

Stories * Information
Tips * Results

WINTER
Matchpointer

2003

Unit 430
Bridge Magazine

The Philosopher and the Revolutionary

Several Sunday afternoons ago at the VBC, partnering Chester Michno was The Philosopher, Mr. Heshang Montaudi, who uttered, loud enough for all to hear, these Words of Wisdom as he exposed his hand as dummy (apparently having passed throughout the auction):



"When you have nothing to say ... say it!"

This *very good* advice brought chuckles from most of the room. But only two hands later at a different table, The Revolutionary (McBride) held ♠ Q63 ♥ J953 ♦ J75 ♣ T42. His partner, Eda Kadar opened 1♥ and after a 1♠ overcall, The Revolutionary raised to 2♥, which went one down for a bottom. "Sorry," said The Revolutionary. "I had nothing to say, and I forgot to say it."

WINTER 2003 HIGHLIGHTS:

- 3 17-2 in NABC Knockouts!
- 5 HHIT vs Restricted Choice
- 9 A 3,140 point swing!
- 16 ACBL Rookie of the Year and other Mini-McKenney/Ace of Clubs news
- 20 Trophy Race Winners
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It's Your Bid Problems

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

Name: _____

Pseudonym: _____
(to comment anonymously)

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

1. (IMPs, none vul.)

♠ T9832 ♥ JT7 ♦ 52 ♣ 754

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

2. (Rubber bridge, both vul.)

♠ A2 ♥ JT8762 ♦ KQ ♣ KJ8

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

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

3. (Matchpoints, none vul.)

♠ AJ53 ♥ AT98 ♦ 6 ♣ T642

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

4. (IMP League, none vul.)

♠ — ♥ AJT96 ♦ AK65 ♣ KT86

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

5. (Matchpoints, both vul.)

♠ K42 ♥ QJ6 ♦ AJ ♣ KJ743

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1NT	Pass	???

Deadline: April 11, 2003.

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

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

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

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

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

Send us your problems for future issues!

Opening Lead

by Bruce McIntyre

During the first four years of my stint as *Matchpointer* editor, I got to know **Thony Stenmon** very well. He was always ready to help me get some information or even to drive me around to collect this information while visiting a club and playing in the game. Accustomed as I was to the larger clubs in the city, I had a lot to learn about the different ways of suburban clubs, and Thony had a lot to say.

Special events, because there are so many of them, explained Thony, don't work well at once-a-week games, because for every player who will appreciate the increased masterpoint haul and the possibility of moving out and the next level, there is another who is not interested in the deal. Those not interested at a city club can simply play on a different night. But in suburbia you might lose a player or a table permanently if you run too many special events.

But even while explaining this to me, Thony would schedule an

NAOP qualifying game and perhaps another special event. He felt strongly that he should do his part. And he did. He ran four sessions a week of club bridge, and ran a second Monthly Unit Game site for awhile, creating the interest to keep the game alive almost by himself. He became an ACBL Director and worked at our tournaments. He wrote fun articles for the *Matchpointer* about the games in Suburbia.

And one night in 1997 he railed about the "crazy Zero Tolerance stuff" coming from Memphis while driving back from a game. I had to smile, since the ACBL had lifted much of it from one of my *Matchpointer* articles, which apparently Thony had missed. He caught my smirk. "What's so funny? These are big changes they're ordering, this hulabaloo from Memphis."

"I know," I said. "I wrote it." Long silence. Finally we stopped at a red light. I looked over and now Thony was smiling. "I guess we'll just have to agree not to agree on this one, eh?"

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Matchpointer

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President's Message

by Peter Morse

[McB: Peter is in New Zealand as this issue finally goes into production and I do not have a President's Message, other than this article]:

The recent North American Bridge Championships attracted a considerable number of players from the Lower Mainland to the sunny and warm city of Phoenix. While those at home in Vancouver worked their umbrellas and windshield wipers, bridge players at the NABCs headed out to the daily games most days under sunny skies, without sweaters and jackets and, in some cases, wearing shorts.

Dan Jacob shone in the two premier events, finishing 14th in the six-session Blue Ribbon Pairs, and then finishing 10th in the Reisinger Board-a-Match teams, another grueling six session event, in which only ten teams (out of an original entry of close to 60 teams) qualified for the final two rounds. Dan and his partner also finished 29th in the Life Master Pairs, having qualified second out of more than 350 pairs on the first day of the two-day event.

Sharing the spotlight was the foursome of **Danny Lee, Dennis Groden, William Ge and Gary Ge**, who each accumulated more than 110 master points with a string of successes in knockout events. While William and Gary combined with **Mike Moffatt and Vicki Croome** to place second in their bracket in the opening knockout event, Dennis and Danny bided their time with two sweet Southern ladies, with limited success. Besides that, they failed to survive two rounds in that same knockout event.

But then the foursome got together and, in succession, placed 3rd/4th in Bracket 3 of the Friday/Saturday knockout, won Bracket 4 of the Sunday/Monday knockout, finished second in Bracket 6 of the Tuesday/Wednesday knockout, won Bracket 2 of the Morning

(continued on page 4)



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

The 2003 book is still available. Coupons inside can be used immediately and do not expire until the end of this year. For just \$46.00, you get a book of coupons that pays for itself in a few weeks, and the money raised goes directly into the Unit's subsidy fund (not into Unit profits).

Our entertainment booksellers are:

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

Support local bridge! Buy yours from Unit 430.

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Spring 2003 *Matchpointer*

Deadline for submissions:
Friday, April 11, 2003.

Dates covered:
April 25 - August 31, 2003.

knockout and won Bracket 8 of the Thursday Compact knockout! This adds up to a combined match record of 17 wins and 2 losses. Danny Lee had to leave for home on Friday evening, but they entered the Friday/Saturday knockout with a fifth wheel on the team in case they survived to the second round. Alas, they lost in the first round of this event, thus saving their added player from the embarrassment of messing up their almost perfect record.

While there were many highlight hands, quite a few of which featured William or Gary Ge placing the Red Card (Double) on the table, the following hand was probably the most notable, as it combines aggressive bidding in the face of opposition attempts to preempt, and fine play by Danny Lee. Holding...

♠ x ♥ QJ9652 ♦ Qxx ♣ Kxx

...Danny heard partner Dennis Groden open 2♣ and RHO step in with 3♠, which was alerted as being either both red suits or clubs. A pass from Danny (forcing to game, and promising at least a king) elicited a 5♦ bid from LHO, which showed a strong preference for diamonds over hearts, and a tolerance for 6♣. Dennis bid 5♠, showing his principal suit, and RHO further obstructed by bidding 6♣. After a lengthy deliberation, during which the opponents called for the Director to monitor the balance of the auction and play, Danny bid 6♥, which was immediately doubled by LHO. Holding a virtually self-sufficient spade suit, Dennis did well to trust his partner's judgment and bidding, leaving the doubled slam in for his partner's final decision.

[For players below the level of Grand Life Master to expect opponents to bid in tempo when faced with destructive bidding like this (and 6♣ a psyche as well) is bizarre. Such tactics create a major problem with the game as it stands today. Danny and Dennis deserve extra congratulations for keeping their composure and making their opponents pay for their lack of sportsmanship. Just an opinion. —McB]

After LHO led a low diamond, Danny found himself looking at:

♠ AKQTxxx ♥ K7 ♦ Ax ♣ AJ

small ♦ led against 6♥*

♠ x ♥ QJ9652 ♦ Qxx ♣ Kxx

Another long pause ensued while Danny considered his line of play.

Since the A♥ is out against him, Danny had no choice but to duck the opening lead to his queen and cross his fingers. Fortunately, his queen won the first trick, and he set about to draw trump.

Oops, LHO showed out on the first heart lead, revealing that RHO started with ♥AT843. RHO took the K♥ with his ace, and returned a second diamond to dummy's ace, which was probably his most effective return (see below for an alternative approach RHO might have taken at tricks two and three). Danny led a second heart, winning as cheaply as possible. Now it was necessary to get his trump length down to that of RHO, so he led a spade to the ace, and ruffed a spade as both opponents followed suit. Now Danny needed two entries to dummy, one to enable him to force RHO to ruff, and one to get back to the board to discard his diamond and club losers on the established spades. Thus, despite apparently having a place to discard his possible losing club (the spade suit), Danny had to finesse the J♣ (the finesse was successful), and commence running spades. RHO is now cooked, since if he keeps discarding on the spades, so will Danny, until the lead comes from dummy at trick 11, with Danny holding ♥QJ9. If, on the other hand, RHO trumps the third or later spade leads, Danny will win and draw the remaining trumps, returning to the A♣ to discard his remaining losers on the good spades. Score up +1660 for North-South.

The complete hands and bidding were:

Board 5	Dir: North Vul: N-S	Dennis Groden ♠ AKQTxxx ♥ K7 ♦ Ax ♣ AJ	6♥* by South Lead: x♦
WEST		Danny Lee ♠ x ♥ QJ9652 ♦ Qxx ♣ Kxx	EAST
♠ Jxx ♥ — ♦ Kxx ♣ QTxxxxx			♠ xxx ♥ AT843 ♦ JTxxx ♣ x

	D. GRODEN		D. LEE	
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	
	2♣	3♠(1)	Pass(2)	
5♦(3)	5♣	6♣	6♥(4)	
Double	Pass(5)	Pass	Pass	

- 1: either hearts and diamonds, or long clubs
- 2: forcing pass, game forcing, promises at least a king
- 3: preference for diamonds; or accept 6♣ if partner has clubs
- 4: lengthy delay, director called to monitor bidding and play
- 5: trusts partner to correct if he thinks there is a better spot

(continued on page 5)



HHIT's Restricted Choice

by Bruce McIntyre

The Hideous Hog (In Training) takes a dim view of many ACBL regulations. He has taken recently to the odd practice of bringing Post-It notes to games. He writes "openers/overcalls: 15—17 (good 14—bad 18)" on two of the notes and sticks them onto his and his partner's INT bid-box card. "I've yet to hear a good reason for this inane rule," he explains to anyone who asks. "But if you call the Director because I failed to announce, you are going to look awfully silly when the Director notices that you couldn't possibly have seen INT without also seeing the range."

Recently Derek, a new Director, appeared at the Hog's club of choice, and after a rarity: a ruling that the Hog agreed with, he chatted up the fellow after the game. When HHIT found out that Derek's surname was Rector, he chortled and last fall gave him an expensive gold and silver name tag inscribed so:

D. Rector (Director)

"He deserves nothing less," said the Hog. "He agrees with me that the ACBL rulebook is hopelessly overwritten, keeping the glorious masterpoint, inflated like a junta's currency as it is, free from excellent and superior forms of bridge that would revitalize duplicate. No, I don't mean cash prizes, although what else will attract people when a brilliantly-devised contest is not allowed to award masterpoints because it is not recognized in the ACBL list of authorized events?"

You can see what's coming, of course. Why should the Hog befriend a Director? Because you cannot promote a new-fangled event with cash prizes unless you run it, and if cash prizes were involved, the Hog was certainly not going to sit on the sidelines and watch. There were a few weeks of experimenting, a search for sponsors, a poster for the club wall, and the sign-up sheet for 'Duplicate Duels' was full of hopeful pairs in a few days.

Opening Night featured the Hog himself, who had been so busy planning the event that he forgot to get

himself a decent partner. Such trivialities have never bothered HHIT, so he simply took Zelda, the last person on the partners-wanted list (to the relief of everyone else on the list) and entered the top bracket of the event, a level at which Zelda had very little experience. Who could argue? The top bracket had the highest entry fee, and few thought the Hog and Zelda had a chance.

Duplicate Duels perhaps should be considered by the ACBL for masterpoints. You simply arrange to have the deals from another club written down and sent by e-mail, along with the traveling scoreslips. The players play the deals one more time, and their score is added to the scores made at the other club and the board is re-matchpointed. In this way, a contest between two pairs can be played without the luck of the deal which dominates rubber bridge, but with the skill of obtaining matchpoints duplicate players know so well. Also, the scores obtained are immediately known, so at each point the players know where they stand.

There was skepticism at first, of course. The results might be skewed one way or the other, said the pessimists. The Hog-In-Training countered this with a simple scheme: a coin toss to choose seats for the first six deals, then on deal seven and every time the lead changed thereafter, the trailing side would have complete seating rights.

Others said that the results from another club might not be at the calibre of the pairs involved, surely some games were stronger than others, and a strong game would yield different results than a weak game. "Part of the game," ruled HHIT. "You have 24 boards to figure out the rub of the green on any night, and adjust your strategy accordingly." Still others said that HHIT's intent to score by wins, losses and ties was alien to most accepted forms of competitive bridge, where the margin of victory was almost as important as actually winning. "Bah!" scoffed the Hog-In-Training. "Horseshoes isn't getting much airplay on cable these days. If we want to make

(continued on page 6)

If Danny had not finessed the J♣ but instead had played the A♣ to get to the board, RHO could defeat the hand by ruffing the third spade lead, thus trapping Danny in his hand while he still has a club and a diamond loser. (In hindsight, RHO might have created more problems for Danny if he had held off the first two heart leads,

but if Danny followed the path he eventually chose, he could still triumph, as long as he left the A♠ on the board, using the J♣ and A♣ as entries to the spades.)

It may seem that 6♣ would have been a better contract, but that goes down at trick two following an opening lead of the A♥ and a heart continuation. 6NT played

from Danny's hand makes on the actual lay of the cards (as long as the A♣ is played if that suit is led), but could easily fail with only the slightest change to the distribution of the cards in the opposition hands.

—Peter Morse

bridge a spectator sport, we need to kill this idea that margin of victory matters—like in all real sports!" Teams in each bracket would play a double round-robin, decreed HHIT, and all teams at .500 or better would make the playoffs.

The first match was scheduled for 7pm on a Friday, and spectators were encouraged to watch the action during breaks from the regular game, which began at 7:30. Spectators were sold a small booklet containing the deals, prepared in advance by Derek Rector, and were carefully instructed not to expose it to players or even to other spectators at the risk of confiscation. Many were surprised to find that the Hog had even constructed an electronic scoreboard:

DUPLICATE DUELS Bracket One		
BOARDS		
HHIT/ZELDA	TO PLAY	BOB/BOB
0	24	0

The two Bobs, winners of pairs events at the last three local tournaments, won the toss and sat North-South. Ironically, and to the great surprise of onlookers, the first board was passed out by the Hog, holding a 13 count with a spade void. The traveller was opened and there were eight plus scores for N-S and five for E-W, so the scoreboard was adjusted thus:

DUPLICATE DUELS Bracket One		
(TOP=13, MP NEEDED TO WIN: 169%)		
e-w	BOARDS	n-s
HHIT/ZELDA	TO PLAY	BOB/BOB
8	23	5

The two Bobs quickly took the lead and by 7:30 the Hog and Zelda were 9 matchpoints down on a 13 top. Most settled in to the regular duplicate game, keeping an eye on the scoreboard and watching a few deals while waiting for the round to be called. Several stayed to watch the entire match. Derek was smart enough to sell the hand records for slightly more than the card fees, offering the regular game for free to those who purchased the "program." At half-time the two Bobs were leading 82-74. Critics were surprised that Zelda was dealing so well with the pressure; most expected the two Bobs to have it wrapped up by half-time. The Hog was heard explaining some of his odd plays by quoting percentages, a most unusual tactic for HHIT post-mortems. Derek, having had the privilege of partnering Zelda several times to fill a half-table, gave me a sotto-voce explanation: "Zelda loves percentages. She actually plays better if you encourage her with statements like 'we had to

bid it, it's a 68% slam.' It hardly matters whether the slam is actually 68%, 98%, or 28%—she is somehow comforted by percentages."

The second half began and the Hog's chances began to slip as Bob One made a slam thanks to Zelda's lead of an ace. HHIT told her that it was 50% whether to lead a club or a heart and therefore unlucky, at which Bob Two excused himself for a second to go outside and laugh, as Zelda had held KQJx in the other suit.

With ten boards left and the Hog needing some good scores, he began to bid 3NT more often than usual. With a sixteen count and no four-card major, HHIT opened 3NT in fourth seat and Zelda alerted. Bob One inquired. "I am not allowed to take this out without a seven card suit and no possible side entry." Zelda's six-card spade suit did not qualify, and the Hog's touch-and-go 660 beat the field's routine 650.

Two more good scores followed and players completed the faster-played duplicate game to discover a possible upset in the making:

DUPLICATE DUELS Bracket One		
(TOP=13, MP NEEDED TO WIN: 169%)		
e-w	BOARDS	n-s
HHIT/ZELDA	TO PLAY	BOB/BOB
142½	4	143½

"Mr. Johnson, I'm confiscating your hand record booklet," interrupted Derek Rector as the players picked up their cards for Board 21 amid a growing number of spectators. "Ladies and gentlemen, as Mr. Johnson has just found out, we are serious about the regulation banning the sharing of, or peeping at, hand records booklets. We want you to be able to watch, but we don't want you to give the game away. I have six of them left, seven of them with Mr. Johnson's, and I will sell them at the desk for a minimum bid of \$10. The money raised will go into the prize fund for all flights." A bidding war ensued at the desk for the remaining booklets as they picked up their hands for the next deal. The Hog-in-Training made 3♣ on a squeeze and this scored nine matchpoints. All programs were sold and Derek Rector ruled that for security reasons people with programs would have to stand at least ten feet back on chairs. The scoreboard now showed:

DUPLICATE DUELS Bracket One		
(TOP=13, MP NEEDED TO WIN: 169%)		
e-w	BOARDS	n-s
HHIT/ZELDA	TO PLAY	BOB/BOB
151½	3	147½

The Hog-In-Training and Zelda had taken the



lead for the first time since Board 1. Bob Two took the opportunity to request a seat change, so the Hog and Zelda took the North-South chairs. "Really Bob," laughed the Hog as the bidding began on board 22, "you had the lead for almost twenty deals in those chairs. Are you going to rely on the I Ching or feng shui to defeat us? I thought we were the big underdogs." Zelda laughed as loud as the crowd and bid 3♣. Bob Two played the red card, and Zelda went for 800.

"Unlucky, partner," said the Hog, who had been reading the scoreslip under the table during the play as dummy. "But we have company, it seems, so it's not a total disaster." Bob One snatched the slip from HHIT, knocking over his drink in the process. "Only nine matchpoints—unbelievable." HHIT had stood up to avoid the drink spillage and was now adjusting the scoreboard:

DUPLICATE DUELS Bracket One		
(TOP=13, MP NEEDED TO WIN: 169%)		
n-s	BOARDS	e-w
HHIT/ZELDA	TO PLAY	BOB/BOB
155%	2	156%

Returning to his chair, the Hog found it soaked. Zelda was standing as well. "When I found that we got four for minus 800 I was so excited, I, uh, excuse me." And she went off towards the ladies room. Derek Rector placed board 23 on the table and asked HHIT if he wanted to switch back to East-West. "I think so," said the Hog, "if only because I prefer to sit in a dry chair." Derek ruled that the Bobs could not take their chairs with them. Efforts by the two Bobs to get replacement chairs from spectators were unsuccessful and they were finally reduced to grabbing a few old newspapers to avoid getting wet.

Board 23 took ten minutes to play as Bob One took five minutes over a finesse decision in 3NT. Had Zelda ducked smoothly the first time the finesse was taken? If so, the contract could be defeated; but if not, there was a chance for an overtrick which could be worth a top. After Bob One's third long look at the scoresheet, the Hog figured out the problem.

"Yes Bob," goaded HHIT, "a top gets you 13 and the match. But will this overtrick be a top? Won't several pairs try for this overtrick as well? Is it worth the risk? Do you feel lucky?"

Bob One finally decided to play the ace and made +660 for 10½ matchpoints. With a second finesse, +690 was available and worth 12½ out of 13, enough to clinch at least a tie, and ensure a win on the final hand just by avoiding a bottom. Going down, however, would be a near zero.

DUPLICATE DUELS Bracket One		
(TOP=13, MP NEEDED TO WIN: 169%)		
n-s	BOARDS	e-w
HHIT/ZELDA	TO PLAY	BOB/BOB
158	1	167

The last hand was placed on the table by Derek Rector and the two Bobs sat back with some relief. Any reasonable result would be sure to get them the 2½ matchpoints needed. HHIT opened 1NT and Zelda used Stayman to discover a spade fit, Roman Keycard Blackwood to discover the missing trump queen, and left HHIT in 6♣. The Hog considered a bit and it was clear he was thinking about converting to 6NT. His hand was:

♠ KT75 ♥ K98 ♦ A92 ♣ KQ5

Of course, the Hog had no idea what key cards were missing so he really had no alternative but to trust Zelda, who did know. He has since confessed to me that the relinquishing of captaincy seems to be a grave weakness with his "1NT whenever reasonable and often when unreasonable" opening bid strategy, and he's looking for a way out. His worst fears were realized when Bob One led the 3♣ and the Hog-in-Training cast his eyes upon:

♠ AJ32 ♥ AJT ♦ KJ9 ♣ K64

3♣ led vs 6♣

♠ KT75 ♥ K98 ♦ AT2 ♣ AQ5

Mirrored distribution meant the Hog would have to guess two out of three missing queens, although there might be some help from the opponents if they got in. Even scarier was the spectre of having to compete with players in 6NT for badly-needed matchpoints. But if the Hog could only divine somehow the location of the trump queen, the hand reduced to 75%: guess one of the two remaining queens for twelve tricks.

