	B	C	Wednesday Evening Side Game
2			Monica Angus

A	B	C	Wednesday Evening Swiss Teams
1			Mike Wilson
2			Rhonda Foster, Gerry McCully

A	B	C	Thursday Afternoon Side Game
6/7	5		Shi Yan

A	B	C	Thursday Morning Side Game
			4
			Jackie Phillips

Brkt.	Rank	Senior Compact Knockout Teams
III	1	Sima Sadri

Brkt.	Rank	Midweek Knockout Teams
I	1	Cam Doner

A	B	C	Thursday Open Pairs
7			Jennifer Ballantyne
	6		Diane Ayukawa/Richard Dunn
	1		Renlu Wang
	4		Jackie Phillips/Jocelyn Krug

A	B	C	Thursday Swiss Teams
1			William Ge, Danny Lee, Shi Yan

A	B	C	Friday Morning Side Game
2			Les Baldys/Al French
5/6			Claire Burns/Monica Angus
	4/5	3/4	Sima Sadri

D	E	F	Friday Afternoon 199er Pairs
3	3		Marke Antonsen

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Side Game
1	1	1	Sima Sadri

A	B	C	Friday Open Pairs
4	1		Kathy Bye

A	B	C	Friday Evening Side Game
2			Charlotte Alekson/Sandra Robson

A	B	C	Friday Morning B-A-M Swiss
3			John Lien, Liz Stoneman
2/3	1/2		Jackie Phillips, Jocelyn Krug, Henry Lai

A	B	C	Saturday Morning Swiss
1	1		Shi Yan, Renlu Wang
2			Monica Angus, Claire Burns, Angela Taylor, Les Baldys
	2	1	Larry Jacobson

A	B	C	Saturday Afternoon Side Game
1			Dee Segarich

D	E	F	Saturday Afternoon 199ers
3/4	1/2		Larry Jacobsen

Brkt.	Rank	Weekend Knockout Teams
I	1	Mike Wilson
	3/4	Katrin Litwin, Aidan Ballantyne
III	1	William Ge, Shi Yan, Renlu Wang

A	X	Saturday Flight A/X Pairs
5	2	Gina Diamond
6		Linda Sims/Lauren Miller
	4	David Schmidt
	5	Hobert Liang/Peter Morse

A	B	C	Saturday Evening Side Game
6			Dee Segarich

Rank	Weekend Side Game Series
5/6	Dee Segarich

A	X	Sunday Flight A/X Swiss Teams
2		Dan Jacob
4		Gerry McCully, Rhonda Foster, Cam Doner, Felipe Hernandez
9		Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin
	3/4	Shi Yan, Renlu Wang
	5	Peter Morse, Kathy Bye

B	C	D	Sunday Flight B/C/D Swiss Teams
4/7			Jackie Phillips, Henry Lai, Jocelyn Krug

(Thanks to all who complimented me on the Daily Bulletins in Seattle. You can view the Daily Bulletins from Seattle and other DINO Regionals at the DINO Web Page at www.d19.org.)

69TH ALL-WESTERN CHAMPIONSHIPS REGIONAL SANTA CLARA, CA, AUGUST 26-SEPTEMBER 1

A	B	C	Wednesday Open Pairs
8			Cam Doner

A	B	C	Friday Evening Side Game
2			Gina Diamond

A	B	C	Labour Day Fast Pairs
5			Cam Doner

(continued on page 52)

INDIAN SUMMER POW WOW SECTIONAL
OLYMPIA WA, AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 1

A	B	C	Friday Evening Open Pairs
3			Andrew Ross

A	X	Saturday Afternoon A/X Pairs
5		Jennifer Ballantyne/Andrew Ross

Brkt.	Rank	Back To School Knockout Teams
1	1	Renlu Wang, William Ge, Shi Yan

Brkt.	Rank	Morning Knockout Teams
1	2	Renlu Wang, William Ge, Shi Yan

Brkt.	Rank	Recall Knockout Teams
1	3/4	Renlu Wang, William Ge, Shi Yan (yes, that's what it was called!)

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

Tournament News

Unit 430 Hospitality Organizes Itself!

Before explaining that sub header, let me first address again the most often heard issue about the September 26-28 tournament. If you know what *L'shanah tovah* means and you expect to greet people with that phrase during the Evergreen Tournament weekend, please read the *Opening Lead* column on page 2. (You can come back and read the rest of this later.)

OK. I have been asked to type up the following list of names:

Charlotte Alekson	Ev Hodge
Diane Ayukawa	Dianne Isfeld
Marlene Barber	Ruby Jackson
Priscilla Brown	Kazuko Koda
Tove Chen	Norma McNamara
Isabel Chernoff	Pearl Minkoff
Vicki Croome	Anita Morse
Bernice French	Sandra Robson
Jean Groome	Rick Smillie
Carol-Ann Halliday	Liz Stoneman

In some cases our source for this list was not sure of the surname and I guessed. This is a list of the kind and generous people who have brought goodies to sectional tournaments for all of us to snack on.

