

August 99

|    |   |     |     |    |
|----|---|-----|-----|----|
| 4S | N | 420 |     | 3  |
| 5H | W | 150 |     | 1- |
| 3N | S | 430 |     | 4  |
| 3H | W |     | 140 | 0  |
| 4C | N | 150 |     | 1- |

# the Matchpointer

## The Return of the Hideous Hog!

He was somewhere outside of Barstow on the edge of the desert when the drugs began to take hold. Or maybe it was just his partner's bidding?

His legendary exploits continue in a special exclusive, page 5.

## New Feature!! For Intermediate/Novice Players Only....

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- 22 The Last Page Dave House recalls a very, very strange match in 1982.

## From the Editor

I must offer an apology in advance for this issue... it's a little late, and doesn't have in it what I would have liked. For example, there have been a number of notable achievements by local players in recent months: Aidan Ballantyne placed seventh in a big money calcutta tournament in May, sharing some \$60,000 in prize money with his partner, Joe Jabon of Washington, and in a side event, Dan Jacobs and his partner finished at or near the top. In July, Mr. Jacobs and Larry Hicks won the NAOP finals in Toronto. I had a great idea for a cover, too, but I couldn't find anybody to write the story. Oh well. Life goes on. (And after all, when was the last time one of those guys was sighted in a local club? The HHIT, at least, makes his rounds and mingles with us mere mortals on a fairly regular basis.)

You may notice a couple of different things in this issue over the last few. I'm using some larger print for many of the pieces, and I'm swimming in Lake Lawsuit by using artwork that the uninitiated might think is protected by copyright. My answer to that is, on the advice of counsel, it isn't theft, it's a social commentary... fair comment... much like the cover of the

February issue which some readers apparently thought looked astonishingly like some characters from *the Simpsons*. Imagine.

The biggest change is the introduction of a section for Intermediate/Novice players. I have absolutely no idea if this section is useful, so if you read something there you like, or dislike, or if you have an idea for something else, *please* send me an e-mail and let me know.

In fact, that goes for everybody else: if there's something that should have gone in that didn't, or something in here should have stayed on my hard drive and off the page, let me know. Suggestions, letters to the editor, criticisms, and anonymous hate mail are all welcome, and if you don't want to look in the column to the right, my e-mail address is [rulegal@direct.ca](mailto:rulegal@direct.ca).

And if you happen to have an article lying around about Jacobs and Hicks kicking butt in T.O., well, by all means send it in. I'm always looking for cover story material....

Jeremy Crowhurst

## MATCHPOINTER

is a publication of ACBL Unit 430, printed five times each year, and distributed free to its members at local clubs and at Unit events. Opinions are those of the authors; unattributed material is written by the editor, with help from various sources. Great big white spaces, with headlines and by-lines but no text, represent stories that were supposed to be written but weren't, and the editor's new found policy of *mañana*. Artwork used on the cover and inside is done as a tribute to the artist, and we would remind his lawyers that *the Matchpointer* is a non-profit magazine distributed free, not for any hope of financial gain. Did I mention "fair comment", which if I recall correctly is an absolute defence to copyright infringement? Yeah, that's it. It's a satire, using Steadman's work as iconography which ties his concepts of moral decay to the well-known socio-political cannibalism of the soul which pervades all bridge players'... um... hopes for the ultimate end of... uh... something. Damn. I'm sure I was on to something there. Oh well. Ralph, please don't sue us.

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*Bruce McIntyre*  
*Dave Schmidt*

# FROM THE UNIT BOARD

## 1999-2000 Unit Board Members

The *Matchpointer* would like to welcome the three newest members of the Unit Board, Diane Ayukawa, Bruce McIntyre, and Larry Meyer, who were elected at the Annual General Meeting on July 3, 1999, along with incumbent members Diane Wilson, Mark Eddy, and Jennifer Ballantyne. The complete list of Board members is as follows:

|                     |                           |          |                |
|---------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------------|
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The Board hasn't yet met to decide who'll be doing what, but when we get a President, I'll let you know. (Of course, if somebody takes me up on my "cold, dead fingers" offer, then it'll be somebody else letting you know.)

The membership, in its wisdom (?), passed the proposed amendments to the bylaws as published in the last issue of the magazine. The biggest change is in the election procedures. In future, elections will likely take place at the May Sectional, which has a distinct advantage in that we won't have to wait 45 minutes to get a quorum before voting can begin.

### Publication Info & Policy

Next Issue: October 1, 1999 or thereabouts.

The deadline for submissions depends on the nature of the contribution: regular features (On the House, Meet the Players, etc.) Sept. 20; submissions over one page Sept. 16; material for I/N section Sept. 12; letters, hands, blurbs of a half-page or so are welcome anytime, but the closer it is to publication, the less likely it will appear in that issue.

If you're reading this in White Rock or Burnaby and wondering why there's never anything about your favorite club, it's because we aren't getting the submissions. If we get it, we'll print it.

### From the Cover

The artwork on the cover and on page 7 is by Ralph Steadman, who some have called the Picasso of the Counterculture. (He's been called other things as well, most of which are unprintable.) Mr. Steadman did the artwork for several books written by Dr. Hunter S. Thompson, including the 1971 classic *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*.

The cover drawing was taken from the cover of a special 50th anniversary edition of George Orwell's *Animal Farm*.

The "somewhere outside of Barstow" line is a paraphrase of the opening words of *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sirs:

On the week end of June 12-13 at the Delta Airport Hotel in Richmond the playoff for 2000 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup between Mexico and Canada was held. Where were all the bridge players? They really missed something! Our Canadian Team played excellent bridge and defeated the Mexican team in no uncertain terms. The Vu Graph presentation was superb, but the fact that we had three commentators (the best I have heard) added immensely. A very special THANK YOU to Aidan Ballantyne, Lawrence Betts and Henry Lortz.

We can be very proud of our Canadian Team of Mike Hargreaves, Gordon McOrmond, Allan Graves, Bryan Maksymetz, and Joey Silver. We wish them success in the 2000 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup.

Thanks to everyone who was responsible for putting on this event.

J. E. Bentley

### New Titles!!!

The Unit offers its congratulations to those who "made it" since last publication (I'm talking about Life Master titles... get your minds out of the gutter): Judy Murphy of Vancouver, Mark Eddy of Maple Ridge, and Barbara Green of North Vancouver. New Bronze LM's include Patricia Blackall of Coquitlam, Marina Page of North Vancouver, Marianne Scott of Burnaby, and Peggy Wellman of Vancouver, and Brad Bart, who the ACBL thinks lives in Hamilton, ON, but who we know really lives under a bridge somewhere in the Burnaby area. Marguerite Wiggins of Richmond and Bob Percher of Chilliwack (see what good things happen when you run a bridge club?) made their Silver, while Ron "Resistance is Futile" Borg became Canada's newest Diamond Life Master. (Check out his column on page 17.)

## Canada Wins Bi-Country Playoff

Achieving a berth in this International Team event, which is held every four years, normally involves a tri-country playoff amongst Bermuda, Canada, and Mexico. To honour the 25th anniversary of the Bermuda Bowl, the host country has been given a bye into the event. Canada and Mexico met in June, in Vancouver, B.C. to determine which country would be the other participant.

The Canadian Team — Mike Hargreaves, Victoria, Gordon McOrmond, Delta, Allan Graves, Vancouver, Bryan Maksymetz, Coquitlam, Joseph Silver, Montreal, and Fred Gitelman, Toronto — opened up a 28-0 lead with the first two boards. After a series of heavy exchanges, Canada had built up a 76 IMP lead at the end of 32 boards. The Mexican team was comprised of Gonzalo Herrera, Dorita Montelongo, Miguel Reygadas, and Elena Brucilovski.

In the second session, Silver-Graves played Herrera-Montelongo on Vu Graph, and the Canadians had a very rough set. Mexico closed the gap to 40 IMPs after 48 boards. Non-Playing Captain Irving Litvak decided to bench Graves-Silver and after a highly entertaining 16 board segment, where both teams showed imagination and initiative, the Mexicans won back 4 more IMPs. At one point, they had the lead down to 22 IMPs. By the end of the third quarter, however, Canada was ahead by 100 IMPs and finished the event up 335-235.

Thanks to a tremendous effort by local volunteers, there was a Reception, a Hospitality Room, food, beverages, monitors and a daily Vu-Graph: all of this, despite having just three weeks to prepare. Director Matt Smith did a great job as did Brad Bart, who operated the Vu-Graph throughout in addition to helping with the commentary. Vancouver Unit 430, CBF Special Projects, and District 19 Organization made substantial financial contributions to the event and the Vancouver Bridge Centre donated bridge supplies.

Special thanks to the following for their assistance:

|                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Aidan and Jennifer Ballantyne | Mark Eddy     |
| Richard and Marcia Christie   | Dave House    |
| Jude Goodwin-Hanson           | Gladys Mackie |
| June Pocock                   | Brian Russell |
| Peter Walton                  | Phil Wood     |

VU GRAPH OPERATOR: Brad Bart

COMMENTATORS: Aidan Ballantyne  
Laurence Betts  
Brad Bart  
Nathan Divinsky  
Henry Lortz

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## Hideous Hog in Training Spots "Real Talent"

by **McBruce**

At a recent tournament I spotted the Hideous Hog-In-Training explaining to some friends that he had not, despite appearances, gained weight. Apparently it was only an illusion based on a slight limp due to the weight of his gold card in his wallet. I asked him why he still felt it necessary to carry it around several years after receiving it in the mail, and he said "why, so I can tell that joke, of course."

"Tell me," continued the Hog In Training, "how exactly does one go about nominating a player for the Don Fraser Award? There are no forms here or anything." I sensed danger; assuming the Hog was going to nominate himself, he would need someone—me, probably—to write the account of his award-deserving play. It certainly would not be a successful move for the Hog to nominate himself in his own handwriting. Therefore, I steered him away from the form-filling route and invited him to make his nomination verbally to a Unit Board officer. To my surprise he accepted and pretended to stumble into the line of players buying entries. This deftly-timed movement dislodged Junior Crow from the front of the line into a nearby chair and the Hog quickly moved in for the kill. No doubt the added weight of the gold card helped him cut through the lineup like a running back on the one yard line.

"Brother Crow," began the Hog as I made my way through the throng and sat down, "McBruce has suggested that I take parley with your Eminence, concerning a vital matter of Unit Board business."

"This doesn't have anything to do with minus 2000, does it?" replied The Crow warily.