The Hog-in-Training told me secretly once about his theory for two-way finesses for queens. "You always finesse against the opponent you like least. Why allow your worst enemies to grab tricks they are not entitled to? At least if you are wrong, the nicer opponent gets the trick." I wondered which Bob the Hog would finesse through, and could not decide. Neither could HHIT. When Bob Two played the 9♣, he won the opening lead in hand, played the king of spades, and then a small spade to the ace without hesitation. Both Bobs followed, and the Hog continued with two more club winners, ending in dummy. Still both Bobs followed, and now the Hog

played a small spade. Bob Two discarded a small heart and Bob One won the queen of spades and played a low heart. HHIT called for the jack from dummy and Bob Two covered with the queen. The Hog won and cashed two more hearts, both Bobs again following, then a spade to the jack. Both Bobs pitched small diamonds.

The thirteenth club—the eight—was still out along with the queen and four other diamonds. Bob One had played the 3♣ on the third round and Bob Two had played the 2♣. The other discards were the three of hearts on the third round of spades from Bob Two, and the three of diamonds from Bob One and the five of diamonds from Bob Two on the fourth round of spades.

Finally the Hog spoke. "King of diamonds please." This fetched the six from Bob Two and the four from Bob One. The jack of diamonds from dummy was next, and Bob Two followed with the eight. "Who needs finesses anyway," said the Hog as he played the ace...and Bob One dropped the queen. Making six, without a single finesse!

"How could you pitch a diamond?" said Bob Two rather loudly.

"If I don't, he can infer that my choice of a heart return after the queen of spades is because I have the queen of diamonds. It's Restricted Choice!"

There was much arguing over whether Restricted Choice applied to this situation. The kibitzers became involved and the Hog in Training yawned and said nothing for some time. It took a few minutes for tempers to quiet down. This was the complete hand:

Board 24	Dir: West Vul: None	Zelda	6♥* by South Lead: J♣
Bob One	♠ Q86 ♥ 752 ♦ Q43 ♣ JT83	♠ AJ32 ♥ AJT ♦ KJ9 ♣ K64	Bob Two
	HHIT	♠ 94 ♥ Q643 ♦ 8765 ♣ 972	
	♠ KT75 ♥ K98 ♦ AT2 ♣ AQ5		

Derek Rector had the scoreslip and a wry smile. "Don't you want to know the matchpoint result?" This at least brought total silence.

"Zelda and the Hog need 11½ matchpoints out of thirteen to win, eleven to tie. Two pairs are down one in 6NT and three are down one in 6S. Only two other pairs are in slam. Pair 7 is in 6NT making six. Pair 9 is in six spades....making six. The board

is worth 11½ out of thirteen to North-South and the Hog and Zelda win by 169½ to 168½."

DUPLICATE DUELS Bracket One		
(TOP=13, MP NEEDED TO WIN: 169½)		
n-s	BOARDS	e-w
HHIT/ZELDA	TO PLAY	BOB/BOB
169½	0	168½

Much, much later, I asked the Hog how he knew that Bob One had unguarded his queen of diamonds. "When I noticed that there were only five diamonds left out, I asked myself why a good player would not discard the last club. I wasn't sure who had the last club until I remembered that Bob Two had played the 9♣ at trick one. Against a slam you might lead from JT8x or from JT9x or even from JT9, but it would be a little more risky to lead from JT8. So if Bob One had four clubs, why would he not pitch it in the endgame? Because doing so would give me a count, and knowing that they each had three diamonds left I would have to finesse against the opponent who chose not to lead a diamond when he had the chance. Sort of a Restricted Choice decision."

But what if Bob One, in with the Q♣, had led back a diamond? Now the situation in the endgame is reversed and by the Hog's reasoning he would go down.

"I wondered about that too. When in with the spade Bob One could count six points in clubs, three in spades, and the ace of diamonds in my hand. This left room for the king or the queen of hearts for my INT opener. Bob One must have known that I held the king and not the queen. He probably worked it out from my line of play, as well as the distribution. He knew that a diamond lead would leave me a heart guess, and a heart lead would leave me a diamond guess. But if his partner had the ten of diamonds, leading a heart would give me two guesses in diamonds, so he chose hearts. Had he led a diamond I would play three diamonds and the last spade and perhaps without the missing queen he would pitch the last club. With both red queens though he would be better off to play hearts, so I'd assume Bob Two had the queen of hearts."

At this point I left the Hog to enjoy his victory celebration, although it seems his reasoning is flawed somehow. I suspect he didn't analyze anything and simply took the most unorthodox play that might work, hoping that if it was right he would have a good score for lack of company. But the Hog with his Restricted Choice of partner seems to be a force to reckon with in this Duplicate Duels competition. We'll see if he makes the playoffs.

Vulture Comeuppance

by David Grannis

Chuck Duck had been doing well at the bridge wars since he had partnered with Glenda's husband Gladstone, winning regularly and piling up the points. Their results puzzled the other players, for Gladstone didn't fit the mold of an accomplished player. He seemed to play the hands well, but the reasons he gave for card choices seemed totally off the wall. He wouldn't or couldn't learn any but the simplest conventions, and seemed unwilling or unable to count high card points, or even cards in a suit. To say that he appeared something of an enigma was to understate the case.

When considering the reasons for the success of the duo, the other players split into two camps. Some, such as Tiggy Turkey, believed Gladstone's genius so transcended the norm that it was pointless for mere mortals to try to understand the workings of his mind. Others, and these constituted the majority, thought he was just an incredibly lucky booby.

Chuck had started out sharing the majority view. His reason for persuading Gladstone to take up the game in the first place was that he had observed the working of his phenomenal luck in other aspects of his life. His assumption was that this luck would carry over into bridge, and apparently it did.

Lately Chuck had begun to wonder if it was that simple. Although unconventional, Gladstone's bidding was not random. He was very impressed with aces and face cards, and tended to bid the number of these he held in a given suit. Sometimes this was very useful information, and on such occasions there definitely appeared to be method to his madness.

The match they had just finished was a case in point. It was a team event, with Tiggy and Glenda as the other members, and they were not having a good night. Perhaps it was a bit much to expect even Gladstone's phenomenal luck to encompass an entire team. With one board to go Chuck had figured they would need a 2,800 point swing to salvage the match. He had wondered how many bridge matches had been saved in the final round by a swing of this magnitude. Any? What was particularly unfortunate was that the match was against Butch Vulture's team. Butch was an arrogant blowhard, and he would be sure to gloat after his victory. Chuck hadn't relished the prospect. As he had picked up his last hand he had reminded himself that it ain't over 'til, according to the famous Oriole, or Bluejay, or whatever he was.

Then he had seen the cards, and his mind had returned to the game. Fortunately, he and Gladstone were able to make a small slam. But barring a miracle

at the other table, it would not be enough.

Gladstone, of course, was confident, having witnessed thousands of miracles when he needed them. Sure enough, Glenda and Tiggy scored 1,700, and the match was theirs.

When it was over, they spread the hands on the table:

Board Dir: South 31 Vul: N-S	Bertie Buzzard ♠ 8 6 2 ♥ 8 7 5 3 ♦ A Q J ♣ 7 6 4	6♥* by South Lead: T♠
Glenda Goose ♠ T 9 7 5 4 3 ♥ — ♦ 9 6 3 2 ♣ A Q T	Butch Vulture ♠ A K Q J ♥ A K Q J T ♦ K ♣ K J 9	Tiggy Turkey ♠ — ♥ 9 6 4 2 ♦ T 8 7 5 4 ♣ 8 5 3 2

Glenda spoke first. "Butch was South, and he played it in 6♥. Tiggy had four trumps, so naturally she doubled. And I had an ace and a queen. Surely they were very foolish to bid that slam. I led a spade, and Tiggy ruffed and returned a club. Then we did the same things again, and yet again, until we had seven tricks. But then we couldn't figure out how to take any more."

"That was fine," said Chuck. "Six down doubled gave us 1700 points. Combined with the 1440 we got for making 6NT it was enough to give us the match."

"But you had the sense to play it in notrump instead of hearts," Glenda observed.

"The pure blind luck, you mean." It was Butch, who had observed them discussing the hand and had wandered over. "Your bidding methods are so crude you couldn't find the nine-card heart fit. That's why you played it in notrump."

"Fine," said Chuck. "You keep on believing that. It'll just make it easier to beat you again next time."

"What, are you saying you knew about the heart fit and bid the slam in notrump anyway?"

"No, I'm saying we knew we had a no-trump slam, so the heart fit was irrelevant."

"Oh, right," responded Butch. "Let me guess. You knew because a little birdie told you."

"No, just an advanced bidding convention. I'll explain it to you sometime if you ever decide to improve your game."

"Yeah? How about right now? This I've got to see."

"All right. We use a jump shift after a two club opening to show a suit with three of the top four hon-

(continued on page 10)



Youth Learns Exuberance

by Brad Bart

January Sectional, Saturday Afternoon Session. This is the first tournament I have played in for awhile, and I am genuinely excited to be here. Bridgewise, I am feeling invincible†, and my partner and I believe this is due to my reading too many of Zia's books. You see, when Zia's muchly anticipated book, *Bridge My Way*, came out in the early 90's, many of my bridge friends said that it was a disappointment. As a result, I never read it until just recently. And my reaction?

I loved this book!

Zia, the "Pakistani playboy," is well known for his flair for bridge. His flamboyance has shown through at the table, both in his creative bidding and his outrageous humour. *Bridge My Way*, an autobiography, illustrates that Zia lives life in the same way he plays bridge: with passion. If you share the opinion that there is a lack of fun and excitement in the bridge world, then you might think differently after reading his book, but those of you who take the game too seriously will find the book is sorely lacking on what

† [invincible (adj.): a healthy dose of over-confidence, coupled with a recklessly optimistic outlook in the bidding.]

(Opening Lead, continued from page 2)

When I resigned from the Unit Board in 1998 on a matter unrelated to the *Matchpointer*, Thony wrote a touching letter of thanks

for my four years of *Matchpointer* work, and brought it to his game so his players could sign it too before he sent it to me without fanfare. And now he's gone, passed away in hospital last fall. I'll miss him.

What an exhausting winter at work this has been for me! I apologize to all of those inconvenienced by the delay in getting this issue out.

—McBruce

(Vulture Comeuppance, continued from page 9)

ours. Sitting South I opened 2♣, and Glad responded 3♦, telling me the no-trump slam was a sure thing. No need to risk the opponents scoring four ruffs and three clubs for down six doubled. By the way, what do you use the jump shift after a two club opener for?"

"We don't use it for anything."

"Yes. Well, some of us have to keep it simple I suppose."

"This is all just buzzard droppings. Admit it, you lucked into it."

During the discussion Butch's teammate Don Condor had joined the group. At this point he spoke up. "Actually, Butch, I think he's legit. At our table Chuck alerted Glad's response and I

you might call "bridge."

Well, enough digressing about Zia. Today I'm playing with David Breton, a promising young player and good friend. This is round six, and the first five rounds have been...explosive. Because of my new found literary inspiration, I have been taking some liberty both in the bidding and in the play, and that combination has led to very few average results. So far, we are having a 70% game: 7 tops and 3 bottoms, but the event is far from over and we still have 16 opportunities to blow our big lead.

Our opponents this round are undoubtedly the best pair sitting against us in our section: Gerry McCully and Phil Hernandez. As I sit down, I warn them that I am "on tilt" and they laugh at me, but keep watch over me with suspicion.

I am hesitant to tell you about the first of the two hands. I pick up ♠ J95 ♥ K8 ♦ A87 ♣ KJ632, and hear Gerry (LHO) open 1NT, Phil respond 2♥ (transfer), Gerry bid 2♣ and then it goes Pass-Pass to me. With no fear, I bid 3♣, and equally with no fear, Gerry doubles me. To make a long story short, dummy hit with four-card trump support, but Gerry held the AQT so I was defeated two tricks for -300. I was right about one thing: they were making 2♠!

The score now shows seven tops and four bottoms: a 63.6%. Would you apply the brakes on the second hand?

Holding ♠ 3 ♥ AK5 ♦ 8654 ♣ AKQ96 at favourable vulnerability, I open 1♣ in 3rd seat. Gerry

asked. 'Probably three of the four top honours,' he said."

"Probably?" asked Butch.

"So I need to have more faith in my partner," said Chuck. "You guys bad-mouthing him sometimes makes me doubt him a little. Mea culpa."

"Harrumph," said Butch. "Let's go, Don."

Don shrugged and followed him out of the room.

"That's telling him," said Glenda to Chuck. "He needed putting in place, and you did it in spades."

Tiggy concurred. "Only a bird-brain would mistake Gladstone's genius for luck. That was very well spoken."

"Thanks," said Chuck. He did feel he had been quite eloquent in defending his friend and partner. But could there actually have been some truth in anything he had said?

jumps to 2♣ and David passes. Phil bids 3♣, which I am more than happy to double for penalties, takeout, lead-suggestion, or just on general strength. Pick a meaning, partner! Anyway, Gerry passes and David bids 3♥. When Phil bids 3♣, I stop to consider my next action. This was the auction so far:

None vul: ♠ 3 ♥ AK5 ♦ 8654 ♣ AKQ96

GERRY	DAVID	PHIL	BRAD
	Pass	Pass	1♣
2♣	Pass	3♣	Double
Pass	3♥	3♣	???

David likely has six hearts for his call. 4♥ is likely cold opposite as little as five hearts to the queen-jack and a doubleton diamond. So, I suck it in and come out with 4♥. Gerry bids 4♣ and, after some consideration, David bids on to 5♥! Phil passes, I pass, and, after holding my breath for what must have been ten minutes, Gerry passes too. No double? Could we be so lucky?

Here's David's play problem in 5♥ undoubled:

Dummy: ♠ 3 ♥ AK5 ♦ 8654 ♣ AKQ96

David: ♠ 4 ♥ 987632 ♦ AK ♣ 10843

Phil leads a spade to Gerry's ace and a diamond is returned. This hand seems like yet another no-brainer: draw trumps and play on clubs. But David gives it his best shot: he leads the deuce of hearts, and

when Phil plays the four, David covers with the five! This safety play ensures the contract except when clubs divide 0-4. But why risk an opportunity to make six at pairs, if the hearts had divided 2-2? Simple. We had found an abnormally good spot in a field where the rest were probably defending 4♣ (perhaps doubled), going down one or two.

Ensuring our plus was his top priority, and David was rewarded when Gerry showed out on the first round of hearts! The entire hand?

Board 19	Dir: South Vul: E-W	Brad Bart ♠ 3 ♥ AK5 ♦ 8654 ♣ AKJ96	5♥ by South Lead: 7♣
Phil Hernandez ♠ QT875 ♥ QJT4 ♦ QT7 ♣ Q	David Breton ♠ 4 ♥ 987632 ♦ AK ♣ T843	Gerry McCully ♠ AKJ962 ♥ — ♦ J962 ♣ 732	

OKOK, I confess. My dummy was actually less stellar: I only held AKJ96 of clubs. That gave David an extra suit to worry about, and so he did not actually find the winning line of play against the 4-0 trump break. But, David was the first one to remark that he *should* have! So here's my bridge tip for this issue: Play bridge with David Breton!

Give Me A Hand

by Joerg Schneider

The following freak (rotated to make South the declarer) was dealt at Gilbert's Friday night game:

Board ?	Conditions not given	NORTH ♠ AT96 ♥ T2 ♦ A5 ♣ AKJ32	7♥ by South Lead: ??
WEST ♠ QJ5 ♥ 83 ♦ JT87 ♣ Q754		SOUTH ♠ K ♥ AKQJ976 ♦ Q9632 ♣ —	EAST ♠ 87432 ♥ 54 ♦ K4 ♣ T986

Let's say that optimistic bidding carries you to 7♥ and West leads the 4♣. Now making seven is easy, ruff the opening lead, ace of hearts, heart to the

ten, another club ruff, king of spades, ace of diamonds, and now pitch the other diamonds on the A♣ and the good clubs. This is how the play went at our table, not that we were in seven!

At another table the lead was the Q♣. Now you are an entry short for the plan of setting up a fifth club for your thirteenth trick. Overtaking with the ace allows you to ruff out the clubs, but you lose the extra spade trick. You have to win in dummy, pull two rounds of trumps ending in dummy, ace of spades, a spade ruff, ace of diamonds and three diamonds go on the good clubs and the established ten of spades (the other diamond went on the ace of spades).

A trump lead does not defeat 7♥! You win in hand and unblock the K♣, then play a heart to the ten and proceed as before, hoping to bring down the jack of spades with one spade ruff. This time it works!

The only lead that beats the grand slam is the jack (or any other) diamond. This takes a vital entry out of the dummy before the spades are untangled, and now a diamond must be lost.

King Boru's Calcutta

Part 3 by Finnegan O'Blarney



So, this is not Finnegan O'Blarney after all, 'tis his "correspondent." Right...

Hello, it is m'self again, good old Finnigan O'Blarney. As I left all you gentle non-Celts last time, I was still smarting from what that brother o' mine and his final-round partner did to me. But to those eliminated that had to drink ewe's milk, none were told that it was curdled—bless me dear wife's heart for

she put all of the rules together.

Some may have complained but I say fair is fair, so there I was having dropped a few spots in the contest as me brother passed me, unthinkable perfidy havin' been perpetrated upon m'self by his partner. I knew that it was not the most Celt-like bidding still the Director stated that the result stood. Revenge was not far from mind, in me own way.

As for the livery room we had to get another Al-Qieda; the original had to be returned because it broke in a permanent way. The thing is that this lad Chris Diamond, a newly minted Fianna, went in to take a few dart throws but the dear lad's aim was a wee bit low, along with using a dirk and not darts, so he gelded the prisoner and said "Oops, I sort of hit my target where I was told it would score the most; your brother lied to me: it was worth only 50 points, not 100 points like the bull's eye." So we got a new one. "All used up," said me wife on that issue. "Pity—I wanted to take a turn or two meself."

But now back to the contest.

In the eighth round came a major turning point as my random partner was La Donna Maria Hildalgo Nuñez from Toledo. Such a lady! As aggressive at bridge as she is an expert sword-dancer in the Spanish tradition, with the rapier and the main gauche. (It is a Celtic thing after all.)

Gee, this recollecting is a thirsty work: Barkeep! Whiskey!!

There I was holding in the south seat as the dealer and vulnerable vs not:

♠ J1076 ♥ K10 ♦ J43 ♣ AK64

We had agreed to a passive weak NT with two-way Stayman.

D.M.H. NUÑEZ		F. O'BLARNEY	
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	



Board 15 Dir: South Vul: N-S	Donna M. H. Nuñez ♠ K ♥ Q7652 ♦ AK72 ♣ J95	3NT by South Lead: 3♣
WEST	Finnegan O'Blarney ♠ JT76 ♥ KT ♦ J43 ♣ AK64	EAST
♠ AQ42 ♥ A3 ♦ QT86 ♣ T83		♠ 9853 ♥ J984 ♦ 95 ♣ Q72

With the lead of the 3♣ I had to take stock of me entries to hand and to dummy, so after pausing for a minute or two as to figure me best chances to make 3NT, I inserted the 9♣, and lo and behold the queen comes out in almost obliging fashion!

"Morte a la reina," says I as I eagerly win the trick with the ace, then lead to my J♣ to enter me dummy from where I make the quasi suicidal play of the K♣, forcing West to win with his ace. Now facing a rather unsavory position of being in the lead, so as to force me hand, West exited a club. I cashed both my winning clubs and forced each opponent to discard. East played a spade and West a diamond, so being the ever present Irish gent that I am, once again I played a spade, the jack. West won the trick while East also followed suit; that was nine of them gone and the 942 still out. Feeling the pressure West exited with a diamond that ran to me jack, and then I proceeded to play some diamonds m'self. Lo and behold I won the three remaining diamond tricks as the queen dropped on me left! Finally I play me T♣ and the 9♣ comes down, creating a tenth trick!

In the end we were the only pair in game on this hand, whilst me left hand opponent was none other than me dear brother, and a blow to his ego it was as we scored 630. With this hand came a series of good results that saw me overtake me brother Arawn by more than 570 points going into the third round, while those that did nay advance to the semi-final, according to the rules, went fishing for carps in the Shannon river—head first, that is! It's an Irish thing after all.

Until next time, this is Finnigan O'Blarney from King Boru's Tavern. Oh, and also: in the last edition of the *Matchpointer* ye had a photograph of a lad who is me correspondent, but please—he is nay Irish, all he does is to make sure that me writings are given to the right parties. In the meantime: Barkeep—Whiskey—Now!

It's Your Bid

Fall 2002 Responses and Scores

Only 20 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 and apologize for the necessary editing of responses.

Of the 20 responses, 7 self-flighted themselves into Flight A, 9 in Flight B, and 4 in Flight C. The pseudonym option presented last time seems to have gone a bit sideways: if you do not include comments you don't need a pseudonym, and if you win without including your name we cannot award a prize when we don't know who you are!

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 42 voting points, compared to 59 voting points for the consensus bid. 42 is about 71% of 59, so 71 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.

No 500 scores this time! Let's find out who won:

1. (IMPs, N-S vulnerable.)

♠ KJ7 ♥ QJ83 ♦ A8 ♣ KQ54

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♦	???

Responders were tied with ten votes each for 1NT and a takeout double. The notrumpers first:

Larry Meyer: 1NT. Wish I had better diamond stops, but this is the most descriptive bid.

David Breton: 1NT. A better description than a double.

"Viktor Nullo": 1NT. Anytime we can describe values and distribution with one bid, why not do it?

With "Systems On" when advancing a 1NT overcall, partner will find the major suit fit if there is one.