We're lucky to have these people, and even luckier to have someone like **Audrey Loy** to organize and put out the things people have brought. Quite often there are many items brought all on the same day. Audrey makes sure it all goes on the table and cleans it up afterwards and makes sure people get their dishes and plates back at the end. This in addition to five million other jobs she performs expertly at our Sectionals.

Audrey also made sure that this list of people was made up so that the good people on it would get some of the recognition they deserve. If anyone was overlooked you can be sure it was just because she was so busy she didn't notice.

With the number of people who bring goodies to tournaments increasing, a reasonable concern was raised at the last Unit Board Meeting.

What if there is just way, way too much food brought? At the current level, we are able to explain to concerned officials at the hall that the food brought in is on a volunteer basis. But some sites do get uneasy about this sort of thing if it is overdone, and you can see why—cleanup costs are higher, the potential for damage to floors or carpets is greater, and of course if someone were to have an allergic reaction to someone's home-baked goodies, the site or even the Board might be held responsible in some way.

We don't want to have to say "please don't bring any food." We just want to thank those who have, encourage them to continue if they wish, but we want to make sure the amount of food on site remains within comfortable limits.

So, we have asked former tournament chair Diane Ayukawa to co-ordinate the volunteer hospitality at local sectionals. If you plan on bringing something, give Diane a call at 940-9809 and let her know what and when it will be there. In almost all cases, she will thank you and add you to the list of people (like the one at the left) that we'll thank in the Summer Matchpointer every year. Perhaps she may ask you to consider bringing your contribution on a different day or at a different time, if there is already a full hospitality table for that session.

(By the way, it was noted at the Unit Board Meeting where this was discussed that there is only one gentleman on the list above. Perhaps next year there may be more.)

Once again, thanks to Audrey, to all the kind contributors, and to anyone missed from the list.

And on a related note...

Penticton hospitality run locally

Margaret Pearce, the Penticton Regional tournament chair, has asked **Marion Crowhurst** to thank all those who assisted on the hospitality table at the recent Penticton tournament.

Marion will be organizing the hospitality table again next year. If you are willing to spend one hour before an afternoon or evening game serving on the hospitality table at Penticton next year, please phone Marion at 604 926 9297 or send her an email message at: marion.crowhurst@ubc.ca

interested in buying books on how to squeeze West in two suits. We borrow from the library books that describe squeezing the attractive LHO out of her suit and into something more comfortable..."

A little more than a year after the VBC's opening, the VBC Muse (**Eugene Chan**) made the claim that the VBC was the nicest bridge club in Canada. The implications were not lost on other clubs, as we'll see when we note the submissions from another club manager in the October 1993 issue next time...

Patti Prenty (who has a different surname ten years later) contributed an article on the IMP League after her rookie season as Commissioner, "to share some of my thoughts and expectations for the coming season. The first directive I would like to introduce is that the IMP League should be *enjoyable*." History repeats itself: as I write we are preparing for a Unit Board hearing to decide the Flight B champion...

The issue ended with a letter from **John Findlay**, the moving force behind the rubber game at the VBC from its opening in 1992. John had been diagnosed with cancer, "condition terminal within months...I'm continuing every day with my rubber bridge sessions grateful not to require hospitalization. I'm able to remain at home cared for with love and surrounded by all that is familiar and dear. What a privilege it has been for me to have been passionately engrossed in playing, on an almost daily basis, as an avocation and a vocation, the most intriguing and frustrating card game to exist. From 1943 to 1993 I visited hundreds of rubber and duplicate clubs coast-to-coast throughout Canada and the United States and have thoroughly enjoyed meeting thousands of players from novice to expert and from all walks of life. I embrace this opportunity to thank you, friends, for these fifty wonderful years! When you are reading this and I am on my way to my next unknown destination, you can bet I'll be out there drumming up a fourth for a game..." John's wife **Lynne** added that "John made his final contract July 3, 1993."

15 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

August 1988 (Jude Goodwin-Hanson, editor)

As mentioned last time, a bridge extravaganza was held at UBC in June 1988, with a sectional weekend at the Student Union Building ballroom (including the Epson Instant Matchpoint Pairs on Friday evening, with entry fees subsidized and a lavish hospitality party afterward), combined with the simultaneous running of the CNTC National Final in the nearby Gage Towers. All went very well and there was a leaderboard posted at the main site for

many interested in watching the locals compete against the best teams from the rest of Canada. The August issue featured several articles on the CNTC event (held locally for the first time) plus the COPC event in Quebec City and the CWTC National Final in London, Ontario. (Today these three are held at CBF Bridge Week in late spring or early summer.)

