



Stories * Information
Tips * Results



Predict the IMP League Final Standings!

With scissors, cut out this part of the cover, revealing the contents page beneath it. Beside each team name, write a different number from 1 (first) to 13 (last).

Prizes will be given out for the best Flight A prediction, best Flight B prediction, and the best overall score for both flights, so don't forget to fill out the Flight B predictions on the other side.

Name: _____
(Predictors names required)

MY FLIGHT A PREDICTIONS: (1=FIRST, 13=LAST)

- Ballantyne
- Bart
- Divinsky
- Foster
- Goldstone.....
- House
- Laudan
- Lindsay
- McClafferty
- Moffatt
- Sache.....
- Strebinger.....
- Watson

Dressed To The Nines!

Friday evening at the Evergreen Sectional in Richmond was designated *Dressed to the Nines* night. Thanks to **Pauline McClafferty's** digital camera, we have a photo record of the evening:

The Best Dressed Gentlemen (left to right): **Brad Bart** (second prize winner), **Greg Morse** (first prize winner), **Bachan Buttar** (third prize winner).



Best Dressed Ladies (left to right): **Katrin Litwin** (second prize winner), **Gay Parrish** (first prize winner), **Julia Barsel** (third prize winner).



Jean Turnbull Mixed Pairs winners, left to right: **Brian Cross** and **Eda Kadar** (Flight C), **Kenny Chan** and **Kathy Bye** (Flight B), **Aidan Ballantyne** and **Katrin Litwin** (Flight A, trophy winners).



Flight B on reverse side.
Deadline: December 2nd, 2000.

Predict the IMP League Final Standings!

With scissors, cut out this part of the cover. Beside each Flight B team name, write a different number from 1 (first) to 7 (last). You'll have two sets of numbers from 1 to 7, one for each division.

Don't forget to write in your name and try the Flight A predictions on the other side.

MY FLIGHT B PREDICTIONS: (1=FIRST, 7=LAST)

"UGLY" DIVISION

Angus	<input type="text"/>
Dunn	<input type="text"/>
Jez.....	<input type="text"/>
Kwan	<input type="text"/>
Lévesque.....	<input type="text"/>
Skoropada	<input type="text"/>
Sumner.....	<input type="text"/>

"BAD" DIVISION

Bodlak.....	<input type="text"/>
Crowhurst.....	<input type="text"/>
Danielsen.....	<input type="text"/>
Ishfeld.....	<input type="text"/>
Lai	<input type="text"/>
Meyer	<input type="text"/>
Morse.....	<input type="text"/>

Flight A on reverse side.
Deadline: December 2nd, 2000.

Opening Lead

by Louis Landau

When I was asked to do this "editorial" for this *Matchpointer*, I was at a bit of a loss as to what I should write about. However, last week at my club I had three director calls in the space of less than fifteen minutes, all about so-called cheating.

Let me enlighten you, first of all, as to how the Laws of Duplicate Bridge deal with cheating. It might well surprise you to find out that nothing is laid down in the Laws about the subject. Strangely, the Laws are not designed to prevent cheating. Furthermore there is no provision for redress. The *Bridge Players' Encyclopedia* states, "One has to assume that the lawmakers must have considered that it would be wrong to accord cheaters a status by providing legal remedies against their activities." The same source states that Cavendish wrote, "The penalty of cheating is exclusion from society."

The second bit of enlightenment is that I have no time for deliberate cheating at the duplicate table. If someone wants to deliberately cheat, that is his or her own business and there is only one way to deal with it, and that is to never agree to play with someone who has this attitude. This article has nothing to do with them,

and the less said about them the better. If you want to read more about them you can always read that excellent book *Tickets to the Devil*. It has many versions on this problem.

I am specifically trying to mention those people who, if you said they were cheating, would be horrified. They don't even think what they are doing is anything like cheating. To clarify what I mean it might be an idea to list the most common of these "transgressions."

The most common on my personal list is, of course, the people who hesitate with a singleton. If they are later tackled, they invariably say they were thinking about what they would have to play to the next trick! Even if this were true, it is still misleading and should be frowned on.

The next most common, is the person who sees you are going to take a finesse, and actually hesitates without the missing card. To me, this is inexcusable.

Next on my personal list is the person who does almost the opposite. When they are following suit, they take a card out, put it back and take another card out, put that one back and then take a third card out and play it. Not only are they telling partner that they have at least three cards in that suit, but also they are telling part-

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Matchpointer

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President's Message

by Bruce McIntyre

Almost three weeks later than expected, this issue debuts at the Round-Up Sectional instead of a few weeks before. The fault is mostly mine. Here is how you can help:

The biggest obstacle in producing a *Matchpointer* issue is still the collection of club data. We have club managers who always get their stuff in on time, some who never contact me or Harry Friedman, and a majority who are somewhere in the middle. Preparing the "Only Yesterday" columns has shown me that the opportunities for club promotion are better today than ever before, but club managers must provide us their data. This time I chose not to ask Harry to collect material, even though he does so without complaint. It's time to change the focus. The deadline is at the bottom of this page, among other places. It's up to you to get your material in on time. Please do so: people read the *Matchpointer* and expect the data to be there. When it's not, issues come out late. If your club data is missing from this issue, perhaps you can volunteer to supply it if your club manager doesn't. (See page 30 for more on this theme...)

Let me now put on the President's hat and mention some of the events happening in the next few weeks. We'll decide the trophy races at the Round-Up Sectional November 5-7, and the Unit Christmas party on December 2 kicks off a season of club Christmas parties. The IMP League has begun: Commissioner Brad Bart has worked hard to increase the total number of teams with a new dual-strat, dual-division B League, and the C league will begin in a week or so.

How about that Dressed To The Nines Night at the last Sectional? Of course, there were several problems with the debut of the Richmond Winter Club, but we'll get them fixed for the next visit there. We're currently booked for the Engineer's Hall in January 2001 and the Bonsor Centre in May 2001, but we're looking for new sites after that. One possibility for 2002 is playing at the Richmond Winter Club a week earlier in September, under the lights before the ice goes in.

Volunteers are still needed for the Unit Board. We meet once a month in Vancouver, discussing and planning local events and policies. There are no less than three openings on the Board now, which means that the ten people on the Board are overloaded (though none of these people would ever admit it). Help us out if you can. Experience is not required: Eda Kadar and Julien Lévesque are serving major roles in their first terms on the Board.

The Western Conference, an organization of Units and Districts from San Diego to Denver, is running their fourth STaC in 2000 in early December. Unit 430 is not a member of the W.C., but our clubs are invited to participate. We ask that clubs *not* run these events and; if run, that players *not* play in these events. The extra money you pay in entry fees goes directly to the W.C. and has zero benefit to local bridge. The extra chance to win silver points indirectly hurts our tournaments drawing power. STaC opportunities are plentiful enough in Unit 430 as is.

Jerry Malcolm passed away last August after living courageously with a brain tumour for over two years. He was a cordial fellow who played a real saxophone in a band and must have been amused at my attempts to play a electronic one that was little more than a toy. Still, he encouraged me and discussed the details of computerized music several times. We played once when Jerry needed a partner for a Future Stars game and I was

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December 2000 *Matchpointer*

Deadline for submissions:

Friday, December 8

Dates covered:

December 15, 2000—March 23, 2001

Prognosticatorial A

Anonymous A League Predictions

Thirteen teams fight it out for six playoff spots. Here's the pre-season scoop:

FAVORITES

1. DIVINSKY (Nathan Divinsky, Gord Davis, Dan Jacob, Don Brazeau, Larry Hicks, Gord McOrmond.)

Snapshot: On paper, the defending champs are at least as strong as last year. They lose Ballantyne but gain McOrmond. That looks to be a plus as the latter is a better fit with Jacob.

Strengths:

- roster features three of the Unit's best players. That's a lot of masterpoints!

- two of their stars have won NABC and/or CNTC championships

- consistently good record in league play

Weaknesses:

- their stars can be temperamental
- too much chauvinism
- a lot of pressure on the supporting cast who will have to use mind over matter (*sic*).

Unanswered Questions: Success will depend on how much McOrmond plays. Word on the street is he's a contract holdout. If he doesn't play, it could be a long year.

How To Play Them: They're not as good as they think they are. Give them room to fall on their own swords. Jacob is the team engine. Throw sugar in his gas tank.

2. LINDSAY (Cam Lindsay, Ron Borg, Paul Hagen, Dave Waterman, Steve Vincent, Martin O'Reilly.)

Snapshot: Third year in a row for this variation of the "Borg Machine," the longest running show in town. The year before last they finished strongly to squeak into the playoffs and went on to win it all.

Strengths:

- a lot of experience
- good team harmony
- they keep a smile, win or lose

Weaknesses:

- too much reliance on their aging superstar
- too many part-time players

Unanswered Question: Are they going to resemble the Energizer Bunny (keep going and going and going) or The Mousetrap (even long running shows close eventually)?

How To Play Them: If Hagen is in their line-up, insist on an early start time and go for the late play penalties.

PLAYOFF CONTENDERS

3. BALLANTYNE (Aidan Ballantyne, Jim & Audrey Norman, Katrin Litwin, Bryan Maksymetz, Mike Yuen.)

Snapshot: A new team. Hard to rule them out because they feature an NABC winner and a CNTC champ. Lots of masterpoints.

Strengths:

- many of them have Prairie roots, enhancing team resilience

- two effective mixed pairs

- Mexican element adds salsa

- aggressive, dynamic style as demonstrated by the Normans' Baby Notrump

Weaknesses:

- Prairie stock may by now be infected with Lotus Land disease (check Vancouver Canucks history for an example of that malady)

- the Normans' Baby Notrump is all vulnerabilities, all positions

- those Grand Slams on a hook won't make forever

Unanswered Question: *Quien sabe?*

How To Play Them: Bring the double card but use it wisely. Redoubled and making can get expensive.

4. HOUSE (Dave House, Laurence Betts, Ron Ohmart, Martin Henneburger, Larry Pocock, Paul Sontag.)

Snapshot: Same nucleus as last two years. Addition of male Pocock and Sontag enhances depth and partnership flexibility. Definitely an improved team. Could go far if the medication is right.

Strengths:

- some superior card technicians

- decent team spirit

- My God, this team even has youth

Weaknesses:

- chronically impaired judgment is bound to give problems beyond the four-level

- everybody wants to beat them

Unanswered Question: Will the team doctor find the right mix of performance enhancers?

How To Play Them: Arranging matches will be difficult with this group. When you finally have them engaged, don't be afraid to apply some pressure. Preempt, preempt, preempt!

5. BART (Brad Bart, Mike & Ben Takemori, Chris Diamond, Tony Remedios, Gregorz Barszcz.)

Snapshot: New team includes vestiges of last year's unsuccessful Dimich squad. Partnership constraints mean heavy reliance on the new pair of Remedios-Barszcz playing Polish Club. Mike Takemori

anchors the other table.

Strengths:

- the Brothers Takemori are always a force
- the Polish Club will confuse the opponents

Weaknesses:

- Polish Club will also confuse its practitioners

Unanswered Question: Look up chaos in the dictionary and you see a picture of Chris Diamond. Is that a plus or a minus?

How To Play Them: Prepare for high scoring game. Don't pay too much heed to their bidding as they know not what they do. Focus on your own partnership.

6. GOLDSTONE (Bill Goldstone, Mike Wilson, Peter Maclean, Steve Clements, Gray McMullin, Marylou Bert.)

Snapshot: Last year's runner-up four bagger augmented by Gray McMullin and Marylou Bert. Marylou will provide much needed grounding and partnership flexibility.

Strengths:

- two solid partnerships (Goldstone-Clements and Wilson-MacLean)
- proven track record

Weaknesses:

- too many stockbrokers (reliance on early risers means fatigue will be a big factor in the second half of matches)

Unanswered Question: Team's fortunes likely to mirror the VSE. A bear market could send this team into hibernation.

How To Play Them: They are addicted to excitement so make the matches as boring as possible.

7. FOSTER (Rhonda Foster, Richard & Marcia Christie, Gerry McCully, Greg Arbour, Felipe Hernandez.)

Snapshot: Same nucleus as last year, augmented by the Christies. McCully looks to be the anchorman. A variation of this team went far in the CNTC play-offs a couple of years back. They might even have won except that someone hesitated and...Oh, never mind.

Strengths:

- good partnerships
- motivated to achieve
- Arbour and Hernandez take the view that bridge is just a game - NOT!

Weaknesses:

- too many grumps
- may need to have a fifth present in case one of them stomps out

Unanswered Question: A lot will depend on

Gerry's form. Will he be solid, or mostly liquid?

How To Play Them: Get Gerry off his game. Ask him how long it's been since he had a cigarette.

8. WATSON (Dan Watson, Pete Walton, Gary Phelan, Jean Groome, Paul & Carol Waters)

Snapshot: Coming off a disappointing year when they missed the playoffs. Addition of Paul and Carol Waters will give this team much needed optimism.

Strengths:

- three practiced partnerships
- longevity

Weaknesses:

- can be somewhat erratic

Unanswered Question: Will Danny ever understand Gary's bidding?

How To Play Them: Settle in for a pleasant match. Enjoy!

9. SACHE (Don Sache, Doug Hansford, Wilf May, Brian Russell, June Pocock, Kathy Adachi)

Snapshot: Last year's team has undergone some major changes trading one Pocock for another and losing Fouks and Ward. Backbone comprises two sound partnerships in Hansford-May and J. Pocock-Adachi. Not sure where aging boy toy Russell fits in. Official team masseur, maybe?

Strengths:

- a lot of tournament experience
- Pocock-Adachi have ambitions (though they'll never admit it!)
- the referee is on their side

Weaknesses:

- talented captain looks to be odd man out
- too conservative

Unanswered Question: What is their best line-up? By the time Sache finds out, it may be too late...

How To Play Them: Set tone early by running Wilf into the boards. Retaliation? You gotta be kidding.

ALSO RANS

10. LAUDAN (Leslie Laudan, John Anthony, Jim LeNobel, Bill Osten, Barry Kirkham, Neil McAllistair)

Snapshot: The team has been together several years and has shown steady improvement. Can be dangerous. Capable of beating the best.

Strengths:

- game competitors
- not fazed by anything or anyone
- seem a happy team

Weaknesses:

- somewhat error prone

Unanswered Question: A bit more consistency

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Prognosticatorial B

by Punxsutawney Phil

There are two divisions this year, with 7 teams in each, and no one has told me how to refer to them yet, (A/B, 1/2, Red/Blue, buckle/myshoe), so they ought to have names. In the past we've had Valley and City leagues, and split Flight B and C leagues, but that hasn't happened this year (I suspect that's because the organizers looked at it and decided this year's Valley clubs would destroy their City cousins.) So anyways, it looks like I get to name the divisions, I guess... I'm going to use "**The Bad**" and "**The Ugly**" (cause "**The Good**" are playing elsewhere... namely, in Flight A.) These classifications are not my idea, and for those of you that don't like being "The Ugly", well at least you aren't "The Bad." Speaking of which, where the heck is Tai Eng this year? I guess he thinks that since he won the GNT he's too good to hang out with us.

I didn't just guess at this stuff, or pick the people I liked best. I want you all to know that I arrived at these predictions by careful scientific analysis, using extremely highly sophisticated equipment, which included: a TRS-80 puter, several beers, a dartboard, the 1966 Farmer's Almanac, David House and a few per-

formance enhancing drugs. And, for those of you wondering what kind of simpleton is writing this year's prognostications, well... I'm not telling you who I am, so there. That's mostly because I'm also playing in the 'not-ready-for-prime-time' IMP League, where there are already enough people that don't like me... to say the least, which is also something I never do. Also, "the Crow" warned me about potential lawsuits, and that he wouldn't represent me in any case, so I guess I have to be nice to *most* of you, for once.

THE "UGLY" DIVISION

1. KWAN (Sherman Kwan, Danny Lee, John Whittlesey, Ron Fox.)

A new entry to the B league gets the nod, for several reasons, none of which I can remember clearly cause it's 4:00 am right now. Whittlesey and Lee have turned in some great pairs performances in the past year, and know each other pretty well. Kwan is a rock-solid performer, and could probably win playing with a half-cooked mouse (which, incidentally, Fox is not—he'll do his share too). These are mostly blue chip players with ambitions and they will beat some teams like the family mule.

Something seems too good to be true though, and

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could see this team make the play-offs. Can Mistress Laudan enforce a bit more discipline?

How To Play Them: Play them straight up. Take your tricks. You'll come out ahead most of the time.

11. STREBINGER (Judy Strebinger, Jenny Ballantyne, Aban Gerrie, Linda Sims, Duane Tilden, Rhoda Tafler.)

Snapshot: A quintet of experienced women and a single younger man. Sounds like a French movie.

Strengths:

- they are determined
- Duane is obviously looking for a new life experience

Weaknesses:

- lack of tried and true partnerships
- they may try too hard to prove a point

Unanswered Question:

6

Does Duane have the neces-

sary endurance?