Stuart Carr: 1NT. Subsequent bidding may lead to a major fit; if not, then partner will probably have help in diamonds for me (one can always hope).

Phillipe Westreich: 1NT. I suppose double is possible, but 1NT describes this hand pretty darned well.

Doug Cowan: 1NT. If 4-4 in the majors I'd double but 1NT seems more descriptive.

David Hooley: 1NT. Choices are 1NT or double. I think 1NT is a little more descriptive.

"HHIT": Double. 1NT overcalls need a clear source of tricks to avoid going for numbers. I'll owe partner a spade without regret.

Harold Hansen: Double. Unless partner can bid notrump this hand will probably play better in a suit. Since we're vulnerable 1NT could be dangerous if opener has long diamonds and re-entry cards.

Julien Lévesque: Double.

The difference was in the response weightings, as the non-commenting Flight A players voted for the double.

Call	A	B	C	Total Votes	Total Points	Award
Double	5	2	3	10	59	100
1NT	2	7	1	10	42	71

Source: Max Hardy's *Standard Bridge Bidding for the 21st Century* (problem 5 on page 214). Max agrees with the consensus that double is correct over 1♦, but 1NT is better over any other one-level suit opener.

2. (Matchpoints, none vul.)

♠ K9 ♥ — ♦ JT6 ♣ AKQJT843

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

A traffic-light problem. Only a few panelists chose the red light and bailed past 3NT to the safe (?) harbour of 5♣. Second most popular was the green light:

"HHIT": 3NT. JT6, in the minds of opponents, is a stopper when you bid a confident 3NT. The bidding gurus haven't invented a way to find partner's ♦9xxx yet.

Larry Meyer: 3NT. Hope pard produces at least the Q♦. Wish I made this bid one round earlier.

"Viktor Nullo": 3NT. Doesn't look like we can make 6♣. Even 5♣ could be tough. Hence we apply Hamman's rule: "Anytime 3NT is a reasonable alterna-

(continued on page 14)

(It's Your Bid, continued from page 13)

tive in the auction, bid it." All we need is a spade lead, or one trick from partner. Let's hope pard has Qx or better in diamonds.

The majority voted for the amber light, although there were several incompatible reasons...

David Breton: 3♣. All I need for 6♣ is a stiff diamond and the A♠. Partner opened and couldn't rebid his hearts, so he must have value in the pointed suits. If I hear 3NT over my 3♣, I won't stop below 6♣.

Julien Lévesque: 3♣. Game is 100%, slam 40% without further info so my vote to grope with 3♣.

Harold Hansen: 3♣. Let's not get past 3NT yet.

Stuart Carr: 3♣. I don't know what this bid should mean (or how partner will take it), but partner's next bid may help me decide whether to push for a club game or slam, or gamble in NT. I will pass a 3NT bid from partner, and hope he unknowingly has a diamond stopper, like Qx.

Phillipe Westreich: 3♣. Cue bid—find out if partner has diamonds stopped.

Doug Cowan: 3♣. Looking for a diamond control, still lots of time to bail at 5♣.

David Hooley: 3♣. Don't give up yet on 3NT. Let partner know you have spades stopped. When the opponents bid two suits, a bid of one of those two suits shows a stopper.

It must have been a pretty good problem since the majority didn't know why they were doing what they did, but agreed on 3♣ anyhow.

Call	A	B	C	Total Votes	Total Points	Award
3♣	4	5	1	10	56	100
3NT	3	3	1	7	40	71
5♣	0	1	2	3	5	9

Source: unknown. If I had to guess I would speculate that I bid 3NT online and went down.

Leaderboard: Harold Hansen, Duane Tilden, Cam Doner, and Julien Lévesque have 200.

3. (IMP League, none vul.)			
♠ — ♥ AT8643 ♦ 6 ♣ KQ8642			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		2♣	3♥
4♣	5♥	5♣	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	???

This one hinged on the meaning of South's pass on the previous round. Those who bid on thought it was anywhere from wrong to questionable:

Julien Lévesque: 6♣. This is drunk bidding already distorted. With zero defense and 12

cards in the rounded suits it's all offence.

David Hooley: 6♣. With this much distribution, 5♣ is probably making. This is the time to bid one more, 'for the road'. Also, if they decide to sacrifice in 6♣, it would be nice to let partner know where your other values are.

David Breton: 6♥. I should have bid it on the previous round.

Stuart Carr: 6♥. As it is IMPs, I'm afraid to miss a slam, and partner's bidding sounds strong to me. I think my first bid should have been 3♣ (Michaels), so partner would have a better picture of my hand. [But is Michaels on over a weak two or does the cuebid show a rock crusher? —McB]

Larry Meyer: 6♥. All we need from pard is ♥KQ and A♣. He is expecting a lot more defense from us—our 3♥ bid was based on shape.

"Viktor Nullo": 6♥. This is IMPs, so on freak hands we bid "at least one more." Yes, partner's double shows preference for defense, but my hand is not suited to that. Even if the 6♥ sacrifice is 'phantom' it is still right to bid it at IMPs.

Harold Hansen: 6♥. When I have this type of hand I probably won't take any tricks on defense. Should have a shot at slam with a spade lead.

The votes for pass were mostly without comment, but those who did chose to trust partner:

"HHIT": Pass. A forcing pass says you don't know what to do. Partner says he does.

Doug Cowan: Pass. I made a forcing pass and partner opted to double. Why should I override him?

Denise Goodkey: Pass. (Trust your partner.)

Once again the silent Flight A minority rules the day. After all, partner did have other stronger options over 4♣: what would five of a minor mean? As we'll see in question four, people will cuebid at very high levels to insist on slam. Surely when you get the opponents to gamble out 5♣ and partner decides to double, you need more than this to go on.

Call	A	B	C	Total Votes	Total Points	Award
Pass	6	2	0	8	66	100
6♥	1	5	4	10	29	44
6♣	0	2	0	2	6	9

Source: Online bridge. Usually the reason we omit the other hand from these problems is to avoid the complaints that partner clearly should have bid something else. 'Nuff said.

Leaderboard: Duane Tilden and Cam Doner have 300. Carol Waters leads Flight B with 271, Phillippe Westreich and Frankie Tsoi lead Flight C with 215.

4. (Matchpoints, N-S vul.)

♠ J53 ♥ — ♦ AQT53 ♣ AK843

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
4♥	4♠	5♥	???

Definitely a 6½♠ hand, the question is whether to settle, explore, or shoot. The "shoot first and ask questions later" school had its minority:

"Viktor Nullo": 7♣. 6♣ is a heavy favorite to make, but it gives up on 7♣. 6♥ is guaranteed to win the post-mortem, but will partner know that trump quality is the key? If you can make your contract opposite a 'perfect minimum' then just bid it.

Exploring came a good second:

"HHIT": 6♥. Players may disagree on just how much this shows—but I have it.

Julien Lévesque: 6♥. Houston, we have an orbital zone bidding problem.

David Hoey: 6♥. Wow, controls, a fit for partner. Grand Slam probably has some play. The problem is what to do over their 7♥ bid. If I was West, you can sure bet that is my next bid. With no room to find out how good partner's spades are, 6♥ will simply announce that it's our hand. Then partner can decide what to do over 7♥, bid 7♣, pass or double.

Settling seemed prudent enough to the majority:

Larry Meyer: 6♣. Pard bid 4♣ all by himself, and we have three-card support and first round control in all side suits. 7♣ is likely, but I'm afraid of a ruff on the opening lead.

Stuart Carr: 6♣. This may encourage partner to bid 7♣ if his spade suit is solid. Perhaps I should be bidding 7♣ myself, as it likely is!

Doug Cowan: 6♣. Seven could be right, but how to know?

David Breton: 6♣. I'm tempted to bid 6♥ but I think looking for the grand is stretching it.

Harold Hansen: 6♣. Even with a spade loser 6♣ looks good on paper. They might sacrifice in 7♥.

We suspect some of the settlers might bid one more if pushed, but for now they are the majority.

Call	A	B	C	Total Votes	Total Points	Award
6♣	4	5	3	12	58	100
6♥	3	2	0	5	36	62
7♣	0	1	0	1	3	5
5NT	0	1	0	1	3	5
Double	0	0	1	1	1	2

Source: Thanksgiving 1979 Matchpointer, problem

#2. Back then the consensus choice of 2002, 6♣, received... zero votes! Eleven votes for 6♥, two each for 5NT and 7♣, and one for double, "an apparently unanimous action from all members of a leading Vancouver team, who should best remain anonymous for seeding purposes. This team probably sold all IBM stock when it hit 15¢ per share." Partner's cards were not given.

Leaderboard: Duane Tilden leads with 400, Doug Cowan close behind at 371. Denise Goodkey leads Flight B with 342 and Phillippe Westreich leads Flight C with 315.

5. (IMPs, none vul.)

♠ AQ2 ♥ KQ8654 ♦ 632 ♣ 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1NT	2♥
Double	2♠	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

What is your opening lead?

Fourth best always gets one vote...

Julien Lévesque: 6♥. Who has the J♥ is the question. Odds are that pard does not have three hearts but may hold Jx♥.

Why lead a spade when we have declarer's stopper trapped?...

"Viktor Nullo": This is a great problem! It's IMPs and we need to defeat the contract. Assuming LHO has four hearts to the ace for his double, pard has a singleton at best. We can get only one heart trick before Declarer makes nine. Pard's 2♣ doesn't promise much; his spades are probably five to the jack. Opener pretty much has to have ♠Kxx for his 3NT bid. To defeat this, partner must have a minor suit trick. When he gets in, if his spades are as good as JTx, a spade through declarer will set the contract even if declarer holds up his King till the third round. For this to happen we *must* lead the K♥. The problem with spades from the top is that declarer will then duck a heart to you (setting up 3 heart tricks). You will then have to guess which minor to lead, and pard has not yet had a chance to make a helpful discard.

The other eighteen votes were for a spade lead and the minority choice was...

Larry Meyer: Q♣. Unblocking. If declarer ever loses the lead, pard and I can arrange for me to lead the 2♣ through dummy on the third round.

Harold Hansen: Q♣. Looks like a better chance to set up partner's suit. A heart lead could end any chance of setting this contract. Declarer could easily have ♥AJT9x. Partner could be void for run-

(It's Your Bid, continued from page 15)

ning to 2♣. He should have about five spades to the jack, hopefully.

The majority voted for attack from the top:

David Hooley: A♠. 3NT is probably a gamble on this auction. It's time for an attacking lead.

David Breton: A♠. Partner's vulnerable call with low HCP is a clear indication of his opinion of my chances in 2♥ doubled. If he can run to spades, our best chance at defeating 3NT is getting five tricks in that suit. We will only lose the lead once on this deal, cash out now.

"HHIT": A♠. Partner will know that I have a third spade since he has promised nothing other than short hearts and some kind of spade suit. If I lead the queen to declarer's king partner will be in the dark as to what to pitch when they start cashing tricks.

Stuart Carr: A♠. Hoping declarer's spade stopper is at best J9xx, so ace, followed by queen, then 2♣ to partner's KTxx... will defeat the contract. However, this may allow contract to make if partner's 2♣ bid was not lead directing, and declarer has K♣.

Doug Cowan: A♠. Then Q♣. Establish partner's suit ASAP.

Lead	A	B	C	Total Votes	Total Points	Award
A♠	3	6	3	12	51	100
Q♣	4	1	1	6	44	86
K♥	0	0	1	1	3	6
6♥	0	0	1	1	3	6

Source: Spring 1980 *Matchpointer*, problem #5. In

the original it was matchpoints and not IMPs, explaining **Aidan Ballantyne** and **Peter Cooper's** choice of the K♥ in order to "nail all the matchpoints for holding them to five." The rest of the responders were split between the queen and ace of spades for their lead, with the A♠ winning by ten votes to seven. Those who chose the queen thought there was a chance of finding Kx in dummy and inducing a duck from declarer. The problem with the Q♣, said **Doug Andrews**, was that "presumably partner will not play his highest spade under my ace." **Mike Dimich** summed things up for the optimists: "Ace of spades, queen of spades, two of spades in that order." The full deal was unrevealed.

Leaderboard: Duane didn't get to 500, but did lead the Q♣ for 86. Would 486 be a winning score? To make the top ten you needed to score 415:

- 415 *Phillipe Westreich, Stuart Carr, David Breton*
- 419 *"Charlie" (no real name given)*
- 428 *Janis Parker*
- 430 *Harold Hansen*
- 433 *HHIT*
- 442 *Denise Goodkey*
- 462 *Cam Doner*
- 471 *Doug Cowan*
- 486 *Duane Tilden*

Duane Tilden wins the Flight A prize of two sectional free plays. **Denise Goodkey** wins the Flight B prize of a sectional free play and a Monthly Unit Game Free Play. **Phillipe Westreich** wins the Flight C prize of two Monthly Unit Game free plays. Congratulations, and thanks again to the 20 people who took the time to respond!

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Ernie Dietrich/Yuko Fujieda

November Membership Game Winners:

David Walker/Stam Bodlak

Big Game (February 12):

Tove Chen/Tony Remedios, 67.47%

More Masterpoint Magic Unit 430 makes its mark on ACBL lists

In addition to the amazing numbers piled up by local players in the Mini-McKenny and Ace of Clubs, where Unit 430 players won half of the District-wide races and **Gary Ge** was the ACBL 2002 Rookie of the Year, there were other lists where Unit 430 players made their mark:



The 2002 Barry Crane Top 500 featured

three familiar names: **Cam Doner** (36th), **Bryan Maksymetz** (189th), and **Dan Jacob** (400th). The 2002 Richmond Trophy Top 100 (for Canadian players) listed twelve locals: **Cam Doner** (3rd), **Bryan Maksymetz** (11th), **Dan Jacob** (25th), **Peter Morse** (36th), **William Ge** (45th), **Vicki Croome** (52nd), **Mike Moffatt** (58th), **Dennis Groden** (63rd), **Sandra Robson** (75th), **Danny Lee** (82nd), **John Horne** (96th), and **Gerry McCully** (98th). And **Tom Cross** was 101st in the ACBL-wide list of winners at Senior's events. What a year for local players!

Ace of Clubs, Mini-McKenney

The 2002 Final Standings

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 February 11 but in the past even this has proven to be too early for some clubs' late December results.

—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.

—Numbers after the Unit ranking show first the rank within District 19 and then the ACBL-wide rank (lists go to 30 places). Congratulations to **Gary Ge**, 2002 ACBL Rookie of the Year!

—2003 updates are now online at this address: www.acbl.org/internet/unitawar.nsf/unittraces?openform

<p>Unit 430 Ace Of Clubs 2002 Final Standings (points won at club games only)</p> <p>ROOKIE (0-5, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. (1) (29) Melinda Ponto 52.50 2. (3) Gladys Adilman 43.93 3. (6) Gary Ge 29.35</p> <p>JUNIOR MASTER (5-20, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. (1) (11) Sima Sadri 69.46 2. (3) Gail Heuchart 40.88 3. (7) Rowena Huberman 36.09</p> <p>CLUB MASTER (20-50, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. (10) Bruce Partridge 44.21 2. (17) Linda Bell 37.19 3. (19) Henry Lai 36.09</p>	<p>BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500-1000)</p> <p>1. (3) Amir Alibhai 111.08 2. (5) Don Keith 105.67 3. (9) Shirley Fitterman 96.51</p> <p>SILVER LIFE MASTER (1000-2500)</p> <p>1. (2) Sandra Robson 160.47 2. (4) John Horne 134.77 3. (10) Shirley Fitterman 119.68</p> <p>GOLD LIFE MASTER (2500-5000)</p> <p>1. (1) Ernie Dietrich 170.56 2. (4) Wilf May 124.47 3. (5) Kathy Adachi 123.64</p> <p>DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5000-10,000)</p> <p>1. (17) Laurence Betts 46.10 2. (29) Aidan Ballantyne 24.46 3. Cam Doner 10.89</p>	<p>SECTIONAL MASTER (50, 5 SILVER)</p> <p>1. (1) (16) Marla Gropper 195.53 2. (2) Rosalee Hardin 156.56 3. (4) Kazuko Koda 128.04</p> <p>REGIONAL MASTER (100, 15S, 5R OR G)</p> <p>1. (4) Charlotte Alekson 200.09 2. (18) Cathy Miller 90.31 3. (21) Anne Smith 86.10</p> <p>NABC MASTER (200, 25S, 15R, 5G, 50P)</p> <p>1. (2) (15) Samantha Nystrom 251.65 2. (3) (28) Debbie Williams 217.32 3. (4) Richard Smillie 171.20</p> <p>LIFE MASTER (300, 50S, 25G, 50R OR G)</p> <p>1. (1) (4) William Ge 369.07 2. (4) Carol-Ann Halliday 158.13 3. (11) Anita Morse 111.02</p>
<p>SECTIONAL MASTER (50, 5 SILVER)</p> <p>1. (2) (20) Marla Gropper 104.40 2. (3) Rosalee Hardin 79.52 3. (8) Barry Yamanouchi 53.98</p> <p>REGIONAL MASTER (100, 15S, 5R OR G)</p> <p>1. (2) Charlotte Alekson 97.75 2. (21) Anne Smith 52.51 3. (22) Suzette Behar 52.18</p> <p>NABC MASTER (200, 25S, 15R, 5G, 50P)</p> <p>1. (1) Richard Smillie 112.00 2. (3) Samantha Nystrom 92.77 3. (4) Debbie Williams 88.43</p> <p>LIFE MASTER (300, 50S, 25G, 50R OR G)</p> <p>1. (3) William Ge 84.98 2. (12) Carol-Ann Halliday 57.61 3. (17) Priscilla Brown 49.79</p>	<p>Unit 430 Mini-McKenney 2002 Final Standings (points won from all ACBL sources)</p> <p>ROOKIE (0-5, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. (1) (1!) Gary Ge 284.34 2. (2) (7) Melinda Ponto 146.86 3. (4) Jocelyn Krug 79.08</p> <p>JUNIOR MASTER (5-20, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. (1) (19) Sima Sadri 109.55 2. (3) Gail Heuchart 73.52 3. (4) David Pritchard 65.67</p> <p>CLUB MASTER (20-50, ANY COLOUR)</p> <p>1. (4) (30) Brian Ransom 146.95 2. (5) Bruce Partridge 139.95 3. (8) Henry Lai 101.92</p>	<p>BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500-1000)</p> <p>1. (2) (23) Vicki Croome 350.75 2. (8) Jeannette Greenhut 218.83 3. (11) Don Keith 190.45</p> <p>SILVER LIFE MASTER (1000-2500)</p> <p>1. (1) Peter Morse 406.25 2. (2) Mike Moffatt 338.52 3. (3) Dennis Groden 327.58</p> <p>GOLD LIFE MASTER (2500-5000)</p> <p>1. (1) (26) Bryan Maksymetz 599.52 2. (10) Gerry McCully 269.15 3. (12) Kathy Adachi 261.26</p> <p>DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5000-10,000)</p> <p>1. (1) (11) Cam Doner 975.63 2. (8) Dan Jacob 450.45 3. (28) Gord McOrmond 248.88</p>

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



Deliberation and UI

by Bruce McIntyre

This dual subject article is not about what you may think. By UI I don't mean anything about unemployed people; I mean *unauthorized information*, that fun subject that is filling the *ACBL Bulletin* with articles that are difficult to understand. By deliberation you might think I'm talking about hesitations. I'm not. Deliberation means "the act of doing something on purpose." (Yeah, it means "to hesitate over" too, but just not in this article.)

Part of the reason that players who are normally the epitome of joviality suddenly turn into the Grinch Who Swallowed Detroit is that it's difficult to appreciate the problems facing players holding the other 39 cards. If you pre-empt 4♥ and LHO takes a half-minute or longer before shakily pulling out a red card, and RHO then bids 4♣ and it happens to be right, you have the right to find out what RHO held, and the right to call the Director and get a ruling if you feel that perhaps there was a logical alternative. The Director will rule in your favour if RHO had a logical alternative. If there was no hesitation by LHO, RHO is free to play whatever hunches he wishes, but in the presence of UI (by way of the hesitation), RHO cannot make inspired bids and you have the right to redress if he does.

However, you do *not* have the right to the opinion that RHO was *knowingly* bending the rules, just because the Director rules in your favour. You can file away in your mind that RHO got caught and you can privately think of RHO whatever you wish, but don't tell partner, don't tell your friends, don't tell the *Matchpointer*, and don't tell RHO. His action was not deliberately cheating and you have no right to say so, except to a tournament official or Director in private.

The nature of competition comes into serious conflict with the Laws governing UI, and we all need to understand this better. Look at the diagram on the next line:

0 --- 1 --- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 --- 6 --- 7 - A - 8 --- 9 --- 10

Imagine that each letter or dash indicates a possible hand RHO can have after his partner makes the slow double of 4♥. The hands are ordered from left to right, based on how clear the decision to pass the double or bid 4♣ might be: a zero hand is a clear pass; a ten hand is a hand which screams "bid on," with or without the UI. The Laws say that a slow double implies doubt and that RHO must have a

hand with which most similar players would *not* consider passing in order to take the action suggested by the slow double (bidding on to 4♣). So point A represents the point on the line where not enough people would consider passing, making 4♣ a legal bid, according to the current ACBL guidelines. Thus point 8 is an even clearer hand for bidding on, and the 9 spot is almost crystal clear. Point 7 is not quite clear enough, and although RHO might well have bid 4♣ without the hesitation, he is not allowed to under the Laws.