There was only one problem. The Epson Pairs in 1988 had become one of the most popular club events. It was the first event to be run using Instant Matchpoints, and the first event to be run at clubs throughout the world, and there was name recognition on the souvenir booklet players received, "compered" by **Omar Sharif**. You played a board and then opened up a pre-made scoreslip and looked at the chart to see how many matchpoints out of a 100 top you'd just earned. The event was first held in 1986 with all games worldwide starting at approximately the same time (in our time zone this meant Friday evening and Saturday afternoon, but in others this meant playing in the middle of the night!). In the second year the WBF decided to open it up and let all clubs worldwide run it on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon, regardless of time zone, and the participation level jumped.

It was recognized early on that the Unit would have to charge more to run the Epson event at the sectional, about \$3 extra per player, so the Unit decided to subsidize the event to get the entry fee down, and to hold the party at the end to encourage more participation. When the publicity appeared, local clubs were outraged at the Unit "takeover" of the event. The protests that ensued when the tournament organizers cited Unit policy and denied clubs the right to run the event opposite the sectional forced the Unit to back down from this stance. Still, the club versions of the event were down in attendance, because the subsidized version at the sectional was just as cheap and was sure to offer larger masterpoint awards to the winners based on sheer size. Tension between the Unit Board and local clubs was at an all-time high.

In the August 1988 issue, the situation was explained by editor **Jude Goodwin-Hanson**. The main problem was that the Unit had been forced by ACBL policy to book the UBC sites for the sectional a year in advance. The date for the 1988 Epson Pairs was not announced by the WBF until well after the UBC site was booked and there was no way out. Running a regular sectional event on Friday, opposite the year's most popular club event was obviously not going to be a success, so the Board decided to run the Epson at the sectional. The alternative would have been to run a sectional without a Friday evening

(continued on page 44)

Jobbed by Seeding!

by McBruce

In the "June" Monthly Unit Game (the one on May 31!), 42 pairs competed in two sections, and the North-South awards were skewed more than usual toward one section. In fact, no section A North-South pairs managed to win masterpoints in flight A or flight B: all of the placings went to the pairs in section B, except for a lone flight C pair who barely managed to scratch. The top eight pairs North-South were all from section B.

And as you might expect, one of the unfortunate section A North-South players claims foul play, forcing a *Matchpointer* investigation...

Tournament events with more than one section are normally scored across the field, which means that when section A pairs play a board, their results are compared with the results made on the same board in section B. This removes the most common type of multiple section inequity: the common "I bid the slam in the wrong section" complaint. Before across-the-field scoring, your matchpoint score for +1430 would greatly depend on what section you were in. If the slam was bid more often in one section, the matchpoint scores for the same result would be different: it would depend not on how many pairs bid the slam but how many *in your section* bid it. If yours was the only +1430 in your section you'd score a 12 top, but if nine of thirteen scored +1430 in another section they'd score only 8 each. Now that we score all tournament games by computer, we score across-the-field whenever we can. In the game in question this meant that the boards were played nine times in each section for a top of 17.

The main allegation of improper seeding stems from the fact that three of the best local pairs were playing in section A on the East-West side. This meant that North-South pairs in section A had to play two or three of these top pairs, while North-South pairs in section B missed them. When the scores came out and the top eight North-South scores were all in section B, the grumbling turned to protests. So the question is: how much of a disadvantage is it to play against top pairs: how much does unequal seeding affect the outcome?

To answer the question, we programmed the entire movement into a spreadsheet and stole a formula from baseball analyst Bill James to determine a pair's expected score for each round:

$$(Y / (2 - 2Y))$$

$$((Y / (2 - 2Y)) + (X / (2 - 2X)))$$

Y = your partnership's strength rating

X = the opponent's strength rating

So what is a strength rating? It is a number between zero and one which estimates the strength of a pair within the field by guessing their final score. A pair expected to score average has a strength rating of 0.5. The rare pair expected to score 60% (meaning that if they played a hundred Unit Games their all-time average would be 60%, quite a strong showing) has a strength rating of 0.6.

Using this formula, a 60% pair is expected to score 60% against an average 50% pair, and is expected to score a little more than 69% against a below-average 40% pair. The difficult part, of course, is to rank all of the pairs accurately. To assign a "strength rating" for each of the 42 pairs, we took their—well, let's just say that we did it subjectively and we might be out a few points here or there. If anything, we have overstated the difference between the best and worst pairs, since it takes quite a world class skill level to earn the 61% rating we gave the three best pairs in the game.