How To Play Them: Don't pick on Duane. You'll make the rest of the team mad. These ladies have fangs.

12. MCCLAFFERTY (Pauline McClafferty, Marguerite Chianza, Tove Chen, Diane Ayukawa, Dennis McMahon, John Reay.)

Snapshot: Team is built on last year's surprise semi finalists in the Canadian Women's Team Championships in Halifax. Reay-McMahon used to terrorize the B circuit (back when Bees were Bees and you had to walk long miles in the snow to the bridge club).

Strengths:

- three solid partnerships
- they'll have fun

Weaknesses:

- sometimes they have too much fun

• Coach Remedios will not be around to help them this time—

he's on another team

Unanswered Question: Will the addition of a male partnership spoil the chemistry?

How To Play Them: Beware of charm.

13. MOFFATT (Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome, Sandra Robson, Patti Adams, Ray Morrison, Insa Fricker.)

Snapshot: New team incorporates some members of the surprise winners of last year's GNT Flight B.

Strengths:

- They have nothing to lose

Weaknesses:

- where's Tai??

Unanswered Question: The A League should be a good test for this squad. Can they take the next step up?

How To Play Them: Take them seriously or you will get bitten. Show them respect. They've earned it.

I'm going to guess that they won't win it all.

2. SKOROPADA (Garry Skoropada, Flora Tereposky, Brad Fletcher, Mark Eddy, Dan Webster.)

The most experienced squad in either division, and they all have their names on the B trophy at least once already. Cap'n Garry can win with anyone, but Tereposky will have her hands full trying to drag Eddy over the finish line. Fletcher and Webster will be solid, as always. Probably no big wins—on the other hand, they also might go unbeaten. Should make the finals.

3. ANGUS (Monica Angus, Julia Barsel, Andrey Artamonov, Sheila Sache, Gilbert Lambert.)

This team boasts a GNT Champ (Lambert) and other good bridge talent too, although a lack of IMP league experience and partnerships might hold them back a little. But, Barsel and Angus have been playing together, and Lambert and Sache have played before, so that will help. Artie is a good performer who will help out a lot. Warning: take these folks lightly, and you'll be down a lot of IMPS very quickly (and don't get in Monica's bad books like I did one time).

4. JEZ (Waldemar Jez, Ewa Wroblewicz, Andrej Zorawski, Armando Andreoli, Kel Raywood, Geoff Fetterley.)

I can't even predict the partnerships in this, let alone the finish. Heck, I can't even understand the bidding 97.64% of the time ('1♣' - 'Alert' - 'Could be anything.') This group has enough talent to get there, I suppose, but there's enough uncertainty to lose with any lineup. Raywood is a real player, and Fetterley will do his share too. Andreoli might be new to all this, but don't be fooled: he's probably the best card player of the lot. Jez, and the others (I'm NOT going to risk spelling errors) are the cream of the Brydzowy Klub. Why fourth? Just a hunch. If they make the playoffs they won't go in the first round.

5. SUMNER (Ric Sumner, Pat Jones, John Horne, Tom Cotton.)

Two long standing partnerships and some individual flashes of brilliance should total up to a higher finish, but this team will lose a few too many, and just doesn't seem capable of really piling up the IMPS when they win. Cotton and Horne are strong players, and Sumner and Jones won't be pushed around much. The main problem is that they're all too nice. My advice is don't get them mad. If these four decide they want to get mean, they will beat up on some teams.

6. DUNN (Richard Dunn, Bruce McIntyre, Greg Morse, Andy Hellquist.)

Morse and Hellquist are an established partnership, and are good developing players. The question is: will Dunn be the answer for McBruce? Is there an answer for McBruce? If they click, don't be surprised at a

higher finish than this. If not, well at least McIntyre will have material for "It's Your Bid" for many years to come. There's a rumor that the Hideous Hog will see some action, but I don't believe it. I happen to know that he's going to be awfully busy this year with long distance calls (and lawsuits).

7. LÉVESQUE (Julien Lévesque, Greg Lam, Marti Oppenheimer, Judy Murphy, Nigel Fulbrook.)

Somebody has to be last, and there are some other good candidates, but this is my best guess. I heard from Julien that he recently added Rangie Sylvestre to this bunch. It won't be enough. Oppenheimer and Murphy are unproven. Even Fulbrook (quite possibly the best bridge talent in both divisions) won't be enough. Lack of experience and partnerships is a bad combination. They won't be beaten badly in any match, but this is a learning year for most of them.

THE "BAD" DIVISION

1. BODLAK (Stan Bodlak, Pearl Minkoff, Sandi White, David Walker, Cheryl Brander, Christina Jacob.)

I picked these folks to win cause they are the only team with four girls, and cause they also managed to sign up a Brander and a Jacob. Most importantly, they have three *lonng* established partnerships and even though they won't mangle anyone seriously, they won't lose much either, and ought to rack up enough wins to top regular season play. The playoffs are another issue though, and I think they'll be lucky to make the semi-finals.

2. DANIELSEN (Ken Danielsen, Ron Groome, Pat Weatherspoon, Elaine Levins, Chris Maylin, Chris Robbins.)

Lots of talent here, but not a lot of Flight B experience. Chris and Chris seem to get along well, and Groome is a real bridge player. Danielson is too, and if he can stay in his seat they will go a long way. This is a team that could win it all, if they come together in time. They will win often enough, and sometimes by huge numbers. They'll be in the final.

3. ISFELD (Dianne Isfeld, Brian Badger, Joerg Schneider, Pat Stapff, Joan Richards, Gus Axen.)

A couple of good partnerships and great leadership by the affable and wily Isfeld (who finally has a real partner in Richards). Stapff and Schneider should be getting to know each other by now. Adding the 'Badger' won't hurt them at all, and Axen is a fast developing talent. Dianne has won the B's before, and with an even more rag-tag bunch than this. They will start slow, but watch out for them in the playoffs if they get there (and I think they will).

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Tips for Tops

by Mark Eddy

Today's tip is: Smoking is bad for your health, but might just help your bridge play.

Hi there, all you **Bridge Athletes** (since bridge is about to become an Olympic sport, we'd better all get used to being jocks—even us smoker types). Before I get to the main part of this illustrative story, I want to repeat my response to some criticisms that I overheard (I couldn't help overhearing them, because the person was talking to me) whilst trying to get through the masses huddled by the coffee pots at the VBC recently, regarding bridge players who are smokers. This person was going on and on about how bridge is becoming an Olympic sport and how nicotine was a banned substance and how smoking is stupid and unhealthy and how smokers always are late coming back to the table and how they make mistakes cause of playing too fast so they can get out for another smoke and *blah-blah-blah, yadda-yadda-yadda....* Now, most of you know that I always call a spade a spade (unless I have some mixed up in my diamonds), so of course my response was: "I think you're full of **poop**."

As it happened (and I am *not* making this up), after I finished my cigarette and hustled back to the table, this person was waiting as my LHO—sucking up coffee in great gulps, I might well add... (as in fact, it

seems that I have).

"You're always late *blah blah blah....*" she complained as I sorted my hand. The first two boards were everyday types, and then came this little gem:

♠ 7 ♥ JT52 ♦ 72 ♣ AKJT96

Now, I usually don't preempt with these types of hands (I don't like to miss a major suit fit, so I'd open 1♥, I guess) but LHO was getting under my skin—mostly because she seemed to be making a point of playing extra-slowly (although to be fair, that might just have been nicotine withdrawal-induced paranoia.) Anyway, in an honest effort to speed things up, I flopped a 3♣ bid on the table. After about twenty minutes LHO decided finally to pass, which helped my intrepid partner to decide that I ought to be in a slam. She bid a confident 6♣ (I smiled sarcastically, thinking "Thanks a LOT partner, playing at the six level will certainly help to speed things along.") LHO needed yet another four hours to decide to pass again, and then took about six months to make her opening lead—as a matter of fact, I helped her a little—and I think I might have accidentally twisted her arm wrenching the ace of hearts out of her fingers once she actually detached it from her hand. My partner proudly displayed a pretty fair collection:

♠ AKQ8 ♥ Q764 ♦ AK4 ♣ Q7

A♥ led vs 6♣

♠ 7 ♥ JT52 ♦ 72 ♣ AKJT96

"Thanks pard," I said appreciatively (one thing I

(continued from page 7)

4. MORSE (Peter Morse, Claire Burns, Ozzie Isfeld, Shirley Isfeld.)

I'm going way out on a limb predicting these folks this low, and it's nothing more than a last minute hunch, because at one time I was trying to decide whether they'd be first or second. Both these pairs know each other inside out, and all are capable players. They don't know the other players in this league too well though, and that might hold them back. If I'm wrong and they do make the play-offs, bet on them being in the final instead of Danielsen.

5. CROWHURST (Marion & Jeremy Crowhurst, Kathy Bye, H.K. Ho, Kenny Chan, Aase Haines.)

The hardest team of all fourteen to predict. A couple of good partnerships, and a few flakes. Team spirit will be high, and the action will be wild. They probably won't

push more than three boards all year (can you say 'swing'? Sure... I knew you could.) Ma and Junior Crow can generate lots of IMPs and H.K. will be solid playing with a partner that he knows well (Chan.) Warning: being up 40+ IMPS at half time is not nearly enough to sit on.

6. MEYER (Larry Meyer, Rod Coote, Rick Hoggarth, Jim McKenzie, Dick Simpson, Bob Takashita.)

The same old gang that has been surprising other teams for years. No strong players, and no weak ones either. These guys are the best example of the team approach that the B League has ever known. They have solid partnerships and are always ready to play. Sometimes they win, but this year there isn't going to be enough to get them into the playoffs. What these guys need is more toughness—they

need to snarl once in awhile.

7. LAI (Samuel Lai, Kam Tang, Andrew Nalos, Grant Gayman, S. Li, Vincent Ho)

Thanks. Somebody put the only six players in Vancouver that I don't know all onto one team. You probably don't know them either, but this is the team that won the Flight C IMP League last year. I was going to pick them as high as second place, because I think too many B teams will underestimate them, but I'm picking them to come last. This isn't because I think it will happen, but because it's traditional. We expect teams that are moving up to fall on their faces the first year. And now, I just want you all to remember that I have a hunch they're going to surprise a lot of other teams this year. In fact, I hope they're peed off at this already and go on to win the B final with a blitz just to prove it.

like about this partner, is that she can lay a dummy down *fast*.) "This should be over pretty quick." I wasn't coffee-housing—I fully expected to lose at least the first three tricks pretty quickly. I played low from dummy, RHO contributed the 3♥ and I tried to encourage faster play by dumping the J♥ (if RHO wasn't going to encourage hearts, I thought, someone certainly had better). To no avail, as LHO was in the tank again (which really didn't improve my mood at all). Enviously, I beheld the other smoker/bridge-athletes as, one by one, they arose from their chairs and hustled to the front door to reap the just rewards of their expeditious play. In desperation, I was about to claim down two, three, or whatever they wanted, when she suddenly emerged with the Q♦. That's odd, I thought, but at least I can win this and grab a bunch of tricks and still get a half a cigarette (the window sill outside the VBC teems with my half-finished butts). I played the next 8 tricks in about 4.7 seconds (I'd have been faster, but my partner was unbelievably slow at getting cards off the table—at one point I was tempted to start pulling cards out of my opponents' hands).

"I like a brisk game," I said curtly, admonishing all three of them as we arrived at this ending, and snapping my last trump onto the table with alacrity:

♠ AKQ8 ♥ Q ♦ — ♣ —

6♣: win the rest

♠ 7 ♥ T52 ♦ ♣ 9

Now, my LHO decided she had *another* problem. Gasping for breath, and with beads of nicotine-scented perspiration forming on my brow, I tried to help her by calling for the Q♥ before she even played a card. That only served to send her into an even deeper fit of concentration. Finally, just as I was about to give up and concede down four, she produced...the K♥! I blinked a couple times, and dropped my cards onto the table.

"Making six," I announced "Be right back, pard." Fortunately, the director was busy making coffee for all those caffeine abusers, and didn't notice me pushing my way out through the returning throng of contented smokers, so the story has a happy ending.

LHO was down to ♠JT9x ♥K when I led the last trump, so there was no escape. Here's the whole hand:

Board 10	Dir: South Vul: forgot	NORTH	6♣ by South Lead: A♥
WEST		♠ AKQ8 ♥ Q764 ♦ AK4 ♣ Q7	EAST
♠ JT92 ♥ AK8 ♦ QJT85 ♣ 8		SOUTH	♠ 6543 ♥ 95 ♦ 963 ♣ 5432
		♠ 7 ♥ JT52 ♦ 72 ♣ AKJT96	

That night, hanging around outside in the pouring rain with some fellow nicotine fans before the evening game, I showed them LHO's hand, then the dummy, and asked what they'd lead and continue with. Without exception, they played the K♥ and A♥. They didn't even have to think about it. Now, for those of you with nice pink lungs, I ought to explain that this is completely logical to the serious smoker/bridge-athlete mentality—if continuing the suit turns out wrong (with that Q♥ in the dummy), at least the hand will be over fast, and we can get outside more quickly.

Now, this isn't really a proper squeeze hand, but I liked it so much I think it deserves a name, so I'm going to call it a **nicotine squeeze**.... And since I found it, I get to name it, so there.

So anyways, what have we learned here? Well, for one thing, these modern leads like Ace from Ace-King don't seem to be very good, cause you don't always get encouraging signals from partner, and you can't trust declarer's signals a lot of the time. Also, that playing too fast might not always be good, but it's better than out-thinking yourself, and at least you can get out for a smoke. Some of you also may even have noticed that since smoking stopped being allowed in bridge clubs, the card play of smokers has improved dramatically over other healthier bridge-athletes (improved=got faster). And, hopefully, we learned NOT to play slow and keep me from getting out for my cigarette. L8R G8R, I'm going out the side door for a quick puff...

Writer's Cramp... When I submitted this, McBruce said it "just might look like I just might be saying that it was okay for smokers to get to the table late", and he wanted me to edit it... well, first of all, I don't edit ANYthing (which should be obvious by now.) And since I almost never have any idea what I'm writing (partly cause of the state I'm usually in when I write), I have to take him at his word. But anyways, if it looks like that, this is definitely NOT true. In fact, I think that one of the biggest problems this game has is delays and slow play, for a number of reasons (stupidity would probably be in there). All I'm really trying to point out here, is that MOST smokers play faster... not cause they're better people (not necessarily, anyways), but so they can indulge their second fave pastime. If you finish early, then fine...have a smoke; I'll even give you one. But *nobody* has the right to waste other people's time for *any* reason. And, as much as I hate to admit it, there are some smokers (those 'ceiling gazers' that take *forever* to play a card) who still think they have the right to choke down half a pack over the course of a club game. You guys are giving the rest of us smoker/bridge-athletes a bad name. So...*cut it out!!!* Okay, I feel better now...

Four Games and a Slam

by Bruce McIntyre

[Last issue, we read about the Hideous Hog in Training's trip to the NABC and his success at the special event *Who Wants To Be A Bridge Millionaire*. The Hog had won \$1,000 by answering questions on bridge trivia when space in the *Matchpointer* ran out.]

The story so far had to be repeated to several as we arrived at the club. Characteristically, the Hog attracted a crowd around him and told it with élan. I myself felt it safe to walk down the street and pick up a light lunch to go, returning to the club just as the story continued where we had left it.

"I'm sure we've all heard a competitive auction with two players passing and two players competing," opened the Hog to the dozen or so who had gathered to hear the story. "Sometimes at the conclusion of such a hand the *bon mot* is to the effect that East and North had a slam between them. That's what I was faced with. In how many deals can the best two hands make a slam?"

Opinion was divided. Some said 80%, some thought as little as 20%. "That was my goal in the second round—to find a single slam deal. On four of the five I could simply play in game and get through, but I had to find one slam before getting to \$32,000."

He then went back into the theatrics. Luckily, in writing about it I can simply teleport you to the studio and you are spared the Hog's awful rendition of the music and of Regis Fill-In's accent...

The string orchestra played (on tape of course) the familiar theme announcing a new level. The lights were dimmed very low and the camera focused on Regis Fill-In, who was dealing an oversized deck with bright blue backs into four hands facedown. "We're here with the Hideous-Hog-In-Training, from Vancouver, Canada, who has won \$1000 and has two lifelines remaining. I'm about to give you four randomly dealt hands, and you'll have one minute to select a declaring hand, a dummy hand, and a contract at the game level or higher. To get as far as \$32,000, you'll need to make at least one slam in the next five hands. The two hands you don't select will be reshuffled into two new hands for the defenders, so the adverse distribution will be random and unrelated to the hands you see. Here are the four hands; now, let's meet the defenders."