Let's insert another example here, from my research into old *Matchpointer* issues: a deal described by **Doug Cowan** ten years ago. Here is the auction:

LHO	PARD	RHO	YOU
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Double	3♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	End

The trouble with the auction was that partner asked about the 3♣ call before passing out 3NT, saying "was 3♣ Western Cue?" The opponents told him it wasn't. Unfortunately, all this could have been done after you led face down, but it wasn't, and the opponents are going to have a tough time believing that you would have led a spade anyhow, especially when a spade turns out to have been the only lead to defeat 3NT.

On the actual hand you have KT9 of spades as your only high cards in a 3-5-2-3 hand, which may—or may not—be enough to sway the Director or the appeal committee in your favour. Definitely somewhere between 6 and 8 on the scale above. KT9x might be a bit further along, K9x a bit back; high cards or length elsewhere might affect the judgment as well. Bottom line is to get partner not to ask questions while the opponents' auction is still live. Unlike hesitations, which are sometimes unavoidable in these days where everyone bids and artificial bids are commonplace, the needless question (yes, needless—for how likely, really, is it, that partner has a hand that passes in first chair and yet can consider some action over 3NT?) is an infraction that can easily be avoided.

When UI is involved and you have a hand which may have a logical alternative, how can you tell which hands meet the requirements and which do not?

You can't.

Even an experienced appeal committee member will not be able to give an impartial judgment on a hand he is involved in; self-interest trumps impartiality in the heat of battle. The first example's RHO will say he should be allowed to bid on with hand 6 and

maybe even a few dashes to the left of that. Your opponents in the second example will argue that even a hand with ♠KQT9 should not be allowed a spade lead after the ill-timed question. That's why we have Directors. And that's why you cannot blame an opponent for taking an indicated action with a questionable hand. To him it seems reasonable, even given the hesitation.

We are remarkably civilized as duplicate bridge players. People who don't play and only hear about bridge when some scandal erupts just don't get this. "How can you play," they wonder, "when the people you're up against may have special signals and other ways to communicate?" I have even heard people—non-bridge players—say jokingly that I must have perfected a "move" after I mention a good result I had (infrequent as that may seem). We take these comments in stride from our friends outside the bridge world. We know that they wouldn't get it anyhow. We are confident that simple cheating like this is not happening.

But that all changes when we turn our attention away from Mom-and-Pop cheating to the gray areas in the Laws regarding hesitations and UI and what you can and cannot do. Now the grapevine innuendo flies, and someone thinking too long can be a villain in a microsecond. Why? The one thing that has become clear in the past decade or two since the ACBL began looking more closely at hesitations and other forms of UI, is that what you can and cannot do is hopelessly unclear. With a level of confusion so high that experts often disagree on rulings and there seems to be a "you must be kidding" decision every eight months, how can we take the attitude that RHO is *deliberately* taking advantage of his partner's hesitation, and he *always* pulls this stuff, and has a *reputation* for this sort of thing? Why must we assume that there is foul play involved when so often it is simply a difference of opinion, naturally impacted by competition and the tints it puts on our glasses?

So you think you got the shaft. This time LHO made a balancing double of your partner's weak two bid after a long hesitation by RHO, who of course passed the double and partner's going for a number. That LHO, he's at it again, look, he had a good spade suit to balance with; this is outrageous.

I'm having a hard time thinking this attitude is helping you concentrate. You may be dummy now but smoldering over this is not going to get you in the mood to score well later. Just calm down and call the Director when the hand ends. Let the Director deal with it, and accept his judgment, even if it sounds

impossibly skewed toward the opponents. Understand and accept that you are not a reliable judge on hands that you are playing. And if LHO is making a UI-based call every time you meet him, accept and understand this too: you cannot educate him—not by calling the Director every time, not by explaining what you think you know about the Laws, not even by calling him up tomorrow afternoon and having a friendly conversation about hesitations and what you think the requirements are. You see the deals through a different looking-glass than he does, and no matter how well-meaning your approach, you're a dissenting opinion. Instead, take your concerns to the Recorder or to a Director.

As **Doug Cowan** reported ten years ago in the *Matchpointer*, **Angela Hehr** had a simple way to deal with the problem after partner's needless question: she led a heart, and Doug made 3NT with overtricks, despite the defense's entitlement to five spades off the top. It was a bad result for Angela's side but not a complete bottom since Doug's side had a diamond slam. When partner asked her why she didn't lead a spade she pointed out that the question made it impossible.

Nobody is out to get you. I would wager that Angela's partner was just interested in the possible use of an interesting convention, and not deliberately trying to engineer a spade lead. We're all trying to do our best, to deal fairly with our responsibilities after a hesitation or some other UI infraction. Sometimes we will get it wrong, sometimes even you will get it wrong, in the belief that your hand justifies the action indicated by partner's hesitation. It's against the Law, but not deliberate—but in our zeal for competition we often swap the two and feel that when it is done to us, it *is* deliberate. Why?

My solution is simple: when partner hesitates, I make the bid I think I would have chosen without the hesitation, and I accept that because my judgment cannot be unbiased, this may be contrary to the Laws very occasionally. There's no use in trying to figure out what a Director or appeal committee will let you get away with; just bid what you think is right and accept that the opponents may have a problem. And when an opponent hesitates, assume that his partner is bidding his hand and not taking advantage. At the end of the hand you can call the Director if you feel that he had an alternative. But even then, never assign a reputation to the player that appears to have taken advantage: differences of opinion in these cases are *normal*. The competitive nature of the game makes it virtually impossible to be impartial when there are thirteen cards in your hand.

2002 Sectional Trophy Race Final Standings

Phil Wood Trophy

1. Bryan Maksymetz	98.31
2. Gerry McCully	78.42
3. John Hurdle	65.91
4. Rhonda Foster.....	61.83
5. Cam Doner	49.34
6. Craig Zastera.....	47.79
7. Dan Jacob.....	45.95
8. Ron Borg	44.52
9. Katrin Litwin	43.19
10. Don Keith	41.75
11. Gord McOrmond.....	40.28
12. Stan Christie	40.02
13. Aidan Ballantyne.....	38.42
14. Ping Ding	38.40
15. Jane Fyfe.....	38.40
16. Doug Fraser.....	37.27
17. Bill Goldstone	37.19
18. Dennis Groden	35.82
19. Trudy Hurdle	34.90
20. John Horne	34.69
21. Tony Remedios.....	34.18
22. Dan Watson	31.87
23. Don Sache.....	31.23
24. Kenny Chan.....	31.12
25. Ray Miller	30.50
26. Richard Christie	30.46
27. Carol-Ann Halliday.....	28.83
28. Vicki Croome.....	28.66
29. Sheila Sache	28.65
30. Mark Eddy	27.93

A total of 4,616.72 masterpoints was won by 647 players (a further 69 played but did not win any) at Unit 430's four open Sectionals in 2002.

Edie Bonnell Trophy

1. Rhonda Foster	61.83
2. Katrin Litwin	43.19
3. Jane Fyfe.....	38.40
4. Trudy Hurdle	34.90
5. Carol-Ann Halliday.....	28.83
6. Vicki Croome.....	28.66
7. Sheila Sache.....	28.65
8. Marcia Christie.....	27.70
9. Debbie Williams	26.59
10. Sandra Robson.....	26.15
11. Melinda Ponto	25.37
12. Claire Burns	24.88
13. June Pocock.....	24.24
14. Lynda Cole	23.29
15. Kathy Adachi	23.26

Phil Wood Under 200 Trophy

1. Melinda Ponto	25.37
2. Bruce Partridge	17.16
3. Denise Goodkey	15.45
4. Marla Gropper.....	14.04
5. Sima Sadri.....	13.35
6. Charlotte Alekson.....	13.08
7. David Hooley	13.00
8. Jacqueline Phillips.....	10.60
9. Ross Lam	9.16
10. Kam Tang	8.71
11. Felicity Fane.....	8.46
12. Gail Heuchert	7.97
13. Jocelyn Krug.....	7.86
14. Andrew Nalos	7.71

You were eligible if you were an ACBL member throughout 2002 and had less than 200 masterpoints at the start of 2002.

Leo Steil Trophy

1. John Hurdle	65.91
2. Ron Borg.....	44.52
3. Don Keith	41.75
4. Dennis Groden	35.82
5. Trudy Hurdle	34.90
6. John Horne	34.69
7. Dan Watson.....	31.87
8. Don Sache.....	31.23
9. Richard Christie.....	30.46
10. Carol-Ann Halliday.....	28.83
11. Bob Kiggins	26.20
12. Greg Arbour.....	26.13
13. Doug Cowan.....	22.51
14. Ram Hira	21.95
15. Gary Phelan	21.06

Although we confirmed the ineligibility of players who scored more than John Hurdle's winning total, I guessed at the rest. To be eligible you needed to be an ACBL member born before 1947. This year's race requires that you be an ACBL member born before 1948.

We notice that the Under 200 winner has recently celebrated by changing her surname and offer our congratulations to Melinda and Glenn. (I hope the trophy hasn't been engraved yet!)

A Trophy Sectional Top Ten list is in with the winners lists on page 40. Lists for the four sectional masterpoint trophy races will appear in the next issue.

Trophy Races

What races?

In an unusual twist, all four sectional tournament trophy races were won by wide margins and only a few of them were in contention at the November Sectional.

The Phil Wood Trophy was won in a walk by **Bryan Maksymetz**, who won over 22 points at the November Sectional to pad his lead, although **Gerry McCully** won 32 to make it respectable.

Rhonda Foster went to the November sectional with an eleven point lead in the Edie Bonnell trophy race and increased that to almost nineteen points with a weekend haul of over 23 masterpoints. **Katrin Litwin** won over sixteen points to get to second, but the biggest jump was by **Jane Fyfe** of Kamloops, who went from ninth to third with an 18 point weekend.

A win in the Saturday Evening Open Pairs and a third in the B strat of the Open Swiss Teams more than doubled **Melinda Ponto's** 2002 total, vaulting her

from fifth to first in the Phil Wood Under 200 race as most of the others on the list were unable to post any big gains.

And the top player at the November Sectional, **John Hurdle**, passed **Ron Borg** and **Dennis Groden** to take a victory in the Leo Steil Trophy Race, with a win in the Saturday Evening Open Pairs, second in the Sunday Flight A Open Pairs and Saturday Afternoon Open Pairs, and a third in the Flight A Swiss Teams. John's 42 point weekend moved him all the way from 27th to third in the Phil

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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

March 2, June 8: Club Championship Games

March 16: ACBL-wide Charity Game

May 18: Closed (Sectional)

June 1: STaC Silver Point Game

Recent Winners:

Club Championship: Bev Kanee/Toyo Nunoda

Junior Fund Game: Gladys Mackie & Marion Crowhurst

2002 Club Masterpoint Race Winner: Catriona Henning
 (second year in a row!)

Hastings Bridge Club

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

Ernie Dietrich 604/936-2298

(new manager)

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

March 5, June 4: Club Championship Games

March 12: ACBL-wide Charity Game

May 28: STaC Silver Point Game

June 11: Closed (Penticton Regional)

Club Championship Game Winners:

Helen Montgomery/Ben Takemori

The Valley Clubs

Bob Percher 604/792-4389

Partners always guaranteed!

Chilliwack

Senior Recreation Centre
 9400 College Street
 Mondays, 7:30pm

Stratified games last
 Monday of each month

Maple Ridge—closed.

Farewell and thanks to all of the play-
 ers who played at the Maple Ridge
 Bridge Club over many years.

Mission

Masonic Hall, 3319 First Avenue
 (next to Scotiabank)
 Thursdays, 7:30pm

Duplicate Bridge Club FOR SALE due to ill health—Mission Dupli-
 cate Bridge Club. ACBL-sanctioned and nice playing area. For fur-
 ther information, please call Bob Percher: 604/792-4389.

SUBURBIA CLUBS

Gilbert Lambert 604/524-6617

All games stratified.

Burnaby (am)

1491 Carleton Ave.
 North Burnaby
 Mondays, 10:45 am
 Closed April 21
 (Holiday)

Burnaby (pm)

1491 Carleton Ave.
 North Burnaby
 Tuesdays, 7:30 pm
 Closed April 1
 (Victoria Regional)

New Westminster

Century House, 620 8th St.
 New Westminster
 Thursdays, 7:15 pm
 Closed April 3
 (Victoria Regional)

Sur-Del

St. Cuthbert Anglican Church
 11601 82nd Ave., N. Delta
 Fridays, 7:30 pm
 Closed April 4
 (Victoria Regional)

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Unit 430 Weekly Duplicate Game List

Most recent update: February 18, 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	<i>Introduction to Duplicate: 0-50 MP</i>
	10:45	BBY	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	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	SRY	A. Browning	Arlene Browning 870-9300	Open (first Monday stratified)
	7:15	VBC	B. Bart	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Non Life Masters Stratified (to 500 MP)</i>
	7:30	HBN	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	CWK	B. Percher	Bob Percher 792-4389	Open (last Monday stratified)
Tue	10:30	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Open Day-time Stratified: optional \$2 lunch</i>
	11:00	S-W	F. Schultz	Finn Schultz 534-5025	Open stratified
	7:00	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>"Bragging Rights" Open Stratified (new time)</i>
	7:30	NSW	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	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	<i>Intermediate: 0-300 MP, stratified</i>
	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	<i>Novice/Beginner: 0-50 MP</i>
	7:15	NWR	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:30	MIS	B. Percher	Bob Percher 792-4389	Open stratified
	7:30	ARB	A. Nagy	Jean Terry 733-2807	Now open to all
	7:30	VBC	A. Ballantyne	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified
Fri	10:30	VBC	B. Russell	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified <i>Opt. \$2 Soup & Bun</i>
	10:30	LAD	R. Dunn	Richard Dunn 940-9809	Bi-weekly: resumes October 4
	7:30	PKB	W. Jez	Waldemar Jez 527-8854	Alternate Fridays, non-ACBL. Dates, p. ??.
	7:30	S-D	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 524-6617	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:30	VBC	G. Davis	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Optional Lucky Number Jackpot Open</i>
Sat	check	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	Occasional special games.
	7:30	VBC	R. Dunn	Monthly Unit Game (see page 44)	Monthly (dates, page 44)—Open stratified.
	7:30	VBC	E. Chan	Monthly Unit Game (see page 44)	Monthly (dates, page 44)—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

February 25—May 14, 2003.

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
25 Feb	7:00	VBC	Junior Development Fund Game
25 Feb	7:30	BBY	Junior Development Fund Game
26 Feb	10:30	VBC	Club Championship Game (NLM)
26 Feb	7:15	WRK	Monthly Stratified Game
27 Feb	7:15	NWR	Junior Development Fund Game
28 Feb	10:30	LAD	Bi-weekly Game
28 Feb	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
28 Feb	7:30	S-D	Junior Development Fund Game
1 Mar	7:30	VBC	March Monthly Unit Game (open stratified and 0-200)
2 Mar	1:00	VBC	Monthly Winners Free Play
2 Mar	1:00	RMD	Club Championship Game
3 Mar	10:30	VBC	Club Championship Game (0-50)
3 Mar	7:15	SRY	Monthly Stratified Game

Club Abbreviations and Ad Locations

Abbr	Club Name	Page
ARB	Arbutus Village Bridge Club	24
BBY	Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club	21
C.R	Central Richmond Bridge Club	16
CWK	Chilliwack Duplicate Bridge Club	21
HAS	Hastings Bridge Club	21
HBN	Hollyburn Bridge Club	38
JCC	Jewish Comm. Ctr. DBridge Club	24
LAD	Tswwassen B. C. (Ladner location)	38
MIS	Mission Duplicate Bridge Club	21
NWR	New-West Bridge Club	21
NSW	North Shore Winter Club	21
PKB	Polish Bridge Club (non-ACBL)	24
RMD	East Richmond Bridge Club	21
S-D	Sur-Del Bridge Club	21
S-W	South-West Duplicate Bridge Club	21
SRY	South Surrey Bridge Club	24
SQU	Squamish Duplicate Bridge Club	38
TSW	Tswwassen Bridge Club	38
VBC	Vancouver Bridge Centre	24
VCR	Vancouver Bridge Club	38
WRK	White Rock Bridge Club	24

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
3 Mar	7:30	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
4 Mar	7:00	VBC	Grand National Teams Qualifying Stratified Swiss Teams
5 Mar	10:30	HAS	Club Championship Game
5 Mar	7:00	VBC	Monthly Hand Records Game
5 Mar	7:15	VCR	Club Championship Game
10 Mar	7:15	TSW	Charity Game
11 Mar	7:00	VBC	ACBL-wide Charity Game
12 Mar	10:30	HAS	ACBL-wide Charity Game
14 Mar	10:30	LAD	Bi-weekly Game
14 Mar	7:30	PKB	Turneij co 2 Tygodnie
14 Mar	7:30	S-D	Club Championship Game
16 Mar	1:00	RMD	ACBL-wide Charity Game
17 Mar	7:30	SQU	Monthly Trophy Race Game
20 Mar	7:00	VBC	Grand National Teams Qualifying Stratified Swiss Teams
22-23 Mar		VBC	Future Stars 0-200 Sectional (see ad on page 31 for details)
24 Mar	7:15	SRY	First game at new site (see p. 24)
26 Mar	7:15	WRK	Monthly Stratified Game
28 Mar	10:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
28 Mar	10:30	LAD	Bi-weekly Game
28 Mar	7:30	PKB	Turneij co 2 Tygodnie
28 Mar	7:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
29-30 Mar		VBC	Grand National Teams Flight A (0-5000) and Flight C (0-500 NLM) District Final (times TBA)
31 Mar	7:15	TSW	Club Championship Game
31 Mar	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
1 Apr	—	BBY	Closed for Victoria Regional
3 Apr	—	NWR	Closed for Victoria Regional
4 Apr	—	S-D	Closed for Victoria Regional
7 Apr	7:30	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
11 Apr	7:30	PKB	Turneij co 2 Tygodnie
21 Apr	10:00	VCR	Easter Monday Holiday Pairs Club Championship Game
21 Apr	—	BBY	Closed (building unavailable)
23 Apr	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
23 Apr	7:15	WRK	Stratified Game
25 Apr	7:30	PKB	Turneij co 2 Tygodnie
28 Apr	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
7 May	10:00	VCR	Club Championship
12 May	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
14 May	7:30	C.R	Club Championship Game

SLOW NEWS ISSUE? Actually, slow editor would be more accurate. Many clubs submitted data that was out of date before this issue finally got put together and I apologize to them all. Things to check on at your local clubs: the Unit 430 StAc is May 5-11 and we hope most clubs will participate. Some clubs close for the Victoria Regional (March 31-April 6) and/or the Penticton Regional (June 10-16).

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Polski Klub Brydzowy
Polish Combatant Centre
1134 Kingsway, Vancouver
Waldemar Jez 604/527-8854
Alternate Fridays at 7:30pm
Feb. 28, Mar. 14, 28, Apr. 11, 25.

BY INVITATION ONLY
www.members.shaw.ca/polishbridge

Jewish Community Centre Bridge Club
☆☆ 950 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver ☆☆
Thursdays at 11 am All players welcome!
Connie Delisle 604/263-9196, or 604/671-3884 (cell)
Partnerships: Marge Groberman 604/266-7722

Arbutus Village Bridge Club
Arbutus Village Recreation Centre 28-4255 Arbutus Street, Vancouver
OPEN TO ALL PLAYERS coffee, tea, cookies
Thursdays at 7:30 pm sharp **Jean Tarry 604/733-2807**

White Rock Bridge Club
Sunnyside Community Centre,
1854 154th St., White Rock
Arlene Browning 1-604/870-9300
Partnerships: Dot Carnegie 604/535-8286
Wednesdays at 7:15 pm
Stratified games last Wednesday of each month

Vancouver Bridge Centre

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

**Thank you for your generosity at
the recent Chair Affair event!**

**The new chairs have arrived;
come and give them a test drive!**

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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

Optional Inexpensive Lunch At Weekday Afternoon Games

Masterpoint-limited Games include pre-game Mini-Lesson

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

South Surrey Bridge Club
1284 184th Street, South Surrey
(Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club)
Director: Arlene Browning 1-604-870-9300
Partnerships: Dot Carnegie 535-8286
Mondays at 7:15 pm
First Monday of each month Stratified
Computer Scoring Partners Guaranteed

Special Notice

Starting March 24, the club will move
to a new site, the White Rock Elk's Club:
1469 George St., White Rock

Same time, new place!

tioned frequently in the 70s and 80s but then simply was discontinued for some reason. Both cities would hold a qualifying game to choose four "Over" pairs and four "Under" pairs (an extra at large pair would be added by the team captain). The big match, a 64-board, 128-comparison two-session event for both squads, would alternate between Vancouver and Seattle. No reason we cannot revive it if there is interest. Vancouver and Seattle's annual May Sectionals one week apart would be a good time to hold the event.

Annual ACBL dues in 1977 were six dollars per year. The Canadian dollar was about par in 1977, so this is a good starting point to begin demonstrating the effect that dollar devaluation has had on ACBL fees in Canada. An Internet Inflation Calculator based on the Canadian consumer price index reports that the buying power of six Canadian dollars in 1977 is the same as the buying power of \$17.71 in 2002. ACBL memberships now cost 32 dollars per year, more with the CBF fee added in. These memberships are in American dollars, so the actual cost in Canadian funds is over \$50 per year, almost three times what the Inflation Calculator predicts. I would guess that there are probably 25,000 less ACBL members today for Memphis to "service" than in 1977. So where has all this money gone?

