

Stories * Information
Tips * Results



Unit 430
Bridge Magazine

Break Down The Walls!

by Louis Landau

The contract is 7NT by South and the lead is the T♣. Before reading any further, you might like to look at all four hands and see if you can make the contract:

Board Dir: South 15 Vul: N-S	NORTH ♠ AQJ ♥ QJT ♦ JT9876 ♣ 5	7NT by South Lead: T♣
WEST	SOUTH	EAST
♠ T986 ♥ 9753 ♦ 54 ♣ Q96	♠ K ♥ AK ♦ AKQ ♣ AJT8432	♠ 75432 ♥ 8642 ♦ 32 ♣ K7
	Answer, page 10	

MARCH 2001 HIGHLIGHTS

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- 14 The "Lap Two" Double
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- 16 "Final" Y2K Ace of Clubs, Mini-McKenney standings
- 30 CNTC, GNT Q-Lists

It's Your Bid Problems

We've corrected the errors and reposed the problems. No 14 card hands or psyches this time!

Cut out this part of the cover, revealing the contents page beneath it. Send your answers (comments optional) to the editor, or drop them off at a club.

Name: _____

Flight: A B C Club: _____

(Name and flight are required)

1. (IMPs, both vul.)

♠ - ♥ K4 ♦ AQT96 ♣ AKJ975

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		3♥	???

2. (IMPs, they're vul.)

♠ 9875 ♥ QJ42 ♦ - ♣ AK763

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

3. (Matchpoints, none vul.)

♠ K5 ♥ A72 ♦ AKQ954 ♣ K6

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

4. (Matchpoints, none vul.)

♠ AQJ9 ♥ KQJT ♦ QT ♣ AKT

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

5. (Matchpoints, both vul.)

♠ T6532 ♥ Q42 ♦ 963 ♣ 64

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1NT	3♠*	1♣	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	3NT
Double	4♦	Double	4♣
Pass	Pass	5♣	Pass

Partner asked for a spade stopper but you panicked after they pulled the red card. Nice escape. What is your opening lead?

New deadline: May 21, 2001.

- The "It's Your Bid" System (from the International Bidder's Club, a monthly on-line bidding contest at www.bridgespace.com) (some questions may depart from system)
- Natural, five-card majors. Limit raises.
- Over 1 in a major, 2 NT is game-forcing and shows 4-card support.
- Splitter bids: all double-jump shifts, by responder as well by opener.
- 2 over 1 promises a rebid; not game forcing.
- Strong jump shifts.
- After a reverse, responder's 2NT or fourth suit is negative.

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

- Support doubles and redoubles.
 - Over overcalls cuebid is limit raise+, or any game-force.
 - Negative, competitive and responsive doubles through 4♦, higher than that: value-showing.
 - Weak jump overcalls.
 - Direct jump cue-bid asks stopper.
 - Common sense.
- To enter: clip this portion of the cover and e-mail to mcbruce1@home.com, leave with your local club, or phone in your answers to 438-9735. Your name and flight is mandatory. Good luck! Send us your problems for future issues!

Who cares?

by the Hog-In Training

The ACBL alert regulations (normally capitalized but underserving of the honour) work very well for the players who have taken the time to read the text and apply it to their own systems. I know this for a fact because I asked. Both said yes.

But for the rest of us mortals, bridge itself is hard enough to learn. In addition to bidding, dummy play and defending techniques, we also need to know each and every situation that an alert is required? Give us a break!

I'm not suggesting that you ignore the regulations and just go naked, alerting whenever you feel like it. I'm suggesting that among the 6,064 words in the ACBL alert procedure (my computer counted them) there are about four thousand or so (starting with "PART I" in a document that continues on to "PART X" and beyond) that you can skim. Making intimate knowledge of the *back end* of the

alert regulations (I rather like that metaphor!) mandatory takes the fun out of the game.

You remember: fun? Game? Sure you do.

My most recent pet peeve is three words from the non-alerting side: "that's not alertable." Think about it. An opponent has alerted his partner's bid, and now you are questioning the alert.

What on earth for?

An alert is a courtesy to you. It lets you know that there is something that bears asking about the alerted call. You absolutely do not have the right to assume that an alert carries a particular meaning without asking. If you hear 1NT on your left and 2NT on your right, alerted, you can quickly pass a hand with seven clubs to the ace-king, since the next bid will be three clubs and you're okay with that development. Just don't call the director when 2NT gets passed and it turns out that this pair plays 1NT-2NT as, say, invitational but promising no four card major or a major suit stopper.