At this point there was a clever bit of television special effects. The cameras stopped as the two new defenders took their places. At the same time, aides sorted the four hands into suits (HHIT had been

asked which method of sorting would be best). The cameras started up again and Regis interviewed the two defenders while the Hog chose which two hands to play with. It would be difficult to make a rational choice in a single minute if the hands were unsorted.

\$2,000: choose two hands and a game or slam

♠ 4	♠ T973	♠ A652	♠ KQJ8
♥ 86	♥ Q532	♥ K94	♥ AJT7
♦ KQJT862	♦ A43	♦ 7	♦ 9
♣ K9	♣ A2	♣ Q7653	♣ JT84

The Hog now let his audience at the club work out the best solution. Most felt 4♠ with the third and fourth would be best, noting that the 4-1 trump break would probably disappear in the reshuffle. The Hog laughed. "And watch helplessly as they cash ace-king of clubs and ruff the third? I chose to play 4♥ with the second and fourth hands. The reshuffle made it easier and I made five."

At this point, a new rule came into play. "My LHO had not managed to win a trick during the play of 4♥, and because of this, he was eliminated and a new player took the seat on my right, as the old RHO moved up to be the opening leader. This introduced a new idea into my head. If a choice came up, I might be able to eliminate the defender I felt was stronger. The trouble was, I couldn't get much of a read on the players except perhaps by listening into the interview during the minute I had to choose a contract."

Regis Fill-In had pre-dealt the next deal from the red deck while simultaneously playing the Hog's dummy. These were the hands:

\$4,000: choose two hands and a game or slam

♠ T42	♠ A73	♠ K9	♠ QJ865
♥ T532	♥ 986	♥ AQ	♥ KJ74
♦ Q75	♦ 96	♦ AKJT432	♦ 8
♣ T53	♣ K7642	♣ Q8	♣ AJ9

The Hog now had a choice: 6♦ on the last two hands looked like a good shot, but the club audience felt that it would be better to wait. "Sadly," said the Hog, "that was my decision too. What you fail to appreciate is the way the two available lifelines enter into this. One of them, a simple redeal, obviously isn't a good choice here, but I also have the option of directing a defender to lead or play something else at a crucial moment. As it was, I played five diamonds, and I lost the first round trump finesse. If I was in six, I could use the lifeline and have the defender follow low instead, which would lose only if the queen was singleton and he had no other legal play."

Regis Fill-In made sure to remind HHIT of the

missed opportunity. "You've got to understand the lifelines in order to be able to use them properly," he chided as he dealt the next hand. "I hope you get another chance at a slam, but that one looked pretty good to me, pal. Anyway, here's the \$8,000 deal:"

\$8,000: choose two hands and a game or slam

♠ AJ97	♠ K6	♠ T4	♠ Q8532
♥ Q832	♥ AKJ4	♥ 976	♥ T5
♦ 754	♦ KQJ62	♦ T93	♦ A8
♣ KT	♣ 73	♣ AJ965	♣ Q842

The Hog chose 4♥ with the first two hands rather quickly and then listened in for clues as to the defender's ability. He had eliminated another player on the previous hand so his right-hand opponent was a new player. It turned out the new RHO was a "name" player, taking a break from the semi-finals of the Flight A GNT. (HHIT had missed the name.) His LHO was a gorgeous twenty-something with beautiful blonde hair who had started the "defense" of 5♦ on the previous hand by leading her unsupported ace of spades.

The Hog knew who to try and eliminate. His goal in 4♥ was to make it *and* to deny the expert any tricks. After the reshuffle, the blonde bent her head in serious thought. The Hog noticed that her blonde hair was a dark brown near the roots. Finally she led the ten of diamonds.

Dummy: ♠ K6 ♥ AKJ4 ♦ KQJ62 ♣ 73

T♦ led vs 4♥

HHIT: ♠ AJ97 ♥ Q832 ♦ 754 ♣ KT

The Hog played the king and it won. Was the expert ducking a round, hoping for a third round ruff? Or had the fake blonde simply led away from the ace? Either was possible, thought the Hog as he called for the ace of trumps and followed with the two.

"No hearts?" said Regis. The Hog looked and found that the expert had discarded a small spade. Hearts were 5-0.

"None," said the expert smugly, "and that's my final answer."

The Hog played the king of spades from dummy, drawing only low cards. Now he played the other spade. The expert followed smoothly with the ten and HHIT finessed the jack.

It lost—to a small trump. Spades were 6-1. The fake blonde confirmed to Regis that she had no spades, and continued with the ace of clubs and another to the Hog's king. This left the following position, with the Hog on lead, needing six of the last seven tricks:

Dummy: ♠ — ♥ KJ4 ♦ QJ62 ♣ —
Blondie
HHIT: ♠ A9 ♥ Q83 ♦ 75 ♣ —
Expert

The ace of diamonds was still out, but so were the nine and eight. If the ten of diamonds opening lead were singleton, the expert would have two natural diamond tricks. With Blondie holding three trumps and no spades, there was a lot of danger afoot.

The Hog led the nine of spades. Blondie looked at the ceiling and decided to ruff. The Hog overruffed and played the low trump back to the queen, the expert pitching a spade.

Now the Hog led a small diamond, forcing another look at the ceiling from Blondie. The expert's demeanor suddenly changed. Up to this point, he had been sure that his trick one duck of the ace of diamonds was safe. Now he saw the horror story ahead.

Blondie ruffed again. The enforced club return allowed the Hog to pitch his third diamond from hand as he ruffed with the king of hearts. The expert could only watch helplessly as the Hog claimed the rest, with two trumps and the ace of spades. The expert got a few nominations for the Active Ethics award in the next day's Daily Bulletin when he shook hands with the Hog and bowed to Blondie before leaving. The Hog claimed to have overheard him in the bar later saying, "What was I supposed to do, strangle the poor dingbat on vugraph?"

The music played again and the tray with the four hands was passed across the table to the Hog. "Now, Hog," said Regis, "you'll have to try a slam on this one or the next one. Don't forget that you can get a redeal by using a lifeline. You remember, lifelines?" As Regis talked with the new player, a recent grandmother, the Hog looked over these cards:

\$16,000: choose two hands and a game or slam

♠ KT94	♠ J852	♠ AQ7	♠ 63
♥ 93	♥ KQT85	♥ A2	♥ J764
♦ 4	♦ AQ62	♦ T8753	♦ KJ9
♣ KQT542	♣ —	♣ A97	♣ J863

The Hog's club audience expected the Hog to choose the club slam with the first and third hands. "And what if spades don't break 3-3?" retorted the Hog. Someone murmured, "use a lifeline."

"Suppose I play 6♣ and win the heart lead and pull trumps. I now play the ace and queen of spades and both follow but the jack does not appear. If I now play a third spade and LHO shows out, I am home because I can use the lifeline to force RHO to play the jack. If he follows low, I can use the lifeline to force the jack

(continued on page 12)

(continued from page 11)

from him if he started with four—if he started with three he'll have no other legal play and I'll know to play for the drop."

"So it's cold if clubs are no worse than 4-2, right?" said the person who suggested the lifeline.

"Only if trumps break—if trumps are 3-1 I can't ruff a heart after pitching it on the fourth spade. It's too much of a gamble to hope that the opponent who has a singleton trump also has short spades."

The Hog played five clubs, which made six easily after Blondie cashed the king of diamonds and switched to her doubleton spade. Regis sympathized with Granny, who left wishing she had overtaken the diamond at trick one.

"OK, Hog," said Regis. "The training is all over now. You need to make a slam on this deal for a guaranteed \$32,000. Here are the hands: good luck."

\$32,000: choose two hands and a slam

♠ K5	♠ JT72	♠ 864	♠ AQ93
♥ AQ3	♥ 2	♥ KJ75	♥ T9864
♦ J65	♦ 98743	♦ AKQT2	♦ —
♣ KQ963	♣ 752	♣ A	♣ JT84

The Hog never looked at the fourth hand and had put the second hand down after a quick look. He held the third hand and pretended to gaze at it as Regis interviewed the new defender, who turned out to be a famous international player.

"Well, Mr. Hideous Hog-In-Training," said Regis Fill-In, "you seem to have fixated on that one hand for most of your minute. You haven't even looked at the fourth hand. Would you like to use a lifeline and get a redeal?"

"No, I'll play these," said HHIT, passing over the third hand to Regis and grabbing the first. "That's the dummy hand, and we'll play 6NT."

Regis shuffled the other 26 cards and dealt out two hands. "Defenders, if he makes this, one or both of you will be eliminated. You must score at least one trick individually to remain at the table."

Blondie led the four of hearts. The superstar played the eight and the Hog won his ace. The Hog cashed the ace of clubs, both following low, then played a diamond to the jack, the king of clubs, and then continued with the rest of the diamonds. Both followed to the K♣, but on the diamonds Blondie discarded the two, three, nine, ten and queen of spades, leaving superstar to follow five times. The Hog pitched two small clubs on the last diamonds, leaving this:

Dummy: ♠ 86 ♥ KJ7 ♦ — ♣ —
6NT: HHIT needs 4 more
HHIT: ♠ K5 ♥ Q3 ♦ — ♣ Q

Cold for twelve tricks (and \$32,000!), the Hog considered a rather unique set of options. He wanted to lose the last trick to Blondie if possible, eliminating the superstar. She had pitched five spades and thus seemed to have started with five hearts—or was that a logical assumption to make? Could Blondie hold six spades to the ace—and still lead a heart? Seven to the ace?

Surely not seven. The Hog boldly led a small spade off dummy, aware that it might cost him thirty-two thousand dollars, and potentially more.

Superstar was not fooled. He knew the Hog held the queen of clubs. His partner's only chance at a trick was the queen of hearts. What else could she have been protecting by pitching away all of those spades? If he won the ace, the Hog would win the spade return, cash the club and finesse in hearts. The contract would make, and he would advance to the opening leader's seat and this crazy blonde bimbo would be gone. He played the ace.

"Regis, at this point I'd like to use a lifeline," said the Hog.

"But Hog, Hog," stuttered Regis, "you've got twelve tricks at this point. Thirty-two thousand dollars! Why rock the boat now?"

"I'd like to ask him to play something else."

"Well, OK fine," said Regis. "You must play another spade if you have one."

At this, superstar slumped back in his chair and tossed the seven of spades onto the table. The Hog won the king as Blondie pitched the ten of clubs. The Hog played the queen of clubs and Blondie nonchalantly tossed away her ten of hearts, but it was too late: the Hog threw her in with the low heart, won the return with the king and won the last trick with the jack. The Hog had thirty-two grand, and Blondie was still around to help him!

Aware that he was on-camera, the expert bowed to Blondie and congratulated her for keeping the nine of hearts. It was a great line that later got a big laugh from the cognoscenti in the vugraph room. Regis announced that the Hog and Blondie would be back the following day to continue.

A rumor claimed that the Hog had dinner (and perhaps more than dinner) with Blondie that evening. HHIT would neither confirm nor deny. "We did score 56% in the Continuous Pairs," he said, adding that this required considerable brilliance on his part.

[Next issue: HHIT goes for the million!]

Auctions to Watch For

H.K. Ho's Transfer Precision system

The words "general approach" on a convention card refer to the distinguishing characteristics of a bidding system. The WBF recognizes four basic types of general approaches: systems such as "2/1" or "standard" where one-level opening bids are natural, "forcing club" systems where 1♣ is the only forcing bid and shows extras, "Polish Club"—type systems where the 1♣ opener may show several different types of hands, and HUMs ("highly unusual methods") such as "fert" systems, where pass shows more than actually bidding.

Most are familiar with standard systems, and we printed a capsule summary of the Polish Club system a few years ago when Mr. Jez first unleashed his friends upon the local duplicate scene. HUMs are normally not allowed in ACBL play. (You could purchase a bridge club and decide to let people play them, but you'd lose money by doing so.) On the forcing club front, a recent submission to the *Matchpointer* detailed a local variant of Precision. Since we haven't room to print it all, I'll summarize it for you.

Transfer Precision is a system developed by H.K. Ho, with assistance from Don Keith, Kenny Chan and Ted Lai. H.K. has documented the system to about 90 full size pages of system notes, examples, and quizzes. If you are interested in the full deal after reading this summary, you might ask him for a copy by calling 945-9383.

The main differences between Transfer Precision and "Garden Variety" Precision are a slightly stronger 1♣ (17 HCP and 3 controls: ace=2, king=1, are required), and a major shift in meaning of the responses to the strong 1♣ opener. 1♦ is still artificial and negative, but the bids 1♥ thru 2♦ are all *transfers*, with a meaning analogous to the next bid up in normal Precision. Using 1♥ to show a positive response with spades requires a 2♦ response to show hearts, which may be a slight disadvantage.

The objective here seems to be to begin the attempt to right-side the contract with the response to 1♣. When you open 1♣ in Precision and hear a positive response in one of your suits, you have found a fit—but the responder, usually 6-12 points weaker, will be the declarer, having bid the suit first. Precision auctions beginning 1♣—INT are similarly awkward, since often they end in notrump and again the responder is declarer.

In Transfer Precision these auctions do not happen. Positive responses of 1♥, INT, 2♣ and 2♦ show the next suit up, while 1♠ shows a balanced positive. Because the club opener is slightly stronger than in

regular Precision, opener can with support immediately jump to game in the suit, which right-sides the auction. This frees the completion of the transfer to be used as an asking bid:

Opener: 1♣ (17+, 3+ controls, artificial)
Responder: 1♥ (8+, 5+ spades)
Opener: 4♣ (signoff)
...or: 1♠ (3+ spades, asking bid)

The asking bid of 1♠ immediately pinpoints responder's trump length and quality. Similar, but slightly different sequences exist over the other transfer responses to the strong club opener.

Opener: 1♣ (17+, 3+ controls, artificial)
Responder: 2♦ (8+, 5+ hearts)
Opener: 4♥ (signoff)
...or: 2♥ (3+ hearts, asking bid)

Auctions where the responder and the opener are balanced are carefully saved for the stronger opening hand to declare with the transfer 1♠ and 2♣ responses:

Opener: 1♣ (17+, 3+ controls, artificial)
Responder: 1♠ (8-13, no 5 card suit)

Opener can rebid 3NT or can make an asking bid about strength and four-card suits by rebidding INT. He can bid a new suit with a five-carder, or raise spades if he has five of them.

Of course, there are times when partner's transfer response is going to be in opener's suit, a sort of accidental backfire of the system. In standard systems the contracts tend to be right-sided because both opener's and responder's first bids are natural. In Precision, after a 1♣ opener, the responder's first bid is the first natural one, leading often to declaring from the weaker side. In Transfer Precision, the first natural bid is usually opener's rebid. Transfer Precision players feel this is an improvement.

The system deals with interference in the usual way, but one opposing tactic which might work well against the system is to take more aggressive action with the 1♣ bidder on your left. After 1♣—1♥, showing spades, the fourth-chair opponent has extra bids available. 1♠ might be used as a take-out of spades (the suit shown), and double might be reserved to show hearts, or to indicate a heart lead, since the 1♣ opener will usually end up declaring.

If this sort of bidding technology (from which this capsule report just scratches the surface) interests you, why not ask H.K. for a look at the material he has spent many hours in writing? In writing this report, I saw only the preface and the chapter on 1♣ openers and continuations. I'm sure there are as many new and interesting wrinkles over the other opening bids as there are in the chapter dealing with the Transfer Precision 1♣ opener.

How To Get A Bottom Without Really Trying

by Sylvia-in-Training

This hand really happened! All that is changed are the directions to protect the innocent and the players to protect the guilty! What is more, both North and South were relatively experienced players.

North had a very legitimate 1♥ opener and South had a very good hand with only one heart. He decided that he would show the strength of his hand a little later so made what he thought was a perfectly normal response of 2♣. North felt he should show both the strength and the shape of his hand, so he thought a rebid of 3♥ would tell partner just what he had.

South also thought it was time to tell partner just what he had so elected to now bid his second suit. It was at this stage of the proceedings that everything seemed to get out of control. North was convinced that partner had a good two-suited hand so asked for aces, playing regular Blackwood. Even though they had all the aces, North thought that 6♣ was the right contract and placed the contract there.

Board 9	Dir: North Vul: E-W	NORTH ♠ Q5 ♥ AQJ652 ♦ Q4 ♣ AJT	6♣ by South Lead: 3♦
WEST		SOUTH ♠ AKT9 ♥ 3 ♦ A6 ♣ KQ9532	EAST ♠ 876 ♥ K84 ♦ J8752 ♣ 76

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

cards there, he started trumps by leading dummy's five, and when it was covered with the six, he took the finesse and lost to West's jack.

That was the last trick for the defense. Declarer won the "obvious" diamond return, drew trumps and made six clubs, two diamonds, a heart and three spades for the slam. The fact that the rest of the room was playing in either 5♣ or 6♣ did not change the outright bottom we earned.

This may be one of the greatest "fixes" in duplicate bridge history!