The Unit's top five masterpoint holders in 1977 were **Jim Donaldson, Allan Graves, Otto Leesment, Adrian Hicks and Neil Chambers**. Special thanks were given to Alberta Distillers for their generosity at the Unit Downtown Christmas Party. No details are given, probably because there was a concurrent year-end game in Cloverdale that was somewhat less "wet!"

30 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

Dec. 1972, Jan. 1973, **Bob Brooks, editor**

In November 1973, **Jim Donaldson** stepped down as editor, and in a quick one-page *Matchpointer* handed the reins to recent arrival from Edmonton **Bob Brooks**, who had been helping out as Jim's proofreader (which gives you an idea why I resist having one...)

Bob's experience with the Edmonton publication was clear from his first issue, when photos of new Life Masters **Koos van Lieshout** and **Jennifer Paynter** appeared on the cover, followed by pictures of **Anne** and **Andy Nagy's** wedding in the January issue. Without captions I am in some difficulty working out who is who in some of the other cover photos,

but I fear lawsuits if I scan and reprint, so perhaps we'll leave it at that!

At the Fall NABC in 1972, four sports celebrities (golfer Frank Beard, and baseballers Jim Bunning, Tim McCarver and Richie Ashburn) won a six-board match 4-2 against the Dallas/U.S. Aces team with a "handicap." The celebrities were allowed to look at their partner's hand for fifteen seconds before the auction began and five more seconds before the opening lead when defending!

Bob Brooks described a wild new form of rubber bridge in which all hands with thirteen or more HCP had to be opened and the next player in turn had to bid 4NT! When the auction ended, the declarer was allowed to choose his partner, who switched into the appropriate seat. The variation was said to be very good for slam play technique!

The 1972 Phil Wood race was the closest since its inception in 1968 and the winner was not determined until the February issue! **Mike Strebinger** won with the first ever total over 100 points, with **Allan Graves** also over 100 and just a point and a half behind. The Vancouver vs Seattle Intercity match was a mixed bag, with the Over 200 team winning by 91 IMPs in 128 boards (256 comparisons) but the "Unders" losing by over 200 IMPs.

Bob Brooks began the January issue by commenting that it took several weeks to find bridge players in Vancouver who were as pleasant as those in Edmonton. "How come there are some three or four players who ALWAYS scowl at new opponents or pick up the new convention card which confronts them only to fling it down .02 microseconds later nearly fracturing their wrist in the process?" You can't seem to read more than three consecutive issues of the *Matchpointer* without finding an article, a letter, or an editorial about the subject. Is it an affliction that happens to editors only? We've been harping about this for thirty years and, while there have been improvements, the problem is still there. Think about that the next time you decide *not* to call the Director when a player goes off his nut.

Old copies of the *Matchpointer*, back to the early 70s, are collected and bound by the Vancouver Public Library's Central Branch Downtown. The Unit also has a collection of old *Matchpointer* issues, including several from the late 60s. Donations to this collection of any issues, especially to those prior to 1973 are happily accepted: we'll copy them and return them to you if you'd like to keep the original.

News Miscellany

Information that didn't fit elsewhere

Doug Fraser of Victoria is the new CBF Zone VI representative, after B.C. Unit Boards voted last fall. Unit 430 thanks **Jennifer Ballantyne** for her work as CBF Director for the B.C. Zone.

The ACBL has a great deal for you if you are a junior player with an ACBL Teaching accreditation and would like to teach bridge in high schools, college or universities. Contact **Marion Crowhurst** (page 46) for the details.

The ACBL recently ended its Cooperative Marketing Program after a four year experiment. Under this complex scheme, each Unit in the ACBL was given financial incentives to contact members whose memberships had run out. Unit 430 participated in the program with hard work by **Jude Goodwin-Hanson**, **Julien Lévesque** and **Marion Crowhurst**, and we received a healthy bonus in the portion of your memberships that is paid to our Unit to support local bridge. Our membership slide has ended and we are now increasing slowly in memberships.

It appears that most units did not participate in the program, and the ACBL has decided to end it, opting for a bonus payment based on membership growth rates. This allows Units to decide their own methods for keeping their total membership numbers rising.

The bottom line is that more of your membership money comes back to support local bridge if you renew your membership. We are recruiting a fair number of new players, thanks mostly to our clubs and our local teachers. But if as many existing players decide not to renew their memberships, we receive no membership bonus from Memphis and there is less money to spend on local events. So please renew your membership when prompted to by Memphis—you can do so at sectional tournaments or toll-free directly to the ACBL.

Each year around this time the search begins for potential new Unit Board members, and in keeping with a long tradition, the Board forgot to set up an official Nominating Committee at its last meeting. The Unit Board meets once a month to discuss Unit business. Board members volunteer for the duties necessary to keep bridge running smoothly in our Unit. Great bridge expertise is not necessary; neither is previous experience. Six of the twelve current members are completing their two-year term in June (it's not yet known how many will agree to continue) and at the May sectional we will elect six people to new terms beginning in July. Only if there are more than six nominees (including current Board Members who agree to stay around for another term) will there be an election. If you would like to help out, talk to any Unit Board member (a list of us is on page 42) before April 11.

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35116 Spencer St. Abbotsford BC, V3G 2E3
Call 1-888-852-5187

Baron-Barclay distributor

Books and supplies for players, clubs, Units

Bridge accessory rentals: tables, bid-boxes, boards, etc.

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John Reay, manager

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ph. 255-1713 fax 255-1879

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Barrister & Solicitor

827 Hamilton St.
Vancouver B.C. V6B 2R7
Tel (604) 688-5001
Fax (604) 685-5006

ISLAND INKJET

Richmond Centre Mall, No. 3 Road and Westminster Hwy.
(Kiosk in the aisle of the Richmond Savings/Shoppers Drug Mart wing)
tel/fax (604) 273-8863 e-mail: richmond-inkjet@telus.net

\$5.00 off!

⇨ any Ink-Jet Refill kit
⇨ any Ink-Jet Cartridge Refill

Expires May 31st, 2002
Not redeemable for cash
\$11.95 Minimum Purchase
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 pricing details are listed on page 2.

race was also down to the wire with **Al French** less than a point back. Unit 430's top masterpoint winners at the end of 1987 were **Laurence Betts, Leo Steil, and Adrian Hicks**, all closing in on Diamond Life Master status, one of several new LM ranks introduced by the ACBL. At the other end of the scale, big winners at the Future Stars tournament included **Claire Burns, Marion Crowhurst, Kay Lyons, Bea Sadgrove, and Doe Stockdale**.

One interesting item was the new Unit smoking policy, a two-year experiment covering all Unit events beginning at the November sectional. No smoking sections, unless space was available and enough smoking pairs arrived early enough to warrant one. In 1987 it was strongly felt that this policy could be disastrous if non-smokers failed to make up the numbers, but by the end of the experiment it was clear that very few smokers objected to running outdoors for the two or three smoking breaks, at least not enough to stay away. I think we'll look back to the late 80s and early 90s as the time when we turned the corner on tobacco: the new laws passed allowed many people to work without the smoky air of previous times, and the reaction was very positive. Today TV ads claim that only 17% of us smoke (really?), but beyond that, those of us who do light up, smoke far less than we did twenty or forty years ago.

The February issue featured a look at why we make rudimentary errors at the table. One reason, **Jude Goodwin-Hanson** concluded, is that lessons we confidently file away as learned turn out to have complications later. In our haste to learn the bidding everyone else uses to get good results, we memorize the maxims and rules but fail to learn the reasons behind them. An accompanying article tried to address this weakness in the way bridge education often works. It sounds like a truism to say "a forcing bid by partner means you must bid," but from this Jude went on to sequences which "promise another bid" and differences between "standard" and "modern." Can you pass after $1\clubsuit-2\heartsuit-2\spadesuit$ in standard? In 2003, virtually nobody says yes because $2\heartsuit$ promises another bid in most systems. In 1988, many newer players had learned the game from the old Goren texts and believed strongly that you could.

Overheard at the 1988 Vancouver Regional: 1NT-2NT-3NT, except that an opponent overcalled $2\heartsuit$. Dummy: "Don't we play Lebensohl, partner?" Declarer: "Yes, but *only in competition*." The 1988 Regional featured several side games named after local players; the only one who managed to win the game named after him was **Henry Smilie**, playing with **Dee Kerr**, who contributed a Regional story about over-

calling with a six count at the end of a different event. Partner **Bill Work** waited a round for the opponents to settle in five clubs, then took this out to *six hearts*, which somehow made for a top and a tie for first!

Off to Buffalo for the NAOP Flight B after a win in Seattle were **Nigel Fullbrook** and **Eugene Chan**. One thing to watch for in future issues: the Vancouver Women Bridge Players Association was formed to help raise money for events. Organization was needed to "participate in government programs and organized Bingo." Okay...

20 years ago in the Matchpointer

January 1983, **Sandy McIlwain**, editor

New editor **Sandy McIlwain** began with an issue with much basic information and little extra. A short editorial about recruitment, a few reports on events, a freak hand from the recent sectional and many winners lists, along with the *It's Your Bid* contest writeup made for a good debut issue.

Trophy race winners in 1982 were **Mike Dimich** (by 14 points over **Gord McOrmond**), **Jean Groome** (by a point and a half over **Anne Nagy**), and **Paul Conroy** (about two points ahead of **Les Fouks**) in the Under 200 race. In the Fall 1982 Future Stars tournament, event winners included **Nan Pranger, Ben and Mike Takemori, and Chris Diamond**.

In 1982 the Grand National Pairs (precursor to the NAOP, without any strats) attracted 33 tables for a two-session Unit qualifying game. Nowadays with three strats we struggle to get a total of twenty. Unfortunately, none of the twenty-four qualifying pairs finished higher than seventh in the District Final.

The Haida Club reported that "**Dave 'Scratch Where It Itches' House**" was their 1982 Player of the Year and added that "the computer was a close second." A Board-A-Match teams was advertised for March for the Goren Shield, a very old trophy you will still find in the back room of the VBC.

Pemberton reported that it had purchased new chairs. Yes, history does repeat!

25 years ago in the Matchpointer

Dec. 1977, Jan. 1978, **Gary Harper**, editor

The Phil Wood trophy for 1977 went to **Don Brazeau**, who needed a win in the final Swiss Teams match at the November Sectional to clinch the victory. Don won three events at the tournament to win the trophy by seven points. **John Paine** won the Under 200 Trophy. The Edie Bonnell trophy was yet to come.

In November 1977 the Vancouver teams (under and over 200) both defeated their Seattle counterparts in the Inter-City Match. This event is men-

Flight A IMP League Standings

Lochang empties wallet in free agent market. Will it work?

This report includes all reported matches thru February 15, 2003.

For match scores, schedules, contact information and current standings, visit the IMP League Web Page maintained by Commissioner Brad Bart, at <http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS>

Team Captain	Record W-L-T	Total VPs	VP Avg.	IMP Avg.	Late Matches	MP Seed	WHIZBANG probability of finishing:			Team Roster
							1st	Top Two	Playoffs	
FOUKS	4-0-0	96	24.00	+41.00	1	6	76.868%	96.103%	99.930%	Les Fouks, Howard Rubin, Sid Segal, Ken Lochang, Arun Chopra, Mike Yuen.
DIVINSKY	4-1-0	107	21.40	+30.20	0	2	21.261%	77.715%	99.229%	Nathan Divinsky, Gord Davis, Dan Jacob, Don Brazeau, Larry Hicks, John Hurdle.
BALLANTYNE	3-2-0	86	17.20	+11.80	0	1	0.718%	15.517%	75.507%	Aidan Ballantyne, Don Sache, Gord McOrmond, Doug Hansford, Bryan Maksymetz, Katrin Litwin.
LINDSAY	2-2-0	68	17.00	+11.50	1	3	1.153%	9.848%	66.493%	Cam Lindsay, Ron Borg, Paul Hagen, Cam Doner, Brad Bart, Mike Wilson.
PHELAN	3-2-0	68	13.60	-13.20	0	8	0.000%	0.817%	54.742%	William Phelan, Dan Watson, Pete Walton, Grace Jeklin, Ron Fox, Sherman Kwan.
FOSTER	1-4-0	50	10.00	-22.20	0	4	0.000%	0.000%	2.569%	Rhonda Foster, Marcia Christie, Greg Arbour, June Pocock, Gerry McCully, Richard Christie.
HOUSE	1-4-0	48	9.60	-23.00	0	5	0.000%	0.000%	1.420%	David House, Martin Henneberger, Larry Pocock, Mark Eddy, Gray McMullin, Ben Takemori.
RUSSELL	1-4-0	47	9.40	-25.60	0	7	0.000%	0.000%	0.110%	Brian Russell, Steve Clements, Andrew Ross, Samantha Nystrom, Kelvin Raywood.

Flight X (0-5000) IMP League Standings

Champs lead at the halfway point, Valley all-stars close behind.

This report includes all reported matches thru February 15, 2003.

For match scores, schedules, contact information and current standings, visit the IMP League Web Page maintained by Commissioner Brad Bart, at <http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS>

Team Captain	Record W-L-T	Total VPs	VP Avg.	IMP Avg.	Late Matches	MP Seed	WHIZBANG probability of finishing:			Team Roster
							1st	Top Two	Playoffs	
BODLAK	4-3-0	121	17.29	+13.86	0	1	36.406%	87.456%	98.039%	Stan Bodlak, Pearl Minkoff, Sandi White, David Walker, Cheryl Brander, Christina Jacob.
SKOROPADA	4-2-0	97	16.17	+1.50	0	2	57.313%	85.455%	96.554%	Garry Skoropada, Larry Chow, Dan Webster, Flora Tereposky, Brad Fletcher, John Richoux.
FRENCH	3-4-0	108	15.43	+4.57	0	4	5.192%	22.433%	83.595%	Al French, John Demeulemeester, Bernice French, Pat Jones.
TJEBBES	4-2-0	82	13.67	-0.83	0	5	0.996%	4.000%	16.387%	Maarten Tjebbes, Jim Kerr, Gary Gilrairie, Faye Gilrairie, John Berry, Brad Digby.
MORSE	1-5-0	75	12.50	-4.83	0	3	0.092%	0.633%	4.864%	Peter Morse, Claire Burns, Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome.
ISFELD	3-3-0	75	12.50	-17.33	0	6	0.001%	0.023%	0.561%	Dianne Isfeld, Gus Axen, Nigel Fullbrook, Julien Levesque, Geoff Fetterley, Greg Lam.

Who's WHIZBANG?

and other IMP League information

Whizbang is a computer program that reads the match scores, computes the standings in less than a second, then, from the results and the preseason predictions, makes a guess at team strengths in five seconds, then takes about an hour to predict the results of unplayed matches 100,000 times, carefully counting how many times each team finished

first, second, or in the playoff picture. Thus, it takes into account the strength of your remaining opponents, which is why some current second place teams have the best chance to finish on top.

Whizbang figures you'll need about 110 VPs in Flight A, 159 in Flight X, 161 in Flight B, or 81 in Flight C, to make the playoffs.

Only a few teams have late matches and some of these may have been played but not recorded on the Web Page as I prepare the *Matchpointer*. In Flight C the original five teams have been in limbo (some, we

Flight B (0-1500) IMP League Standings

Shootout for first place in high-scoring B-(for-Blitz)-League.

This report includes all reported matches thru February 15, 2003.

For match scores, schedules, contact information and current standings, visit the IMP League Web Page maintained by Commissioner Brad Bart, at <http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS>

Team Captain	Record W-L-T	Total VPs	VP Avg.	IMP Avg.	Late Matches	MP Seed	WHIZBANG probability of finishing:			Team Roster
							1st	Top Two	Playoffs	
HIRA	7-0-0	172	24.57	+50.71	0	2	41.074%	92.971%	100.00%	Ram Hira, Marion & Jeremy Crowhurst, Chester Michno, Nurdin Kassam, Don Keith.
ROBSON	7-0-0	171	24.43	+44.71	0	1	58.035%	96.219%	100.00%	Sandra Robson, Les Baldys, Don Sharp, Patti Adams.
LAI	4-2-0	116	19.33	+35.33	1	4	0.888%	10.422%	99.670%	Samuel Lai, Kam Tang, Kenny Chan, Jack Lee, Ted Lai, Hong King Ho.
McALLISTER	4-3-0	105	15.00	-2.57	0	9	0.000%	0.006%	44.519%	Neil McAllister, Maureen McAllister, Harold McAllister, Linda Morgan, Joan Campbell.
PAUL	3-4-0	98	14.00	-2.43	0	8	0.000%	0.007%	58.321%	Gerald Paul, Gary Thomas, Alice Thomas, Larry Gillott, Bob Jess, Jim Balcom.
MORSE	2-4-0	81	13.50	-2.50	1	3	0.000%	0.004%	34.252%	Greg Morse, Andy Hellqvist, Bruce McIntyre, Richard Dunn, Gloria Prescott.
BRETON	3-4-0	87	12.43	-20.86	0	10	0.000%	0.000%	40.464%	David Breton, Ryan Park, David Payne, Phil Westreich, Manuel Zahariev, Ross Lam.
MEYER	2-5-0	84	12.00	-18.29	0	6	0.000%	0.000%	22.058%	Larry Meyer, Rod Coote, Jim McKenzie, Dick Simpson, Bob Takishita, Ted Treise.
CARR	3-4-0	78	11.14	-25.71	0	7	0.000%	0.000%	5.521%	Stuart Carr, Brian Ransom, Colin Ransom, Doreen Ransom, Cathy Miller, Betty Reynolds.
MONTY	1-4-0	45	9.00	-28.80	2	12	0.000%	0.000%	3.395%	Lawrence Monty, Bill Mansfield, Victor Finberg, Cliff Gillis, Kyte Gillis, Armando Andreoli.
CHRISTENSEN	0-7-0	44	6.29	-44.86	0	11	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%	Judy Christensen, Bruce Partridge, Susan Mitchell, Harry Kublik, Bev Hall, Edite Philpotts.
JEZ (UNPAID)	4-3-0	119	17.00	+11.71	0	5	0.003%	0.371%	91.800%	Waldemar Jez, Ewa Wroblewicz, Jan & Anna Ochnio, Marek Rojewski, Andrzej Zorawski.

Flight C (0-500, non-LM) IMP League Standings

Addition of Doucette team makes six. Good luck to all teams!

This report includes all reported matches thru February 15, 2003.

For match scores, schedules, contact information and current standings, visit the IMP League Web Page maintained by Commissioner Brad Bart, at <http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS>

Team Captain	Record W-L-T	Total VPs	VP Avg.	IMP Avg.	Late Matches	MP Seed	WHIZBANG probability of finishing:			Team Roster
							1st	Top Two	Playoffs	
DOUCETTE	1-0-1	41	20.50	+29.00	1	?	44.693%	77.403%	92.352%	Norma Doucette, Chloe Clark, Sima Sadri, Joan Steuart, Janice Barr.
HOESCHEN	1-0-1	38	19.00	+15.00	1	?	38.742%	76.074%	92.518%	Bernie Hoeschen, Yvonne Drane, Myra Johnston, Adelina Wong-Chor, Martene Powell, Gail Heuchert.
GAYMAN	2-1-0	46	15.33	-5.33	0	?	11.662%	29.717%	64.469%	Grant Gayman, Trent Appelbe, Linda Bell, Marla Gropper, Rosalee Hardin, Dominique Baker.
FANE	0-1-0	7	7.00	-30.00	2	?	3.754%	12.636%	36.293%	Felicity Fane, Edna Hunter, June Young, Zelda Vosper, Anne Smith.
FISHER	0-1-0	6	6.00	-38.00	2	?	1.142%	4.049%	12.887%	Ireta Fisher, Gary MacDonald, Cary Boyce, Terry MacKinnon.
STEINBACH	0-1-0	0	0.00	-4.00	2	?	0.007%	0.121%	1.481%	Chris Steinbach, Reza Naserasr, Patrick Lin, Jason Chen, Babak Taati.

understand, more than others!) waiting to see if there would be a sixth team or not, so the late matches there are not a concern yet. Now that we have six teams and no byes, we expect all of the Flight C teams will be caught up soon.

The IMP League Match Nights, in which several teams played matches simultaneously using the same boards with hand records, was a success but required more time than I had in December and January. Watch for its return in March-April.

(Only Yesterday, continued from page 39)

with Mike "The Foot" Wilson, Tom Kinakin, and Harvey Piercy. I met my wife during my short stay here in the seventies.

The 1992 NAOP District Final was held in Ren-ton and Unit 430 scored a triple play, winning all three flights, plus two of the second-place paid trips! **Ron Borg** and **Dan Jacob** won the Flight A game, with **Paul Sontag** and **Greg Arbour** close behind. In Flight B, **Chuck** and **Diane Campbell** won, and in Flight C, **Angela Taylor** and **Roger Cheung** won, followed by **Tai Eng** and **Harry Friedman**. **Mary Fines** was the winner of the 1992 Monthly Unit Games Trophy. And the annual list of Unit masterpoint leaders, led in 1992 by **Leo Steil**, **Laurence Betts** and **Aidan Ballantyne**, included for the first time the current leader in the top ten, **Cam Doner**.

To the surprise of **Louis Landau**, well over half the field in Penticton the previous June had gone down in 3NT on the deal above by using a red suit entry to take the losing club finesse. The only one that works is the A♥, since LHO has the Kxx of clubs but only a singleton heart. Even so, playing clubs from the top is safer and allows a matchpoint gambler the chance to catch up later with a red suit finesse if the K♣ is onside. (It doesn't work...)