"Not in the slightest. Your *Matchpointer*-editing predecessor would like to nominate a player for the Don Fraser Award, based on exemplary performance on one recent deal. Unfortunately, he feels unable to give the story the kind of—*je ne sais quoi*—that of course I can, so, having heard it just now, I shall fill you in." I shook my head in amazement at the Hog's "tactics" as he began by writing this hand on the back of Junior Crow's entry blank:

♠K94   ♥962   ♦KJ6432   ♣K

"You are vulnerable," began the Hog. "Partner deals and contributes a PASS card. RHO opens ONE CLUB and you decide to overcall ONE DIAMOND." I smiled at this; clearly I was right and the Hog was nominating himself—who else would overcall on such junk!

"LHO makes a free bid of ONE SPADE," he continued. "Partner raises to TWO DIAMONDS. RHO also contributes a raise to TWO SPADES. You've stretched a little to overcall in the first place so you PASS. LHO now supports his partner's first suit with a call of THREE CLUBS. This allows partner to bid THREE DIAMONDS, and now RHO decides to bid THREE SPADES." The Hog paused to glare at me for a second, so that I could not spill the beans.

♠ AQJ7  
♥ KQ54  
♦ 5  
♣ T643

Dlr: N  
Vul: EW  
Lead: ♦T

♠ K94  
♥ 962  
♦ KJ6432  
♣ K

"So much bidding and still not over! You PASS of course, still holding a rather bad ten count. LHO confidently puts the THREE NOTRUMP card on the table. Everyone passes this, oddly enough, and not so surprisingly partner leads the ten of diamonds. Here's what you see:"

| N        | E     | S     | W     |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|
| (pard)   | (RHO) | (you) | (LHO) |
| P        | 1C    | 1D    | 1S    |
| 2D       | 2S    | P     | 3C    |
| 3D       | 3S    | P     | 3N    |
| all pass |       |       |       |

"You contribute the six to the first trick and declarer wins the queen. A short time later he plays the jack of clubs from his hand. Partner thinks a bit...and plays the ace, killing your king. Partner now plays the nine of diamonds and declarer ducks this. A third diamond is continued to declarer's ace. Declarer has pitched two clubs from dummy on the diamonds, so it is not a great surprise when he plays off the queen of clubs and three more from his hand, letting go of a small heart and the J7 of spades from dummy. You keep all of your diamonds, pitching three hearts and a spade; partner follows twice

## COVER STORY

more and pitches also two hearts. Declarer, who has so far scored four clubs and two diamonds, now plays a heart from hand and partner wins the ace and is forced to play a spade. With six tricks in, plus the KQ of hearts and the ace of spades in dummy declarer is not finessing here." He filled in the entire hand for us:

|        |         |          |
|--------|---------|----------|
| ♠ AQJ7 |         |          |
| ♥ KQ54 |         |          |
| ♦ 5    |         |          |
| ♣ T643 |         |          |
| ♠ T532 |         | ♠ K94    |
| ♥ AJ8  |         | ♥ 962    |
| ♦ T98  |         | ♦ KJ6432 |
| ♣ A82  |         | ♣ K      |
|        | ♠ 86    |          |
|        | ♥ T73   |          |
|        | ♦ AQ7   |          |
|        | ♣ QJ975 |          |

"To some people," continued HHIT, "the play of the ace of clubs is a major bridge crime and the punishment is several minutes of humiliation before the next hand is allowed to be played. Sometimes the humiliation comes immediately with an angry slap of the king of clubs and some harsh words. Even the nicest of partners will feel the irrepressible urge to quite needlessly point out that the contract has no chance except for the failure to play "second hand low" at trick two. For some reason the clever deception brought off by the declarer in this case often seems to make the defense work extra hard to be rude to one another."

I could not wait any longer. "But you, of course, said nothing and continued bravely on."

"Of course I did," replied the Hog. "We had been introduced to the opponents before the hand and had been informed that my RHO, a very distinguished-looking Polish gentleman in an impressive suit, spoke very little English. It would have been silly for me to contribute a comment that might not be fully appreciated."

"Wait a second here," crowed Junior. "The declarer's free bid of one spade was made on a small doubleton?"

The Hog In Training shook his head sadly. "Editing the *Matchpointer* must be a difficult job these days. The one spade call is a standard psyche. If you keep the opponents out of their spade fit, all well and good. And if partner raises, there is seldom a problem. After the expected raise, you go back to the original suit by bidding three clubs. If partner has enough to bid spades again, his hand must be strong enough for 3NT—from the right side—to be a go. Really, you must make an effort to keep up with the tricks, even under the burden of *Matchpointer* editorship." This subdued Junior Crow for a bit, but he soon rallied to ask the key question:

"Seems a bit weak. Where is the great example of sportsmanship on this hand that we should all aspire to?"

"You mean you still don't understand?" snorted the Hog with disgust. "The declarer here has brought off a major deceptive coup to scoop all the matchpoints on this hand with the help of a key defensive error. The player with the diamonds, however, exchanged no killing glance with his partner as he played his king of clubs perforce. He did not make any gestures of annoyance at the end. Instead, he commiserated with his partner when the play ended, with just a few sympathetic words, then turned to the declarer and congratulated him on his play."

"Stop! I cannot believe this," I said. "You are asking us to believe that you—er, that, uh, 'this defender' spoke to his partner with great sympathy? Are you sure that 'this defender' was not being sarcastic or facetious? What exactly did he say?"

"I don't know," said HHIT. "I know that the other defender, the one who killed the defence, tried to apologize, but the player with the diamonds said a few words that immediately cheered her up. Note that if the declarer has only four clubs and the king of clubs is doubleton, the player with the ace of clubs *must* win the first round. Declarer will duck the second diamond so if the king takes the first round of clubs, a diamond cannot be returned when the second round of clubs is won by the ace. So the ace might well have been necessary: from North's point of view, whoever would expect declarer to have four spades, a heart stopper which does not include the ace, three diamonds, and five clubs?"

Junior Crow had apparently figured out the joke. "And yet you don't remember what you—oh, sorry, what 'the defender'—said? I suppose you are too modest to recall, but McBruce will fill in the blanks with similar reluctance, right?" He got up with a smirk at the audacity of the Hog.

"I didn't know the words he used," said the Hog slowly, "because I do not speak Polish. I am shocked and dismayed

(Continued on nextpage)

# IMP LEAGUE

## A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Playoffs...

...but since nobody wrote a report, you'll all just have to be kept in the dark.

### New Season Starts Soon!

Don't let the absence of a report deter you from planning your team for 1999-2000. We plan on having three city leagues — flights A, B, and C — and one Valley league. The cutoff for flight B is 1500 masterpoints, the cutoff for flight C is 300.

Start planning your rosters! Play will commence at or near the end of September/beginning of October.

Contact Brad Bart if you want to play, but can't form a team. The Unit will help match up strays and recruit others to play (especially in flight C).

that you would casually assume I would stoop to a conniving scheme to nominate myself.”

We sat down again.

“The player with the diamonds was *not* you?” asked a surprised Crow.

“Of course not! I was the declarer, as I usually am. Who else would bid one spade on a small doubleton?” He wrote what looked at first like a world record Scrabble entry, chock full of high-scoring consonants, under the hand diagram. “The Polish gentleman—**Kazimierz Karwowski** is his name—clearly understood that partner’s play of the ace of clubs was made for a definite reason, which might well have been right, but not this time. After assuring his partner that no apology was necessary, he turned to me, gave a smile and a little bow and said ‘Max; bravo!’ They might have been two of a dozen English words he knew, and yet he was nice enough to use them.”

We were impressed, but the Hog was not finished.

“On the third board of the round, Mr. Karwowski went down two doubled in five hearts, a top against our spade game, well-judged on their part. I was able to return his compliment, but since I know no Polish, a nomination for the award seems the thing to do. Of course, four boards were not enough for me to judge Mr. Karwowski’s playing level. Perhaps he is a master forced to accumulate masterpoints to gain recognition here in the ACBL, perhaps not. But in the arena of enthusiasm, composure and politeness he has real talent. Get the spelling right, please.”



“So Declarer plays the Jack of Clubs from his hand, and partner plays the Ace, killing my King...”

# PLACE YOUR BETTS

## Active Ethics by Lawrence Betts

We have not heard much lately from the ACBL about "Active Ethics"; instead the trendy concept is "Zero Tolerance". They don't have to be mutually exclusive. Our Unit is to be commended for sponsoring the Don Fraser Active Ethics award which keeps the idea in the forefront.

How can one be "actively ethical"? Obviously, one must be scrupulous as to the accuracy of the score and to call attention to one's own side's mechanical errors such as revokes. As well it is necessary to accurately and fully describe your agreements to your opponents. This involves adherence to the dreadful alert system (yeah, I agree, the alert system is fatally flawed. It will be the subject of a future column). While unfortunately the focus is usually on whether or not a certain call is an Alert the emphasis should be on whether full disclosure is involved.

On a couple of occasions at the club level, I brought matters of this sort to the attention of the director. The result was that I was awarded an adjusted score, possibly without merit. The opponents were angry at me for taking advantage of their lack of knowledge of the technicalities, but the underlying issue was not addressed. The reason I summoned the director was for him to explain the idea of full disclosure and what was expected, not to get a score adjustment. Club directors should spend a few minutes explaining these obligations to their customers. These would be minutes well spent as potential problems would be prevented.

The other, and more complex area, is that of unauthorized information being exchanged either during the auction or play. How do you guard against that if you are trying to be actively ethical? The first, and easiest way is to systematically avoid certain agreements which lead to problems. For instance, a sizeable group of players lead high from three small against a suit contract. This should result in a plethora of defensive disasters because your second play in the suit will be lower — thus a high/low. Partner would play you for a doubleton when you really

have three. Why does this not backfire more often? Because if you hesitate for a split second so as to indicate you have a choice the obvious possibility of a doubleton is eliminated. Complex signalling systems present similar and further problems.

It is "breaks in tempo" in the auction that cause the most problems. How do we minimize these? I was a boy scout, so my answer is easy: "Be prepared!" Before you bid Blackwood, decide what you are going to bid next round, depending on how many Aces/Controls are shown. That way, you avoid the embarrassing "hesitation Blackwood" where you sign off in 5 after a long pause, thereby informing partner that Aces/controls weren't the problem and he bids again. That's a major faux pas. (In general, you should not bid Blackwood unless you are prepared to bid slam missing one Ace/control.)