Anyhow, this allows us to see who played against who and what score they could expect based on their strength rating and the strength rating of the opponents they faced. We also checked the matchups for all 33 boards to determine if any of the boards were played by stronger North-South pairs than East-West pairs (or vice versa), and adjusted for this, although no great adjustments were necessary. Pair 1 North-South of Section A was the complaining pair, so let's go through their numbers:

Their strength rating was estimated at 51% and a 51% score would have been 234.1 on a 229.5 average. I have no doubt in my mind that this pair expects (like we all do) that they should have been rated higher, but the end results do not change significantly if we decide to do so.

Before completing the study, I asked the plaintiff how many more matchpoints he expected he would have won in a seeded field and his guess was about four boards worth: 68 matchpoints. With that in mind, let's look at their game:

In the first round they played boards 4-6 against E-W pair 1, a pair rated at 54%, and they were expected to come out of that round with about 47%.

In rounds two and three they played three boards against flight C pairs rated at 40% and were expected to get 61% in those two rounds.

In round four they played against a Flight A pair and were expected to get 42%. Round five, against a

good flight B pair, gave them an expectation of 47%. Round seven against a good Flight C pair netted an expectation of 57%.

But in rounds six, eight and nine, they played against top flight A pairs, pairs rated at 61%, giving them an expectation of around 40% for three rounds.

Their total expected score, based on the opponents they played against, was 225.3 (49.1%). This is 8.8 matchpoints less than the 51% that a 51%-rated pair would have scored against an average field. Slightly more than half of a top. The seeding handicap was nearly sixty matchpoints less than the plaintiff expected.

What they actually scored was 206.5 (45.0%).

I did the analysis for all 42 pairs and found that most of the Section A North-South pairs were at a disadvantage of 6-12 matchpoints, while some of the Section B North-Souths were 12-18 matchpoints better off. The pairs with the biggest handicaps were those who played all three of the "A+" pairs in the Section A East-West field. Those who played only two of the three were at far less of a disadvantage. The East-West pairs in both sections were less skewed: it depended basically on who had to play the most A flight pairs, and since the better pairs were better distributed in the North-South sections, there were very few adjustments to make.

When I added or subtracted these handicaps to the scores that were generated during the game, the overalls hardly changed. Only one of the North-South pairs in section A moved into the North-South overall list. The bottom line is that the seeding inequities were not nearly as great as the difference between what we would expect pairs to score and what they actually scored. The case was overstated; the North-South pairs in section A simply had a bad night. In fact, the three "A+" pairs played well under their expected 61% level, two at 55% and one at 59%. It was the unexpected strength of the other East-West pairs in Section A that made life difficult for the North-South pairs.

One final point needs to be made: the most successful spot to be was Section B North-South, but the overall winners, **Duane Tilden** and **Sefton Levine**, were helped by the seeding only by 4.4 matchpoints, the second lowest figure among the generally lucky Section B North-South pairs. Their margin of victory was over 30 matchpoints. Have a good game and seeding inequities usually won't matter. Have a bad one and you can blame it on the seeding, but mathematics will usually reveal that your bad game was three or four times more significant in explaining why you left without masterpoints.

There is no perfect movement. Even in pure Howells where everyone plays everyone once, you can be unlucky to play North-South while all of the good pairs also play North-South. Usually these small inequities will cancel one another out for the most part, leaving the far greater factor of who is having a good night. The difference between the pair most helped by the seeding, and the pair most hindered by the seeding, was 31 matchpoints: less than two boards. The difference between the pair whose final score was better than expected by the most matchpoints, to the pair whose final score was worse than expected by the most matchpoints, was 121 matchpoints: over seven boards.

If we say that your score depends on three factors: how strong a pair you are going in (strength), how much better or worse than your expected level you play (form), and how much help you get from the vagaries of seeding and other movement inequities (chance), the study indicates that their importance to the final outcome is:

Strength: 58.2%. Form: 38.6%. Chance: 3.2%.

This is on a night where the seeding could have been better, reducing the chance rating further. To score well, you need to get good and play well. It hardly matters who you play or what movement-luck you get.

For those who say that we should still make an attempt to seed the superstar pairs, there is a point there. ACBL Directors sell tournament entries basically at random except that two non-adjacent tables in each section are reserved for the most experienced pairs, and there is a general effort to get approximately the same number of A, B and C pairs in each section and direction. At the Monthly Unit Games our Director makes an effort to do the latter, but there is no attempt at seeding the top of the A field. (Or maybe there is and Richard has a different idea who the top of the A field is!) With most of the forty-plus pairs regularly coming in at ten minutes before game-time it is always going to be virtually impossible to get the best possible seeding. And despite the results from the May 31 game, it really makes very little difference. Having the top eight pairs in either direction all come from the same section rates to happen once in 64 games. This is about the same frequency as a suit splitting 6-0, and we all know that this is remote but not impossible.