Clue #3: I moved back to Vancouver in September 1992 and played several sessions at the VBC before the 1992 Round-Up Sectional, where I won two events.

An opening lead problem: Opponents bid to 3NT via this route: 1♠-1♥, 3♦-3♣, 3NT. The only opposition bidding is by your partner, who passed as dealer but doubled the 1♥ response. It's your lead against 3NT with this:

♠ KT9 ♥ T6542 ♦ 93 ♣ 543

(Answer later.)

The Round-Up sectional of 1992 decided the sectional trophies: **Bob Connop** won the Phil Wood by just 0.20 over **Peter Herold**, **Dephine Tablotney** won the Edie Bonnell by slightly over three points over **Connie Delisle**, and **Grace Jeklin** won the Phil Wood Under 200 trophy, with **Ram Hira** a fairly distant second. Overheard at the sectional: "You know you're having a good game when declarer plays the A-K♥, then leads a small one to dummy, asking partner to ruff it with a spade, only to be reminded that the contract is 6NT! This play sets up your original 7-bagger."

Clue #4: In 1992 at least, I believed that the standard of bridge in the Maritimes is higher, but only because the Vancouver organizers do a better job of getting out the novice and intermediate players.



The big news in early 1993 was the Tri-Country

playoff for a spot in the Bermuda Bowl between Canada, Mexico and Bermuda. The event was to be held in Richmond in February, and Canada's team was mostly from BC: **Jim Dickie**, **Bruce Ferguson**, **Peter Herold**, **Jim McAvoy**, **Duncan Smith**, and **Mike Strebinger**. A big show complete with VuGraph was planned for the Richmond site. More next issue on what happened.

In the opening lead problem above you needed to lead a spade to defeat 3NT. Perhaps you might have gotten it right, but at the table your partner, before passing out 3NT, asked whether 3♣ was a Western Cue Bid. The defender at the table, **Angela Hehr**, led a heart, knowing that a spade lead, should it work, would be rolled back because of the poor timing of the question. **Doug Cowan** pointed out this fine example of Active Ethics in 1992 and I grabbed it for an article elsewhere in this issue.

The Meet The Players Who Am I? Quiz answer: Peter Maclean was David Schmidt's interview subject.

Hey, history really does repeat itself: ten years ago Monthly Unit Games were moved to the Vancouver Bridge Centre for 1993 after poor attendance at the North Shore Winter Club!

15 years ago in the Matchpointer

Dec. 87, Feb. 88, Jude Goodwin-Hanson, editor

Jude's third issue as editor focused on information and education. A two-page recap of the many different types of bridge events on the calendar shows that not much has changed in fifteen years except that many of the events have split further into even more separate strats since.

Another two pages was given to CBF President **Aidan Ballantyne** to examine the case for an independent Canadian Bridge League. The issues in 1987 were about the same as they are in 2003: the value of the northern dollar keeps shrinking and the ACBL's insistence on US dollars means a de facto increase in costs to Canadian organizers. As I write the CBF is supposedly watching the ACBL's response to its latest feasibility study to see if relations improve. They didn't in 1988 and they won't in 2003. As long as things get very slowly worse, Canadian bridge organizers will persevere in saving what is left while missing the magnitude of the long-term problem. I'm not optimistic that the urge for a friendly and logical secession will emerge before people stop coming to the tournaments and clubs. It's not like we don't have enough talented people in Canada to make it all work.

Dan Jacob, **Mary Fines** and **John Mullen** won the sectional masterpoint races in 1987; the closest race was for the Edie Bonnell trophy where **Mary Fines** won by 0.11 over **Joyce Peters**. The under 200

(continued on page 27)

FUTURE STARS 0-200 TOURNAMENT

MARCH 23-23, 2001

VANCOUVER BRIDGE CENTRE

2776 EAST BROADWAY



SATURDAY, MARCH 22

1:00 pm

Pre-Game Mini-Lesson

1:30 pm

Stratified Open Pairs

Single Session, 0-50, 50-100, 100-200

7:00 pm

Pre-Game Mini-Lesson

7:30 pm

Stratified Open Pairs

Single Session, 0-50, 50-100, 100-200

SUNDAY, MARCH 23

10:30 am

Pre-Game Mini-Lesson

11:00 pm

Stratified Open Pairs

Single Session, 0-50, 50-100, 100-200

2:30 pm

"Whose Bid Is It Anyway?"

The Hideous Hog (In Training) moderates a lively discussion of problem boards from the first three sessions that players have circled on the pick-up slips. Bring a lunch and join in the fun!

5:00 pm

Stratified Swiss Teams

Single Session, 0-50, 50-100, 100-200

DOOR PRIZES TROPHIES COFFEE MINI-LESSONS GOODIES

Tournament Chair/Partnerships: Samantha Nystrom 604/603-1248

nystromsamantha@hotmail.com

Director: Brian Russell

Entry Fees: \$9.00/session (paid ACBL members), \$9.50 for non-members. ACBL Memberships can be purchased or renewed at the tournament. \$5.00 for Junior players (under 26) and/or full time students (with student ID). ACBL Members with 0-5 MP play FREE on Saturday Evening.

Special Events

by Julien Lévesque

First, I want to congratulate our local pairs who made a great showing at the District Final of the NAOP at the November Sectional.

In the Flight A game **Dan Jacob** and **Gord McOrmond** tied for first but lost the complicated tie-breaker. Gord won the 1997 NAOP National Final with **Aidan Ballantyne** (who, with **Katrin Litwin**, was less than three match-points out of first place), and **Dan Jacob** is one of the area's most successful players.

In Flight B **Mike Moffatt** and **Vicki Croome** were the winners,

sweeping the field with a huge score.

In Flight C, **Ross Lam** and **David Breton** pulled off a major comeback in the evening session, pairing a 54% afternoon game with a near 76% earthquake in the evening. **Nigel Fullbrook** and **Julien Lévesque** were second, six match-points back.

A full list of the overall finishers is in the winners list pages. We wish all the top pairs the best of luck in Philadelphia this March. And get ready to qualify at your local club this summer for next year's event!

BC Zone Finals for the CWTC and CNTC are in Victoria this year. The CWTC event takes

place on March 22 in Victoria. Any team of four women whose ACBL membership and CBF fees are current, may play in the Zone Final: there is no qualifying event for this event. Mike Roberts will be the Director.

The CNTC takes place one week later, the weekend before Penticton, over two days, March 29-30. Separate and concurrent events will be held for Flight A and Flight B (0-1000). Players that did not qualify in club qualifying games will need to pay an extra "buy-in" fee to the CBF to play in the Zone Final. Tim Ayers will be the Director.

Both events will be held at the Victoria Bridge Centre, 1-612 Head

Special Events in a Box

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

EVENT	Qualifying Club Level Games	Unit Final	District or Zone Final	National Final	Subsidies Available
COPC Canadian Open Pairs Championship	Qualifying completed Top score in a Q-game is eligible for subsidy.	none	None. Any two CBF members may play in the National Final, but if you don't qualify at the club level, buy-in fee is \$100	Canadian Bridge Federation 2003 Bridge Week: <i>Penticton BC, June 3-9 (the week before the Penticton Regional)</i> National Finals in: COPC: June 7-8	About \$560 in Unit subsidy fund, also a CBF subsidy.
CNTC Canadian National Team Championship Flight A unlimited Flight B 0-1000	Qualifying completed	none	March 29-30 in Victoria. (details, accompanying article)	CNTC Flight A: June 3-9 CNTC Flight B: June 3-7 CWTC: June 3-7	\$682 in Unit subsidy fund, also a CBF subsidy.
CWTC Canadian Women's Teams Championship	There are no club or unit qualifying games. Any team of female CBF members may enter the Zone Final.		March 22 in Victoria. (details, accompanying article)		\$897 in Unit subsidy fund. No CBF subsidy.
GNT Grand National Teams Championship Flight: Unlimited Flight A 0-5000 Flight B 0-2000 Flight C 0-500 NLM	March 4, 7:00, VBC March 20, 7:00, VBC (both games are one session stratified qualifying games)	none	Flight A, Flight C: March 29-30, VBC Championship Flight, Flight B: April 12-13, Seattle (details, accompanying article)	Summer NABC: Long Beach CA July 17-27, 2003 (all flights).	\$400/team from DINO, \$461 in Unit subsidy.
NAOP North American Open Pairs Flight A unlimited Flight B 0-2000 Flight C 0-500 NLM	Qualifying period for 2004 NAOP is June-August 2003.	Fall 2003 for 2004 NAOP	Winter 2003-04 for 2004 NAOP. See winners list for winners of the 2003 NAOP District Final, held at the November Round-Up Sectional in Burnaby.	Spring NABC Philadelphia PA March 6-16, 2003 (all flights)	2nd/3rd teams in Dist. Final split Unit subsidy. (ACBL pays top team each flight.)

CBF Canada-wide STaC: February 17-23, 2003.

CBF Rookie Master Games: Monday, April 28 and Tuesday, October 28, 2003.

St, in Esquimalt, just minutes from downtown Victoria. The Victoria organizer is Merv Adey (mervadey@telus.net), phone 250/382-2913. Both events begin at 1:00 pm on the Saturday, with a captain's meeting to discuss unusual systems at noon. The organizers request that teams preregister so they can have some idea of the turnout and prepare to add local teams to the event if necessary to fill out the numbers.

CNTC and CWTC winners will advance to the National Finals held the week before Penticon, June 3-9 at the CBF Bridge Week.

The GNT District Finals are once again to be split between Vancouver and Seattle. This time the Flight A (0-5000) and Flight C (0-500, non-Life Master) are in

Vancouver, at the VBC March 29-30. Start times have not yet been confirmed, but noon would be a good guess.

The District Final for the unlimited flight and the Flight B (0-2000) is in Seattle two weeks later, and for this no location or times have been announced on the DINO Web site (www.d19.org). A team can buy its way into the District Final at a cost of \$100 US per team, or \$25 per non-qualified player, but it is far cheaper to play in one of the qualifying games! The VBC has scheduled two such games, on March 4, and March 20. Both are evening one-session Swiss Team qualifying games stratified to include all flights.

As this issue went to press players were competing in the Canada-

wide Sectional Tournament at Clubs, run by the CBF. Two more STaCs will be held in the first half of 2003. The Unit 430-sponsored District-wide STaC will be held May 5-11, and the Seattle-run Unit 446 district-wide STaC will be held April 14-19. All participating clubs will award increased silver points at these games and the highest scoring pairs of all the clubs participating will win large overall awards.

The CBF Helen Shields Canada-wide Rookie-Master game, a Canada-wide game for 0-20 players playing with masters, featuring hand records and analyses, will take place on Monday, April 28. Veterans: help out your local newcomers by volunteering as a master. It's good for bridge!

Bridge Surfers Alert!

Links to bridge on the Internet

It's well past time we included with each *Matchpointer* a list of useful Internet addresses with bridge information. (Actually, it's well past time that the *Matchpointer* had an online presence, but until there are 42 hours in a day this is going to be difficult.)

www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/van-hc

The VBC website, maintained by **Brad Bart**. It includes schedules, contact e-mails and phone numbers, and an area where you can check out the results of duplicate games played at the VBC.

<http://members.shaw.ca/polishbridge>

The Polski Klub Bryzowy site, maintained by **Jerzy Mazur**, has a list of events and results, as well as a great picture of almost everyone who plays there, which is a good way to make sure you spell some of those names correctly!

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

The IMP League Web Site, also run by **Brad Bart**, has everything you'd want to know about the IMP League: printable schedules and sign-up sheets, results, team rosters, and conditions of contest.

www.user.dccnet.com/rmdunn

Richard Dunn's site contains information, schedules, and results for the Tsawwassen and Ladner games, and well as information on Monthly Unit Games.

www.vancouverbridgeclub.ca

Louis and Pat Landau have just begun hosting a

site containing information on the St. David's games, plus results for all North Shore games and several other clubs, and pictures too!

www.sfu.ca/~sfubc/

The SFU Bridge Club site, which contains information on bridge at SFU, including pizza costs. Another lively **Brad Bart** site.

www.d19.org

District Nineteen's Web Page has been beautifully reorganized by **Jude Goodwin-Hanson** and will tell you whatever you need to know about Regionals, special events, and other District News, as well as sections on all Units within District 19.

www.cbf.ca

Another **Jude Goodwin-Hanson** project is the Canadian Bridge Federation site, which contains information on Canadian events, and tracks Canadian players and teams at the World Championships.

www.acbl.org

The ACBL Internet site is a great place to go for tournament information and schedules, NABC, Regional, and Sectional results, masterpoint races (updated frequently), even your own online masterpoint report, and much more.

www.greatbridgelinks.com

No list of Internet bridge sites would be complete without another **Jude Goodwin-Hanson** project, the Great Bridge Links site. There is a link here to virtually anything on the Web that has to do with bridge. A system of menus and submenus allows a user to find whatever is sought, and the front page has the latest news and new links. Check it out!



LOCAL WINNERS

ROUND-UP SECTIONAL
BURNABY, NOVEMBER 8-11
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 424 TABLES
(NOT INCLUDING NAOP)
LAST YEAR: 412 TABLES (UP 2.9!%)

Friday Afternoon		
A	B	C
Open Pairs (31 tables)		
1	Gerry McCully/Rhonda Foster	
2	1	Rick Smillie/Yuko Fujiada
3	2	Margaret Elligott/Jane Craig
4	Don Sache/Wilf May	
5	3	Jeanette Greenhut/Samantha Nystrom
6	Debbie Williams/John Horne	
4	Amirali Alibhai/Robert Butler	
5	Ping Ding/Jane Fyfe	
6	Bill Osten/Neil McAllister	
1	Alice & Bill Butler	
2	Kas Dykstra/Pat Pope	
3	Charlotte Alekson/Gerald Paul	
4	Gerry & Bonnie Purcell	
5	Daniela Zezulka/Gerry Ferguson	
Friday Afternoon		
A	B	
Senior Pairs (13 tables)		
1	Evelyn Hodge/Mary Fines	
2	Helen Montgomery/Donna Morrison	
3	1	Ian Hayter/Harold Hansen
4	2	Bob Yeh/Michael Su
5	3	Mariann Hutton/Theilma Hofstede
6	Marge Neate/Stella Alliston	
4/5	Clarence Dodd/Betty Reynolds	
4/5	Beverly Kanee/Toyo Nunoda	
Friday Afternoon		
D	E	F
Future Masters (4 tables)		
1	Marlene Powell/Adelina Wong-Chor	
2	Sheila Takasaki/Christine Naysmith	
3	Diane Rikhof/Ib Rikhof	

(not enough pairs for lower strat overall awards)

Friday Evening		
D	E	F
Future Masters (3 tables)		
1	1	Barbara & Marke Antonsen
2	2	Adelina Wong-Chor/Ann Thomas

(not enough pairs for lower strat overall awards)

Friday Evening		
A	B	C
IMP Pairs (37 tables)		
1	1	Judith Hyde/Sharon Gaunt
2	Trudy & John Hurdle	

Friday Evening		
A	B	C
IMP Pairs (continued)		
3/4	2/3	Bobby Wood/Ann Ecclestone
3/4	2/3	Samantha Nystrom/Greg Barszcs
5	Andrew Ross/Rhoda Tafler	
6/7	Catriona Henning/Pearl Minkoff	
6/7	Tai Eng/Harry Friedman	
4	1	Ross Lam/Ian Ho
5	2	John Lien/Liz Stoneman
6	3	Neil McAllister/Bill Osten
4	Cathy Miller/Sachi Yamakami	
5	Susan Mitchell/Judy Christensen	

Fri-Sun Bracketed		
Bracket	Rank	Knockout Teams (8, 8 teams)
1	1	Ram Hira, Nurdin Kassam, Don Keith, Chester Michno
1	2	Marcia Christie, Rhonda Foster, June Pocock, Carol Waters, Ron Borg
2	1	Judy Murphy, Adi Wadia, Jacqueline Phillips, Ferdinando Pieralli
2	2	Marla Gropper, Jeanette Greenhut, Priscilla Brown, Rosalee Hardin
2	3/4	Myra Johnston, Marlene Powell, Yvonne Drane, Bernard Hoeschen

(third-place matches for overalls were optional)

Saturday Afternoon		
A	B	C
Open Pairs (42 tables)		
1	Doug Fraser/John Hurdle	
2	Claire & Gordon Burns	
3	1	Bill & Laurie Sayer
4	Marylou Varga/June Pocock	
5	Joerg Schneider/Pat Stapff	
6	2	Liz Bowes/Carmen Dieno
3	Amirali Alibhai/Rick Smillie	
4	Rae Fee/Breda Prestage	
5	Tom Markham/Patricia Lamb	
6	Barbara Green/Marilyn Phillips	
3	Eric Pan/Kingke Zhang	
4	Henry Lai/Jocelyn Krug	
5	David Grannis/Todd Schindeler	
6	Gail Heuchert/Sima Sadri	

Saturday Afternoon		
D	E	F
Future Masters (3 tables)		
1	Parvin Grigg/Lorna Brewer	
2	1	Brenda Scharf/Sylvia Frazer
2	Scott & Joan Furness	

Saturday Evening		
A	B	C
Open Pairs (40 tables)		
1	1	Glenn Ponto/Melinda Ernsberger
2	Doug Fraser/John Hurdle	
3	2	Marla Gropper/Connie Deliste
4	3	Ken Danielsen/Tony Shyu
5	Ina Andersen/Kathy Adachi	
6	4	Walter Schmid/Les Baldys
5	Amirali Alibhai/Rick Smillie	
6	1	Ataollah Amir/Zahra Jafroudi
2	Bill & Laurie Sayer	
3	David Grannis/Todd Schindeler	
4	John Emmerson/Pradyumna Gorkhali	
5	Peggy Winter/Marie Cahill	
6/7	Shirley Dirk/Joyce Goddard	
6/7	Andrew Zorawski/Charlotte Alekson	

Sunday 2-session	
Rank	Flight A Pairs (24, 24 tables)
1	Craig Zastera/Stan Christie
2	John Hurdle/Richard Christie
3	Keith Dowdall/Bryan Maksymetz
4	Ron Tracy/Tom Hammond
5	Doug Fraser/Ron Borg
6	Anna Boivin/Michael Yuen
7	Gerry McCully/Marti Oppenheimer
8	Janet Dunbar/Mike Roberts

Sunday 2-session	
Rank	Flight B Pairs (23, 21 tables)
1	Ping Ding/Jane Fyfe
2	Leszek Baldys/Louise Elliott
3	Bob Kiggins/Don Keith
4	Ron Gagnon/Peter Tinkess
5	Tove Chen/Diane Ayukawa
6	Kenny Chan/William Sit
7	Peter & Lia Vanrenen

Sunday 2-session	
Rank	Flight C Pairs (12, 7 tables)
1	Jo Ann Smith/Anne Smith
2	Henry Lai/Jocelyn Krug
3/4	John Emmerson/Pradyumna Gorkhali
3/4	Judy Christensen/Bob Faraci
5	Mike Stickland/Susan Mitchell
6	Ata Amir/Zahra Jafroudi

NORTH AMERICAN OPEN PAIRS	
Rank	Flight A District Final (9 tables)
1/2*	Steven Handley, Edmonds WA/Howard Epley, Kent WA
1/2	Dan Jacob/Gord McOrmond
3	Tom Hammond, Redmond WA/Ronald Tracy, Edmonds WA
4	Aidan Ballantyne/Katrin Litwin
5	Mike Dimich/Gord Davis

*-won tiebreaker for extra subsidy funding

NORTH AMERICAN OPEN PAIRS	
Rank	Flight B District Final (16 tables)
1	Vicki Croome/Mike Moffatt
2	Mervyn Adey/Michael Ainsley
3	Ying Chin Yeh/Michael Su, Bellevue WA
4	Danny Lee/William Ge
5	Ping Ding/Jane Fyfe, Kamloops BC
6	Cornelius Galer, Mercer Island WA/Thomas Sartor, Kenmore WA
7	Judith Hyde, Federal Way WA/Sharon Gaunt, Kent WA

NORTH AMERICAN OPEN PAIRS	
Rank	Flight B District Final (5 tables)
1	David Breton/Ross Lam
2	Julien Lévesque/Nigel Fullbrook
3	Fan & Min Zheng, Redmond WA
4	Jerry & Linda Haynes, Ferndale WA

(Top pairs in the District Final, and in some case second or even third place pairs, will play in the National Final in Philadelphia in March. Good luck!)

Monday 2-session

A	B	Open Swiss Teams (48 teams)
1		Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin, Gerry McCully, Bill Goldstone
2		Gord McOrmond, Bryan Maksymetz, Dan Jacob, Larry Hicks
3/4		Janet Dunbar, Mike Roberts, Samantha Nystrom, Cam Doner
3/4		John & Trudy Hurdle, Richard & Marcia Christie
5/6		Rhonda Foster, Ron Borg, Chris Diamond, Carol Waters
5/6	1	Danny Lee, William Ge, Ping Ding, Jane Fyfe
7		Debbie Williams, Ernie Dietrich, Harry Friedman, Olga Guitelmakher
8		Gary Phelan, Pete Walton, Dan Watson, Ron Fox
2		Christopher Maylin, Joan Brooks, Chris Robbins, Isabel Chernoff
3		Glenn Ponto, Melinda Ernsberger, Kathy Bye, Anne Scott
4/6		Wink & Ann Andres, Ozzie & Shirley Isfeld
4/6		Greg Morse, Andy Hellquist, Richard Dunn, Bruce McIntyre
4/6		Kenny Chan, Thiam Ted Lai, Kam Tang, Hsiang Szu Li

Monday 2-session

C	D	NLM Swiss Teams (8 teams)
1	1	David Payne, Philippe Westreich, Yi Yang, Ross Lam
2/3		Henry Lai, Jocelyn Krug, Matt & Kristina Bohdanowicz
2/3		Samuel Krikler, Jerry Growe, Rosalee & Earl Hardin

ROUND-UP SECTIONAL TOP TEN

1.	John Hurdle	42.73
2.	Gerry McCully	31.66
3.	Rhonda Foster	23.64
4.	Bryan Maksymetz	22.08
5.	Richard Christie	21.44
6.	Doug Fraser	20.88
7.	Jane Fyfe	18.23
7.	Ping Ding	18.23
9.	Don Keith	17.68
10.	Craig Zastera, Stan Christie	17.25

A total of 1,346.12 masterpoints were won by 404 players (a further 62 played but did not win any) at the 2003 Round-Up Sectional (not including the NAOP District Finals).