A more common situation occurs when you hold 12-14 HCP, with 2-3-4-4 or similar shape. You open a minor, and partner bids your 3 card major, you think a long time and raise to two of partner's major. Partner then "checks back" by bidding 2N, and you raise to 3N thus avoiding the 4-3 fit. Had you raised your partner in tempo, the "checkback" would likely have been dispensed with. I see some skeptics out there; watch for this. It is more common than you might think.

This can be avoided by deciding before you open what you will do over likely responses. Think ahead, be prepared. Being prepared is about not leading your partner into temptation. After your partner has broken tempo, you cannot make a bid that may be suggested by the pause. This is very difficult in the heat of competition and strikes at the heart of what the "active ethics" policy is all about. My own style, if faced with a choice of a potentially ambiguous exploring bid or a unilateral judgment, will always produce the latter, in part because I am lazy, but also because I strive to avoid the moral quagmire a tortuous auction fraught with ambiguity can produce.

The sanctions for acting on unauthorized information are harsh indeed, frequently outweighing the infraction, so remember: think ahead, be prepared, avoid temptation.

### Entertainment '99

The Entertainment '99 books are currently available! They contain hundreds of discounts and two-fers. You'll save on food, accommodation and more, in Vancouver, Victoria, Washington, and beyond. Best of all, the proceeds from sales of these books help support

bridge subsidy funding! It's an excellent holiday gift for friends and acquaintances.

The cost (including GST) is \$46 per book.

To reserve your copy call:

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## MEET THE PLAYERS

### Harry Greenhut by David Schmidt

As the world marks the 60th anniversary of the Holocaust, Vancouver bridge players can salute one of their own: Harry Greenhut, the lovable little gentleman who has recently become a fixture at the Vancouver Bridge Centre and the East Richmond Bridge Club.

Greenhut has taken a circuitous route from his days in the Nazi concentration camp at Theresanstadt in his native Czechoslovakia to his present-day existence as a bridge retiree.

Like most Jews in eastern Europe, he was herded up by the Germans during the Second World War. He was sent to Theresanstadt, the Cadillac of concentration camps, if there can be such a thing.

"Ours was the showcase camp. It was built as a garrison to house 12,000 men but when it was converted to a concentration camp, it housed 80,000 Jews. It was the camp the Germans used for inspections so when the Red Cross would come to inspect it, everything was cleaned up. As soon as they left it was back to the everyday muck."

He was one of the lucky ones, unlike his sister, who was sent to Auschwitz and summarily gassed.

While Greenhut remembers the Holocaust, he does not dwell on it.

"I was a left wing Zionist in the camp but gradually moved more and more to the right."

He came to Canada as a stateless person in 1948, completing his high school at King Edward in a year and a half. During that time, he stayed with the Silver family, getting to know their eldest daughter Jeannette. He then went to work for CP Air, getting a private pilot's licence on the side.

"I got my pilot's licence before I got my driver's licence," he recalls.

When the Korean War started, he applied to join the RCAF (so he could get his Canadian citizenship early). He became a pilot and because of his proficiency in Slovenic languages (he speaks over half a dozen languages) also worked in airforce intelligence. But he never flew in combat, instead, because of his language proficiency, he became a pilot instructor for NATO.

After the Korean War ended, Greenhut

returned to Vancouver, his job at CP Air and Jeannette. He also applied to become an airline pilot. When his courtship heated up and the pilot's wait list lengthened, his father-in-law-to-be invited him to manage his Prince George furniture store. Silver's intent was to close the store but Greenhut had other ideas.

"I liked it, so I stayed and we ended up building a newer, bigger store."

Over the years, he joined his father-in-law in stores in Chilliwack and Abbotsford, shutting down the chain when major department stores opened in the Fraser Valley.

He then went to work at Woodward's as a commission salesman for a dozen years, first in West Vancouver, then in Vancouver.

"I did it mostly for the fun," he says, "We had done well with our real estate investments so I wasn't worried about money anymore."

When Woodward's closed, Greenhut retired. He had played a little noon-hour social bridge his last few years at Woodward's, and years earlier had watched local legend Ben Lapidus (whom the unit's knockout trophy is named for) play when he was tutoring Lapidus' daughter in world history, but had not taken the game seriously.

"I knew Goren and we played four card majors."

Then he went to watch his wife and "the master" (in this case, Anne Nagy) play. After a few sessions of watching, Connie Delisle told him a player was needed, "so I played with Bonnie Anderson."

Greenhut decided he enjoyed the game, so he took lessons and began playing regularly, although he still plays few conventions.

It is one reason he rarely plays with his wife.

"They have suitcases full of conventions and I don't want to learn them all," he says, adding "we're at different levels."

Greenhut says he plays for the enjoyment of the game and the people and doesn't aspire to greatness, noting, "I play with a partner who does nothing but transfers and Stayman."

To him, the people are as important as the bridge.

"I can't stand computer playing, it's too bland. I enjoy the game as a means of socializing." ✦

# MASTERPOINT RACES

## Phil Wood Trophy

|                         |                            |                         |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 43.69 Gordon McOrmond | 16 22.65 William Sit       | 31 13.80 Evelyn Hodge   |
| 2 41.42 Brad Bart       | 17 22.60 William Ge        | 32 13.26 Sandra Jenkins |
| 3 36.51 Peter Herold    | 18 22.47 Peter Maclean     | 33 12.95 Leslie Gold    |
| 4 36.02 Dan Jacob       | 19 21.03 Kathy Adachi      | 34 12.84 Tai Eng        |
| 5 34.61 Mike Hargreaves | 20 21.01 Marcia Christie   | 35 12.41 Julie Cowan    |
| 6 32.46 Mike Roberts    | 21 19.02 Kenny Chan        | 36 12.29 Cameron Doner  |
| 7 28.88 Bill Goldstone  | 22 18.13 Doug Cowan        | 37 12.29 Aban Gerrie    |
| 8 28.55 David House     | 23 18.08 Donald Sache      | 38 12.15 Ram Hira       |
| 9 28.14 Larry Hicks     | 24 17.79 Steve Clements    | 39 12.10 Santokh Sian   |
| 10 26.56 Laurence Betts | 25 17.56 Aidan Ballantyne  | 40 11.95 Ben Takemori   |
| 11 26.10 Ken Scholes    | 26 17.22 Jeanette Greenhut | 41 11.83 Thiam Ted Lai  |
| 12 24.78 Ron Borg       | 27 14.79 Claire Burns      | 42 11.43 Aase Haines    |
| 13 23.74 Michael Dimich | 28 14.79 Peter Morse       | 43 11.23 Mike Takemori  |
| 14 23.66 Gerry McCully  | 29 14.69 Mary Fines        | 44 11.12 Barbara Green  |
| 15 23.04 Mike Wilson    | 30 14.40 Doug Hansford     | 45 11.09 Robert Gerrie  |

### Eddie Bonnell Trophy

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| 1 21.03 Kathy Adachi      |
| 2 21.01 Marcia Christie   |
| 3 17.22 Jeanette Greenhut |
| 4 14.79 Claire Burns      |
| 5 14.69 Mary Fines        |
| 6 13.80 Evelyn Hodge      |
| 7 13.26 Sandra Jenkins    |
| 8 12.95 Leslie Gold       |
| 9 12.41 Julie Cowan       |
| 10 12.29 Aban Gerrie      |
| 11 11.43 Aase Haines      |
| 12 11.12 Barbara Green    |
| 13 10.93 Mary Lou Bert    |

### Phil Wood Under 200

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| 1 22.65 William Sit       |
| 2 19.02 Kenny Chan        |
| 3 10.01 Ray Clemmons      |
| 4 9.11 Carol-Ann Halliday |
| 5 8.64 Greg Morse         |
| 6 8.36 Mark Rojewski      |
| 7 7.32 Anita Morse        |
| 8 7.32 Patricia Stickland |
| 9 7.18 David Huang        |
| 10 6.83 Lawrence Sands    |
| 11 6.66 Yinsheng Tu       |
| 12 6.66 Xiang Tu          |
| 13 6.63 Mike Moffatt      |

### Leo Steil Trophy

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| 1 24.78 Ron Borg          |
| 2 22.65 William Sit       |
| 3 21.03 Kathy Adachi      |
| 4 18.13 Doug Cowan        |
| 5 18.08 Donald Sache      |
| 6 17.22 Jeanette Greenhut |
| 7 14.79 Claire Burns      |
| 8 14.79 Peter Morse       |
| 9 14.69 Mary Fines        |
| 10 14.40 Doug Hansford    |
| 11 13.80 Evelyn Hodge     |
| 12 12.41 Julie Cowan      |
| 13 12.15 Ram Hira         |

## monthly unit game standings (through July 3, 1999)

|               | A  | B | C | Points |                      |    |    |      |
|---------------|----|---|---|--------|----------------------|----|----|------|
| Janis Parker  | 1  | 1 |   | 6.30   | Judy Strebinger      | 16 |    | 4.78 |
| Nick Parker   | 1  | 1 |   | 6.30   | Donna Morrison       | 17 |    | 4.71 |
| Tove Chen     | 3  | 3 |   | 6.15   | Kathy Bye            | 18 | 7  | 4.59 |
| Tony Remedios | 3  | 3 |   | 6.15   | Hazel Stowards       | 19 |    | 4.35 |
| June Pocock   | 5  |   |   | 6.07   | Gladys Mackie        | 19 |    | 4.35 |
| Les Baldys    | 6  | 5 |   | 5.80   | Mark Eddy            | 21 | 8  | 4.28 |
| Pirtpal Gill  | 6  | 5 |   | 5.80   | Waldemar Jez         | 22 | 9  | 4.09 |
| Dianne Isfeld | 8  |   |   | 5.13   | Ken Lochan           | 23 | 10 | 3.94 |
| Don Brazeau   | 8  |   |   | 5.13   | Joerg Schneider      | 24 |    | 3.90 |
| Pat Landau    | 10 |   |   | 5.08   | Brad Bart            | 25 | 11 | 3.86 |
| Doug Cowan    | 10 |   |   | 5.08   | Patti Adams          |    | 12 | 3.80 |
| Don Sache     | 12 |   |   | 5.03   | Ewa Wroblewicz       |    | 13 | 3.25 |
| Sheila Sache  | 12 |   |   | 5.03   | Martin Henneberger   |    | 14 | 2.74 |
| Sherman Kwan  | 14 |   |   | 5.02   | Kristina Bohdanowicz |    | 15 | 2.66 |
| Ev Hodge      | 15 |   |   | 4.83   | Mona Taylor          |    | 4  | 2.63 |