A few days later at the first meeting of the new Board, I offered a compromise: I would resign, but if the Board would appoint M. Lévesque to fill my spot.

I would continue to attend meetings as a non-voting member, and continue to edit the *Matchpointer* and do other assigned Unit Board activities. The Board felt this was an ultimatum and voted not to appoint Julien, leaving me no option but to resign in protest, and there was no *Matchpointer* for almost five months. **Jeremy Crowhurst** was appointed to the Board in the fall and edited the *Matchpointer* for two years. Jeremy was instrumental in modernizing the Unit Board's nominating procedure and with this change completed at the 1999 AGM, I accepted a nomination to the Board. **Julien Lévesque** was elected with me at the 1999 Annual General Meeting and has since proven the nay-sayers of 1998 completely wrong about his potential to do good work for the Unit.

10 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

We usually run the *Meet The Players* quiz in the 10 years ago section, because **David Schmidt** was the driving force behind it and his issues should logically contain it. But this time I cannot think of clues that would make it difficult. The subject in Aug 1993 was a 24-year old Rumanian immigrant, and you've got it already: **Michael Neagu**. Bridge in Communist Rumania was played in secret until 1987, when duplicate clubs were finally allowed. David's lead sentence was "If we want to attract new young players to bridge, perhaps we should make the game illegal!"

Mike Dorn Wiss's newly-released book *Shadow in The Bridge World* was reviewed by **Bruce McIntyre**. The Shadow character was developed over thirteen entertaining chapters, leading McBruce to wonder why the bridge best sellers are always the technical ones, when the entertaining books have just as much to learn from. "Bridge players are more interested in Flannery eruditia than fannish esoterica. We're more

Unofficial MUG Race Standings				MUG Race Standings cont. MP				MUG Race Standings cont. MP			
A	B	C	after September MUG MP	A	B	C	MP	A	B	C	MP
1	1		Julien Levesque 11.24	13	11		Liz Stoneman 5.28	4			Veronica Peacock 2.84
1	1	1	Nigel Fullbrook 11.24	15			Rhonda Foster 5.25	4			Greg Lam 2.84
3	3		Rhoda Toller 10.88	16	13		Sandra Robson 5.24	6			Norma Doucette 2.83
3			Jane Pocock 10.88	17			Sefton Levine 4.39	7			David Hooy 2.30
5	4		Tony Remedios 9.59	17	15		Duane Tilden 4.39	8			Bernard Hooschen 2.15
6			Gerry McCully 9.50	19			Douglas Baldwin 4.25	8			Yvonne Drane 2.15
7	5		Tove Chen 6.40	20			Ken Lochang 3.86	10			Marlene Powell 2.05
8	6	2	Gus Axen 6.01	21			Gilbert Lambert 3.34	10			Myra Johnston 2.05
9	7		Dennis McMahon 5.60	22			Dennis Groden 3.32	12			Chloe Clark 1.86
9	7		John Mullen 5.60	23			Greg Barszcs 3.19	13			Sam Krikler 1.73
11	9		Glenn Ponto 5.33	24			Priscilla Brown 3.08	14			Tony Shyu 1.58
11	9		Melinda Ponto 5.33	24			Andrew Zorawski 3.08	15			Jackie Phillips 1.52
13	11		John Lien 5.28	24	3		Jeanette Greenhut 3.08				
							Ewa Wroblewicz 3.08				

131 players have won a total of 266.69

131 players have won a total of 266.69 masterpoints at Monthly Unit Games in 2003.

NOTE: This is an unofficial list done by McBryce. (Richard Dunn was out of town at press time.)

Monthly Unit Games

Free 49ers game Oct. 4, Nov. 1

The Monthly Unit Games, held on or near the first Saturday evening of each month at the Vancouver Bridge Centre, continue to draw well, staying at two sections through the summer months where often attendance drops sharply.

The next step is to make the Monthly Unit Game a complete Unit championship by attracting players of all levels to the excitement. Already we are seeing brave intermediate pairs choose the open game for a chance at higher masterpoints, creating a viable C strat for the first time in many years. This means that players of every level except novice are now playing in the Monthly Unit Games. The Unit Board considered and accepted a proposal from the secondary game director **Eugene Chan**. The former 0-200 game will be changed to a separate 0-50 game, and as we did with the open game at the beginning of 2003, we will make this game attractive to novice players by making it free for the first two months, and maybe into the New Year.

We hope that this will attract novice players from all over the Unit, not just those who play at the VBC. We encourage bridge teachers and club Directors to promote the game to their novice players. The Bridge Centre will try to put together partnerships of 49ers for the game: give them a call at 255-2564. The potential is there for a very instructive monthly evening of bridge for novice players: a fun game between eager newer players while an open game using the same deals goes on in the next room—you'll be able to find out from the Unit's best players how they handled the

problem hands before you leave! All this for free!