—Louis Landau

Labour Day Squeeze

by Ernie Dietrich

Playing over at Louis Landau's Labour Day Monday morning game (with a lousy turnout of 34 tables, two 17-table sections), this deal appeared on our last round. I was North and my reliable partner Yuko Fujieda was South.

Board 20	Dir: West Vul: Both	NORTH-Ernie ♠ AKQJT42 ♥ A3 ♦ KT73 ♣ T	6NT by South Lead: T♠
WEST		SOUTH-Yuko ♠ 8 ♥ QJ2 ♦ A942 ♣ AQJ76	EAST ♠ 763 ♥ 96 ♦ J5 ♣ K98532

After West opened a *weak* 2♥, we arrived at 6NT by Yuko. West led the T♠. Yuko won in dummy and floated the T♣, winning. Now she played a diamond to her ace, cashed her A♣, pitching a diamond from dummy, and led the Q♥. West covered and she won the ace in dummy. She now ran spades coming to this ending:

♠ 2 ♥ 3 ♦ KT ♣ —

♠ — ♥ T8 ♦ Q8 ♣ — ♠ — ♥ 9 ♦ J ♣ K9

♠ — ♥ J9 ♦ 92 ♣ —

On the last spade Yuko discarded the 2♦ and West was finished. He actually threw the 8♥. Yuko cashed the K♦ and then a heart to her jack made the 2♥ good for +1470!

Well played and deserving of her 25 top. The early club play almost guaranteed twelve tricks even if it lost.

Give Me A Hand

by Joerg Schneider

The following hand, which is **not** computer-dealt, occurred at Gilbert Lambert's game one Friday evening.

Board 17 Dir: North Vul: None	NORTH-Pat ♠ x x ♥ Q x x ♦ AK J x x ♣ K x x	6♠* by East Lead: A♥
WEST-Debbie ♠ K x x x ♥ T 9 8 x x x ♦ — ♣ T x x	SOUTH-Joerg ♠ — ♥ AK x ♦ Q x x ♣ AQ J x x x x	EAST-John ♠ A Q J T x x x ♥ J ♦ T x x x x ♣ —

At our table the auction was:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Debbie	Pat	John	Joerg
	1NT (1)	4♠	6♣
Pass! (2)	Pass	6♦!	Double
6♣	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass (3)	Pass	

- (1) 13-15 HCP with no four-card major
- (2) Surprising under the circumstances: surely on that bidding 6♣ looks cold with West on lead, unless she was hoping it would go spade to the ace, diamond return...
- (3) After some agonizing.

My lead was the ace of hearts, after which the contract cannot be defeated. I thought at first that underleading the ace-king of hearts (sure!) would work, followed by a trump from partner—not so. John wins the ace in hand, crossruffs for four tricks in the red suits, leads a trump to the king and there are three good hearts in dummy for diamond pitches. The only lead to beat the contract is any diamond, after John's clever 6♦ bid not so easy to find! Now East gets his seven spades plus four ruffs for only eleven tricks.

Plus 100 would have been a smaller zero than the -1210 we received (actually both were worth about one or two matchpoints.) Even if Pat bids 7♣ (which could go down when 6♣ cannot make) Debbie would bid 7♣, still a bad result for us.

At most tables North opened 1♦, playing 15-17 no-trumps. East overcalled 1 or 2 or 3 spades and South competed in clubs. The final contract was six of a black suit with an occasional 7♣. On a standard auction a diamond lead is easier to find!

Now, a word about the hand taken from Unit 430's victorious GNT team in Anaheim.

Board 24 Dir: West Vul: None	NORTH ♠ Q 8 3 ♥ AK Q 6 5 ♦ 5 2 ♣ A T 7	4♥ by North Lead: 4♦
WEST-Insa ♠ K 9 4 ♥ J ♦ A Q J T 9 8 6 3 ♣ 8	SOUTH ♠ A 6 2 ♥ 7 4 ♦ — ♣ K Q J 9 6 5 4 3	EAST-Tai ♠ J T 7 5 ♥ T 9 8 3 2 ♦ K 7 4 ♣ 2

Defending 4♥, Tai opened a diamond and then chastised himself for not finding the spade switch. He needn't have done so, after the diamond lead the hand can no longer be beaten. Insa must hold the K♣ for the opening bid, so: ruff the opening lead, club to the ace, diamond ruff, small spade towards the queen. If Insa wins (ducking cannot gain), declarer wins the diamond return (a spade or trump is no better), and plays three rounds of trumps, leaving:

♠ Q 3 ♥ 6 ♦ — ♣ T 7

♠ 9 4 ♥ — ♦ AQ 6 ♣ — ♠ JT 7 ♥ T 9 ♦ — ♣ —

♠ A 6 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ K Q J

Declarer now plays club winners and all Tai makes is his two heart tricks. To beat 4♥ Tai must lead anything but a diamond. A clairvoyant small heart is best, even the ten of hearts will do, or a club, robbing North of a vital entry for the second diamond ruff, or a spade. With Insa holding the J♥, the defense gets a spade, two trumps and a diamond.

The errant lead was not a large factor when the other team went for 800 in a phantom 7♦ sacrifice at the other table. But what if they had guessed right and allowed Gilbert to play the impossible 7♣? The potential swing was 24 IMPs on the deal, from 14 to Tai's team (for beating 4♥ while the teammates made 6♣) to losing 10 (for allowing four hearts to make while going down one in 7♣).

North Shore Winter Club Bridge

1325 E. Keith Road,
North Vancouver
Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
(pairs)

Louis Landau 984-8309

Arbutus Village Bridge Club

Arbutus Village Recreation Centre
28-4255 Arbutus Street, Vancouver
BY INVITATION ONLY
coffee, tea, cookies
Thursdays at 7:30 pm sharp
Anne Nagy 271-0720

Book Review

by Greg Morse

Have all of your bridge decisions lately been wrong? Feeling down because for the last month you've struggled to crack 40%? I have just the book for you, *Famous Bridge Disasters* by David Bird.

Of course the reason David wrote the book (wink wink) is because we can all learn from the mistakes of the masters, but when my game is in the rust bucket, the real fun in reading this one comes from watching Garrozzo, Belladonna, Meckwell, Sabine Zenkel, and the Hackett twins screw up. The way Bird puts it, "... Perhaps we can find someone to blame on this next hand..."

Take the story about the tournament in Brazil where 8 out of 13 pairs bid the grand slam missing one key-card. As Boris Shapiro explained in his write up, it was most unfortunate that the trump Ace was offside; such bad luck could happen to anyone.

The book is divided into chapters with headings like "Disastrous Doubles", "Disastrous Bidding Misunderstandings", "Disastrous Declarer Play" and "Disastrous Defense". All hands are taken from top level tournament play, and all the guilty parties are clearly identified.

My favorite is the diagrammed hand, not so much for the fact that it represents the largest penalty ever recorded in an International Tournament, as for the incredible *sang-froid* displayed by the hapless declarer in the post mortem.

The explanation for the wild auction:

- (1) 17+ HCP, artificial
- (2) Showing diamonds and spades, or clubs and hearts
- (3) Natural, 8+ HCP, 5+ diamonds
- (4) Assuming, in light of West's bid, South had hearts and clubs
- (5) Showing spades and diamonds
- (6) North didn't want to give a preference to diamonds with West having shown five. The redouble was intended as SOS in case South had a hand not consistent with his bidding. How many tricks do you think South took in 3♣ redoubled?

Board 10	Dir: East Vul: Both	NORTH-Sowter ♠ J ♥ JT864 ♦ JT753 ♣ 65	3♣** by South Lead: A♣
WEST		SOUTH-Smolksi ♠ 87653 ♥ K9 ♦ AK6 ♣ 932	EAST ♠ KQT942 ♥ AQ32 ♦ — ♣ AQJ
♠ A ♥ 75 ♦ Q9842 ♣ KT874			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2♦ (3)	3♥ (4)	1♣ (1)	1NT (2)
Pass	Pass	Double	3♣ (5)
Pass	Redouble (6)	All Pass	Pass

The last three cards (West to lead):

♠ — ♥ J ♦ JT ♣ —

♠ — ♥ 5 ♦ Q ♣ 4

♠ — ♥ AQ3 ♦ — ♣ —

♠ — ♥ K9 ♦ A ♣ —

On the 4♣ lead Declarer must give up a stopper and lose the last three tricks. 3♣ redoubled, down nine vulnerable scores minus 5200!

Smolksi's teammate arrived from the other room, with a big smile on his face. "I think you are going to like this one," he said when the fateful board was reached, "plus 1460."

"Ah, well done," Smolksi replied. "You've saved an IMP. 23 away."

There, feel better now?

Bud Creelman

1924-2000

The Vancouver Bridge Centre is an enigma—comprising of a group of individuals and characters who would probably never meet if it wasn't for bridge. After playing together on a regular basis, an obscure bond forms, and with

that, the caring and acceptance of each other.

One of our well-loved characters recently passed away, and for those who knew him, he will be surely missed. He was an ambassador to bridge and the Bridge Centre. Even though he never fully grasped the idea that 2NT rarely meant 2NT, he certainly grasped the more important sides

of life—like: always being up and friendly (no matter what his own problems were), making sure the newcomer felt comfortable, never missing a stop at Purdy's on Valentines and Christmas and generally being a truly wonderful "nice" person.

We will miss him—but to all those people he touched—he will leave lots of fond memories.

Someone Special

Bud Creelman

(November 17, 1924—August 26, 2000.)

All of us meet new people each and every day. Most are quickly forgotten, others we will get to know better over time, but only a select few will have major impact on our lives. Bud Creelman was one of the latter.

I first met Bud during the final months of the Haida Bridge Club, circa 1991, before its transition into the Vancouver Bridge Centre. Haida's Monday night novice game had languished for several years. Having just taken over the bridge club, rebuilding the novice game was a top priority. Bud was one of those newer players we were able to attract to that game.

Bud possessed a genuine fondness for people and a love of the game of bridge that was contagious. His warmth, enthusiasm, and enjoyment of bridge provided an outstanding role model and demonstrated to all how to have fun. Over the next three years, with Bud's regular attendance, the novice game grew. But Bud's health weakened and he was unable to continue playing. During his absence, attendance at the novice game shrunk.

In August 1996, the Bridge Centre launched a game for new players on Wednesday morning. Much to everyone's delight Bud was back playing regularly in this game. His special charm contributed hugely to the success of this launch. Over the next four years this game continued to grow and now runs 12-14 ta-

bles every week. Bud's influence has spread throughout the Bridge Centre's intermediate/novice program, reinvigorating all its games. For example, in just the first nine months of this year, I/N attendance at the Bridge Centre is triple the total of all 1996.

In recognition of Bud's contribution in the development of the I/N program at the Bridge Centre, he was proclaimed an honorary VBC Ambassador of Bridge on July 28, 2000, during the 11th Annual Hands Across the Border visit of touring American bridge players from Finesse West Tours.

Bud was a retired fireman, a member of the Power Squadron, and he enjoyed feeding the birds at the George C. Reifel Bird Sanctuary in Ladner. He arranged for name tags to be made for VBC regular I/N Bridge Centre players. He always had chocolates for the ladies on Valentine's Day and on Mothers' Day. His easy nature and good humour were constants regardless of good or bad results at the table.

On September 16, 2000, the Bud Creelman Memorial game raised \$623.69 for the benefit the Canadian Diabetes Association and the ACBL Educational Foundation Library Books Program. The donations to the ACBL Educational Foundation will enable bridge books to be placed in Vancouver area libraries in memory of Bud Creelman. Henceforth, the Vancouver Bridge Centre plans to award a Bud Creelman trophy to the cumulative winner of the most masterpoints in VBC I/N Club Championship games each calendar year.

—Eugene Chan

Vancouver Bridge Centre

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

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday	7:30pm	Intermediate, 0-300 MP Stratified
Tuesday	10:45am	Stratified Open—Inexpensive Lunch
	7:30pm	Tuesday Night Jackpot Stratified
Wednesday	10:45 am	Adventures in Duplicate, 0-200 MP
<i>new time</i> →	7:00 pm	Stratified: both LMs A, one B, none C
Thursday	7:30 pm	Rookie Game 0-20 MP Stratified
	7:30 pm	Thursday Night Stratified Open
Friday	10:45 am	Stratified Open—Inexpensive Lunch
	7:30 pm	Lucky Number Jackpot Open
Saturday	7:30 pm	Unit Game (first Sat. each month)
Sunday	1:00 pm	Sunday Open Stratified, featuring Monthly Winners Free Play Games & Monthly Mish-Mash Swiss Teams

Bridge Centre Special Event Highlights

Last Friday each month: TGIF Party Game & bidding contest

Have you qualified yet? COPC Club Qualifying Games: Tuesday Nov 14 (evening), Thu Dec 7. CNTC Master/Non-master Swiss Teams Qualifying: Sun Nov 26; Regular Qualifying Game: Sat Jan 13. Watch for GNT qualifiers in 2001.

First Overall in a Strat at Surrey Sectional? Come enjoy a game on the house at Sectional Winners Free Play Night. Tuesday November 7.

Won A Game at the Bridge Centre? Play in our Monthly Winners Game, free for winners in the previous month. Nov 12 for October winners. Dec 3 for November winners.

Aidan Ballantyne 4-week lesson series: begins November 20.

VBC Holiday Bash: Friday December 15, watch for details.

VBC Half-Price Week: December 4th — 10th.

Closed December 24-25, December 31. Happy Holidays!

VBC heaters work well; dress cool to stay cool!

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Unit 430 Weekly Duplicate Game List

Most recent update: October 29, 2000. Not including invitation-only clubs.

Day	Time	Club	Director	Game Details	Next CC	Most Recent Club Champions
Mon	10:00	VCR	L. Landau	Open stratified	TBA, 2001	Ev Hodge/Donna Morrison
	10:45	BBY	H. Dressler	Open stratified	unknown	Helen Montgomery/Delphine Tablotney
	7:15	SRY	A. Browning	Open (1st Mon: stratified)	unknown	unreported
	7:15	TSW	R. Dunn	Open (last Mon: stratified)	TBA, 2001	Marguerite Wiggins/Gloria Prescott
	7:30	CWK	B. Percher	Open (last Mon: stratified)	11 Dec	Doug & Donna Steinson
	7:30	SQU	W. Jonat	Open (1st Mon: Handicap, 3rd Mon: Trophy race game)	Closed July 3–Sept 4	
	7:30	HBN	L. Landau	Open stratified	unknown	unreported
	7:30	VBC	B. Bart	0-300 MP, stratified	TBA, 2001	unreported
Tue	10:45	VBC	B. Russell	Open stratified	TBA, 2001	unreported
	11:00	S-W	F. Schultz	Open	unknown	unreported
	7:30	NSW	L. Landau	Open stratified	unknown	unreported
	7:30	BBY	H. Dressler	Open stratified	unknown	Phyllis Gerber/Jill Wainborn
	7:30	VBC	A. Ballantyne	Open stratified	28 Nov	Julien Lévesque/Armando Andreoli
Wed	10:00	VCR	L. Landau	Open stratified	15 Nov	John Ashwell/Amir Alibhai
	10:30	HAS	M. Scott	Open stratified	unknown	unreported
	10:45	VBC	B. Russell	0-200 MP, stratified	6 Dec	unreported
	7:00	VBC	E. Chan	Strat. by # of LMs: <i>new time</i>	unknown	unreported
	7:15	WRK	A. Browning	Open (last Wed: stratified)	unknown	unreported
	7:15	VCR	L. Landau	Open stratified	13 Dec	Keith & Rose Milfer
	7:30	C.R	A. Yallouz	Open stratified	15 Nov	unreported
	7:30	M-R	B. Percher	Open stratified	27 Sep	Held after Matchpointer deadline
Thu	11:00	JCC	C. Delisle	Open stratified	unknown	unreported
	7:15	NWR	G. Lambert	Open stratified	14 Dec	Ina Anderson, Hobert Liang, Kathy Adachi, Danny Lee
	7:30	MIS	B. Percher	Open stratified	14 Sep	Brian Lee/Ken Cowherd
	7:30	VBC	E. Chan	0-20 MP	30 Nov	unreported
	7:30	VBC	G. Davis	Open stratified	30 Nov	unreported
Fri	10:45	VBC	B. Russell	Open stratified	TBA, 2001	unreported
	7:30	ABB	B. Percher	Open stratified	15 Dec	unreported
	7:30	PKB	W. Jez	Alternate Fridays: see club ad for dates: Reopens Sept 1. Not ACBL-affiliated.		
	7:30	S-D	G. Lambert	Open stratified	27 Oct	Garry Skoropada, Ernie Dietrich, Albert & Nadia Yallouz
	7:30	VBC	E. Chan	Open (last Fri: TGIF Party)	TBA, 2001	unreported
Sat	7:30	VBC	L. Landau	Monthly Unit Game, open stratified, first Sat. each month (exception: Oct 14)		
Sun	1:00	RMD	E. Dietrich	Open (1st Sun: stratified)	10 Dec	Catriona Henning/Pat Landau
	1:00	VBC	E. Chan	Open stratified	19 Nov	unreported

Please check the listings on the next page for special events and club closures before attending club games.