# MATCHPOINTER YELLOW PAGES

| MONDAY |     |                        |
|--------|-----|------------------------|
| 10:00  | VCR | stratified             |
| 10:45  | BBY | open                   |
| 7:15   | SRY | open; str. 1st         |
|        | TSW | open                   |
| 7:30   | CWK | str. last              |
|        | SQU | 1st hcp; 3d trph. race |
|        | HBN | open to all            |
|        | VBC | 0-200 MP               |

| TUESDAY |     |            |
|---------|-----|------------|
| 10:45   | VBC | stratified |
| 11:00   | S-W | open       |
| 7:30    | NSW | open       |
|         | BBY | open       |
|         | VBC | stratified |

| WEDNESDAY |     |                   |
|-----------|-----|-------------------|
| 10:00     | VCR | stratified        |
| 10:30     | HAS | open              |
| 10:45     | VBC | 0-100 MP          |
| 7:15      | WRK | stratified        |
|           | VCR | stratified        |
| 7:30      | C.R | open              |
|           | M-R | open              |
|           | VBC | stratified by LMs |

| THURSDAY |     |            |
|----------|-----|------------|
| 11:00    | JCC | open       |
| 7:15     | N-W | open       |
| 7:30     | MIS | open       |
|          | VBC | 0-20       |
|          | VBC | stratified |

| FRIDAY |     |                                   |
|--------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 10:45  | VBC | Strat. Open                       |
| 7:30   | ABB | open                              |
|        | PKB | see ad for dates                  |
|        | S-D | open                              |
|        | VBC | open; TGIF party last             |
|        | NSW | 1st Fri/month only<br>(team game) |

| SATURDAY |     |                   |
|----------|-----|-------------------|
| 1:00     | VBC | Rubber bridge     |
| 7:30     | VBC | MUG 1st Sat/month |

  

| SUNDAY |     |                  |
|--------|-----|------------------|
| 1:00   | RMD | open             |
| 6:30   | VBC | strat. IMP pairs |

## South Surrey Bridge Club

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

Director: Arlene Browning 1-604-870-9300  
Partnerships: Dot Carenegie 535-8286

*Mondays at 7:15 pm*

*First Monday of month Stratified  
Computer Scoring Partners Guaranteed*

Current Club Champions:  
Norm Treleaven & Avril Hodson

STac Winners: Francis & Terry Gould 64.74%

Next Club Championship: July 26  
Swiss Teams August 9th  
Members & Guests October 18

## Jewish Community Centre Bridge Club

950 W. 41st Ave, Vancouver  
Thursdays at 11 am  
*All players welcome!*

**Connie Delisle 263-9196**  
Partnerships: Marge Groberman 266-7722  
*Computer Scoring*

**New Game Mondays 6:30 pm**  
**beginning the week of October 1st!**

## Polski Klub Brydzowy

Polish Combatant Centre, 1134 Kingsway  
Waldemar Jez 527-8854  
Alternate Fridays, 7:30 pm invitation only  
Closed for summer, Reopens Sept. 3, 17  
<http://members.home.net/polishbridge>

### Central Richmond Bridge Club

7891 Cambie Road, Rmd.  
(Richmond Rod & Gun Club)

coffee & goodies computer scoring  
Albert Yallouz 321-1891  
Wednesdays at 7:30 sharp

Club Championship August 18  
Charity Game September 15

Club Champs: Bev Oldham & Sheila Dickie

### Hastings Bridge Club

1950 Windermere St. (at 4th Ave), Vancouver  
cookies, tea & coffee

Marianne Scott 298-3932  
Wednesdays at 10:30 am sharp  
Now Instant Scoring!

Club Champ. Aug. 4th Memb. Game Sept. 8  
Don Fraser Trophy Sep. 15 Charity Game Sep. 29

### White Rock Bridge Club

Sunnyside Community Centre  
1854 154th Street, White Rock

Arlene Browning 870-9300  
Partnerships Pat Wotherspoon 535-1964

Wednesdays at 7:15 pm

Stratified game every last Wednesday  
Next Club Championship August 4th!

Current Champs Joni Johnson, Greg Morse  
STaC Winners Raye Fee & Bachan Buttar 62.9%

### Sunshine Coast Bridge Club

5653 Wharf Road, Suite 202, Sechelt

Rudy Notzl 885-5552 Partners Guaranteed

|         |           |          |
|---------|-----------|----------|
| Monday  | Wednesday | Thursday |
| 7:00 pm | 1:00 pm   | 7:00 pm  |
| teams   | open      | open     |

Social Bridge/Bridge Plus/Seminars

### Club Abbreviations and Contacts

| Abbr. | Club Name                                  | Club Contact    | Phone No. | Page |
|-------|--|-----------------|-----------|------|
| ABB   | Abbotsford DBC                             | Bob Percher     | 792-4389  | 14   |
| ARB   | Arbutus Village BC<br>(By invitation only) | Shirley Bowers  | 732-3252  | 14   |
| BBY   | Burnaby DBC                                | Hazel Dressler  | 524-4445  | 14   |
| C.R.  | Central Richmond BC                        | Albert Yallouz  | 321-1891  | 12   |
| CWK   | Chilliwack DBC                             | Bob Percher     | 792-4389  | 14   |
| HAS   | Hastings BC                                | Marianne Scott  | 298-3932  | 12   |
| HBN   | Hollyburn BC                               | Louis Landau    | 984-8309  | 13   |
| JCC   | Jewish Comm. Ctr. DBC                      | Connie Delisle  | 263-9196  | 11   |
| MIS   | Mission DBC                                | Bob Percher     | 792-4389  | 14   |
| M-R   | Maple Ridge DBC                            | Bob Percher     | 792-4389  | 14   |
| N-W   | New West Bridge Club                       | Gilbert Lambert | 535-8286  | 14   |
| NSW   | North Shore Winter Club                    | Louis Landau    | 984-8309  | 14   |
| PKB   | Polish Bridge Club*                        | Waldemar Jez    | 527-8854  | 11   |
| RMD   | East Richmond BC                           | Ernie Dietrich  | 936-2298  | 13   |
| S-D   | Sur-Del BC                                 | Gilbert Lambert | 535-8286  | 14   |
| S-W   | South-West DBC                             | Finn Schultz    | 534-5025  | 14   |
| SRV   | South Surrey BC                            | Arlene Browning | 870-9300  | 11   |
| SQU   | Squamish DBC                               | Lorraine Hurren | 898-2702  | 13   |
| SUN   | Sunshine Coast BC*                         | Rudy Notzi      | 885-5552  | 12   |
| TSW   | Tsawassen BC                               | Finn Schultz    | 534-5025  | 14   |
| VBC   | Vancouver Bridge Centre                    | Club line:      | 255-2564  | 13   |
| VCR   | Vancouver BC                               | Louis Landau    | 984-8309  | 13   |
| WRK   | White Rock BC                              | Arlene Browning | 870-9300  | 12   |

## SERVICES

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### PDI BRIDGE SUPPLIES

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.

### Squamish Bridge Club

1471 Pemberton Str., Squamish 892-1066

**Mondays at 7:30 pm**  
monthly handicap and trophy race games

**Lorraine Hurren 898-2702**

### East Richmond Bridge Club

7891 Cambie at River Rd  
(Richmond Rod and Gun Club)

**Ernie Dietrich 936-2298**

\$5.00 entry includes lunch

**Sundays at 1:00 pm**

*First Sunday of the month is stratified*

Next C.C. Sept 5 Closed Sept. 26

Current Champs: Wilf May & Les Fouks  
STaC: Delphine Tablotney & Rhoda Taffler

### Vancouver Bridge Centre

2776 E. Broadway,  
Vancouver, B.C.

255-2564

Lessons, Books, Seminars

#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

|      |       |                     |
|------|-------|---------------------|
| Mon  | 7:30  | 0-200               |
| Tues | 10:45 | Strat. Open         |
|      | 7:30  | Strat. Open         |
| Wed  | 10:45 | Newplicate: 0-100   |
|      | 7:30  | Strat. by # of LM's |
| Thur | 7:30  | Strat. Open         |
|      | 7:30  | Rookie (0-20) Game  |
| Fri  | 10:45 | new time Strat Open |
|      | 7:30  | Lucky Number Open   |
| Sat  | —     | aft. & eve. rubber  |
| Sun  | 6:30  | open IMP pairs      |

Call the Club for info  
on special events, summer  
IMP league, etc.

### Vancouver Bridge Club

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

**Louis Landau 984-8309**

All games non-smoking. Computer scoring.

|           |          |            |
|-----------|----------|------------|
| Monday    | 10:00 am | stratified |
| Wednesday | 10:00 am | stratified |
| Wednesday | 7:15 pm  | stratified |

Both Wednesday games are jackpot games.  
*All holiday Mondays are PARTY DAYS with  
door prizes, goodies, etc.*

#### UPCOMING SPECIAL GAMES

##### Club Championships

|           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Mon. a.m. | Wed. a.m. | Wed. p.m. |
| Oct. 4    | Aug. 18   | Sept. 22  |

##### Handicap Games

|           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Mon. a.m. | Wed. a.m. | Wed. p.m. |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|

Mon. Aug. 2th - 10 am - BC Day Ambleside Pairs  
Mon. Sept. 6th - 10 am - Labour Day Pairs  
Wed. Sept. 15th - 7:15 pm - ACBL Instant MP game

##### Recent Winners of Special Events

Victoria Day Holiday Pairs: Marina Page & Terry Scott

##### Daytime Players of the Month:

May - Adam Dabrowski June - Maria Dabrowski

##### Evening Players of the Month:

May - Barry Kirkham & James LeNoble (tie)  
June - Hooshang Vessal

### Hollyburn Bridge Club

Hollyburn Country Club  
950 Cross Creek, West Vancouver

*Closed August, Reopens Monday Sep. 13  
Sep. 27 - Charity/Club Championship*

*Mon. 7:30 pm Open to all!  
Thur. 9:30 am, invitation only*

**Louis Landau 984-8309**

## Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club

1491 Carleton Ave, Burnaby  
*Hazel Dressler 524-4445*

**Mondays**  
10:45 am

**Tuesdays**  
7:30 pm

### Important Dates

C. C. Tues Sept. 7 Char. Game: Mon Aug. 16  
Memb. Game Tues Sept. 21

**Current Club Champions**  
Olive Macdonald & Ray Morrison

## North Shore Winter Bridge Club

1325 E. Keith Road, North Vancouver

**Tuesdays at 7:30 pm**

*Louis Landau 984-8309*

## Arbutus Village Bridge Club

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

**BY INVITATION ONLY**

*Shirley Bowers 732-3252 coffee, tea, cookies*

**Thursdays at 7:30 pm sharp**

## The Valley Clubs

**Partners guaranteed**

[http://www.wutzon.com/chilliwack/clubs/duplicate\\_bridge/duplicate\\_bridge.htm](http://www.wutzon.com/chilliwack/clubs/duplicate_bridge/duplicate_bridge.htm)

**Bob Percher 792-4389**

### Chilliwack

Senior Recreation Centre  
9400 College Street

**Mondays at 7:30 pm**

Stratified last Monday/month

CBF Charity Winners:  
Jim Sache & Ken Cowherd

June Club Champs:  
Jim Sache &  
Andrew Faulkner

### Maple Ridge

Centennial Ctr. Seniors  
Complex: 11940 224 Str.