It is important to the Unit Board that we have a well-attended Monthly Unit Game, but just as important that the game attracts players of all masterpoint categories. The largest of these is the 0-50 category, which comprises just over a quarter of our members. If that's you, we hope you will come out, have fun, do well, and maybe take home some masterpoints and some new tips!

MUG FAQ: It's an open and 0-50 game at the VBC at 7:30 on the first Saturday (occasionally moved to the next or previous Saturday) of each month. **Richard Dunn** directs the open game, assisted by **Eugene Chan**, who directs the limited-point game. Strats are unlimited, 0-2000, and 0-500 non-LM. Next game dates are October 4 and November 1. The entry fee is \$9 per player for the open game, and this gets you a \$2 discount for the next game. The masterpoint races are based on a player's strat on January 1, even if they gain promotion during the calendar year. The 2003 Flight A winner gets free plays all next year and Flight B and C winners win six free plays for the next year. (Nobody can win multiple prizes, so if the standings below stayed constant to the end of the year, **Gus Axen** would win the Flight C prize, and **Julien Lévesque** would share the Flight A and B prizes with **Nigel Fullbrook**.)

Unit Christmas Party: The MUG Christmas Party game this year will be held on Saturday, December 6, at the Vancouver Bridge Centre (not Bonsor as previously advertised in the *Matchpointer*). A catered dinner, the usual holiday entertainment, and an exciting Monthly Unit Game finale is planned. Details will appear in the next *Matchpointer*.

May 31 "June" Open		
A	B	C
Monthly Unit Game (21 tables)		
1		Duane Tilden/Sefton Levine
2	1	John Mullen/Dennis McMahon
3	2	Ken Lochang/Gordon Davis
4		Brad Bart/Michael Dimich
5	3	Glenn Ponto/Melinda Ponto
6	4	Dan Webster/Dennis Groden
	5	Peter Morse/Gilbert Lambert
	6	Nicholas Stock/Gina Diamond
1		Manuel Zahariev/David Breton
2		Jacqueline Phillips/Henry Lai
3		Sima Sadri/Gail Heuchert
4		Norma Doucette/Chloe Clark
5		Myra Johnston/Marlene Powell

July 5 Open		
A	B	C
Monthly Unit Game (18½ tables)		
1	1	Tove Chen/Tony Remedios
2	2	Jeanette Greenhut/Priscilla Brown
3	3	John Mullen/Dennis McMahon
4	4	Pearl Minkoff/Sam Krikler
5	5	Nigel Fullbrook/Julien Lévesque

July 5 Open		
A	B	C
Monthly Unit Game (18½ tables)		
6	6	Anita Morse/Peter Morse
1		Edward Hui/Andrew Lee
2		Greg Lam/Veronica Peacock
3		Shi Yan/Renlu Wang
4		Faye Gilrairie/Gary Gilrairie
August 9 Open		
A	B	C
Monthly Unit Game (17½ tables)		
1		Bernice French/Al French
2	1	Veronica Peacock/Greg Lam
3	2	Bruce McIntyre/Peter Morse
4	3	Sao Nam Kam/Jesse Chu
5		Ken Danielson/Doug Hanford
6	4	Beverly Kanee/Toyo Nunoda
	5	Brian Ransom/Kathy Bye
	6	William Ge/Tony Y.N. Shyu
2		Edward Hui/Andrew Lee
3		Viva Goldblatt/Harry Greenhut
4		Andrew Zorawski/Grzegorz Barszcz

September 6 Open		
A	B	C
Monthly Unit Game (20 tables)		
1		Jennifer Ballantyne/Jean Groome
2		Samantha Nystrom/Ian Boyd
3		Rhonda Foster/Gerry McCully
4	1	Gus Axen/Sandra Robson
5/6	2	Harold Hansen/Brian Ransom
5/6	3	Aban Gerrie/Robert Gerrie
	4	Howard Rubin/Bertram Schoner
	5	Tony Remedios/Tove Chen
	6	Dennis Groden/Gilbert Lambert
1		Zahra Jafroudi/Ata Amiri
2		Andrew Lee/Edward Hui
3		Bernard Hoeschen/Yvonne Drane
4		David Breton/Philippe Westreich
5		Susan Mitchell/Dorothy Macleod

(Richard Dunn was out of town during the *Matchpointer* production rush. McBride's unofficial Monthly Unit Game masterpoint race standings, which come with no guarantees, are on page 52.)

Only Yesterday

by Bruce McIntyre

Summer issues are big. So is this installment. So, as you browse back through the *Matchpointer*, I have added a distinctive border style to help you find the sections of *Only Yesterday*. Off we go into the *Matchpointer* time machine...