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Special Events at Clubs

November 5—December 25, 2000

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
3-5 Nov			Round-Up Sectional at Day's Inn in Surrey: most clubs closed.
6 Nov	7:15	SRY	Monthly Stratified Game
6 Nov	7:15	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
6 Nov	7:30	TSW	CBF Stratified Charity Game
7 Nov	7:30	VBC	Sectional Winners Play Free!
9 Nov	7:15	NWR	ACBL Membership Game
10 Nov	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
10 Nov	7:30	S-D	ACBL Membership Game
12 Nov	1:00	RMD	Monthly Stratified Game

Club Abbreviations and Contacts

Abbr	Club Name	Club Contact	Phone No.	Page
ABB	Abbotsford DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	20
ARB	Arbutus Village BC (invitation only)	Anne Nagy	271-0720	15
BBY	Burnaby DBC	Hazel Dressler	524-4445	21
C.R	Central Richmond BC	Albert Yallouz	321-1891	20
CWK	Chilliwack DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	20
HAS	Hastings BC	Marianne Scott	298-3932	20
HBN	Hollyburn BC	Louis Landau	984-8309	29
JCC	Jewish Comm. Ctr. DBC	Connie Delisle	263-9196	21
MIS	Mission DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	20
M-R	Maple Ridge DBC	Bob Percher	792-4389	20
NWR	New-West BC	Gilbert Lambert	535-8286	21
NSW	North Shore Winter Club	Louis Landau	984-8309	15
PKB	Polish Bridge Club (non-ACBL)	Waldemar Jez	527-8854	21
RMD	East Richmond BC	Ernie Dietrich	936-2298	21
S-D	Sur-Del BC	Gilbert Lambert	535-8286	21
S-W	South-West DBC	Finn Schultz	534-5025	21
SRY	South Surrey BC	Arlene Browning	870-9300	20
SQU	Squamish DBC	Lorraine Hurren	898-2702	29
TSW	Tswassen BC	Richard Dunn	940-9809	20
VBC	Vancouver Bridge Centre	Club telephone: 255-2564		17
VCR	Vancouver Bridge Club	Louis Landau	984-8309	29
WRK	White Rock BC	Arlene Browning	870-9300	20

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
12 Nov	7:30	VBC	October Winners Play Free!
13 Nov	10:00	VCR	Remembrance Day Party Game
14 Nov	7:30	VBC	COPC Club Qualifying Game
15 Nov	10:00	VCR	Club Championship Game
15 Nov	7:30	C.R	Club Championship Game
17 Nov	7:30	S-D	Ken Holland Memorial Club Championship Game
18 Nov	7:30	VBC	Monthly Unit Game (penultimate game of 2000)
19 Nov	1:00	RMD	ACBL Membership Game
19 Nov	1:00	VBC	Club Championship Game
20 Nov	7:15	SRY	Charity Trophy Game
20 Nov	7:30	SQU	Monthly Trophy Race Game
20 Nov	7:30	VBC	ACBL-wide Charity Game
20 Nov	7:30	VBC	First night of four-week lesson series by Aidan Ballantyne
22 Nov	10:00	VCR	ACBL Membership Game
24 Nov	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
24 Nov	7:30	VBC	TGIF Party Game
26 Nov	1:00	VBC	CNTC Master/Non-Master Club Qualifying Game
27 Nov	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
28 Nov	7:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
29 Nov	10:30	HAS	Membership Game
29 Nov	7:15	WRK	Monthly Stratified Game
30 Nov	7:15	NWR	Swiss Teams
30 Nov	7:30	VBC	Two Club Championship Games Open and 0-20, both stratified
2 Dec	5:30		Unit Christmas Party & Final Monthly Unit Game, Bonsor Community Centre (Dinner 6:00, Game 7:30—for tickets, contact Julien Lévesque 254-1334.)
<i>(details on back cover)</i>			
3 Dec	—	RMD	Closed—site unavailable
3 Dec	1:00	VBC	November Winners Play Free!
4 Dec	7:15	SRY	Monthly Stratified Game
4 Dec	7:15	TSW	ACBL Membership Game
4 Dec	7:15	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
4-10 Dec		VBC	Half-Price Week
6 Dec	10:45	VBC	0-200 Club Championship Game
7 Dec	7:30	VBC	COPC Club Qualifying Game
8 Dec	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
8 Dec	7:30	S-D	Christmas Party Charity Game
10 Dec	1:00	RMD	Stratified Club Championship
11 Dec	10:00	VCR	Day Games Christmas Party
11 Dec	7:30	CWK	Club Championship Game and Christmas Party
13 Dec	10:00	VCR	Club Championship Game
13 Dec	10:45	VBC	ACBL Membership Game
13 Dec	7:30	VBC	Evening Christmas Party Game
13 Dec	7:30	M-R	Club Championship Game and Christmas Party

(continued on page 20)

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

(Special Events at Clubs, continued from page 19)

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
14 Dec	7:15	NWR	Club Championship Game and Christmas Party
14 Dec	7:30	MIS	Club Championship Game and Christmas Party
15 Dec	7:30	ABB	Club Championship Game and Christmas Party
15 Dec	7:30	VBC	Holiday Bash (watch for details, pre-registration may be required)
17 Dec	1:00	RMD	Christmas Party
17 Dec	1:00	VBC	Monthly Mish-Mash Swiss Teams

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
18 Dec	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
18 Dec	7:30	SQU	Monthly Trophy Race Game
22 Dec	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
24 Dec	1:00	RMD	Christmas Eve Game
24 Dec	1:00	VBC	Closed for Christmas Eve

ADVANCE NOTICE

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
31 Dec	1:00	RMD	New Year's Eve Game
31 Dec	1:00	VBC	Closed for New Year's Eve
13 Jan	1:00	VBC	CNTC Club Qualifying Game

TSAWWASSEN BRIDGE CLUB

South Delta Rec. Centre, 1720 56th Street

Richard Dunn: 940-9809

e-mail: tswbridge@hotmail.com

Mondays at 7:15 pm

Two Separate games: open and 0-5MP

Stratified Game last Monday of each month.

Big Score! Aug 28: 77.08% by **Rae Fee** and **Bachan Buttar** (who made LM Sept 18).

November 6: Charity Game

December 4: ACBL Membership Game

Hastings Bridge Club

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

Marianne Scott 298-3932

Wednesdays at 10:30 am sharp

Nov 29 Membership Game Dec 27 Club Championship

Central Richmond Bridge Club

7891 Cambie Road, Richmond (Rod & Gun Club)
coffee & goodies computer scoring

Albert Yallouz 321-1891

Wednesdays at 7:30 pm sharp

November 15: Stratified Club Championship

South Surrey Bridge Club

1284 184th Street, South Surrey
(Semlahmoo 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

Coming Events November 20: Charity Trophy Game

White Rock Bridge Club

Sunnyside Community Centre
1854 154th St., White Rock

Arlene Browning 1-604-870-9300

Partnerships: Pat Wotherspoon 535-1964

Wednesdays at 7:15 pm

Stratified Game last Wednesday of each month

Nov 8: Club Championship Game

The Valley Clubs Bob Percher 792-4389 Partners always guaranteed!

Chilliwack

Senior Recreation Centre
9400 College Street

Mondays, 7:30pm

Stratified game last

Monday of each month

Dec 11: Christmas Party and
Club Championship Game

Maple Ridge

Ridge Meadows Seniors
Activity Centre

12148 224th Street

Wednesdays, 7:30pm

Dec 13: Christmas Party and

Club Championship Game

Mission

New site since September:

33529 Catherwood St.

Thursdays, 7:30pm

Dec 14: Christmas Party and

Club Championship Game

Abbotsford

McCallum Activity Centre

2478 McCallum Road

Fridays, 7:30pm

Dec 15: Christmas Party and

Club Championship Game

☆☆ Jewish Community Centre Bridge Club ☆☆

950 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver

Thursdays at 11 am All players welcome!

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

Partnerships: Marge Groberman 266-7222

Polski Klub Brydzowy

Polish Combatant Centre

1134 Kingsway, Vancouver

Waldemar Jez 527-8854

Alternate Fridays at 7:30pm

BY INVITATION ONLY

Game dates: November 10, 24, December 8, 22

The Polski Klub Brydzowy celebrated its fifth anniversary recently! Thanks to all of our members for your support!



East Richmond Bridge Club

7891 Cambie (at River Road), Richmond

(Richmond Rod & Gun Club)

Ernie Dietrich 936-2298

\$5.00 entry includes lunch

Sundays at 1:00 pm

First Sunday of each month is stratified

Closed Nov. 5 (sectional) and Dec 3 (site unavailable)

November 19: ACBL Membership Game

December 10: Club Championship (stratified)

December 17: Christmas Party

Open December 24 and 31!

COPC Winners: John & Trudy Hurdle

SUBURBIA CLUBS Gilbert Lambert 535-8286

New Westminster Bridge Club

Century House

620 8th Street

New Westminster

Thursdays 7:15 pm

November 9: ACBL
Membership Game

November 30: Swiss Teams

Dec. 14: Christmas Party Pot

Luck Club Championship

Closed Dec. 28, Open Jan. 4

Sur-Del Bridge Club

St Cuthbert Anglican Church

11601 82nd Ave.

North Delta

Fridays 7:30 pm

November 10: ACBL
Membership Game

Nov 17: Ken Holland Memorial
Trophy Club Champ.

Dec 8: Christmas Party Pot

Luck Annual Charity Game

Closed Dec. 29, Open Jan. 5

Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club

1491 Carleton Ave., Burnaby

Hazel Dressler 524-4445

Mondays

10:45 am

Tuesdays

7:30 pm

IMP League matches welcome (call first).

South-West Duplicate Bridge Club

White Rock Elks Club, 1469 George Street

Finn Schultz, 534-5025 Tuesdays at 11:00 am

ICBC Claims

Personal Injury Cases

Commercial Litigation

Gregory J. Arbour

Barrister & Solicitor

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

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It's Your Bid

August 2000 Responses and Scores

OK, let me explain, folks. The front cover of your *Matchpointer* contains a flap on the right hand side that you can cut off with no detriment to the magazine. None at all. In fact, it looks rather nice with the coloured cover and the white sidebar.

When you remove the flap you can fill it out and send it in for a chance at prizes. We're taking a short break from *It's Your Bid* this time to give everyone a chance to predict the IMP League final standings. But next time we'll come back to the bidding quiz. In the meantime, those who don't like the problems I set last time are free to send in problems of their own. I may even use them.

We had only seventeen responses this time, and I hope that by the December issue we can have some boxes in place at clubs other than the VBC for entries. 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. Several have complained about this, but in bidding contests the objective is to find the best bid, not necessarily the one that worked when the problem appeared. We will however, let you know when the right answer wasn't the highest-scoring answer as a consolation.

Question 1. (IMPs, we're vul.)

♠ KQT982 ♥ - ♦ 986542 ♣ 9

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

A prime example of why you should send in bidding problems to the editor—this problem didn't bring in the desired wide range of responses. Most were not afraid to believe in partner's bidding, odd as it may have seemed:

Ron Borg: Pass. Partner, with 9 or 10 cards in the rounded suits, may be a bit grumpy if you pull this penalty double. Interesting lead problem.

The Hideous Hog (in Training): Pass. If there is logic behind partner's bids this will go down. Plus scores tend to be better than minus scores at IMPs.

Victor Finberg: Under what circumstances is he permitted to pass the unusual NT? He should have good control of the heart and club suits. In any case, North has made the decision; South should PASS. Any

further action by South would be equivalent to telling North: "Your judgment is wrong."

Larry Meyer: 4♣. My bids were based on shape—I'm taking at most one trick on defense. Can partner, who passed 1♣, take three or four? I doubt it.

CALL	VOTES (A-B-C: TOTAL)	AWARD
Pass	7-3-5: 15	100
4♣	0-1-1: 2	5

Source: Bridge Baron 10, deal #188792153. Partner's hand:

♠ A7 ♥ Q962 ♦ KT7 ♣ KJ76

It was close, but 4♥ went one down, declarer losing two spades, the K♣, and one more in the wash: he can pick up the heart suit, but at the cost of entries to dummy, forcing him to concede a trick in clubs or diamonds.

Leaderboard: Almost everyone is tied with 100 at this point. (Sorry, Larry.)

Question 2. (again IMPs, we're vul.)

♠ AK ♥ A942 ♦ KJ4 ♣ AT54

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Pass	Pass	1♦*
Pass	1♣	2♣	???

*1♦: poorly-timed "deceptive weak minor" opener. Double here shows 3-card spade support.

The Hideous Hog (in Training): Double anyhow. I have minimum 3-card support. My 4♣ was in with my spades—why else would I open 1♦?

Brad Bart: Only Bruce McIntyre would open 1♦ with those cards!

Er, uh, a misclick? (Yes, it's another hand from computer bridge.) Anyway, Michael Rosenberg writes in *Bridge, Zia...and Me* that he chooses minor suit openings based on his own secret rules to keep opponents guessing, so maybe I have some company.

Ron Borg: 2NT—the bid I would have made without interference.

Harold Hansen: 3NT. For not opening 1♣, I now have to bid 3NT. Too strong for 2NT.

Larry Meyer: 3NT. We've set the trap with our deceptive weak minor opener. Might as well carry through and take our chances.

CALL	VOTES (A-B-C: TOTAL)	AWARD
3NT	5-2-3: 10	100
2NT	1-0-3: 4	22
Double	1-0-0: 10	17
2♥	0-2-0: 2	10

Source: Bridge Baron 10, deal #188792165. Partner's hand:

♠ QT653 ♥ KT863 ♦ T85 ♣ —

3NT has no play on the predictable club lead. Even ducking two rounds of clubs doesn't help—not only does LHO have a third, he has these terrifying tickets:

♠ 2 ♥ QJ75 ♦ AQ932 ♣ J97

You can sneak home in 4♥ with careful play: at least the machine did for a big swing...

Leaderboard: Five people have 200 in Flight A. **Carol Thompson** leads with 200 in Flight B, and two people in Flight C have 200 so far: **David Breton** and **Manuel Espinosa**.

Question 3. (Matchpoints, none vul.)

♠ K5 ♥ A72 ♦ AKQ954 ♣ K6

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

*3♥ here shows a bad hand (6-9 HCP) but a good spade suit.

Not quite enough room on the cover to include the words: "for this hand only..."

Brad Bart: What happened to the "It's Your Bid" bidding system? It said nothing about Ogust. With a choice between spades from my partner's side or no-trump from my side, I'll choose no-trump. 6NT. The opponents always seem to lead the Q♣ whenever I table king-small of clubs.

Ron Borg: 6NT. God would not have provided you with the tools to reach this slam had He not wanted you to bid it.

Harold Hansen: 6NT. This will have a good play if partner has AQ♣, which his 3♥ bid seems to indicate.

The Hideous Hog (in Training): 6♣. If diamonds break 6NT might be better, but any slam will be a good score.

Larry Meyer: 4♠. Optimists will bid 6NT, hoping that pard's good suit is AQxxxx, and that pard also has at least 2 diamonds, and that both suits split. I'm a pessimist. Some of these things will happen, but not all.

CALL	VOTES (A-B-C: TOTAL)	AWARD
6NT	3-2-0: 5	100
6♣	3-0-0: 3	83
3NT	1-1-6: 8	50
4♠	0-1-1: 2	11

Source: East Richmond Bridge Club, August 13, 2000, board 27 in section B, rotated for convenience. Partner's hand:

♠ AQT964 ♥ 3 ♦ T72 ♣ J43

Either slam is cold with partner having three diamonds...this time. Most played in 4♠ for +480 or +510. Top board in nine tries was +520!

Leaderboard: In Flight A, **Brad Bart** and **Harold Hansen** have a perfect score after three questions. **Carol Thompson** still leads with 300 in Flight B, and **David Breton** leads Flight C with 250.

Question 4. (IMPs, we're vul.)

♠ 5 ♥ AJ ♦ AKJ63 ♣ AT953

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

Only seven (!) different answers for this one in seventeen ballots, with a surprise winner.

Ron Borg: 4NT. Keycard for spades! As General Haig said after President Reagan was shot: "I am in command." May get same zero as Haig's command, but nothing else works better. Will bid 6♥ if partner shows one keycard or AK♠, and 7♥ if he shows AKQ♠. There is room in partner's hand for no Q♥, but then he will have the K♣. Besides, don't they always lead trumps against 7 bids, unless they have the queen? The injunction against partner holding perfect hands has been duly considered in these deliberations.

Larry Meyer: 6♥. Partner has reversed and we have three aces, a stiff, and two honors in his first bid suit. With such a poor fit, I'm nervous about seven, but I like our chances in six.