There were fourteen days of bridge at the four open sectionals of 2002 and two sessions each day, plus a few morning knockout sessions in November, so you could theoretically play 30 sessions, but when I asked ACBL Score I doubted anyone did. Attendance leaders in 2002: **Don Keith** (30 sessions!), Rhonda Foster (29); Charlotte Alekson, Diane Ayukawa, Claire Burns, Carol-Ann Halliday, Gerry McCully, Peter Morse, and Brian Ransom (28 each); Dennis Groden, Sima Sadri, Alice Thomas and Gary Thomas (27 each).

TROPHY SECTIONAL

BURNABY, JANUARY 24-26

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 342½ TABLES
LAST YEAR: 288½ TABLES (UP 18.7%)

Friday Afternoon

A	B	C	Open Pairs (53 tables)
1			Rhonda Foster/Gerry McCully
2			Dee Segarich/Paul Harding
3			Marcia Christie/Richard Christie
4/5	1		Jill Wainborn/Sally Craig
4/5			Gary Phelan/Dan Watson
6	2		Corrine Tapley/Suzette Behar
3	1		Marla Gropper/Rosalee Hardin
4	2		Chloe Clark/Janice Barr
5			Ping Ding/Jane Fyfe
6			Rangie Sylvestre/Yuko Fujieda
3			Cathy Miller/Sachi Yamakami
4			Dorothy & Don Macleod
5			Harry Kublik/Bruce Partridge
6			Anne Smith/June Young

Friday Evening Henry Smilie

A	B	Trophy Mixed B-A-M (17 teams)
1	1	Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome, Ping Ding, Jane Fyfe
2/4		Rhonda Foster, Gerry McCully, Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin
2/4		Larry & June Pocock, Ben Takemori, Samantha Nystrom
2/4	2	Terry Scott, Carol-Ann Halliday, Brian Ransom, Kathy Bye
5/6	3	Bob Kiggins, Marylou Varga, Nigel Fullbrook, Jeanette Greenhut
5/6		Sherman Kwan, Diane Ayukawa, Tony Marsh, Joan Marsh

Friday Evening

A	B	C	Side Game (36½ tables)
1	1		William Osten/Barry Kirkham
2	2		Tony Remedios/Tove Chen
3	3	1	Robert Morris/Michael Stickland
4	4		Walter Schmid/Les Baldys
5	5		Charlotte Alekson/Andrew Zorawski
6	6		Priscilla Brown/Karin Dunlop
2			Judy Christensen/Susan Mitchell
3			Patricia Lamb/Carolyn Keane
4			Julianne Wooden/Jeanette Bourbonnais
5			George Wood/Mark Antonsen
6			Pete Malone/Peggy Schindeler

Saturday 2-session Adrian & June

Rank	Budd Hicks Trophy Qualifying/ Final Open Pairs (60, 28 tables)
1	Ben & Mike Takemori
2	Aban & Bob Gerrie
3	Felipe Hernandez/Gerry McCully
4	Don Sache/Doug Hansford
5	Chris Christoffersen/Martin Johnson
6	Paul Harding/Dee Segarich
7	Dan Jacob/Gord McOrmond
8	Leslie Gold/Kathy Adachi

Saturday Evening

A	B	C	Consolation Pairs (28 tables)
1	1		John Lien/Liz Stoneman
2			Richard Dunn/Dot Carnegie
3			Sandra Robson/Gustav Axen
4	2	1	Grant Gayman/Andrew Nalos
5			Pearl Minkoff/Bonnie Anderson
6	3		Rangie Sylvestre/Yuko Fujieda
4			Eugene Chan/Carol-Ann Halliday
5			Karin Dunlop/Peggy Ross
6			Glenn Ponto/Melinda Ernsberger
		2	Linda & Les Ellis
		3/4	Patricia Lamb/Carolyn Keane
		3/4	Bob Faraci/David Grannis
		5	Mona Blusson/Sachi Yamakami
		6	Chloe Clark/Janice Barr

Sunday 2-session Willie Weinstein

A	X	Trophy Swiss Teams (22 teams)
1		Ron Borg, Gord McOrmond, Dan Jacob, Greg Arbour, Larry Hicks, Mark Eddy
2	1	Sheila Sache, Gilbert Lambert, Danny Lee, William Ge
3		Doris Murdoch, Randy Corn, William Flaherty, Marilyn Breeze
4		Rhonda Foster, Gerry McCully, Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin
5/6	2	Bernice & Al French, John Demeulemeester, Bob Kiggins
5/6		Brad Barf, Mike Dimich, Waldemar Jez, Greg Barszcs
7		Michael Yuen, Howard Rubin, Sid Segal, Keith Dowdall
3		Philippe Westreich, Yi Yang, David Payne, Ian Ho
4		Bob & Aban Gerrie, Trudy & John Hurdle

Sunday 2-session Mary Clarke

B	C	D	Trophy Swiss Teams (38 teams)
1	1		Margaret Elligott, Jane Craig, Anita Morse, Patricia Stickland
2/3			Les Baldys, Gustav Axen, Walter Schmid, Roselle McRae
2/3			Wink & Ann Andres, Nadia & Albert Yallouz
4/5			Joyce Rhodes, Lotte Elias, Daisy Neilson, Thelma Hofstede
4/5			Van Buchanan, Robert Bosley, Daniel Groves, Sharon Erwin
6			Amirali Alibhai, Malcolm McDonald, Richard Smillie, Robert Butler
7	2		Samuel Lai, Kam Tang, Kenny Chan, William Sit
3	1		Sima Sadri, Kumiko Yoshimoto, Michiyo Takeda, Gail Heuchert
4			Marti Oppenheimer, Wilfred Lynk, David Huang, Alex Chuang
5			Stuart Carr, Brian, Doreen & Colin Ransom
6			Christopher Maylin, Garry Scollon, Joan Brooks, Isabel Chernoff

(continued on page 36)

(Winners Lists, continued from page 35)

Sunday 2-session Mary Clarke Trophy Swiss Teams (cont.)			
B	C	D	
2	Julianne Wooden, Jeannette Bourbonnais, Freda Cryer, Ann Corcoran		
3	Henry Lai, Jocelyn Krug, Kristina Bohdanowicz, Mateusz Bohdanowicz		
4	Bruce Partridge, Harry Kublik, Judy Christensen, Susan Mitchell		

TROPHY SECTIONAL TOP 10

1.	Gerry McCully	30.01
2.	Rhonda Foster	20.96
3.	Ben Takemori	20.26
4.	Greg Arbour	17.50
4.	Mike Takemori	17.50
4.	Ron Borg	17.50
7.	Aban Gerrie	17.40
7.	Bob Gerrie	17.40
9.	William Ge	15.23
10.	Sheila Sache	14.35

A total of 1,182.64 masterpoints were won by 359 players (a further 69 played but did not win any) at the 2003 Trophy Sectional.

OUT-OF-TOWN WINNERS

INDIAN SUMMER REGIONAL
YAKIMA, WA, OCT 28-NOV 3, 2002

A	B	C	Charity Open Pairs
3			Dee Segarich
4	2		Jennifer Ballantyne/Jean Groome
A	B	C	Charity Open Pairs
1			Peter Morse
Bracket	Rank	Welcome To Yakima Knockouts	
1	3/4	Cam Doner	
A	B	C	Tuesday Open Pairs
2/3			Jennifer Ballantyne/Peter Morse
A	B	C	Tuesday Senior Pairs
6			Dee Segarich
A	B	C	Open Swiss Teams
1			Cam Doner
2/6			David Schmidt
A	B	C	Senior Swiss Teams
3/4			Tom Cross
5/9			Dee Segarich
Bracket	Rank	Halloween Knockouts	
1	2	Cam Doner	
A	B	C	Thursday Evening Swiss
1			Jean Groome
2			Dee Segarich
4	2	1	Gerry & Bonnie Purcell

A	B	C	Thursday Evening Side Game
2			David Schmidt
A	B	C	Halloween Open Pairs
1			John Whittlesey
A	B	C	Lucky Draw GNT Swiss Teams
1			Cam Doner
A	B	C	Saturday Afternoon Side Game
1			Dee Segarich
3			John Whittlesey

Bracket	Rank	Weekend Knockout Teams	
1	3/4	Cam Doner	

A	X	Flight A Pairs	
2		Sam Nystrom/Brian Russell	

A	X	Flight A Swiss Teams	
5		Brian Russell/Sam Nystrom	
6		Jennifer Ballantyne	

SEATTLE AUTUMN SECTIONAL
RENTON, WA
NOV. 15-17, 2002

A	B	C	Friday Evening Open Pairs
4			Samantha Nystrom/Brian Russell

2002 ACBL FALL NABC
PHOENIX, AZ
NOV. 28-DEC. 7

Rank	Life Master Pairs	
29	Dan Jacob	

A	X	1st Saturday Stratified Pairs	
5		Peter Morse	

Bracket	Rank	Friday-Saturday Knockout Teams	
3	3/4	William & Gary Ge, Danny Lee, Dennis Groden	

Bracket	Rank	Education Foundation Knockout Teams	
3	2	Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome, William & Gary Ge	
4	3/4	Gary & Alice Thomas	

D	E	F	1st Sunday Morning 0-300 Swiss
4	3		Virginia Forrester

A	B	C	Sunday Stratified Pairs
2	1		Steve Vincent/Peter Cooper

A	X	1st Sunday Flight A/X Swiss	
9/10		Connie Delisle	

Bracket	Rank	Saturday-Sunday Knockout Teams	
2	3/4	Al & Bernice French	
6	3/4	Alice & Gary Thomas	

D	E	F	1st Sunday Afternoon 0-300 Pairs
1	1		Henry Lai/Jocelyn Krug

A	B	C	Monday Morning Side Game
5			Peter Morse

Rank	Open Board-A-Match Teams	
7	Bryan Maksymetz	

B	C	D	Monday Flight B Pairs
5	2		Theo Deeder

A	B	C	Monday Senior Pairs
5			Ram Hira

A	B	C	Mon.-Wed. Side Game Series
3	1		Peter Cooper/Steve Vincent

Bracket	Rank	Monday Compact Knockout Teams	
7	4	Peter Morse/Claire Burns	

Bracket	Rank	Monday Compact Consolation Knockouts	
2	2	Cam Doner	

Bracket	Rank	Sunday-Monday Knockout Teams	
4	1	William & Gary Ge, Danny Lee, Dennis Groden	

A	B	C	Tuesday Evening Swiss Teams
9/11			Monica Angus, Marge Neate, Claire Burns

A	B	C	Wednesday Open Pairs
3			Anita Morse
5			Andy Hellqvist/Greg Morse

Bracket	Rank	Tuesday-Wednesday Knockouts	
6	2	William & Gary Ge, Danny Lee, Dennis Groden	

A	B	C	Wed. Evening Stratified IMP Pairs
2			John & Trudy Hurdle
		3/4	Alice & Gary Thomas

Rank	Edgar Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs	
14	Dan Jacob	

Bracket	Rank	Thursday Compact Knockouts	
3	4	Don Sache, Doug Hansford	
8	1	William & Gary Ge, Danny Lee, Dennis Groden	
	2	Henry Lai, Jocelyn Krug	

Bracket	Rank	Thursday Compact Consolation Knockouts	
6	2	Peter Morse, Claire Burns, Kathy Bye	

Bracket	Rank	Paul Cullen Memorial Knockouts	
5	1	Ram Hira	
6	2	Theo Deeder	

A	B	C	I. Rubenstein Swiss Teams
5/6	2/3		Kathy Bye
	5		Peter Morse, William & Gary Ge, Dennis Groden

BracketRank New Orleans Knockout Teams

1	3/4	Kathy Bye
2	1	William & Gary Ge, Danny Lee, Dennis Groden

BracketRank Fri.-Sat. Compact Knockouts

3	4	Alice & Gary Thomas
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BracketRank Consolation Knockout Teams

1	1	Peter Morse
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BracketRank TGIF Knockout Teams

5	3/4	Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome, Andy Hellqvist, Greg Morse
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A B C Saturday Afternoon Side Game

4	3	Anita Morse
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A B C Sat.-Sun. Side Game Series

5		Harry Greenhut
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A B C Sat. Eve. Board-A-Match Teams

4		Andy Hellqvist, Greg Morse
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A X 2nd Sunday Stratiflighted Swiss

6/7		Cam Doner
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B C D 2nd Sunday Stratiflighted Swiss

8		Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome, Betty Fawcett, Tai Eng
4/5	4	Linda Bell

Rank Reisinger Board-A-Match Teams

10		Dan Jacob
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Rank MP Unit 430 Phoenix Winners

82.	135.33	Dan Jacob
101.	122.93	William Ge
101.	122.93	Gary Ge
121.	112.85	Dennis Groden
127.	110.50	Danny Lee
418.	56.82	Bryan Maksymetz
523.	48.13	Peter Morse
683.	38.86	Ram Hira
704.	37.77	Kathy Bye
832.	32.03	Theo Deeder
877.	30.62	Vicki Croome
877.	30.62	Mike Moffatt
903.	29.60	Jocelyn Krug
919.	29.11	Andy Hellqvist
919.	29.11	Greg Morse
1019.	26.25	Peter Cooper
1019.	26.25	Steve Vincent
1042.	25.85	Cam Doner
1105.	24.52	Al French
1158.	23.30	Claire Burns
1178.	22.76	Bernice French
1234.	21.98	Henry Lai
1288.	21.11	Alice Thomas
1297.	20.91	Gary Thomas

A total of 98,088.81 masterpoints (of various colours) were won by 4,803 players (a further 341 played but did not win any) at the Phoenix NABC.

**MIDWINTER HOLIDAY REG
RENO, NV, DEC. 26-31****A B C Thursday Aft. Continuous Pairs**

4	1	Rudy Notzi
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A B C Thursday Stratified Senior Pairs

1		Ralph Cole
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A B C Thursday Stratified Open Pairs

7		Aidan Ballantyne/Katrin Litwin
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A B C Friday Morning Continuous Pairs

2		Pattie Lamb
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A B C Friday Afternoon Continuous Pairs

5		Avril & Harvey Sawyer
2		Pattie Lamb

BracketRank Holiday Knockout Teams

3	2	David Schmidt
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B C D Flight B Swiss Teams

3		Alex Jack, Barbara van Blankenstein
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A B C Saturday Evening Side Game

6		Dee Segarich
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BracketRank 0-2000 Knockout Teams

1	1	Gilbert Lambert
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A B C Sunday Morning Continuous Pairs

5/6		Al French
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BracketRank Reno Knockout Teams

1	3/4	John Whittlesey
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A B C Sunday Open Pairs

4		Dan Webster/David Schmidt
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BracketRank Morning Compact Knockout Teams

1	1	Eugene Chan
3		Cam Doner

A B C Monday Aft. Continuous Pairs

4	1	Harvey Sawyer
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BracketRank Wrapup Knockout Teams

1	2	Katrin Litwin, Aidan Ballantyne
2	3/4	Gilbert Lambert

A B C Monday Stratified Senior Pairs

3		Barbara Van Blankenstein/Alex Jack
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A B C Monday Stratified Open Pairs

4/5		Cam Doner
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A B C Monday Evening Continuous Pairs

4	1	Harvey Sawyer
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A X New Year's Eve A/X Swiss Teams

4/5		Katrin Litwin, Aidan Ballantyne
7		Eugene Chan

A B New Year's Eve Senior Swiss

3/4		Dee Segarich
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**HAWAII REGIONAL
HONOLULU HI, JANUARY 13-19****A B C Monday Charity Pairs**

2		Mary Fines/Stella Allison
6		Doris Frizzell/Gary Post
4/5		Terry & Anne Scott

D E F Monday 199er Charity Pairs

3		Sima Sadri
---	--	------------

A B C Evening Side Game Series

4		Doris Frizzell/Gary Post
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A B C Women's Pairs

5		Dianne Isfeld/Pat Carruthers
1		Esther Freeman

A B C Open Pairs

3		Liz Stoneman/John Lien
---	--	------------------------

A B C Wednesday Morning Side Game

4	1	John Lien/Liz Stoneman
---	---	------------------------

BracketRank Quick Knockout Teams

1	1	Cam Doner
---	---	-----------

A B C Wednesday Evening Side Game

5		Eugene Chan/Samantha Nystrom
4/6		Terry & Anne Scott

A B C Some Morning Side Game

5		Sima Sadri
---	--	------------

A B C Open Swiss Teams

5		Cam Doner
---	--	-----------

A B C An Afternoon Side Game

4		Gary Post
6		Samantha Nystrom

A B C Another Afternoon Side Game

1		Gary Post/Doris Frizzell
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A B C Open Pairs, Day Unspecified

4		Angela Fenton/Terry Scott
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A B C Evening Side Game

4		Gary Post/Doris Frizzell
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A B C Yet Another Afternoon Side Game

4	3	Samantha Nystrom
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A B C Completely Unspecified Side Game

5		Sima Sadri
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(Note to ACBL: get those Directors to make sure to include the days and time of day in event titles, or include it some other way on the Web reports.)

A B C Friday Evening Swiss

6/7		Don & Sheila Sache, Jean Groome, Insa Fricker
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(continued on page 38)

(Winners Lists, continued from page 37)

A	B	C	Jim Hopkins Open Pairs
3			Stella Alliston/Marge Neate

A	B	C	Saturday Open Pairs
1			Aidan Ballantyne/Katrin Litwin
4			Stella Alliston/Angela Fenton
	4		John Lien/Liz Stoneman

Bracket	Rank	AM/PM	Knockout Teams
2	5/8		Eugene Chan, Samantha Nystrom

Rank	Evening Side Game Overall
4/5	Doris Frizzell/Gary Post

A	B	C	Saturday Evening Side Game
3			Doris Frizzell/Gary Post
4	1		John Lien/Liz Stoneman
	5	3	Sima Sadri

Rank	Afternoon Side Game Overall
1	Gary Post
6	Doris Frizzell

A	X	Sunday Swiss Teams
5		Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin
	3	Doris Frizzell, Gary Post, Terry & Anne Scott

**PORT TOWNSEND SECTIONAL
PORT TOWNSEND WA
JANUARY 17-19**

A	B	C	Saturday Afternoon Open Pairs
5			Larry Chow

**POWELL RIVER SECTIONAL
POWELL RIVER BC
JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 2**

A	B	C	Friday Evening Open Pairs
1			Dianne Isfeld/Martin Henneberger

A	B	C	Sat. George Joneson Open Pairs
1			Dianne Isfeld/Martin Henneberger

**PEACE ARCH SECTIONAL
BELLINGHAM, WA, FEBRUARY 7-9**

A	B	C	Friday Afternoon Open Pairs
2			John Lien
3			Ina Andersen/Jean Groome
5/6	2/3		Eugene Chan/William Ge
	4		Les Baldys/Mike Manica
		5	Alice & Gary Thomas

D	E	F	Friday Afternoon 1999er Pairs
1	1	1	Ron Rumsby/Annsi Rantamaa
2	2		Denny Gibson
4/5	4/5		Bruno & Margaret Moras

A	B	C	Friday Evening Open Pairs
3			Marcia & Richard Christie
4	2		John Lien/Liz Stoneman
	4		Alice & Gary Thomas

D	E	F	Friday Evening 1999ers Pairs
2			Linda Bell/Stephen Pickett
5	2	1	Ron Rumsby/Annsi Rantamaa
	3		Bruno & Margaret Moras

D	E	F	Saturday Afternoon 1999ers Pairs
1			Jackie Phillips/Linda Wormworth

A	B	C	Saturday Open Pairs
1			Rhonda Foster/Gerry McCully
	1		John Lien/Liz Stoneman
	4		Mike Moffatt/Vicki Croome
	6	1	Marylou Varga/Adele MacKay
	2		Charlotte Alekson/Andrew Zorawski
	5		Gary & Alice Thomas

D	E	F	Saturday Evening 1999ers Pairs
1	1		Bruno & Margaret Moras

A	X	Sunday Stratiflighted Swiss
1/2		Rhonda Foster, Marcia Christie, Julia Barsei, Andrey Artamanov
1/2		Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin
4	1	John Lien
5	2	Gilbert Lambert, Dennis Groden, Danny Lee, William Ge

B	C	Sunday Stratiflighted Swiss
2		Rangie Sylvestre, Greg Lam, Allen Coulter, Gail Watson
3		Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome, Karin Dunlop, Priscilla Brown
5/7	1	Dominique Baker, Myra Johnston, Yvonne Drane, Linda Bell
5/7		Christa Mead, Peggy L Ross, Jane & Howard Shimokura
5/7		Annerita Hasselbach, Liz Stoneman, Joyce Rhodes, Rekha Shah
2		Alice & Gary Thomas
3		Denny Gibson, Marke & Barbara Antonsen

Apologies for the typos I am sure to have made in preparing these lists. If you placed in an ACBL event out of BC or Washington, tell me and I'll find it online.