(continued on page 28)

Matchpointer

...is a publication of ACBL Unit 430, printed five times each year, distributed free to its members at local clubs and Unit events. Opinions are those of the authors; unattributed material is written by the editor, with help from various sources. Editor's notes do not necessarily represent the views of the Unit Board.

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tied to current copying and postal rates. For a small extra fee, a large-print version is available by mail. For the current rates, contact Julien Lévesque (254-1334).

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

2001 Advertising Rates

Business Card	\$15 per issue
Half Page	\$40 per issue
Full Page	\$65 per issue
Full Year (5 issues):	15% off

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President's Message

by Bruce McIntyre

Welcome to the 21st century! (What are you booing for?)

It's been an extra busy year for your Unit Board. We've managed to fill the needed jobs with several empty seats, and have done exceptionally well in ensuring that the necessary jobs get done, and in many cases, done very successfully. Our Future Stars Tournament duplicated last years attendance before the third of four sessions was over, and the final session was nearly double the table count it was last year. Our IMP League continues to run well and **Brad Bart's** IMP League web site is phenomenal. **Eda Kadar**, recently freed of the awesome double duty as Secretary and Tournament Chair when **Lenora Awram** graciously volunteered to take over as Secretary, has found some new tournament sites to look at as we continue to search for sites combining accessibility, affordability, and convenience. I'm very proud of all the Board Members who have struggled though a difficult year. They all deserve your thanks.

Now it is your turn to step forward! We need you to help join our team so that the work can be more fairly distributed. We saw the hint of fine things to come this year, from a Board that could have used three more people. I want to see how things go with a full complement of people next year. To someone new to Unit Board work, the prospect may seem daunting, but you can do it, and if you can't, the rest of the Board can show you how! Please help us out.

I had so much fun at the Future Stars Sectional I've decided to make *Whose Bid Is It Anyway* a regular feature at sectionals! While our newer players play in the 99ers game Saturday afternoon, we'll ask them to mark the board numbers on the pickup slips when you find an interesting or perplexing deal. I'll collect the slips, make some large print copies of the relevant hands, find some people to make up a panel, and we'll have a fun, lively, half-hour post-game show, discussing the hands that you wanted to hear about. Who wants to go out looking for dinner at 3:30 anyhow, when the break lasts until 6:30? (Note: the May Sectional is a four day affair, so we'll run the show on Sunday instead of Saturday.) See you there!

—Bruce McIntyre



The popular **Entertainment 2001** books are still available. Even the Internet claims that the Vancouver book is sold out, but Jenny is an "Entertainment" insider and can grab a few more if necessary, but you might have to hurry. Call today! Help out Unit 430 a bit by buying an Entertainment book! You might be helping out a friend or even yourself, since the money raised helps pay for our representatives (not only flight A, all levels) at National Championships. They contain hundreds of discounts and two-fers. Even with less than the full year remaining, a mere handful of uses pays for the book. You'll save on food, accommodation, and more, in Vancouver, Victoria, Washington State and beyond. Don't miss out! **To reserve your copy, call: Jennifer Ballantyne 438-3095**

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May-June 2000 *Matchpointer*

Deadline for submissions:
Friday, May 18, 2001.

Dates covered:
May 25—Aug 31, 2001.

The \$1 Million Endgame

by Bruce McIntyre

One million dollars would be the prize for the Hideous Hog (In Training) if he could survive five more hands. To reach the \$1,000 level he had answered five simple-to-medium-difficult questions of bridge trivia. To reach \$32,000, he had five times chosen two hands from a random deal and made four games and a slam, with some help from the blonde knockout on opening lead. He had even sweated a bit to keep Blondie at the table by preventing several good players opposite her from winning any tricks at all. By the rules of the game each defender had to score at least one trick to stay around, and HHIT quickly saw that Blondie on opening lead was likely to increase his chances.

Now it was crunch time. In the final phase of the game, which nobody else had yet reached, the objective was to score up (by choosing two hands from a random deal: the unchosen 26 cards were reshuffled and dealt to the defenders) two games, two small slams, and one grand slam. HHIT had one lifeline remaining, with which he could force a redeal, or force a player to lead or play a different card if a legal alternative existed.

News that someone was going to be playing for serious money traveled quickly around the NABC, and the hotel made a fair profit by switching the vugraph site to the main theatre, where they had set up no less than four mini-bars, which still proved inadequate. Even those unable to get in could see the show on the hotel's closed circuit TV channel, and most of the various hospitality suites were packed.