Victor Finberg: There is only one hand including the A♠ that may make only small slam. That holding is Q♦, Q♣, and AQjxx of spades. So if you have the A♠, you will play 7♥, otherwise only 6♥. Bid 4NT to find that ace!

The Hideous Hog (in Training): 4♦. I don't know what this shows but it should fish out a 4♥ call so I can keycard in the right suit.

Brad Bart: 4♥. I am raising hearts, especially after partner patterned out with 5-6 in the majors. I can't deny that 6♥ will make depending on the texture of his majors. With a lot of spot cards, 12 tricks might be possible by establishing the spade suit by some sort of ruffing finesse. In practice, the state of the match will sway my action.

(continued from page 23)

CALL	VOTES (A-B-C: TOTAL)	AWARD
4♥	3-0-0: 3	100
4NT	1-2-2: 5	60
6♥	1-1-2: 4	50
3NT	1-0-1: 2	37
4♦	1-0-0: 1	33
7NT	0-1-0: 1	10
6NT	0-0-1: 1	3

Source: The January 1983 *Matchpointer*. Partner's hand was not divulged by scorer **John Bryden**. Of 14 voters in 1983, there were six different responses, and although 4♥ was not the most popular, it was the 100 point answer by scorer's discretion: "It does make some sense for partner to be keycarding as we have most of the controls and he, presumably, most of the tricks. Bidding hearts at the four level is the only way to bring that about."

Mike Dimich in 1983 decided to bid 7♥: "Partner has reversed and then shown six hearts and five spades; with only a minimum opening he would have opened spades and rebid hearts." **Bryden** responded thus: "I suspect Michael might be a bit shocked at the sort of hand an anonymous expert could give him to play seven hearts with."

I don't know who this anonymous expert might have been, but maybe **Mike Dimich** has since made his acquaintance: seventeen years later, Mike is now bidding 4♥!

Leaderboard: In Flight A, **Brad Bart** has a perfect score after four questions, 17 points ahead of **Mike Dimich** and **Dennis McMahon**. **Carol Thompson** still leads with in Flight B with 310 after bidding a courageous 7NT, but **David Hoocy** has closed to within 40 points. **David Breton** leads Flight C with 253, but **Manuel Espinosa** is close behind with 248.

Question 5. (Matchpoints, both vul.)

♠ QJ532 ♥ K985 ♦ T7 ♣ A8

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	6♦	End

What is your opening lead?

Larry Meyer: 7♦. Lead a trump to protect my spade holding over declarer. I choose the seven because perhaps I will have a chance to overruff declarer in clubs if I keep the T♦.

Victor Finberg: 5♥. Don't expect to beat this slam, but if East likes to gamble, you have a chance to punish him.

Brad Bart: The 5♥ is the normal lead, and it's probably what I would do at the table after my usual 2-30 seconds of thought. But since I have much more time to ponder... I can't believe both opponents are short in hearts. Partner might have preempted or pre-balanced or something with six hearts to the ace-ten. Besides, if we have two cashing aces, then they aren't going to explode given my spade holding. Let's see if East was yanking my chain with his spade bids. I choose a small spade, and note that by doing so, I will probably not be the highest scorer for this issue. < sigh >

CALL	VOTES (A-B-C: TOTAL)	AWARD
small ♥	3-0-3: 6	100
any trump	1-3-2: 6	64
any spade	2-0-0: 2	61
A♣	1-1-1: 3	42

Source: You're not going to like this... This is from a 1998 Friday evening game at the VBC. Declarer had ♠96 ♥AQ32 ♦KQJ95 ♣K7 and was hoping to bamboozle you into not leading a spade, which would be fairly obvious after any auction beginning 1♣-1♦, 2♦-2♥. Guess who the declarer was. (Hint: only a *Matchpointer* editor would ever think of something this devious.)

I recall that my LHO for this coup was **Julien Lévesque**, who confidently led a trump on this auction, and still believes it is correct to do so. He's probably right!

Leaderboard: **Brad Bart** predicted his sad fate above; even with the Hideous Hog's help, smoking out the spade lead was worth only 61, allowing **Mike Dimich** to grab first place and two sectional free plays with a score of 483. Brad was second with 461, and **Dennis McMahon** was third with a score of 425.

In Flight B, **Carol Thompson** wins a sectional and a Monthly Unit Game free play with a score of 352, with **David Hoocy** second at 334 and **Richard Dunn** third at 284.

In Flight C, two more Monthly Unit Game free plays go to repeat-winner **David Breton** with a score of 353. **Manuel Espinosa** lost the photo-finish with a score of 348, and **Victor Finberg** was third with 332.

See you next issue: good luck predicting the IMP League. Send in interesting bidding problems!

The Hideous Hog (in Training): Q♣. Declarer seems to be 5-1-6-1 or 5-2-6-0 so the spade is safe. A trump lead is safer but unlikely to make a dent. I passed after 1♣-1♦? Not in this millennium.

A Two-Edged Sword

by Gilbert Lambert

Preemptive bids can produce spectacular results, and they stay easily in the memories of bridge players. Other conservative bridge writers like Frank Stewart will caution you about pushing opponents into games or slams that they would not have bid otherwise.

The much-discussed hand from the GNT Flight B final in Anaheim is a case in point.

Board 24	Dir: West Vul: None	NORTH	GNT Flight B Final, Anaheim
WEST-Insa		♠ Q83 ♥ AKQ65 ♦ 52 ♣ AT7	EAST-Tai
♠ K94 ♥ J ♦ AQJT9863 ♣ 8		SOUTH	♠ JT75 ♥ T9832 ♦ K74 ♣ 2
		♠ A62 ♥ 74 ♦ — ♣ KQJ96543	

When played at our teammates table, Insa Fricker opened the nine-card diamond suit with a one-bid, then preempted the opponents auction later. North must have played too much matchpoints lately, hence his 4♥ bid instead of raising clubs. Slam was never a consideration at this table.

At our table, the 5♦ opener gave me no choice but to bid 6♣, which is cold. Mike Moffatt thought for a bit and then bid the grand slam, a very good one looking at the North-South hands: only the 5-1 split in hearts beats it. But our opponents believed us and took the sacrifice, going for 800 and a 9 IMP gain for us. Would we have gotten to a slam without this violent preempt? I don't know...

Board 31	Dir: South Vul: N-S	NORTH—Mike	GNT Flight B Final, Anaheim
WEST		♠ KQT432 ♥ AT73 ♦ Q3 ♣ 9	EAST
♠ A8 ♥ KJ65 ♦ 6 ♣ K76542		SOUTH—Gilbert	♠ 976 ♥ Q8 ♦ 9542 ♣ QJT3
		♠ J5 ♥ 942 ♦ AKJT87 ♣ A8	

Seven boards later this hand came up:

Both auctions began 1♦-2♣-2♠. At Tai and Insa's table East chose not to raise clubs and North-South ended in 3NT, down one on a club lead. At our table East chose to jump to 4♣. I had no option but to support partner and we ended in 5♣. A psychic heart lead will beat it, but on the normal club lead Mike won, forced out the ace of trumps and claimed 12 tricks for a swing of 13 IMPs. Again, violent preempt by the opponents led us to a plus score.

Board 3	Dir: South Vul: E-W	NORTH	Red Ribbon Evening session
WEST—Gilbert		♠ 6 ♥ QT52 ♦ A532 ♣ QJ65	EAST
♠ AJT54 ♥ 43 ♦ 6 ♣ 98743		SOUTH	♠ KQ9873 ♥ AK8 ♦ T7 ♣ AK
		♠ 2 ♥ J976 ♦ KQJ984 ♣ T2	

This hand is from the Red Ribbon Pairs:

South began with 3♦ and after I passed North raised to 5♦. Partner now bid 5♣. Have you ever seen an easier six bid before? I haven't! 1430 was worth 35 matchpoints on a 38 top.

I don't claim that you shouldn't preempt. But be aware that sometimes silence is golden!



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Special Event Subsidies

Exposé! The Truth Finally Revealed!

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

In response, the Board was about to instruct me to say that "nothing could be further from the truth" until it was discovered that, in fact, "nothing" is what the Board actually does when it comes time to decide who gets the dough. There is a six-year old policy that decides who gets how much, and the Board consults the policy and gets the treasurer to write the cheques. Once in a blue moon the Board may actually amend the policy for future events only.

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

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

- **NAOP:** The North American Open Pairs, a four-stage pair event which begins with a club qualifying period from June-August, continues with a Unit Final in early fall, a District Final a few weeks after that, and a *National Final at the Spring NABC*. There are currently three separate events, one for unlimited masterpoints, one for players under 2000 MP, and one for non-Life Masters under 500 MP. At qualifying games these three may be stratified together, but at the National Final (and usually at the District Final) they are separate events.

- **GNT:** The Grand National Teams, a three-stage team event which begins with a club qualifying period in the winter, from which players qualify directly to the District Final in the spring. The District winners in each flight (same limits as the NAOP) may play in the National Final at the Summer NABC.

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

- **CNTC:** The Canadian National Team Championship, a three-stage CBF-run team event that begins with club qualifying games in the fall. Qualifying teams may play in the B.C. Zone Final in the spring, and the top 2 or 3 teams are invited to the National Final at CBF Bridge Week. This year a Flight B event has been added for teams of players under 1000 MP.

- **CWTC:** The Canadian Women's Team Championship, a two-stage CBF-run event that begins at the B.C. Zone final stage in the spring. The top two or three teams are invited to the National Final at CBF Bridge Week.

Where does the money come from? There are six funds kept by the Unit treasurer for subsidy money: one general fund and one fund for each of the five events. At the end of the fiscal year for the Unit (June 30), the proceeds of the IMP League and the sale of *Entertainment* books from the past year are added to the fund, plus any donations or contributions for Special Events in general. The Unit Board donated \$1500 into the fund for 2000-2001 as a result of the profits of the previous fiscal year. This money is then transferred to the specific funds in the following percentages: NAOP: 0%, GNT and COPC: 15% each, CNTC and CWTC: 35% each. The event subsidy funds are also credited directly with any money raised from the Unit Final stage of the event (if there is one), and any funds raised or donated specifically for that event.

Why are the allocations different? The Unit subsidies are meant to supplement the subsidies given by the event organizers. The amount of subsidy you can win from the event organizers are different for each event, so the Unit tries to equalize the benefits as much as possible. The ACBL, through District 19, gives the top two pairs in each flight of the NAOP free *airfare and accommodation at the National Final*. In the GNT, District representative teams currently receive only \$400 U.S. to attend the National Final. The CBF subsidizes players to attend Bridge Week through a complicated formula based on event turnout and distance traveled.

Who is eligible for a subsidy? To be eligible for a Unit subsidy, a player must be a paid up ACBL member of Unit 430 before the start of the last qualifying stage before the National Final. CBF dues must be paid in order to qualify for CBF subsidies.

In the NAOP, subsidies are paid to teams finishing in third place in the District Final who attend the Na-

tional Final. (This has been discussed at recent Unit Board meetings but has not yet been voted on. In the past few years, the ACBL has begun inviting the third-place finishers to the National Final without subsidy, and several Unit 430 teams have been a few match-points away from a free trip. At the recent NAOP Unit Final, we increased the entry fee a bit to provide for this possibility.) The top two finishers receive a free trip to the National Final from the ACBL.

In the GNT, the top team in each flight at the District Final receives a subsidy from District 19. Players from Unit 430 who play on District Champion teams in the National Final will receive a subsidy to supplement this amount, from the balance in the GNT fund.

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

In the CNTC, the rules are unclear now that there are two flights. There are CBF subsidies for teams invited to the Zone Final, and Unit subsidies for teams containing members of Unit 430 which participate in the National Final. In the past the priority for allocating Unit funds has been the "highest-ranked" team at the Zone Final which goes to the National Final. (Now that there are two separate Zone Finals, the rules will need to be clarified. Is first in Flight B "higher-ranked" than second in Flight A? Is first in Flight A "higher-ranked" than first in Flight B?)

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

What's the limit? Unit subsidies are limited to the amount in the event subsidy fund. The amount reimbursed for airfare will not exceed the cost of the lowest reasonable round-trip direct airfare. The amount reimbursed for accommodation (per player) will not exceed the cost of half a double room, at the host hotel, for the scheduled length of the event plus one extra night. Subsidies that supplement other subsidies by the ACBL, the District, or the CBF, may not bring the total reimbursement to more than the airfare and accommodation total calculated above. Entry fees are not subsidized.

Players eligible for subsidies will need to provide the Unit Treasurer with receipts showing the amount paid for accommodation and airfare, and the amount received from other subsidies for the same event. Players are responsible for providing such receipts before thirty days pass after the end of the event to be eligible for a subsidy. Advances of up to 80% of the expected subsidy may be paid before the event if the Treasurer is satisfied that the player(s) will attend and play in the event. Any GST recovery resulting from the submitted receipts will be passed on to the players when received by the Unit.

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

Halfway Results

More next issue...

Only room for a condensed version of the Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney lists (which we just missed last time) this issue. Both lists are a bit dated, covering results received in Memphis up to August 1. The Ace of Clubs standings counts points won only in club games; the mini-McKenney counts all points. Categories are those you began in at the start of 2000.

Unit 430 Ace Of Clubs Leaders Rookie (0-5)

1. Greg Barszsz 17.86
2. Adam Moczczynski 8.42
3. Julia Barsel 8.04

Junior Master (5-20)

1. Yvonne Drane 15.63
2. Barry Yamanouchi 12.26
3. Stuart Carr 9.65

Club Master (20-50)

1. Suzette Behar 30.61
2. Debbie Williams 19.21
3. Janice Barr 16.29

Sectional Master (50-100)

1. Samantha Nystrom 30.15
2. Richard Smillie 26.69
3. Theresa Kong 21.44

Regional Master (100-200)

1. Bob Butler 38.26
2. Ken Cowherd 35.34
3. Andrew Lee 28.96

NABC Master (200-300)

1. Harry Friedman 43.54
2. Vicki Croome 32.15
3. Julien Lévesque 25.78

Life Master (300-500)

1. Mark Eddy 31.52
2. Barry Kirkham 28.17
3. Tomie Yamanouchi 24.32

Bronze Life Master (500-1000)

1. Amir Alibhai 44.08
2. Mike Moffatt 37.69
3. Eleanor Kaufmann 34.95

Silver Life Master (1000-2500)

1. Dave House 64.82
2. Bonnie Anderson 49.49
3. Dot Carnegie 45.39

Gold Life Master (2500-5000)

1. Mary Fines 72.32
2. Ernie Dietrich 64.94
3. Wilf May 54.00

Diamond Life Master (5000-10000)

1. Laurence Betts 10.59
2. Aidan Ballantyne 8.43
3. Gord McOrmond 3.83

(continued on page 30)



Winners

Matchpointer

August-October 2000

LOCAL WINNERS

EVERGREEN SECTIONAL
RICHMOND, SEPTEMBER 8-10

A B C Friday Afternoon Open Pairs (34 tables)

1	Wilf May/Les Fouks
2	Phyllis Gerber/Delphine Tablotney
3	1 Judy Acheson/Maggie Warren
4	Ina Andersen/Danny Lee
5	2 Harold Hansen/Dan Watson
6	3 Cornel Sawchuk/Don Sharp
4	Claire Burns/Peter Morse
5	Terry Scott/Marina Page
6	Sherman Kwan/Dennis Groden
1	Joan Thornthwaite/Dave Pritchard
2	Eda Kadar/Brian Cross
3	Rae Fee/Bachan Buttar
4/5	Lila Jay/Lynn Erickson
4/5	Doreen Ransom/Colin Ransom
6	Marlene Barber/Norma McNamara

D E Friday Afternoon Future Masters (6 tables)

1	Fay Lois Crawford/Audrey Crotteau
2	1 Sunnie Lyu/Parvin Grigg
3	2 Kam Tang/Susan Dorey
4	3 John & Joyce Ranger

Friday Evening

A B C Jean Turnbull Mixed Pairs (26 tables)

1	Kathy Litwin/Aidan Ballantyne
2	1 Kathy Bye/Kenny Chan
3	2 Tony Remedios/Tove Chen
4	3 Pauline McClafferty/Ben Takemori
5	Dot Carnegie/Gilbert Lambert
6	Marcia Christie/Richard Christie
4	Tom Markham/Gypsy Sturrock
5	Sherman Kwan/Margaret Kidder
6	Julia Barsel/Waldemar Jez
1	Eda Kadar/Brian Cross
2	Dave & Joan Pritchard
3	Warren & Renee Sweeney
4	Doreen & Colin Ransom
5/6	Joy & Jerry Shapiro
5/6	Clay Connolly/Charlotte Alekson

A B C Friday Evening Side Game (22 pairs)