5 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

June 1998 (Bruce McIntyre, editor)

Let's begin with a *Meet The Players Quiz* (taken from David Schmidt's interview column):

Clue #1: I am a local player who speaks four languages, English, French, Italian and Arabic.

2001: A Bridge Odyssey was a look into the future of the game from the damaged mind that pens *Only Yesterday*. The article focused on the odd emergence of seniors in bridge in the fictional near-future. By the spring of 1998 a team of "old boys" had gone to the semis of the Vanderbilt, and by early 2000 it was recognized that there was something going on that made many older men, especially older married men, excellent bridge players, even some who had been beginners only a few years before. And if you want to find out what it was, you'll have to read the whole article (renamed *A New Golden Age*) which has been reprinted at David Stevenson's wonderful Web Site, at this address:

http://www.blakjak.demon.co.uk/new_gold.htm

Clue #2: Since learning the game in the late 1970s I have used my job with the airlines to play in Singapore, Hong Kong, Manila, Paris, Rome, London, Geneva and Zurich, as well as in Canada and the US.

The June issue has several articles about the Zero Tolerance initiative (there is even reference to ZT in the *Bridge Odyssey*). The July 4 Annual General Meeting would include a discussion and vote on Zero Tolerance for Unit Events, open to all Unit members. In one of the articles, the editor and author of the Zero Tolerance guidelines proposed for Unit 430 explains how his flavour differs from the original ZT. The interviewer was the **Hideous Hog (In Training)** so it might be said that I interviewed myself!

Clue #3: Since my retirement in 1991 I have been running a weekly game here in Unit 430.

Freak hands and weird decisions: **Joerg Schneider** played a deal at the Vancouver Bridge Club's Monday morning game where seven notrump was made with eighteen top tricks! Both defenders had zero HCP! The **Hog-In-Training** opened 1NT on a 5-2-3-3 15-count on the first board of a round, got a bad result, then in the last board of the round picked up another 5-2-3-3 15 count. He had decided to open 1♠ this time when it was pointed out to him that the next table needed the boards and in fact he was holding the first hand again...

Clue #4: My personal motto is "friendliness pays": my wife and I believe that players of all levels will return if they enjoy the atmosphere, so we work hard to make it fun for all.

With the final standings in the IMP League determined, it was noted that the Flight A and B prognosticators had managed to pick all six playoff teams (though not quite in the right order). The Flight A prognosticator (it can be revealed now) was **Cam Doner**. The Flight B prognosticator (HHIT) was lucky in that a team needing 4 VPs to clinch a playoff

(continued on page 56)

Unit Board 2003-04

The Abbreviated List

If you would like the complete 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
Charlotte Alekson (new) (Partnerships)	604/271-8777 charlottealekson@hotmail.com
Jennifer Ballantyne (VP, DINO/CBF Liaison)	604/438-3095 jaballantyne@hotmail.com
Steve Beaton (new) (Secretary)	604/984-0453 spbeaton@ca.inter.net

*Marion Crowhurst (Memberships/Education)	604/926-9297 marion.crowhurst@ubc.ca
Zahra Jafroudi (new) (Fundraising)	604/925-9432 zahraj@yahoo.com
*Julien Lévesque (Special Events, Future Stars)	604/254-5677 spindrifter@shaw.ca
*Bruce McIntyre (<i>Matchpointer</i> editor, IMP League)	604/438-9735 ooga@shaw.ca
John Lien (new) (Tournament Chair)	604/531-0307 jlien1@shaw.ca
*Samantha Nystrom (STaC CO-ordinator)	604/421-2885 nystromsamantha@hotmail.com
*Joan Richards (Treasurer)	604/926-6354 rjrichards6332@shaw.ca
Brian Ransom (new) (Supplies)	604/506-6664 ransom2@earthlink.net



We thank our five new Board members for volunteering!

Asterisks indicate members whose terms expire June 30, 2004.

Tournaments & Dates

September 19—November 1, 2003

SEPTEMBER 2003

19-21 Seattle WA Sectional
26-28 Evergreen Sectional at the Engineers Hall in Burnaby. (See back page for details, page 2 for an apology to those who cannot attend.)

OCTOBER 2003

1-31 Club Appreciation Month (watch for special games awarding more masterpoints)
3-5 Walla Walla WA Sectional
4-5 Bremerton WA Sectional
4 October Unit Game at VBC, 7:30pm (see p. 57)
4 Deadline for IMP League entries in Flights A, X, B
10 Matchpointer deadline for Fall 2003 issue, covering events thru Feb. 28, 2004.