**Wednesdays at 7:30 pm**

April Club Champs:  
Rosemary Sontowski &  
Lorraine Brown

Next CC: September 15

### Mission

Leisure Centre  
7621 Taulbut Avenue

**Thursdays at 7:30 pm**

Next CC: Aug. 12  
Charity Game: Sept. 30

May Club Champs:  
Gilles St. Pierre &  
Denis Lefebvre

### Abbotsford

McCallum Activity Centre  
2478 McCallum Road

**Fridays 7:30pm**

Aug 6: Club Championship  
Aug 27: ACBL Charity

Club Champs:  
AM: Bob Percher & C. Pratt  
PM: J. Kohlen & L. Percher

**Wed. AM Game  
Discontinued**

## Tsawassen Bridge Club

South Delta Rec Centre  
1720 56th Str. Delta

*Finn Shultz 534-5025 Mondays 7:15 pm*

Sept. 6 Membership Game

Weekly draw for music tape!

## South-West Duplicate Bridge Club

White Rock Elks Club  
1469 George Street, White Rock

*Finn Schultz 534-5025*  
**Tuesdays at 11 am**

Sept. 7 Membership Game  
STaC winners Sefton Levine & Margaret Kidder  
Weekly draw for music tape!

## SUBURBIA CLUBS

**Gilbert Lambert 535-8286**

### New Westminster Bridge Club

Century House  
620 8th Street  
New Westminster  
**Thursdays 7:15 pm**

**Sept. 9 Club Champ.  
Oct. 14 Upgraded C.C.**

**Current Champs:  
Ray Morrison &  
Thony Stienon**

### Sur-Del Bridge Club

St. Cuthbert  
Anglican Church  
11601 82nd Ave, Delta  
**Fridays 7:30 pm**

**Sept. 10 Club Champ.**

**Current Champs:  
Sheila & Don Sache**

**ALL GAMES STRATIFIED  
(AT BOTH CLUBS)**

# INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE SECTION

## Double Trouble by Anne Nagy

"All these fancy doubles you people are using these days are really getting on my bridge-nerve" said an old time rubber bridge player in one of my classes recently. "Used to be we doubled for penalties or takeout. Period." I can sympathize. Bridge bidding, however, has taken such enormous leaps, generally in the best direction, over the past few decades that the "fancy" doubles are now commonly used, and enjoyed, by most intermediate plus players.

### The Takeout Double

Made at your first opportunity to bid, shows one of two hand types:

- a) a willingness to compete in any of the unbid suits, and does not promise high point-count. If you are "weak", you have really good "shape".
- b) too good to overcall in a suit, being 17+ points, or too good to overcall 1NT, ie 19+ points.

Do not make a takeout double with a flat 13-14 point hand, and length in opener's suit. Trust partner to balance if the both you and opener's partner pass. If, for example, you hold:

S Qx  
H ATxx  
D KJx  
C Kxxx

in second seat, and hear 1 Club or 1 Diamond to your right, do not make a takeout double, even though you would have opened with this hand yourself. If you do, and partner makes the almost inevitable 1 (or 2) Spade bid, now what do you do? Pass, and pray they bid again? Bid 1NT, showing 19+? Ugly, isn't it?

### The Penalty Double

Surprisingly, this one may still cause partnership misunderstandings. You should agree with pard at what level does a takeout double become a

penalty double. Low level doubles are usually takeout, the exception being 1NT - dbl = penalty. But what about 1S - pass - 1NT - dbl? Does this show a 1NT opener by the doubler, or is it a takeout bid of 1S?

What about 1H - dbl - 4H - pass - pass - dbl? Is this penalty, or a desire for pard to compete further? In the first instance, the double of 1NT shows a fine hand, after all you know the opposition holds approximately half the high cards available, you should be prepared for (poor) partners to bid their best suit. Any contract by your side will also, probably, be doubled, so the double by you should be strong and suit-oriented -- not a balanced 15-17 HCP.

In the second example, 1H - dbl - 4H - pass - pass - dbl, although penalty oriented, this shows a fine take-out double of 1H and is still suit oriented or too good to overcall one NT, so 4 Hearts is probably not makeable as the doubler had other suit bids available, and could even have bid 4NT here as takeout for the minors, or 4 spades with an excellent hand/suit. Here responder simply has to use judgement on whether to play or defend, but the double is primarily for penalties.

1S - pass - 4S - dbl or 1S - pass - 4S - pass - pass - dbl, are both penalty doubles. The second example is so clearly a penalty double that you shouldn't even look at your hand. Just pass.

### Next Issue: Negative Doubles and Balancing Doubles.

## A TIP ON OPENING LEADS

Ignore other players who make jokes about underleading kings.

Experts debate how bad it is to underlead an ace against a suit contract. They don't worry about underleading kings.

Against suit contracts, don't worry about underleading kings. Just don't underlead an ace. Find another suit.

## INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE SECTION

### A Question About Swiss Teams

Last weekend I participated in the Vancouver Unit 430 Spring Sectional (May 21 to 24, 1999). The event was well organized, went smoothly, and the hosts were friendly and welcoming. I do have a complaint, however, regarding the Swiss Team event on May 24. Our team fell within the C category, but unknown to me beforehand, we were to be pitted against both B level teams (300 - 1200 masterpoints) and other C teams. Had I known this, I would not have participated in the event. With 28 masterpoints, I consider it a challenge to be playing in a 0 - 300 category. At the day's end, 8 1/2 hours later, I felt that the stratified event did not have a "just" structure.

As C players playing other C teams, we won the first 3 rounds of the event. After winning three rounds we then had to compete against B level players, and not surprisingly, we lost. After our loss we went back to a C-level team and acquired another win, which sent us back to strong B level teams in the last two rounds, which we lost. I asked director Matt Smith why we were still playing B level players, and he answered that it was luck of the draw, random computer selection, which matches up teams with the same score against each other, and that the advantage of playing B level teams was that if we won we would get more points and would learn from playing against stronger players.

I don't buy it. If I want masterpoints, I'll play in the 20-50 division. If I want to play "for the experience" I would choose a different event.

Matt also said that the computer matched teams with the same number of wins and losses. Why would we play B teams with the same number of wins and losses? For our 3 wins, our team was penalized and sent to play the 300 - 1250 point guys. For their 3 wins, they played another team in their category. If they had a loss they were given a bonus and sent to play us little guys. Yet if we lost we then played our own field. And even this did not go in our favour in round 7; we lost round 6 to B players, and then would up playing more B players in round 7. Does this seem fair to you? Furthermore, I felt that results did not reflect ability. Other C teams fared better because they didn't have to play three B teams. From my perspective, this is not a good (or fair) system. Personally, I won't play in another stratified Swiss Team event, and I certainly won't recommend it to other 199er players.

Eda Kadar

*The best, most "fair" method of running a team event is to use a round-robin format, where everybody plays everybody. A round robin not only determines first place with accuracy, but second, seventh, and last. Unfortunately, it really is not practical for a one-day event.*

*Knockouts are a great way of producing a winner: you keep playing until one team is left standing, and then you stop. Unfortunately, they really suck at determining second place. For example, in the 1982 Stanley Cup playoffs, the team that finished second was the Vancouver Canucks. You wanna tell me that's "fair"? Please.*

*The Swiss System of pairings is designed to take a large field, and produce a clear winner in a relatively short number of rounds. It works much like a knockout event - winners keep getting paired against each other, until only one team remains undefeated. At the same time, those who have lost continue playing. It's also better at determining who deserves second, third, and fourth.*

*The way the Swiss system works is that the teams in each score group are ranked in descending order of strength, then cut in half. The top half is paired against the bottom half, with some pairings switched around to ensure that no team plays the same opponent twice.*

*Consider a chess tournament, which uses swiss pairings in most tournaments, and where players have ratings which (theoretically) show a player's actual strength as of his last event. The first round of a sixteen player field might look like:*

|      |     |      |
|------|-----|------|
| 2275 | vs. | 1739 |
| 2192 | vs. | 1620 |
| 2103 | vs. | 1614 |
| 2042 | vs. | 1528 |
| 1989 | vs. | 1502 |
| 1902 | vs. | 1481 |
| 1864 | vs. | 1328 |
| 1767 | vs. | 1301 |

*A difference of 400 rating points is huge: the higher rated player should win 15 games out of 16. If, in the sample pairings above, the favorites all win their first round, then in round two, 2275 would play 1989, 2042 would play 1767, 1739 would play 1502, and so on.*

*Look again at round 1. The difference between 1767 and 1739 is virtually nothing. Yet one plays a master, and one plays a, well, a fish. Is that "fair"? Not really. But in round two, 1767 plays a 2042 player, and the*



# INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE SECTION

1739 plays a 1502. That evens things out a little, but not completely. However, there is a certain amount of competitive equity that would be absent if 2275 played 2192 while 1767 played 1739. In any case, swiss pairings, as used in chess, are surprisingly accurate in determining 2nd, 3rd, 8th, and 15th place. (At the end of a tournament, each player gets a "performance rating" calculated. There is usually a strong correlation between a player's ranking and his performance rating.) But the main reason for the system's success is the ability to accurately rank the players.

In bridge, teams generally aren't ranked (unless the tournament is using victory points, but that's another article.) So, pairings equivalent to 2275 v. 2192 at one table and 1767 v. 1739 on the next, which would never happen in chess, frequently happen in bridge. The consequence of that is that while the overall winner has usually earned it, there is more luck involved in placing 4th or 5th, and placings like 15th or "1st C" are less likely to be an accurate measure of teams' relative performances. So, in that sense, you're right: in theory, it's unfair.