1	1 Lenora Awram/Kathy Orr
2	Dave House/William Ge
3	Don Sache/Dan Watson
4	Ben & Sefton Levine
5	2 Rangie Sylvestre/Diane Ayukawa
6	3 Cornel Sawchuk/Don Sharp
4	1 Hsiang Li/Wuyen Ni
5	2 Greg Morse/Andy Hellquist
6	Christopher Maylin/Terry Val Jean
3	Kam Tang/Susan Dorey
4	Julien Levesque/Rudy Notzl
5	Bill Mansfield/Monte Lawrence
6	Bachan Buttar/Rae Fee

D E Saturday Aftn. Future Master Pairs (5 tables)

1	Janice Barr/Chloe Clark
2	Marie Cahill/Peggy Winter
3	1 Hsiang Szu Li/Chang-Shan Chen
4	Dawn Smith/Ruth Winkler
2/3	David Breton/Ian Ho
2/3	Cathy Miller/Sachi Yamakami

D E Saturday Eve. Future Master Pairs (4 tables)

1	Janice Barr/Chloe Clark
2/5	Dawn Smith/Ruth Winkler
2/5	1/3 Terence & Anna Eastwood
2/5	1/3 Hsiang Szu Li/Chang-Shan Chen
2/5	1/3 Miriam Grill/Sandy Poggemiller

Saturday 2-session

A X StratiFlighted Pairs, Flight A/X (16, 16 tables)

1	Gord McOrmond/Mike Hargreaves
2	1 Carol & Paul Waters
3	Bill Goldstone/Bryan Maksymetz
4	2 Brad Bart/Mike Dimich
5	Gray McMullin/Marylou Bert
6	Kathy Adachi/June Pocock
7	Linda Sims/Lauren Miller
3	Cornel Sawchuk/Don Sharp
4	Ernie Dietrich/Yuko Fujieda
5	Mark Eddy/Eugene Chan
6	Ken Robertson/Andrew Ross

Saturday 2-session

B C D StratiFlighted Pairs, Flt B/C/D (28, 29½ tables)

1	1 Dan Groves/Sharon Erwin
2	Kathy Bye/Judy Strebinger
3	2 1 Theresa Kong/Carol-Ann Halliday
4	Mike Moffatt/Vicki Croome
5	Bachan Buttar/Santokh Sian
6	John Whittlesey/Danny Lee
3	2 Roberta Richards/Betty Reynolds
4	3 Marilyn Phillips/Lynda Orr
5	4 David Hooley/Frank Cheng
6	Bruce McIntyre/William Ge
5	Jerry Growe/Jerry Shapiro
6	Julien Levesque/Flora So

A X Sunday Flight A/X Swiss Teams (14 teams)

- 1 **Mike Hargreaves, Gord McOrmond, Dan Jacob, Larry Hicks**
- 2 **1 Marcia Christie, Richard Christie, Audrey & Jim Norman**
- 3 Mike Wilson, Steve Clements, Felipe Hernandez, Bill Goldstone
- 4 Jean Groome, Pete Walton, Dan Watson, Gary Phelan
- 5 Marylou Bert, Don Sache, Gray McMullin, Cam Doner, Doug Hansford
- 2 Garry Skoropada, Delphine Tablotney, Rhoda Tafler, Larry Chow, Audrey Loy
- 3 Tove Chen, Diane Ayukawa, Dianne Isfeld, Pauline McClafferty
- 4 Arun Chopra, Narinder Malhotra, Sam Jacobs, Sharmeen Jacobs

B C D Sunday Flight B/C/D Swiss Teams (38 teams)

- 1 **Al & Donna Freeze, John Lien, Liz Stoneman**
- 2 Maggie Warren, Judy Acheson, Aase Haines, Daisy Neilson
- 3 Peter Morse, Claire Burns, Cornel Sawchuk, Don Sharp
- 4 **1 Christa Mead, Priscilla Brown, Guity Soltan, Gordon Devlin**
- 5 Norma McNamara, Marlene Barber, Avril Hodson, Pat Wotherspoon
- 6 Albert Yallouz, Pirtpal Gill, Yuko Fujieda, Rangie Sylvestre
- 7 Terry & Anne Scott, Steve Beaton, Louis Landau
- 2 Bruce McIntyre, Mark Rojewski, William Ge, Waldemar Jez
- 3 Judy Murphy, Adi Wadia, Marti Oppenheimer, Greg Lam
- 4 Ric Sumner, Pat Jones, Phil & Lenora Awram
- 5/6 **1 Hsiang Li, Vincent Ho, Samuel Lai, Chang-Shan Chen**
- 5/6 Marg Elligott, Mike Stickland, Gordon Burns, Jane Craig
- 2 June Young, Barry Wade, Jim Balcom, Bob Jess
- 3 David Hooey, John Emmer-son, Lynn Erickson, Lila Jay
- 4 Carol Ann Halliday, Theresa Kong, Brian Cross, Eda Kadar

**NORTH AMERICAN OPEN PAIRS UNIT FINAL
VANCOUVER BRIDGE CENTRE, SEPTEMBER 30****A B C Unit 430 NAOP Final (15 tables)**

- 1 **Gerry McCully/Greg Arbour**
- 2 **1 Claire Burns/Peter Morse**
- 3 Aidan Ballantyne/Katrin Litwin
- 4 Cam Doner/Ron Borg
- 5 Jennifer Ballantyne/Marguerite Chiarenza
- 6 2 Sandra Robson/Patti Adams
- 3 Aban & Bob Gerrie
- 4 **1 Greg Lam/Nigel Fullbrook**
- 5 Paul & Carol Waters
- 6 2 Greg Morse/Andy Hellquist
- 3 Chris Robbins/Christopher Maylin

**NORTH AMERICAN OPEN PAIRS DISTRICT FINAL
RENTON, OCTOBER 21**

- A3. Greg Arbour/Gerry McCully
- B3. Ric Sumner/Roman Woroch
- B4. Aban & Bob Gerrie

(First and second in each flight received a trip to the Spring NABC in Kansas City next March for the National Final. Third place finishers choosing to attend the National Final will be eligible for a small subsidy from the Unit's NAOP fund.)

Vancouver Bridge Club

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

Louis Landau 984-8309

All games non-smoking.
Computer scoring.

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

Wednesday games are jackpot games

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

Club Championship Games:

Wednesday, November 15 (am)
Wednesday, December 13 (am)

Holiday Monday Party Games:

Nov 13: Remembrance Day Pairs

Other Special Dates:

Wed Nov 22 (am): annual ACBL Membership Game

Mon Dec 11: Daytime Games Christmas Party

Wed Dec 13(pm): Evening Games Christmas Party

Closed December 25

Hollyburn Bridge Club

Hollyburn Country Club "Bridge with a view"

950 Cross Creek, West Vancouver
Mondays at 7:30 pm, open to all

Thursdays at 9:30 am, by invitation only

Louis Landau 984-8309

Squamish Bridge Club

1471 Pemberton Street, Squamish
Mondays at 7:30 pm

Monthly Handicap & Trophy Race Games
Lorraine Hurren 898-2702

(Continued from page 3)

hanging around helping out, no longer eligible. On an early board I led the king from KQx against 1NT, and declarer ducked in dummy three times with ATxx! Jerry won his jack on the third round and I quipped that we had "established the ace." Soon declarer was cashing the ace and forcing a lethal discard from me! Jerry just

smiled and said, "serves you right for making comments!"

The toy saxophone has finally stopped working and I've spent some money on something called a WX5 which will sound far better. You'll hear it at the Unit Christmas Party. As I play, I'll be remembering Jerry and wishing he could too.

—Bruce McIntyre

Club Managers—Alert

Names withheld to protect the guilty

Sir, what is it with the club ads this issue?

Haven't you noticed?

Yes, I've noticed them. I wondered why you decided to make them smaller.

What's your worry?

I'm worried about the *Matchpointer* not properly advertising club events.

Why? Is there something missing? Are you aware of an event that isn't mentioned?

Well, friends of mine, club managers, say that there are a few not mentioned.

Yes? Did your friends mention those events to me, or to the Club Liaison, Mr. Friedman?

Well, they've never had to before.

Aha...

You have said before that you would do what you could to find out what was going on at all clubs.

Sure. That's what you're complaining about, isn't it?

Well yes, but surely you've done a lot less this time than you have for previous issues.

Yes, but let me ask you what your own logic is. I have a phone, an answering machine, e-mail, and a highly visible Club Liaison who plays at most of the clubs I don't play at. In addition to my duties as Unit President, I should spend lots of time going after data from people who cannot read a deadline? Mr. Friedman, who is collecting this information voluntarily, should? That seems to be your position.

But surely you can simply make a list of the items you need, the people you haven't heard from, and pass that on to the Club Liaison.

I've done that before too. But that too takes time, and gives an unfair disadvantage to those few who get their data in on time—they do the work and others get it done for them. Is that just?

I explained it badly, I think, but what you're talking about to me is choices. And my choice is to have a *Matchpointer* that is informative and complete, which means that you don't have club ads that ignore a club's special events and you don't list half of the club information as "unreported."

That's my choice too. Correct.

And one of the things I have to give up for that choice is the fact that volunteers like you have to work a lot harder.

Sure, but this isn't my choice any more. You know, I think it is more important to emphasize that club ads are free and the Unit could make back almost a quarter of the printing costs by charging for that space. But we don't, because, when used correctly, the club ad space does what the Matchpointer is supposed to do: promote bridge. But I think part of my duty as editor is to ensure that this gift to clubs is used correctly, and when it gets to the point where many club managers need to be reminded of a deadline that is clearly printed every issue, this renders our hard work meaningless. Now, you don't agree to this but I am sure that with hindsight, you would probably have found it preferable if all the information was submitted, which is not the case, because I've gone out and obtained it before and this time I didn't. But even with your hindsight I don't see how you can deny that a club should be responsible for submitting its results.

No, I still go back to the choice you have to make in the kind of *Matchpointer* that you want to produce.

Yes, well, there are a lot of bleeding hearts around who just don't like to have to do their small duty to promote bridge, leaving it to others who get overloaded. All I can say is, go on and bleed, but it is more important to make sure that when an opportunity for club promotion is presented, that club managers take advantage of it by letting us know of their winners instead of just waiting for us to find out...

At any cost? How far would you go with that? How far would you extend that?

Well: just watch me.

(Continued from page 27)

Unit 430 Mini-McKenney Leaders	Sectional Master (50-100)	Bronze Life Master (500-1000)
Rookie (0-5)	1. Brian Cross.....76.69	1. Peter Morse.....165.22
1. Julia Barsel.....58.19	2. Betty Reynolds.....55.52	2. Claire Burns.....156.71
2. Alice Thomas.....39.05	3. Samantha Nystrom.....54.03	3. Mike Moffatt.....139.72
2. Gary Thomas.....39.05	Regional Master (100-200)	Silver Life Master (1000-2500)
Junior Master (5-20)	1. Carol-Ann Halliday.....92.16	1. Dave House.....167.50
1. David Hooey.....49.25	2. Andrew Lee.....63.54	2. Larry Chow.....164.76
2. Ture Erickson.....40.54	3. Bob Butler.....56.05	3. Sheila Sache.....122.50
3. Stuart Carr.....28.08	NABC Master (200-300)	Gold Life Master (2500-5000)
Club Master (20-50)	1. Vicki Croome.....115.17	1. Larry Hicks.....175.15
1. Colin Ransom.....44.88	2. Kenny Chan.....85.24	2. Don Sache.....154.22
2. Doreen Ransom.....41.57	3. Marti Oppenheimer.....73.73	3. Wilf May.....145.45
3. Lynn Erickson.....41.25	Life Master (300-500)	Diamond Life Master (5000-10,000)
	1. Harold Hansen.....77.76	1. Aidan Ballantyne.....175.41
	2. Marion Crowhurst.....65.10	2. Dan Jacob.....144.62
	3. Tove Chen.....60.62	3. Cam Doner.....144.36

(continued from page 32)

Clubs (three then) listed in columns. And I thought I was the first to do that...

20 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

(October 1980, Aidan Ballantyne, editor)

Aidan Ballantyne's first issue as editor featured several entertaining features from the recent CNTC, the "first Canadian substitute for the Grand National Teams." A list of eight qualifying games for the 1981 CNTC included a note that the ACBL had decreed that teams could only participate in one qualifying game! Had Memphis tried that today we'd be outraged!

The participation tax, a levy on bridge play at all levels, from club games to NABCs, was cancelled. Instead, the ACBL raised almost all of its rates, so instead of paying a little more at the entries table, Memphis raised the sanction fees so that tournament committees and club managers would have the choice: to charge more or make less. Result: paying a little more at the entries table.

A feature on *The Vancouver Trophies* focused on the Ben Lapidus Trophy and the Adrian & June Budd Hicks Trophy. **Benny Lapidus** was a junk dealer who, paired in a rubber game once with a fruit dealer, closed a wild auction in which both dealers had insisted on their suits several times each, with a loud redouble of 7NT. Laying down the dummy, he muttered, "I'll show you junk is better than fruit."

The **Adrian Hicks** story had him playing with **June Budd** (still an American citizen at the time) and two "Montana gals" at a board-a-match at the Billings Regional in the late fifties. Adrian prepared several excuses to cover their many disasters in the final session, but the girls had had a colossal set and covered all of their gaffes, so they were in contention to win. When it was announced that "a Canadian team" had

won, they left, only later to discover that it was them!

25 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

(Sept.—Oct. 1975, Gary Harper, editor)

Gary Harper took over from **Anne Nagy** as editor with this issue. His comments were titled *Ruff 'N A Sluff* after hitting "upon the idea of immortalizing my style of defense in print."

Politics and falsecards! The political features included the proposal to realign the western Districts into an all-Canadian District (an idea that has been considered several times since), and more explanations about the new proposed Unit By-Laws, including this: "We reduced the minimum number of meeting from twelve to ten per year so that a future Board would not be faced with the situation of holding a meeting without business to discuss." By-Law discussion seems to have bored the membership, since no further mention was made of the issue until the Annual General Meeting the next summer.

The falsecard feature *Jack's to Open?*, examined some of the more and less common defensive falsecards made by playing a jack.

The IMP League, "buoyed by last year's success" was open for entries. One new rule in 1975-76: "teams must have five or six members, due to the problems incurred last year with matches not played on schedule."

A hand described to **Peter Nixon** "by an Edmonton gal: 'I played that hand so well—right up to the point where I revoked!'"

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, and donations to this collection of any issues prior to 1973 are happily accepted: we'll copy them carefully and return them to you.

(continued from page 2)

ner that they have an important card in that suit and could probably have won that trick themselves.

Finally on my personal list is the partner who uses body language to encourage or discourage partner. I am reminded of Groucho Marx. When his partner asked what kind of signals he played, he replied, "Forget the signals. I will smile if I like it!" Not much more need be said about this.

There are, of course, many, many other ways of giving partner illegal information. I would fill the whole *Matchpointer* if I listed

them all. All I want to try and say is that this type of illegal exchange of information is one of the main reasons that people drop out of duplicate bridge. Next time you sit down to play, think about it, and try to avoid the pitfall of what I think of as "unconscious cheating."

—Louis Landau

[I should add that the view of the ACBL and most sponsoring organizations is that the worst offense at the bridge table, worse even than deliberate cheating, is publicly accusing another player of deliberate

cheating. If you use the C-word, you will be suspended, regardless of whether you are right or wrong. The way to stop cheating is to report the behavior—privately—to the Unit Recorder, or to the Unit's Conduct and Ethics Committee. As for the types of unconscious cheating mentioned by Louis above, calling the Director and explaining the problem (without using the C-word) is the way to go. The player will often be unaware of his misdeed and will watch for it in future.