OCTOBER 2003

10-13 Kelowna BC Sectional
11 NAOP Flight A Unit Final at VBC: noon and TBA (details, page 37)
18 NAOP Flight B & C Unit Final at VBC: noon and TBA (details, page 37)
22 Fall Matchpointer target release date
24-26 Courtenay BC Sectional
20-26 DINO Charity Week
28 CBF Canada-wide Erin Berry Rookie-Master Game (check local clubs)
NOVEMBER 2003
30-2 Wenatchee WA Regional
1 November Unit Game at VBC, 7:30pm (see p. 57)
8-11 Round-Up Sectional (Sat.-Tue) at Bonsor.

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
☆ see apology on page 2 ☆

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 Vancouver Bridge Centre
(details next issue; note new site)

2004 Vancouver Regional
January 26 – February 1, 2004 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Richmond

3rd Annual Canadian Bridge Federation Canada-wide STaC (Sectional Tournament at Clubs)
Silver points at your local club!
February 16-22, 2004.

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

2004 Future Stars Sectional
(0-200 masterpoints)
May 1 – 2, 2004 at the Vancouver Bridge Centre

2004 Unit 430-sponsored District-wide STaC (Sectional Tournament at Clubs)
More silver points at your local club!
May 2 – 7, 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	H.K. Ho
Aidan Ballantyne	Julien Lévesque
Jenny Ballantyne	Katrin Litwin
Brad Bart	Greg Morse
Allan Blair	Peter Morse
Doug Cowan	Joan Richards
Marion Crowhurst	Brian Russell
Ernie Dietrich	Sheila Sache
Richard Dunn	Joerg Schneider
Bob Faraci	Josh Sinnett
Harry Friedman	Peter Tsang
Doug Hansford	Dianne Wilson

All "It's Your Bid" Responders

The Matchpointer "P.R." Squad (p. 28)

Unit 430's many Club Managers

The growing number of helpful 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, information, club news, or other submissions to the Matchpointer may be mailed, or given to any Unit Board Member or dropped off at a Unit 430 club. We encourage all members, from beginner to expert, to send bridge-related original material for publication.

MATCHPOINTER deadline schedule

(really, there is one)

FALL: mid-October

WINTER: mid-Jan. or mid-Feb.

SPRING: mid-April

SUMMER: mid-July

NEXT ISSUE: Fall 2003

Deadline:

Friday, October 10, 2003.

Dates Covered:

October 22, 2003—February 28, 2004.

Vancouver Unit 430 invites bridge players to the Evergreen Sectional

Engineer's Hall, 4333 Ledger Ave., Burnaby
enter off Canada Way near Municipal Hall

Sept. 26-28, 2003.



TOURNAMENT CHAIR :

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PARTNERSHIPS :

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Player Survey Forms (see page 3):

Pick one up and give the
Unit Board your opinions!

Entry Fees:

\$9.00 (paid ACBL members),
\$9.50 (non-members, unpaid LMs).
\$5.00 for Junior players (under 26)
and/or full-time students
(with student ID).

* ACBL Members with 0-5
recorded masterpoints play
for free in the Friday Evening
Future Masters Game.

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ **EVENT SCHEDULE** ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠

FRIDAY AFTERNOON (1:30 pm)

Stratified Open Pairs (one session: 1500+, 300-1500, 0-300)

Future Master Pairs (one session: 50-100, 20-50, 0-20)

FRIDAY EVENING (7:30 pm)

Jean Turnbull Trophy

Stratified Mixed Pairs (one session: 1500+, 300-1500, 0-300)

Stratified Side Game (one session: 1500+, 300-1500, 0-300)

* **Future Master Pairs** * (one session: 50-100, 20-50, 0-20)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON (Noon)

StratiFlighted Pairs A/X (1st session: unlimited, 0-3000)

StratiFlighted Pairs B/C/D (1st session: 750-1500, 300-750, 0-300)

(single session entries for either session will be accepted)

Future Master Pairs (one session: 50-100, 20-50, 0-20)

SATURDAY EVENING (6:30 pm)

StratiFlighted Pairs A/X (2nd session: unlimited, 0-3000)

StratiFlighted Pairs B/C/D (2nd session: 750-1500, 300-750, 0-300)

(single session entries for either session will be accepted)

Future Master Pairs (one session: 50-100, 20-50, 0-20)

SUNDAY (10:30 am and TBA)

StratiFlighted Swiss Teams A/X (unlimited, 0-3000)

StratiFlighted Swiss Teams B/C/D (750-1500, 300-750, 0-300)

(both events will be scored in Victory Points)

The Unit 430 Zero Tolerance Policy will be in effect:

*When faced with clearly unacceptable behavior,
do not tolerate. Call the Director and educate!*

Please note starting times, especially
Saturday afternoon's noon start.

**ADVANCE NOTICE: ROUND-UP SECTIONAL
NOV. 8-11, 2003 AT BONSOR (YES, SAT-TUE!)**