In practise, there are two huge factors that you have overlooked which minimize the impact of this "unfair" pairing system. The first is that masterpoints do not measure ability; they measure achievement. All that can be said about somebody with 300 points is that they probably are not a complete beginner. Beyond that, it is impossible to say. Furthermore, teams are classified by the player with the most points, but in reality a team is like a chain: it's only as strong as its weakest link.

The second factor is that seven-board matches are a crapshoot, which often turn on one decision by one player on one hand, such as the lead against a slam. Bad play will produce dividends more often than it should (see the Last Page) to the extent that if a team decided to adopt the Newfoundland Club bidding system — pass with all hands — that team would probably not lose all its matches.

In the end, your fear of playing B teams was misplaced. Every opponent, A, B, and C, should be looked at as a potential victim and nothing else. In bridge, like war, fortune favours the aggressor. Apprehension will get your butt kicked.

So, the bottom line on your unhappy experience? Sure, it was unfair, but so's life! Cry me a river! You finished 3rd, which is still pretty good. You'll get 'em next time.

## Landau's Lesson by Louis Landau

|          |         |          |  |
|----------|---------|----------|--|
| NS Vul   | ♠ 543   |          |  |
| lead: ♦K | ♥ JT98  |          |  |
|          | ♦ 87    |          |  |
|          | ♣ 9876  |          |  |
| ♠ QJT    |         | ♠ AK2    |  |
| ♥ 65     |         | ♥ AKQ432 |  |
| ♦ A5432  |         | ♦ 6      |  |
| ♣ K54    |         | ♣ A32    |  |
|          | ♠ 9876  |          |  |
|          | ♥ 7     |          |  |
|          | ♦ KQJT9 |          |  |
|          | ♣ QJT   |          |  |

| N    | E   | S        | W  |
|------|-----|----------|----|
| PASS | 1H  | PASS     | 2D |
| PASS | 3H  | PASS     | 4H |
| PASS | 4NT | PASS     | 5D |
| PASS | 5NT | PASS     | 6D |
| PASS | 6H  | ALL PASS |    |

Some players will consider East's hand strong enough to open 2C, but what ever your bidding system you should land up in a small slam in hearts. East should consider her options and it does not take a rocket scientist to see that the slam is cold if the trumps break 3-2, so all attention must be paid to the possibility that this does not happen. The way to look at the problem is to think that if you can use your small trumps to trump losers, the big ones will look after themselves. The "order of service" is therefore quite simple. East wins the lead in dummy and now plays HA and HK and gets the bad news when South shows out. Now the play becomes almost automatic. Declarer must reduce her trumps to the same length as North. To do this she trumps a diamond and plays three spades, ending in dummy. She should now ruff another diamond. It does not help North to ruff so she might as well discard a club. Declarer now plays her CA, crosses over to dummy to the CK, and plays yet another diamond. If North trumps, all declarer does is throw away her losing club. If north does not ruff, declarer ruffs and all she loses is the last club to North's good trump. What ever happens, declarer makes her 12 tricks. She makes, in the sequence of play, DA, two top trumps, a diamond ruff, three spade tricks, a diamond ruff, two good clubs, another diamond ruff or a discard, and a final trump.

This hand comes directly, and without permission, from a bridge program called Bridge Master, one of the best instructional programs I have come across for learning declarer play. Perhaps it might make a good present for your favorite bridge partner!

# INTERMEDIATE/NOVICE SECTION

## A Tip for Improving Players

by *McBruce*

Do you want to improve your game? To attract better players as partners? To win more often? To improve partnership harmony? Of course! But you don't want to work *too* hard at learning new systems, conventions, signalling methods, declarer technique, do you. Well, guess what. You don't have to. Just follow this simple tip and whether your game improves or not, you yourself will *seem* like a much better player than before.

The tip is this: **Clam up already!**

Until the mid-80s, evening bridge games started at 8pm, and ended about the same time they do now. This means that today's players are taking more than a minute extra per board. And what exactly are they doing? Why, they're talking. And they're talking about the deal they've just played. Are they getting anywhere? No. They're still talking.

Everyone these days seems to have the idea that to be a good player you have to have something to say about every hand. We all want to seem good players, so we all try to get our *bon mot* in first once the hand is over. Since most players aren't good enough to find something unique to say about every hand, they say things like "gosh, you really shouldn't have trumped my winner." And yet nobody on the other side of the table ever says "thank you, Captain Obvious."

What they do is they hold An Immediate Discussion. "I trumped it because I wanted to force out a high trump from declarer." "If you had counted after my signal you'd have known he had another one." "That should have been an attitude signal." "Why should I tell you what you already know?" "Well, you could have cashed the ace of hearts at trick five anyhow." "I didn't because I assumed you had some logical reason for ruffing the club."

Does the other side intervene? Of course not. It is considered a Smart Move to let them bicker.

Now watch what happens when Good Players play the same hand and fall into the same trap. One says to the other—without rancor—something like "tried to force out a high one, eh?" Notice that the post-mortem begins with a Basic Assumption: the mistake *must* have had a logical cause. Really Good players might just say "misread the situation, eh?" and let it go. Perhaps later they will discuss the hand as though it were an amusing coincidence.

Side issue: rules. We all know them; "third-hand high," "lead through strength," "don't give a ruff and sluff", etc. Get a grip, folks: these rules are for *beginners*. If you know your major suits from your minor suits you are beyond this level already. If the contract makes after your partner breaks one of these rules, and your post-mortem consists simply of bleating out the rule, what

you are really saying is "I prefer to play with beginners—I don't want you to think." This is not the way to get better partners.

Another side issue: bidding rules. A good way to lose a good partner is to point out all the times when his bidding judgment doesn't work out, ignoring the times that it does. This is easy because no dummy looks to see if declarer's hand fits the auction after the contract makes (except perhaps an expert defender, who usually says nothing). But bridge has advanced since the days when high card points were a new and exciting technology. There are 14 point hands that are better than some 15 point hands and should be opened 1NT. (There are also some bad 18 pointers that should be, and some good 17s that shouldn't.) If you expect a minimum of 13 (or even 12) high-card points for any opening bid of one in a suit, you will often find less. A weak two doesn't always have to show an ironclad six card suit. A takeout double might not be 4-4-4-1. People respond 1NT to 1{ with four diamonds sometimes. Openers raise with three cards when it seems best. And it's a completely different world in third seat, or in competitive spots after partner has passed. So if you've memorized "the Book" and you still aren't winning, maybe it's time to realize that "the Book" is not all there is. Wake up: it's the real world out here. Don't hang partner for using judgment. Unless you wish to play with people who have none.

So what's the tip? **Clam up already!** If something happens that sets off the "WRONG! WRONG! WRONG!" alarm in your head: *just let it go*. You need not remember it for later; just circle the board number on your card and look at the hand after the game. (Guess what they don't hide them. They're there for the looking. It takes two minutes after the game to write down the cards in each hand; you can have it done before the scores come out.) If you must think about it, start with the assumption that partner was not out to get you. It is quite likely you will discover that partner had a logical reason for doing what he did. Sometimes you'll even discover that partner went wrong because you went wrong first. (Get out the eraser and wipe away that circle, quick.)

And if partner forgot to read this, fine. Clam up anyway. Let him natter. Go on to the next hand. Do not respond. Trust me: at the end of the evening, he'll think of you as a good player. Real steady. Doesn't get flustered. Doesn't obsess about mistakes. Goes with the flow, no matter what.

Seattle's Ivar must have been a bridge player, and a good one. The secret is: **keep clam!**

### A Bidding Tip...

|         |     |     |      |      |
|---------|-----|-----|------|------|
| ♠ KQT72 | You | LHO | Pard | RHO  |
| ♥ AJ6   | 1S  | 2C  | pass | pass |
| ♦ KT2   | ?   |     |      |      |
| ♣ 93    |     |     |      |      |

Just double. Nothing bad will happen. (If it does, blame me.)

# RECENT EVENTS

## Spring Sectional May 21-24, 1999

### FRI AFT STRATIFIED PAIRS

- 78 Pairs  
A B C
- 1 Bill Goldstone, Gerry McCully
  - 2 Doug Cowan, Keith Miller
  - 3 1 Rangie Sylvestre, Ferdinando Pieralli
  - 4 2 Linda Morgan, Joan Campbell
  - 5 3 Haiderali Nazak, Noorali Dhahani
  - 6 Ernie Dietrich, Harry Friedman
  - 4 Brian Badger, Vicki Croome
  - 5 Marina Page, Amiral Alibhai
  - 6 1 Anita Morse, Patricia Stickland
  - 2 Bachan Buttar, Norma McNamara
  - 3 Jean Katz, Betty Harold
  - 4 Zreen Marzban, Rudy Notzl
  - 5 Gypsy Sturrock, Shirley Laidlaw
  - 6 Christa Mead, Marylou Varga

### FRI EVE STRATIFIED PAIRS

- 52 Pairs  
A B C
- 1 Connie Delisle, Jeanette Greenhut
  - 2 Aban Gerrie, Bob Gerrie
  - 3 1 John Whittlesey, Danny Lee
  - 4 2 Amiral Jetha, Ram Hira
  - 5/6 Marge Neate, Stella Alliston
  - 5/6 Pearl Minkoff, Anne Nagy
  - 3 1 Matt Bohdanowicz, Mark Rojewski
  - 4 Mark Eddy, Vicki Croome
  - 5 Haiderali Nazak, Nurdin Kassam
  - 6 Peter Morse, Claire Burns
  - 2 Bachan Buttar, Norma McNamara
  - 3 Yinsheng Tu, David Huang
  - 4 Shirley Laidlaw, Gypsy Sturrock

### BRACKET 1 1ST KNOCKOUT

- 7 Teams
- 1 Doug Cowan, Julie Cowan, Evelyn Hodge, Mary Fines
  - 2 Peter Maclean, Mike Wilson, Ron Borg, Cameron Doner

### BRACKET 2 1ST KNOCKOUT

- 7 Teams
- 1 Tai Eng, Shirley Isfeld, E Isfeld, Betty Fawcett
  - 2 Garry Skoropada, Mike Moffatt, Sheila Sache, Brian Badger

### BRACKET 3 1ST KNOCKOUT

- 7 Teams
- 1 Kenny Chan, William Ge, William Sit, Ted Lai
  - 2 Rangie Sylvestre, Edward Marchuk, Ferdinando Pieralli, Maureen Schwartz