**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:

March 10: Charity Game

March 31: Club Championship Game

Christmas Party Game Winners:

Diane Ayukawa/Gail Watson

February Team Game Winners:

Flight A: Sherman Kwan, Jean & Ron

Groome, Marguerite Wiggins

Flight B/C: Mike O'Neil, Mary Neilson,

Erik Anderson, Wenda Hopp

Ladner Location:

Fisherman's Hall,

4481 Savoy St., Ladner

alternate Fridays at 10:30 am

February 28, March 14, 28.

April-May dates TBA

OPEN STRATIFIED PAIRS

TSW & LAD Results & information:

www.user.dccnet.com/rmdunn/

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:

Monday, April 21

Wednesday, May 7 (am)

Wednesday, June 12 (pm)

Holiday Monday Party Games:

April 21: Easter Monday Holiday Pairs

May 20: Victoria Day Holiday Pairs

Handicap Games:

April 23 (am), May 12

StoC Silver Point Games:

May 27, May 29 (both)

Congratulations to **Amirali Alibhai**, our 2002 Player of the Year!

Squamish Bridge Club

1471 Pemberton Street, Squamish

Mondays at 7:00 pm

Monthly Handicap & Trophy Race Games

Don Lecky 604/892-9027

Hollyburn Bridge Club

Hollyburn Country Club

950 Cross Creek, West Vancouver

"Bridge with a view"

Louis Landau 604/984-8309

Mondays at 7:30 pm, open to all!

tables and both teams get a loss! Did it happen? I never found out.

The IMP League reports were accompanied by a few tidbits from the "IMP League Tattler," among them the story of how a top team's fifth and sixth, playing in the VBC duplicate game, were left to sign the match score slip when the other four compared scores in the VBC parking lot, discovered they had been beaten by the #12 seed, and left! A match in Flight B ended after 28 boards in a score of 116-113: the big hand of the match was one board in the second half when both sides bid and made the same slam for something called a push.

Mark Rojewski won Flight A, B and C in the 1997 Monthly Unit Game race, and I never even found out how to spell *triple play* in Polish. When it became apparent that he couldn't possibly use 24 MUG free plays in 1998, the Flight B award was given to runner-up **Arek Sitek**, and the Flight C award was given to **Frances Gould**, third behind Mark and Arek. And just to prove that history does repeat itself, the MUG night was changed to Saturday for 1998.

10 years ago in the *Matchpointer* December 1992, David Schmidt, editor

The opening editorial in late 1992 mentioned that most had appreciated the focus on behavior issues in the previous issue, but several complained at articles written in such a way as to "slight" certain players. I had a second look at the October 1992 issue and I am completely baffled at this. There were a few harmless shots taken at some in the IMP League Prognostications, but other than that, virtually nothing to get angry about, until I read between the lines. Several articles pointed out bridge actions that seemed to be errors, or didn't meet with success, and although the players were not named, a little detective work could reveal who they were.

David Schmidt was more patient than I would have been, calmly pointing out that reports on events must cover the turning points of these events, which often but not always include errors. Bridge being a limited-knowledge game, even the best of us will make errors, and focusing on these errors, as a report will tend to do, is not to isolate the players who erred, but rather to show the key points in the event. This is why such a report will usually say "at the other table, the slam was not made," or "the defense slipped a bit," or something similar, avoiding actually naming the person who made the error. Except when writing as or about the Hideous Hog-In-Training, I agree with this idea and I have in the past mentioned to contribu-

tors that they might want to edit their material to avoid giving offense. It should be obvious enough that drawing conclusions from the number of errors reported on in the *Matchpointer* is as flawed as estimating a ballplayer's batting average from the highlight reels.

But some people apparently feel that the inclusion of the error in the *Matchpointer* and the winners list elsewhere in the magazine allows error-snoopers to put two and two together: "aha, on page 7 it says that the North player at the other table finessed and went down and this cost the match. Let's look at the winners lists on page 23, where the team rosters are listed, and find out who that North player could have possibly been." As far as I can fathom, this is the sort of thing people complained about ten years ago. As I say, David was remarkably patient in his comments. I would probably have loaded my pen with acid and adjusted what I've written above to maximize the sarcasm.

The rest of the issue was well stocked with interesting reading material, and we can start with the *Meet The Players Who Am I?* quiz:

Clue #1: I began playing bridge at Acadia University in 1967.

Decide how you would play 3NT in the Worldwide (known in 1992 as the Epson) Instant Matchpoint Pairs event, after the lead of the J♣:

♠ 76 ♥ AQT62 ♦ AJ96 ♣ 76

J♠ led vs 3NT

♠ AK ♥ 53 ♦ 73 ♣ AQJT542

(Answer several lines down.)

I went into research shock when I read an article of mine from ten years ago, in which a declarer on my right, needing two of the last three, played a trump from hand and called for "anything" from the board. Declarer held the KQ♣ and a high heart, dummy had the A♦ and two good clubs, and I held the AJ♣ and the 9♦ (partner held nothing). I called the Director and got the discard I needed, the ace of diamonds, to defeat the contract, then went into several paragraphs about how bad it felt to do that to the poor fellow, but concluded by pointing out that saying "anything," is a poor practice, since occasionally dummy's discards may become relevant. I don't let my partners do this, and if they insist and dummy wins a trick, I get the Director: you should too. The research shock came when I read the sentence about the "evil defender in the Montreal Expos jacket," which I am still wearing ten years later...

Clue #2: I first visited Vancouver in 1973-74, during which time I played a fair amount of bridge

(continued on page 30)

Monthly Unit Games

Back to Saturday at the VBC

The move back to the VBC seems to be a success thus far, although the first game of the year was free to anyone who pre-registered, and the second was half price to anyone who played in the first. The entry fee for the third is \$9.00 per player, but we will continue to distribute \$2.00 off coupons for the next game to reward our "frequent flyers!" We hope that the attendance stays close to the impressive level reached during the discount period. Meanwhile, the Board and the VBC will continue working to come up with a long-term agreement on the site rental so that the games can continue at this popular location. (We thought we had an agreement until Eugene told us what he thought it was...)

So, for those who still don't know what a MUG is, time for a primer. MUG stands for Monthly Unit Game, a Unit championship game run once a month. There are now actually two games at the same time, an open game (with Flight B under 2000 and Flight C under 500 and non-Life Master) run by **Richard Dunn**, and a 0-200 game (with strats at 100 and 50 masterpoints) run by **Eugene Chan**. For both games there seems to be a periodic difficulty in attracting

pairs from the lowest strat: pairs of 49ers and players approaching their Gold Card. Come on out: increased masterpoints and the fine culinary spreads the VBC is famous for are there for the taking! And if you haven't seen the Vancouver Bridge Centre's new chairs that local players (possibly even you!) helped pay for during last fall's gala fundraiser, what better opportunity could there be?

The games begin at 7:30 on Saturday nights chosen to avoid conflict with other nearby events. The next games are on March 1, April 12, May 3, May 31, and July 5. If you need a partner, an early arrival will virtually ensure you get a game.

In addition to the increased masterpoint awards, Unit 430 also runs a Monthly Unit Game masterpoint race each calendar year, and the 2002 winner was **Gilbert Lambert**! Gilbert will receive free plays to all Monthly Unit Games in 2003 and will have his name engraved on the Monthly Unit Game trophy. The Flight B co-winners were **Liz Stoneman** and **John Lien**, (Gilbert was eligible but cannot possibly use 18 free plays for 12 games) who will share six free plays for 2003. The Flight C winner, **Julien Lévesque**, actually moved up to Flight B early in 2002 but was eligible for Flight C on January 1, 2002, so he gets six free plays for 2003. Congratulations to all the winners and good luck to all in 2003!

November 3		Monthly Unit Game (7 tables)
A	B	
1		Sandra Robson/Larry Pocock
2		Ina Andersen/Kathy Adachi
3	1	Danny Lee/William Ge
4	2	Ken Danielsen/Tony Shyu
5		Peter Morse/June Pocock
	3/4	Anita Morse/Marti Oppenheimer
	3/4	Carol-Ann Halliday/David Hoey

(not enough non-LM pairs for overalls)

December 7 MUG Christmas Party Game (26 tables)		
A	B	C
1		Dorothy Carnegie/Isabel Chernoff
2		Marcia & Richard Christie
3	1	Julien Lévesque/Andrew Ross
4		Larry Pocock/Sandra Robson
5	2	Catriona & Bill Henning
6	3	John Lien/Liz Stoneman
	4	Julie Smith/Peter Cooper
	5	Pearl Minkoff/Anne Nagy
	6	Tove Chen/Tony Remedios
	1	Andrey Artamonov/Julia Barsel
	2	David Grannis/Marie Cahill
	3	Linda & Les Ellis
	4/5	Larry & Tyla Meyer
	4/5	Marti Oppenheimer/Mel Karp

Final 2002 Monthly Unit Game Masterpoint Race Standings Pts.			
A	B	C	
1	1		Gilbert Lambert 11.97
	2	2	Liz Stoneman 11.74
	2	2	John Lien 11.74
	4	4	Sandra Robson 11.63
	5	5	Isabel Chernoff 8.74
	6	6	Peter Morse 6.98
	7	7	Pearl Minkoff 6.24
	8	8	William Ge 6.12
	9		Kathy Adachi 5.72
	10	9	Mariann Hutton 5.25
	11		Dot Carnegie 5.10
	12	10	Gypsy Sturrock 4.99
	13		Larry Pocock 4.56
	14		Tai Eng 4.42
	14		Insa Fricker 4.42
	1		Julien Lévesque 3.78
	2		Tony Shyu 3.69
	3		David Hoey 3.02
	4		William Henning 2.84
	5		Todd Schindeler 2.24
	6		Jackie Phillips 1.81
	7		Stuart Carr 1.72
	8		Julia Barsel 1.57
	8		Andrey Artamonov 1.57
	10		Marie Cahill 1.18
	10		David Grannis 1.18

January 11 Open Monthly Unit Game (20 1/2 tables)		
A	B	C
1		Gord McOrmond/Dan Jacob
2		Gilbert Lambert/Joerg Schneider
3		Marcia Christie/Trudy Hurdle
4		Flora Tereposky/Ev Hodge
5/6		Richard Christie/John Hurdle
5/6	1	Tove Chen/Tony Remedios
	2	Bev Kanee/Toyo Nunoda
	3	Janis & Nick Parker
	4	1 Ewa Wroblewicz/Andrew Zorawski
	5	Marie Cahill/Tai Eng
6/7	2	Harry Kublik/Bruce Partridge
6/7	3	Jesse Chu/Sao Nam Kam
	4	Ross Lam/David Breton

January 11 0-200 Monthly Unit Game (7 tables)		
D	E	F
1		Howard & Jane Shimokura
2	1	1 Hildegard Winkler/Janet Banning
	3	2 Sandra Poggemiller/Flora So
	4	Todd Schindeler/David Grannis
	5	3 Dave I. Butler/Alex Louie

(more results on page 41)

A total of 250.04 masterpoints were won by 99 people in Monthly Unit Games of 2002.

Only Yesterday

by Bruce McIntyre

Some catching up to do, as we have Winter issues and a few early Spring ones from our past to cover. The end of the calendar year traditionally brings the bridge season to a high midpoint and Winter *Matchpointer* issues usually crown winners in year-long races. Let's wend our way back though Unit 430 history and simultaneously through the magazine, to see who won and what was being said about it all.

5 years ago in the *Matchpointer*
December 1997, Bruce McIntyre, editor

You'll be amazed to discover that the longest article ever written in the *Matchpointer* was not written by me. *Tunis Travelogue* was written by Anne-Marie Bullis in 1997 and the first half ran about five and a half pages of the December issue. Online bridge prompted a trip abroad to meet old and new friends, play in the Trans-National World Championships in Tunisia, and eventually led to Anne-Marie's departure from Vancouver. Among interesting items from the first half:

—You hold: ♠ AV75 ♥ HB53 ♦ VB ♣ V92. Welcome to Holland; what is your opening bid?

—how Dutch auctions (non-bridge auctions, we're talking about the flower bulb market here) are conducted in reverse so that the first bid is the last.

—the ferry from Marseilles to Tunis takes only 24 hours!

Anne-Marie's team had already defeated Tony Forrester's team and was drawn against Boris Schapiro when the *Matchpointer* ran out of space.

Sectional Trophy winners for 1992 were recapped

in a sporting article by **Cam Doner**. Cam had led the Phil Wood race after the September tournament, but in the final tournament of the year **Dan Jacob** had a huge weekend, winning over 34 points to capture the trophy. **Marylou Bert** won the Edie Bonnell Trophy after a close race with **Kathy Adachi** and **June Po-cock**—all three won consistently throughout the final weekend, but no lead changes took place. **Gary Phelan** had a three point lead in the first Leo Steil trophy race at the beginning of the weekend, but by Sunday morning it was down to 0.17 over **Marylou Bert**. With both players not in contention for the overalls, it came down to match awards and was decided in the final match when Marylou won and Gary didn't. Marylou thus scored a double victory. The Under 200 race was taken by ambush, as **Martin Henneberger** teamed up with **Marvin Lee**, got **Dianne Isfeld** and **Dwayne Dicks** as teammates and tied the Jacob squad for first place in the Sunday Open Swiss! The win, combined with a few other points nabbed over the weekend, vaulted Marvin Lee from "needing a telescope to see the leader board" to third, and Martin went from 14th to first!

Unit 430's first-ever single-year two-time National Champion, **Gord McOrmond**, won the NAOP Flight A at the Spring NABC, the CNTC in the summer, and had high placings in the Reisinger Teams and the Open Board-a-Match teams at the fall NABCs.

Joerg Schneider noted that a "good" team tactic is to lose the first round to get easier opponents to catch up against, but what if two teams employing this "strategy" meet in the first round? Easy, said Joerg, teammates sit in the same direction at both

(continued on page 39)

Unit Board 2002-03

The Abbreviated List

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

Peter Morse (President, Supplies)	604/988-3927 pamorse@shaw.ca
*Diane Ayukawa (Tournament Co-Chair)	604/940-9809 rmdunn@dccnet.com
*Jennifer Ballantyne (VP, CBF/DINO Liaison)	604/438-3095 jaballantyne@hotmail.com
*Isabel Chernoff (Monthly Unit Games)	604/531-6828 isabelc@telus.net

Marion Crowhurst (Memberships/Education)	604/926-9297 marion.crowhurst@ubc.ca
*Carol-Ann Halliday (STaC Coordinator)	604/990-8888 oldbroad@telus.net
Julien Lévesque (Special Events, MP Mailouts)	604/254-5677 spindrifter@shaw.ca
Bruce McIntyre (<i>Matchpointer</i> editor)	604/438-9735 ooga@shaw.ca
*Larry Meyer (Secretary, Trophies)	604/271-8692 Larry.Meyer@BCHydro.ca
Samantha Nystrom (Partnerships, Tourn. Ch.)	604/603-1248 nystromsamantha@hotmail.com
Joan Richards (Treasurer)	604/926-6354 rrichards6332@shaw.ca
*Pat Wotherspoon (Monthly Unit Games)	604/535-1964 pwotherspoon@telus.net

Asterisks indicate members whose term expires June 30, 2003.

Tournaments & Dates

February 28—April 30, 2003

MARCH 2003

- 28-2 Chemainus BC Sectional
28-2 Moses Lake WA Sectional
3 March Monthly Unit Game at VBC (7:30, open and 0-200 games)
6-16 ACBL 2003 Spring NABC in Philadelphia PA
7-9 Marysville WA Sectional
14-16 Aberdeen WA Sectional
21-23 Yakima WA Sectional
22 CWTC B.C. Zone Final in Victoria (details, page 36)
22-23 Future Stars 0-200 Sectional at VBC (see ad, page 31)
29-30 CNTC B.C. Zone Final in Victoria (details, page 32)
29-30 GNT Flight A and Flight C District Final at VBC (details, page 32)

APRIL 2003

- 31-6 Victoria Regional
11 Matchpointer deadline for the Spring 2003 issue, which covers events up to August 31, 2003.
12 April Monthly Unit Game at VBC (7:30, open and 0-200 games)
12-13 GNT Championship Flight and Flight B District Final in Seattle (details, page 32)
25 Spring Matchpointer target release date.
25-27 Kimberley BC Sectional
25-27 Lakewood WA Sectional
MAY 2003
2-4 Qualicum Beach Sectional
3 May Monthly Unit Game at VBC (7:30, open and 0-200 games)

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 Future Stars Sectional
(0-200 masterpoints)
March 22-23, 2003, at the Vancouver Bridge Centre

2003 Unit 430-sponsored District-wide STaC (Sectional Tournament at Clubs)
More silver points at your local club!
May 26-June 1, 2003.

2003 Victoria Day Sectional
May 16 - 19, 2003 at the Bonsor Community Centre in Burnaby

Unit 430 Annual General Meeting
May 19, 2003, at the Victoria Day Sectional, after the first Saturday session (about 4:15 pm).

2003 Evergreen Sectional
September 13 - 15, 2003 at the Engineers Hall in Burnaby

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

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

2004 Trophy Sectional
March 12-14, 2004 at the Engineers Hall in Burnaby (dates and location tentative)

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

Contributors

Thanks for your help!

Diane Ayukawa
Jenny Ballantyne
Brad Bart
Stuart Carr
Marion Crowhurst
Richard Dunn
Harry Friedman
David Grannis
The Hideo Hog (In Training)
Julien Lévesque
Hushang Mohtadi
Greg Morse
Peter Morse
Samantha Nystrom
Finnigan O'Blarney
Brian Russell
Joerg Schneider
Barry Yamanouchi

All "It's Your Bid" Responders
Unit 430's many Club Managers
and 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, information, club news, tournament results, 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 "schedule"
SPRING: mid-April
SUMMER: mid-August
FALL: mid-October
WINTER: mid-January

NEXT ISSUE: Spring 2003

Deadline: Friday, April 11, 2003.

**Dates Covered:
April 18—August 31, 2003.**

Vancouver ACBL Unit 430 invites you to the
Victoria Day Sectional



May 16-19, 2003
 Bonsor Community Centre
 6550 Bonsor, Burnaby
 (near Metrotown Centre)



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

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ **EVENT SCHEDULE** ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠

FRIDAY, MAY 16

FRIDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: 1:30 PM

Open Stratified Pairs

unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300

Senior Stratified Pairs

unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

FRIDAY EVENING START TIME: 7:30 PM

Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams

first of three sessions (two more Saturday)

Side Stratified IMP Pairs

unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

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

SATURDAY, MAY 17

SATURDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: 1:00PM

Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams

semi-finals in all brackets

Open Pairs Qualifying

not stratified; single session entries accepted

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

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

SATURDAY EVENING START TIME: 7:30 PM

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

Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams

final—top bracket winner wins the Ben Lapidus Trophy

Open Pairs Final

Consolation Pairs

not stratified; single session entries accepted

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

SUNDAY, MAY 18

SUNDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: NOON

StratiFlighted Open Pairs, first session

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

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

SUNDAY EVENING START TIME: 6:30 PM

StratiFlighted Open Pairs, second session

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

Future Masters Stratified Pairs

50-100, 20-50, 0-20

MONDAY (VICTORIA DAY), MAY 19

MONDAY START TIMES: 10:30 AM, TBA

StratiFlighted Swiss Teams (two sessions, VPs)

Flight A/X: unlimited, 0-3000

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

Tournament Co-Chair: Diane Ayukawa, 604/940-9809, rmdunn@dccnet.com

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

Director-In-Charge: Brian Russell

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

ADVANCE NOTICE: UNIT 430-SPONSORED DISTRICT-WIDE STAC,
 MAY 5 - 11, 2003. SILVER POINTS AT YOUR LOCAL CLUB!



Monthly Unit Game Christmas Party Photos. Above, a fine feast is enjoyed by all attendees (note the unusual complete lack of officials onstage). Below, Jenny Ballantyne, Carol Waters and Sam Nystrom discuss reasons that they didn't make the overalls. Or perhaps they are **holding** the reasons that they didn't make the overalls. (Digital photos by Carol-Ann Halliday)

February 1 Open		
A	B	C
		Monthly Unit Game (20 tables)
1		<i>Rhoda Taftler/June Pocock</i>
2	1	<i>Nigel Fullbrook/Julien Lévesque</i>
3	2	John Lien/Liz Stoneman
4		Rhonda Foster/Gerry McCully
5	3	Tove Chen/Tony Remedios
6/7		Flora Tereposky/Ev Hodge
6/7		Richard Christie/John Hurdle
4	1	<i>David Hooley/Stephen Pickett</i>
5		Tai Eng/Insa Fricker
6		Bob & Aban Gerrie
	2	Gus Aven/Wilf Lynk
	3	Susan Mitchell/Judy Christensen
	4	Greg Lam/Veronica Peacock
February 1 0-200		
D	E	F
		Monthly Unit Game (4 tables)
1		<i>Margaret Szerepi/Zelda Vosper</i>
2		Barb & Marke Antonsen
3/4		Mas & Sachi Yamakami
3/4		Dianne Sterling/Janet Banning
		(not enough 0-100 or 0-50 pairs for overalls)



Watch next issue for updated MUG masterpoint race standings.