—McB] 31

Trophy Race Standings (Final Sectional: Nov 3-5, Surrey)

Phil Wood Trophy	Edie Bonnell Trophy	Leo Steil Trophy
1. Gord McOrmond..... 80.86	1. Katrin Litwin..... 39.82	1. Claire Burns..... 26.36
2. Mike Hargreaves..... 77.20	2. Marcia Christie..... 34.97	1. Peter Morse..... 26.36
3. Dan Jacob..... 52.20	3. Claire Burns..... 26.36	3. Ernie Dietrich..... 25.93
4. Bill Goldstone..... 47.47	4. Rhonda Foster..... 25.21	4. Mary Lou Bert..... 24.26
5. Katrin Litwin..... 39.82	5. Mary Lou Bert..... 24.26	5. Wilf May..... 22.09
6. Aidan Ballantyne..... 39.36	6. Audrey Norman..... 22.91	6. Kathy Adachi..... 16.83
7. Mike Wilson..... 36.43	7. Delphine Tablotney..... 22.61	7. Santokh Sian..... 16.60
8. Marcia Christie..... 34.97	8. Carol-Ann Halliday..... 21.96	8. Garry Skoropada..... 16.38
9. Larry Hicks..... 30.50	9. Kathy Bye..... 20.39	9. Haiderali Nazak..... 15.86
10. Martin Henneberger..... 27.45	10. Julia Barsel..... 18.80	10. Robert Butler..... 14.83
11. Richard Christie..... 27.17	11. Gay Parrish..... 17.74	11. William Sit..... 14.65
12. Claire Burns..... 26.36	12. Dianne Isfeld..... 17.31	12. Don Sharp..... 14.30
12. Peter Morse..... 26.36	13. Judy Murphy..... 17.27	12. Cornel Sawchuk..... 14.30
14. Ernie Dietrich..... 25.93	14. Marti J Oppenheimer..... 17.06	14. Phyllis Gerber..... 14.05
15. Peter Herold..... 25.86	15. Eda Kadar..... 17.05	15. Patricia Landau..... 13.18
16. Bryan Maksymetz..... 25.84		(Lists made without asking birthdates. If you were born in 1945 or later you are ineligible.)
17. Waldemar Jez..... 25.77		
18. Rhonda Foster..... 25.21		
19. Gerry McCully..... 25.16		
20. Mary Lou Bert..... 24.26		
21. Bruce McIntyre..... 24.10		
22. Audrey Norman..... 22.91		
23. Amir Alibhai..... 22.75		
24. Michael Dimich..... 22.65		
25. Delphine Tablotney..... 22.61		
26. Jim Norman..... 22.46		
27. Adi Wadia..... 22.45		
28. Wilf May..... 22.09		
29. Carol-Ann Halliday..... 21.96		
30. Brian Cross..... 21.82		
	Phil Wood Under 200 Trophy	Evergreen Sectional Top 10
	1. Carol-Ann Halliday..... 21.96	1. Mike Hargreaves..... 30.25
	2. Brian Cross..... 21.82	1. Gord McOrmond..... 30.25
	3. Julia Barsel..... 18.80	3. Bill Goldstone..... 17.78
	4. Eda Kadar..... 17.05	4. Dan Jacob..... 15.50
	5. William Sit..... 14.65	4. Larry Hicks..... 15.50
	6. Rae Fee..... 14.37	6. Delphine Tablotney..... 14.71
	7. David Hooey..... 13.15	6. Marcia Christie..... 14.71
	8. Andrew Zorawski..... 9.73	8. Don Sharp..... 14.30
	9. Donna Freeze..... 9.72	8. Cornel Sawchuk..... 14.30
	10. Al Freeze..... 9.72	10. Richard Christie..... 13.46
	11. Betty Reynolds..... 8.87	
	12. Norma McNamara..... 8.72	
	13. Gary Thomas..... 7.96	
	14. Alice Thomas..... 7.96	
	15. Yoko Okubo..... 7.75	
3546.26 silver points were won by 590 players (a further 95 played but did not win any) in the first three Unit 430 Sectionals of 2000.		1079.03 silver points were won by 318 people (a further 72 played but did not win any) at the 2000 Evergreen Sectional.

(continued from page 34)

15 years ago in the Matchpointer (October 1985, Lauren Miller, editor)

Despite being one of the most popular features for *Matchpointer* readers based on a survey distributed with the previous issue, *It's Your Bid* was laid to rest after only seven responses were received, three from outside the Unit. To those of you who have read the results from the *It's Your Bid* revival in this issue and the last issue: please keep in mind that the feature depends on responses from **all** players, whatever their level.

Other important items from the survey were local event lists, humour, and club news. The funniest line of the issue was bidding contest moderator **Lauren Miller's** comment on **Pete Walton's** assertion that "limit raises are rarely passed:"

32 "I've always suspected that Harvey and Peter

play Halley's Comet Jump Raises—not forcing, but the last one they passed was in 1922."

For the first time the *Matchpointer* offered advertising. (We still do, and it helps pay the bills.) A one-page ad for the CNTC appeared in the following issue, but I cannot tell whether this was a true paid ad or a promotion.

Unit President **Doug Cowan** explained that problems with the Royal Towers site were likely to force an eventual move. Simultaneously holding a Sectional tournament and a singles dance with loud music, with only a divider in between, was the main problem. Another was apparent from the apologetic tone of a letter from the hotel restaurant, offering better service (but a reduced menu) next time.

Catriona Brown's club news shows the Valley

(continued on page 31)

Monthly Unit Games

Two to go; 2000 bids solicited.

There are two Monthly Unit Games left in 2000, and the leader is still **Dave House**, who has continued a solid run with a win and a second place since last time. **Kathy Bye** and **Greg Lam** have solidified their hold on the Flight B and C lead by a pair of fourth place results.

The final two games are the November 18 game at the Vancouver Bridge Centre, and the Unit Christmas Party game on December 2 at Bonsor Community Centre. Games are stratified with Flight C at 0-300, Flight B at 0-1000, and Flight A unlimited. Our September game was the second this year to attract the required five C pairs (usually we have many C players in the game but not quite enough pairs of 299ers) to award overalls for Flight C.

The Christmas Party Game is a Unit tradition, complete with live music, door prizes, turkey dinner, a raffle, and a bar. This year's event begins at 5:30, with dinner to begin at about 6:00, and the game to begin at about 7:30 or so. Tickets are \$25 per pair, and must be purchased in advance, as seating is limited to about 40 tables and we need to give the caterer advance notice on how many meals to prepare. Monthly Unit Game Coordinator **Julien Lévesque** is organizing the sale of the tickets and has distributed them to several club managers. If you cannot locate a ticket seller, call Julien at 254-1334 to reserve your tickets. They will be available at the November 18 game and at the November 3-5 Sectional.

The Unit Board will as usual be deciding where, when, and how to run Monthly Unit Games, and who to hire as Director, at its December meeting. Interested Directors or people with ideas for sites should contact Julien Lévesque at 254-1334.

A	B	C	September 2, 2000	(11 tables)
1			Donna Morrison/Delphine Tablotney	
2			Dave House/Martin Henneberger	
3			Flora Tereposky/Evelyn Hodge	
4	1		Janis & Nick Parker	
5	2		Bev Kanee/Gloria Prescott	
6			Doug Cowan/Pat Landau	
	3		Toyo Nunoda/Tomie Yamanouchi	
	4		Greg Lam/Kathy Bye	
	5	1	Carol-Ann Halliday/David Hooley	
	2		Matt Bohdanowicz/Mark Rojewski	

A	B	October 14, 2000	(12 tables)
1		Dave House/Laurence Betts	
2		Ken Lochang/Gord Davis	
3		Mike Dimich/Brad Bart	
4		Donna Morrison/Delphine Tablotney	
5		Bob Kiggins/Al French	
6	1	Tomie Yamanouchi/Toyo Nunoda	
	2	Tony Remedios/Tove Chen	
	3	Eleanor Webb/William Kennedy	
	4	Greg Lam/Kathy Bye	

A	B	C	Standings after October Game	Pts.
1			Dave House	12.11
2			Gord Davis.....	7.80
3			Ev Hodge	7.63
4	1		Kathy Bye	7.24
5	2	1	Greg Lam	6.64
6	3	2	David Hooley	5.93
7	4	3	Vicki Croome.....	5.82
7	4		Mike Moffatt.....	5.82
9			Laurence Betts	5.46
10	6		Tove Chen	5.31
10	6		Tony Remedios.....	5.31
12	8		Toyo Nunoda	5.11
12	8		Tomie Yamanouchi.....	5.11
14			Doug Cowan	4.88
14			Pat Landau.....	4.88
16	10		Mike Takemori	4.84
17	11		Janis Parker	4.67
17	11		Nick Parker	4.67
19			Flora Tereposky	4.51
20	13		Eugene Chan	4.40
21			Donna Morrison	4.30
21			Delphine Tablotney.....	4.30
23	14		Martin Henneberger	4.22
24			Dianne Isfeld	3.90
25	15		Sandra Robson	3.80
	4		Carol-Ann Halliday	3.63
	5		Julia Barsel	3.12
	5		Grzegorz Barszcz	3.12
	7		Bary Yamanouchi	2.94
	8		Samantha Nystrom	2.79
	9		Kristina Bohdanowicz	2.40
	10		Matt Bohdanowicz.....	1.94
	11		Frank Cheng	1.56
	12		Ewa Wroblewicz.....	1.43
	13		Andrew Zorawski.....	1.43
	14		Clare Way.....	1.32
	15		Mark Rojewski	1.14

280.40 masterpoints have been won by 108 players (a further 46 people have played but have not won any) in Monthly Unit Games so far in 2000.

Perfect attendance in 2000: **Bonnie Anderson, Ev hodge, Pat Landau, Donna Morrison**, and of course, Director **Louis Landau**. Nine sessions out of ten: **Doug Cowan, David Hooley, Joerg Schneider**.

Only Yesterday

by Bruce McIntyre

To my surprise, there is no unifying theme among October *Matchpointer* issues of the past 25 years, at least not this batch. Comparatively recently, the IMP League predictions have emerged as the feature of the October issue, but the *Matchpointer* is older than the IMP League...

5 years ago in the *Matchpointer*
(October 1995, Bruce McIntyre, editor)

14 teams in Flight A in 1995-96, and **Harry the Horse** gave the predictions a pro football theme. Each team's write-up had a small sidebar with a football play diagram, with each player's initials and x's making up the rest of the players. A short summary of the "play" each team was working on followed written by Harry's eye-in-the-sky, **the BirdDog**. Teams captained by **Nathan Divinsky**, **Doug Thomas**, and **Cam Lindsay** were predicted top three in the thirteen-match round-robin.

In Flight B, eight teams were playing in two divisions named for the two predictors! A wild schedule of ten matches was set up, doubling up on divisional rivals, and qualifying the two division winners and two wild-card teams. **Jimmy the Turk** predicted teams captained by **Tai Eng**, **Terry Scott**, **Ric Sumner**, and **Jules Wilkens** to advance. The **Hideous Hog (In Training)** chose **Scott**, **Wilkens**, **Walter Schmid**, and **Eng**, and added that "serious nail-biting mayhem" would take place in the final battle for the last wild-card spot.

The coming Round-Up Sectional in White Rock was to be the first Unit Sectional in some time not to have free coffee available, due to a new policy put in place at the Pacific Inn. The Unit was forced to buy coffee at hotel rates and sell it to players at \$1/cup, losing a considerable sum and forcing a venue change for 1996.

Five years ago, which Unit 430 member had been Unit President, DINO President, was a certified Director, accredited bridge teacher, and a Silver Life Master? Answer: **Doug Cowan**, who was interviewed by **David Schmidt** for *Meet The Players*. Doug, of course, would add NABC Chairman to his impressive bridge resumé during the latter half of the 1990s.

An article on avoiding slow play by **Bruce McIntyre** has since been reprinted in several places on the Internet. You can read *Hurry Up And Think* here...

<http://www.blakjak.demon.co.uk/splay.htm>

...because in 1995 I didn't have room for it and had to shrink the text down a bit to make it all fit.

attention to the masterpoint races going into the final Sectional of the year, and as the last Unit Board member charged with the responsibility to compute these standings without the use of ACBLScore, I can see why they sometimes weren't included in the 70s and 80s! The amazing fact on the trophy races in '95 was that **Michael Neagu** had almost a 28 point lead in the Phil Wood Under 200 Trophy Race!

10 years ago in the *Matchpointer*
(October 1990, David Schmidt, editor)

The anonymous Flight A predictions were based on masterpoint totals, recent successes, road trips, tournament trail non-availability, abundance of y-chromosomes, and "other sporting ventures," such as the **Takemori** brothers propensity for being distracted by the Haida club TV when a big game was on. The predicted top three captains: **Cam Lindsay**, **Nathan Divinsky**, and **Peter Herold**. Not much changes in Flight A over five years...

Jimmy The Turk's Flight B predictions had **Jim Sache**, **Tai Eng**, and **Colin Collin** in the top three spots.

Unit President **Larry Pocock** announced three new sites for tournaments in 1991: the Engineer's Hall, the North Shore Winter Club, and the Firefighter's Hall at Metrotown.

The first-ever article by the **Hideous Hog (In Training)** featured a typical HHIT hand—average was obtained by playing in 3NT despite a 4-4 spade fit. (The Hog's partner, **Rueful Rocky**, forgot to use Stayman with a 4-3-3-3 11 count.) The Hog received a diamond lead and played the jack from JT9 in dummy, tossing the king from his hand under the ace. RHO continued a diamond and the Hog played low! LHO won his queen and cleared the suit, but it was RHO with the ace of spades and only three diamonds. HHIT wasted no time in telling the opponents how to beat 3NT—duck the second diamond!

Another first: the first **Louis Landau** lesson hand! Today's topic: the Scissors Coup.

David Schmidt interviewed **Jenny Ballantyne** for *Meet The Players*. She played her first duplicate in December 1965. Recently appointed to the DINO Board, she was starting her ninth year on the Unit Board, helping to raise funds by selling Entertainment books. "It's tragic to see the same people doing the same things over and over because no one else will do them." Ten years later, Jenny is still on the DINO Board, the Unit Board, and still sells the Entertainment books! Think about that the next time a Board Member asks you to volunteer.

(continued on page 32)

Tournaments & Dates

November 3-December 31, 2000

NOVEMBER

- 3-5 **Round-Up Sectional**,
at Days Inn, Surrey
- 6-12 *Everett Regional*
- 14 **Monthly Unit Game**
(7:30, VBC)
- 16-26 **FALL NABC IN**
BIRMINGHAM AL
- 26 Deadline for buying
tickets to the Unit
Christmas Party on
December 2 (contact
Julien Lévesque at
254-1334).

DECEMBER

- 1 Unit President turns
38 and prays for club
data for *Matchpointer*
to come in on time.

DECEMBER (Cont.)

- 2 **Unit Christmas Party**
Bonsor Community
Centre (ad, page 36)
- 8 **Matchpointer deadline**
(December issue
covers events from
Dec. 15—Mar. 23)
- 8-10 Tacoma Sectional
- 15 **December issue of**
Matchpointer hits the
streets (touch wood)
- 25 Christmas, clubs
closed. To play bridge
you'll have to go to...
- 25-31 *Reno Regional*
- 31 Actual end of 20th
century and second
millennium AD.
(Fewer fireworks
expected.)

Contributors

Thanks for your help!

The Anonymous A-League Prognosticator

Brad Bart
Linda Bell
Eugene Chan
Ernie Dietrich
Richard Dunn
Mark Eddy

Harry Friedman

The Hideous Hog (In Training)

H.K. Ho
Eda Kadar
Gilbert Lambert
Louis Landau
Julien Lévesque
Larry Meyer
Greg Morse

Punxatawny Phil
Brian Russell
Joerg Schnieder
Matt Smith

all It's Your Bid Responders

www.acbl.org 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, and tournament results may be mailed, or given to any Unit Board Member or dropped off at a Unit 430 club. Most Board members have fax numbers or e-mail addresses. We encourage **all** members, from beginner to expert, to send bridge-related original material for publication.

MATCHPOINTER "SCHEDULE"

Mid-December
Mid-March
Mid-May
Mid-August
Mid-October

NEXT ISSUE: December 2000

Deadline: Friday, December 8

Dates Covered:

December 15, 2000—March 23, 2001

Unit 430 Main Events

A One Year Planner

2000 Round-Up Sectional
November 3 - 5, 2000, at the
Day's Inn Hotel, Surrey

2000 Unit Christmas Party
Saturday, December 2
at the Bonsor Community
Centre, Burnaby

2001 Trophy Sectional
January 19 - 21, 2000 at the
Engineers Hall, Burnaby

2001 Future Stars Sectional
March 3-4, 2001 at the
Vancouver Bridge Centre

2001 Victoria Day Sectional
May 18 - 21, 2001 at the Bonsor
Community Centre, Burnaby
(date confirmed, site tentative)

2001 Unit 430
Annual General Meeting
Saturday, May 19, at the Victoria
Day Sectional, following the first
session (approximately 3:45 pm).

2001 Unit 430-sponsored
District-wide STaC (Sectional
Tournament at Clubs)
Silver points at your local club!
May 29 - June 4, 2001.

2001 Evergreen Sectional
Sept 7-9, 2001 at the Bonsor
Community Centre, Burnaby
(date confirmed, site tentative)

Unit 430 invites you and your favorite partner to...

UNIT 430 CHRISTMAS PARTY 2000

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 2, 2000
BONSOR RECREATION CENTRE
6550 BONSOR, BURNABY**



**DINNER—6:00 PM
BRIDGE—7:30 PM**



TICKETS: \$25/PAIR — LIMITED SEATING



**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
JULIEN LÉVESQUE (254-1334)
AND AT SEVERAL UNIT 430 CLUBS**



TICKET SALES END NOVEMBER 26.



FEATURES:

- CATERED DINNER
- COCKTAIL BAR
- DOOR PRIZES
- 50-50 RAFFLE
- LIVE MUSIC
- MONTHLY UNIT GAME FINALE



PLEASE BRING DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK

**Advance Notice: Trophy Sectional
Jan. 19-21, Burnaby Engineer's Hall**