### BRACKET 4 1ST KNOCKOUT

- 6 Teams
- 1 Allan Lapage, Ursula Perry, John Miller, Yukiko Miller
  - 2 Linda Morgan, Marti Oppenheimer, Joan Campbell, Karin Dunlop

### FRI EVE FUTURE STARS

- 26 Pairs  
D E F
- 1 1 Victor Collins, Arthur Caza
  - 2 2 Eda Kadar, Brian Cross
  - 3 3 1 Carol-Ann Halliday, Lawrence Sands
  - 4 4 2 Lynn Erickson, Ture Erickson
  - 5 5 3 Janice Sameshima, Hugh McGaire
  - 6 6 Isabelle Gardner, Joyce Goddard
  - 4/5 Lorna Brewer, Charles Postle
  - 4/5 Patricia Chen, Elaine Quinn

### BRACKET ONE 2ND KNOCKOUT

- 8 Teams
- 1 Stephen Beaton, Barbara Green, Pauline Lee, Patricia Wotherspoon
  - 2 Zreen Marzban, Ghodsi Ahmadi, Rudolf Notzl, Aase Haines

### SAT AFT FUTURE STARS

- 20 Pairs  
D E F
- 1 1 1 Leif Pedersen, Bob Smith
  - 2 2 2 Janice Barr, Chloe Clark
  - 3 3 Bob Faraci, Glenna Kari
  - 4 4 Carol-Ann Halliday, Arthur Caza
  - 5 Anne Newman, Ann Hill
  - 6 Marlene Barber, Norma McNamara
  - 5 Katherine Crockett, Jeannette Tracey
  - 3 Nadine Adam, Emile Van De Bogart
  - 4 S B (Robert) Lui, Y B (Rosa) Ng

### OPEN PAIRS FINAL

- 28 Pairs
- 1 Laurence Betts, David House
  - 2 Ken Scholes, Peter Herold
  - 3 Pauline McClafferty, Ken Lochang
  - 4 Christopher Maylin, Isabel Chernoff
  - 5 Leslie Gold, Kathy Adachi
  - 6 Jay Brandt, Gay Parrish
  - 7 Maureen Newcombe, Doug Strachan

### OPEN PAIRS CONSOLATION

- 56 Pairs
- 1 Greg Morse, Andy Hellquist
  - 2 Aban Gerrie, Bob Gerrie
  - 3 Pete Walton, Dan Watson
  - 4 Gordon Davis, Duane Tilden
  - 5 Andrew Ross, Anne Scott
  - 6/7 Amiral Alibhai, Robert Butler
  - 6/7 George Bell, Andrew Lee

### SAT EVE FUTURE STARS

- 24 Pairs  
D E F
- 1 1 1 Carol-Ann Halliday, Lawrence Sands
  - 2 2 2 Linda Coleman, Graham Coleman
  - 3 3 3 Lucille Holden, Ila D Lundy
  - 4 4 4 Jaqueline Phillips, Wendy Tawashy
  - 5 5 5 Lynn Erickson, Ture Erickson
  - 6 Eda Kadar, Brian Cross
  - 6 Kevan Shong, David Need

### SUNDAY AFTERNOON FUTURE STARS

- 16 Pairs  
A B C
- 1 Ann Hill, Anne Newman
  - 2 1 1 Carol-Ann Halliday, Lawrence Sands
  - 3 Ronald Merritt, Colin Ransom
  - 4 2 Nora Siddall, Keith Siddall
  - 5 Mona Vassos, Holly Boyson
  - 3 2 Ruth Mayer, Ethel Sviatko
  - 4 3 Kumiko Muguruma, Kumiko Yoshimoto
  - 5 4 David Reed - Pat Loke

### SUNDAY STRATIFIED PAIRS

- 66 Pairs  
A B C
- 1 Marcia Christie, Peter Herold
  - 2 Michael Dimich, Brad Bart
  - 3 GordMcOrmond, Mike Hargreaves
  - 4 Danny Lee, Wilf May
  - 5 1 Diane Ayukawa, Tove Chen
  - 6 2 Bruce McIntyre, William Ge
  - 7 Michael Takemori, Ben Takemori
  - 3 1 Julia Barsel, Waldemar Jez
  - 4 2 Mark Rojewski, Jozef Idczak
  - 5 Kathy Bye, Pat Lester
  - 6 3 Andrew Zorawski, Ewa Wroblewicz
  - 4 Judith Wilson, Gordon Burns

### SUN EVE FUTURE STARS

- 24 Pairs  
D E F
- 1 1 1 Linda Coleman, Graham Coleman
  - 2 2 2 Jacqueline Phillips, Wendy Tawashy
  - 3 3 3 Carol-Ann Halliday, Lawrence Sands
  - 4 4 4 Nadine Adam, Emilie Van De Bogart
  - 5 5 5 Michael Demner, Peter Northcott
  - 6 6 Marie Cahill, Brian Cross

### FLIGHT A SWISS TEAMS

- 16 Teams  
X A
- 1 1 Bradley Bart, Michael Roberts, Bill Goldstone, Steve Clements

# THE PLAY'S THE THING

## The Real Aces on Bridge by Ron Borg

Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, the renowned (or infamous) three musketeers, depending on one's political allegiances, were at their favourite bistro to drink, to wench, and to gloat and commiserate over the results of that evening's Royal Invitational Bridge tournament at the palace. Aramis, in particular, had managed a bit of a coup by beating out Cardinal Richelieu for top honours. This made everyone at the bistro happy, primarily because Aramis was buying. The fights would come later, but for now bonhomie was the prevalent mood.

Board 4  
lead: ♣K

|         |           |         |
|---------|-----------|---------|
| ♠ 5     | ♠ 63      | ♠ T42   |
| ♥ J96   | ♥ T72     | ♥ K8543 |
| ♦ JT92  | ♦ AK743   | ♦ Q     |
| ♣ KQT75 | ♣ J82     | ♣ 9643  |
|         | ♠ AKQJ987 |         |
|         | ♥ AQ      |         |
|         | ♦ 865     |         |
|         | ♣ A       |         |

"I assume you all made 6 spades on board four?" said Porthos, as he opened the third bottle of wine.

"Bah," said Athos, "my luck was out. I won the king of Clubs lead, drew trumps and ducked a Diamond. East won, and returned a Heart. What was I to do? Naturally, I flew with the Ace. When the Diamonds failed to break I had to concede down one, when a simple finesse would have seen me home." Porthos could not let the opportunity go to skewer his friend. "Athos, have I not told you that in love, war, and bridge, the difference between a good plan and a great plan is attending to the small details? Observe the delicate touch of a master. On winning the Club lead, I draw trumps, play a Diamond to the Ace and now duck a diamond. Were Diamonds to split I would have no need of the Heart finesse, but when they do not I still have the Heart finesse in reserve. A simple but beautiful play, was it not, Aramis?"

"Truly, your plan was a good one", said Aramis, "but Athos, as usual, had good instincts but not the patience to see it through to the end. Had he but run his remaining Spade winners, he would have prevailed. Had East held the King of Hearts and four diamonds, he would be squeezed in Diamonds and Clubs, assuming that the opening lead was from the King and Queen. If West also had the Heart King he would be squeezed one round earlier. A triple squeeze. In the result, Athos' play of ducking a Diamond wins in all cases where your play does, and in one other — when the King of Hearts is offside."

Board Nine was the next hand of interest in both the bidding and play. Both Athos and Porthos had overcalled East's second seat one Diamond opening with one Spade and gotten a two Diamond raise by West. Partner had made a three Diamond call to indicate a limit raise of Spades and both had accepted the invitation to game. Aramis had elected to double the opening Diamond bid. West had bid two Diamonds and partner had doubled for takeout. East raised to three Diamonds, Aramis bid three Spades, and partner raised to game.

Board 9

|        |         |         |
|--------|---------|---------|
| ♠ T5   | ♠ AJ63  | ♠ K9    |
| ♥ J975 | ♥ 82    | ♥ T63   |
| ♦ JT95 | ♦ 642   | ♦ AKQ73 |
| ♣ KJ2  | ♣ A976  | ♣ T54   |
|        | ♠ Q8742 |         |
|        | ♥ AKQ4  |         |
|        | ♦ 8     |         |
|        | ♣ Q83   |         |

The Diamond Jack was led at all tables and Diamonds continued. All declarers ruffed and took the losing Spade finesse. They all won the Heart return and led a Spade to the Ace, drawing the outstanding trumps. From here the plays diverged. Athos, being a straightforward sort, saw only one option, and took it. He played the Ace of Clubs and led a Club to his Queen. He was quickly down one.

Porthos, who had the formidable Cardinal Richelieu on his right, played his three high Hearts after winning the Spade Ace, discarding a Diamond on the third Heart. He then trumped the last Heart and paused to take stock. The Cardinal, it would appear, had the three top Diamonds and the King of Spades. With the King of Clubs as well might he not have opened one no trump? And what did West have for

his raise to two Diamonds? Having decided where the King of Clubs was, Porthos led a small Club from dummy, intending to insert the eight and endplaying West. Alas, the Cardinal played the 10 of Clubs when one was led from

# THE PLAY'S THE THING

the table. Porthos was now at the crossroads. Who had the Club Jack? Finally, with a Gallic shrug, he played low — and met the same fate as Athos, albeit much more slowly.

“Against most defenders I would have made the contract”, said Porthos, “but against the Cardinal one can never be sure. I assume that you, Aramis, did not get such astute defence, or make a better guess than I?”

Aramis smiled, paused while Athos filled his glass, and said: “There was no guess. And I did not have such an astute defender as our friend the Cardinal. On the bidding and play I also thought it more likely that West held the Club King. I therefore trumped the last Diamond, played three rounds of Hearts, discarding a Club, and led the fourth Heart. When West produced the Jack I merely discarded another Club and West was endplayed. Had East held the fourth Heart I would have trumped and led a small Club, as you did. But the odds at that point would clearly favour playing East for only one of the minor honours, regardless of which one he might play.

At this point, a patron accidentally jostled Porthos’ chair. Some wine from Porthos’ glass slopped over and stained his tunic. One did not stain the King’s uniform with impugny, especially when that uniform housed the imposing figure of a slightly inebriated Porthos. Honour needed to be assuaged. Discussion of the bridge hands could wait. Now was the time for a good fight. ♠

*Hands taken from The Aces on Bridge, by Bobby “Porthos” Wolff. Congratulations to Ron “Aramis” Borg on finding superior solutions, and on passing the 5,000 masterpoint plateau.*

## Give Me a Hand by Joerg Schneider

We know that point count is most accurate with balanced hands; the wilder the distribution, the less reliable it becomes. When both sides are bidding like there’s no tomorrow, and you do not know who can make what, S.J. Simon had a simple piece of advice - bid one more “for the road”! This hand from team play proves a point.

|     |    |    |    |          |          |
|-----|----|----|----|----------|----------|
| N   | E  | S  | W  | Board 4  | ♠ KJ74   |
| 1D  | 1H | 1S | 2S | lead: ♣K | ♥ A6     |
| 3S  | 4H | 4S | P  |          | ♦ AT32   |
| P   | 5H | P  | P  |          | ♣ 965    |
| dbl | P  | P  | P  | ♠ Q653   | ♠ -      |
|     |    |    |    | ♥ J973   | ♥ KQ8542 |
|     |    |    |    | ♦ Q96    | ♦ 85     |
|     |    |    |    | ♣ A7     | ♣ KQJT3  |
|     |    |    |    |          | ♠ AT982  |
|     |    |    |    |          | ♥ T      |
|     |    |    |    |          | ♦ KJ74   |
|     |    |    |    |          | ♣ 842    |

East’s 1H bid is made planning to rebid them and bid clubs to show 6-5 shape. West’s 2S bid shows a good heart raise.

South led the ace of spades, ruffed by declarer, and a small heart was led to dummy’s jack and North’s ace. Now, the fact that East had concealed his club suit (by not bidding 2NT over North’s opening 1D bid) worked in his favour, as north, unaware of the position, returned a heart rather than cashing out in diamonds, resulting in an overtrick to E-W instead of down one.

This is a fairly common situation: while 5H can be defeated, it often is let through. 4 spades is makeable, and if N/S had followed Simon’s advice they would have been -200 instead of -1050!

|                                 |                                |     |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|
| <i>(Continued from page 19)</i> |                                | 3/7 | Gloria Prescott, Bev Kanee,    |
| 2/3                             | Peter Maclean, Mike Wilson,    |     | Joan OFlynn, Toyo Nunoda       |
|                                 | David House, Laurence Betts    | 3/7 | Larry Meyer, Rick Hoggarth,    |
| 2/3                             | Gord McOrmond, Dan Jacob,      |     | Dick Simpson, Rod Coote        |
|                                 | L. Hicks, M. Hargreaves        | 3/7 | Peter Morse, Amirali Alibhai,  |
| 4                               | Marcia Christie, Ina Andersen, |     | Sky Williamson, Claire Burns   |
|                                 | Kathy Adachi, Leslie Gold      | 3/7 | Harold Hansen, J. Greenhut,    |
| 5                               | 2 Pat Stapff, Joerg Schneider  |     | Shirley Fitterman, Brian Sims  |
|                                 | Dot Carnegie, Gilbert Lambert  | 3/7 | Nuridin Kassam, Amirali Jetha, |
| 3/4                             | Dianne Isfeld, Gray McMullin   |     | Haiderali Nazak, Ram Hira      |
|                                 | M. Henneberger, Mark Eddy      | 1   | Andy Hellquist, Greg Morse,    |
| 3/4                             | Andrew Ross, Pirtpal Gill,     |     | Waldemar Jez, A. Artamonov     |
|                                 | Leszek Baldys, Rhoda Tafler    | 2   | Ewa Wroblewicz, A. Zorawski,   |
|                                 |                                |     | Mark Rojewski, Yozef Idczak    |
|                                 | ANDY NAGY B/C SWISS TEAMS      | 3/5 | Marlene Barber, Holly Boyson   |
|                                 | 36 Teams                       |     | Mona Vassos, N. McNamara       |
| B                               | C                              | 3/5 | Eda Kadar, M J Oppenheimer,    |
| 1                               | Ron Fox, Ray Clemmons,         |     | Samuel Lai, Kam Tang           |
|                                 | Sherman Kwan, Ronald Pratt     | 3/5 | Victor Collins, Arthur Caza,   |
| 2                               | Ted Lai, William Sit,          |     | Lawrence Sands, Carol-Ann      |
|                                 | Kenny Chan, William Ge         |     | Halliday                       |

## From the Vaults by Dave House

*Ed. Note: Mr. House is off in the interior on a horticultural project, but he left behind a sampling previously published, in the event that Dr. Bidwell's appeal to the College of Physicians was unsuccessful.*

I'll never forget the 1982 Regional in Victoria. Spring sunshine, cherry blossoms, her highness the Empress... a beautiful tournament. The Experimental Knockout was a special feature. In past years the KO was comprised of a very few teams — some touring professionals and a handful of BC's finest. Traditional seeding arrangements ensured that novice teams would meet the top seeds in the first round so inexperienced teams were expected to be quickly eliminated. That year, random draws were used throughout. The chance to win some of those elusive gold points by playing teams of one's own calibre increased that year's field to 32 teams.

At the partnership desk, I was teamed up with Jean Baillie of Vernon, and brothers Allan and Paul Sorenson of Alberta. The first draw was held after the wine and cheese party Tuesday night. We found out our first match was against a Central Island team. In this contest, my teammates were steady and the opponents had the misfortune of bidding two unmakeable grand slams. We squeaked out a 63-54 IMP win.

We reconvened for Wednesday night's draw and pulled our destiny out of the hat. The next morning we were to play world champion Mike Passell and his teammates George Landreth, Ross Rainwater and "Big John" Anderson. Since all four of us had under 200 masterpoints, it was clear that we could not beat them. Accordingly we decided that a little extra practise was needed to give us any chance in this crucial match and we rushed off to buy our entry to the Midnight Speedball Swiss. By 3:00 am, we'd each played over 100 boards in four straight sessions. We dispersed to get showered and changed for breakfast. Game time was 8:45 a.m.

Mike Passell is a very tall man, but neither his size nor his international reputation could intimidate my partner. On the first deal Miss Baillie opened 1C and Landreth overcalled 1NT. I was looking at a prince of a hand:

Jxxxx  
xx  
Jxx  
xxx

I passed. Passell passed. 2C said my partner, refusing to be bullied about. It was only 8:45 a.m. and no one was willing to bid any higher at such an early hour. The opponents were ready to defend, though. They took nine tricks, many of which were in the trump suit, and we scored -200. As Passell put his hand back in the box, he turned to my partner, "Two clubs, Stayman?" he asked. "Yes", was her terse reply. Later she explained to me that, holding a good fifteen count and 4-4-2-3 distribution, she wanted me to bid a major suit. Unfortunately I hadn't realized that we were using this version of Modified Stayman and thus we missed our good 2S partial. We ended up losing 4 IMPs on this hand, but in the process set the tone for the match: anything could happen at this table. Passell seemed ready.

A few hands later, I picked up:

Qxx  
xxx  
xxx  
AKQx

No one was vulnerable, and the auction proceeded with two passes to me. As I had been taking lessons from Sandy McIlwain, who never passes in third seat, I knew I must open 1C. Lack of a stopper did not deter Passell, who overcalled 1NT. My partner bid 2H, pass, pass, and Passell doubled. Partner bid 3C, and everyone seemed content to pass that. I figured that now it was my turn to take four tricks, but the dummy was an unsuspected treat. Passell led a high heart, and Miss Baillie tabled:

KTxxx  
J  
Axx  
Jxxx

Her innovative 2H bid was now clearly revealed as an Extended Jacoby transfer to 2S. I was embarrassed at having misinterpreted the bid because 2S was makeable. However, not to worry, I made 3C for the same +110. Passell paled slightly as he recalled chasing us out of our 3-1 heart fit with his double. He could have passed it, taken ten tricks, and scored up +250. At the half we discovered that our teammates had missed their game on that board, stopping in 3H and scoring +170. We picked up 7 IMPs, but more importantly, trailed only 44-42 after thirteen swing boards. We had a chance.

I'm sure our new opponents had been warned to expect the unexpected if we got into the auction. Fortunately, we had "quiet cards"; John and Ross had lots of bidding room. Unfortunately for them, they tried four unmakeable games that our partners shied away from.

On the last board, I picked up:

QTx  
AQJ  
QTxx  
ATx

Finally a hand I could open! I bid 1D, Big John overcalled 1S, and my partner made a limit raise to 3D. Ross passed, and with a decent 15 I made a try for the vulnerable game, 3NT. After three passes, John led the 8 of hearts, and partner unveiled:

J9x  
9xxx  
KTxxx  
x

A very shapely 4 count! I won the jack of hearts, and played the queen of diamonds and another, John winning on my left. The hand was now over. I won the club shift, played a diamond to the ten and hooked the heart. The king of hearts fell under the ace, and I still had the king of diamonds as an entry to the fifth diamond and the now established 9 of hearts, my ninth trick. Of course a spade lead would have set up four defensive tricks with the diamond ace as a sure entry, but our "limit raise" had lured them into a passive defence. It turned out that we didn't need those ten IMPs anyway; we won the second half 38-18. Although the limit raise worked out well, it's too bad I misinterpreted those novel Stayman and Jacoby transfer bids. The match might not have been so close.

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Saturday, Nov 6 • no game      Saturday, Dec 5 • 7:30 pm

**Sunday, Nov 28**  
**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY**



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SEPTEMBER 24-26, 1999

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#### FRIDAY

|                          |                |      |
|--------------------------|----------------|------|
| STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS    | Single Session | 1:00 |
| BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS | Round One      | 7:30 |
| STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS    |                | 7:30 |
| Future Master Pairs      |                | 7:30 |

#### SATURDAY

|  |                |      |
|--|----------------|------|
| BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS               | Round Two      | 1:00 |
| STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS                  | 1st Session    | 1:00 |
| <i>Single Session Entries Accepted</i> |                |      |
| Future Master Pairs                    | Single Session | 1:00 |
| BRACKETED KNOCKOUT TEAMS               | Final Round    | 7:30 |
| STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS                  | 2nd Session    | 7:30 |
| <i>Single Session Entries Accepted</i> |                |      |
| Future Master Pairs                    | Single Session | 7:30 |

#### SUNDAY

|  |              |                |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| OPEN SWISS TEAMS                         | Two sessions | 10:30 AM & TBA |
| NON LIFE MASTER TEAMS                    | Two sessions | 10:30 AM & TBA |
| <i>Both team events Win/loss scoring</i> |              |                |

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