The Hog-In-Training was up to the challenge of avoiding the hordes of well-wishers. The show was to be taped during the dinner break. The Hog was able to cancel his game for the afternoon, but relied on the help of his partner to go incognito in his morning knockout. He bought some dark glasses and a very loud above-the-waist garment imported from deepest Africa. He bought some sort of goop from a cosmetics counter that turned his facial skin tone several shades lighter and introduced a sickly yellow pallor. He neglected to shave. And he spoke seldom and disguised his voice when he did. Luckily, this handicap was not enough to cancel the ineptitude of his eleventh bracket opponents, who were quite understandably terrified of this silent oddball who, it seemed, might be more at ease with a Kalashnikov than a bid-box.

"HHIT's eleventh bracket opponents were quite understandably terrified of this silent oddball who, it seemed, might be more at ease with a Kalashnikov than a bid-box"

After a shave and a long shower, the stubble and the goop were gone and the Hog presented himself to the office where the taping was to take place, carefully timing his arrival so that it came before the rush at the end of the afternoon session. He was ushered into makeup beside Regis Fill-In. "We have a bit of a surprise for you today, Hideous," said Regis as they plucked stray hairs from behind his ears.

"Would it perhaps be related to the camera I saw at the morning knockouts?" HHIT saw that he had struck gold. "I couldn't very well have gone there undisguised, could I? It was bad enough last night in the Continuous Pairs, even before the tape of yesterday's show was played!"

Regis laughed and wished him good luck.

"Last night, on *Who Wants To Be A Bridge Millionaire...*" began the show, followed by quick shots of the victims of the Hog's chicanery. "And now, join us for Night Six of *Who Wants To Be A Bridge Millionaire!*"

They began with the footage of the Hog's disguise that morning. It got a big laugh in the theatre later but to HHIT, told to wait five seconds for the laughter that would result later, the effect was eerie.

The first deal presented a thorny problem.

\$64,000: choose two hands and a game or slam

♠ 98	♠ J7653	♠ KQ42	♠ AT
♥ QJ876	♥ 32	♥ AK4	♥ T95
♦ KJ872	♦ T5	♦ 9	♦ AQ643
♣ T	♣ J874	♣ AQ932	♣ K65

One of the five final hands had to be played in grand slam, and the Hog used most of his minute to decide whether or not to risk a grand in clubs on the two rightmost hands. By declaring the hand with one three trumps he could get the total to twelve on spade or diamond suit lead, and a ruff in dummy would be enough, unless the 4-1 trump break survive the reshuffle. The Hog didn't listen as Regis Fill-In introduced his new RHO.

"Well, Hog, what will you do?"

The Hog played six clubs, and Blondie led a spade. HHIT won the ten in hand and played a trump. Clubs were 3-2 and when the Hog continued with the ten hearts, Blondie pounced on it with the queen, so the Hog ducked and claimed the rest.

Regis was amazed. "Hideous—you know you need a grand slam to get the million, right? The thi

heart would have gone on a good spade."

"Yes," said the Hog. "I thought about that, but then I thought about the possibility of a bad break in either black suit."

"But the lifeline you have remaining might have made thirteen tricks a near certainty!" admonished Regis. "Well, OK fine, pal. I hope you get another chance at a grand, but I dunno..."

This was the next deal.

\$125,000: choose two hands and a game or slam

♠ Q93	♠ J6	♠ K742	♠ AT85
♥ AQJ	♥ 865	♥ 73	♥ KT942
♦ JT	♦ KQ76	♦ A9843	♦ 52
♣ QJ963	♣ AKT2	♣ 85	♣ 74

The Hog saw that his new RHO was a scientist, for he ignored Regis's small talk and tried to get Blondie to agree to "certain essential defensive rules." The Hog chose 3NT with the first two hands and Blondie led out the ace and king of spades. The seven of spades followed, which the Hog won in hand with the queen. The scientist had followed with the five, two, and then the four, so the Hog assumed that spades were 4-4. A club to the ace got an agonized discard from RHO. Finally the three of diamonds emerged.

The Hog put down his cards and leaned back in order to address Blondie while still being able to see the reaction from RHO out of the corner of his eye. "So what types of discards had you agreed to play?" he asked. "What does the three of diamonds mean?"

Blondie considered. "It means he's out of clubs."

The Hog saw Regis give the signal to wait for the laughter. He lifted his eyes and shook his head. Finally he said, "Does it have any other meaning?"

"I think it means he likes diamonds." The Hog wondered if there would be any recourse if this were untrue. Probably not, he decided. He played a diamond to the ten and continued with the jack, won by RHO, who had a fourth spade, so all was well. The Hog won a spade, five clubs, two diamonds, and the ace of hearts. Neither defender was shut out, so the hand was thrown in as the Hog won his ninth trick.

"Three more, Hideous One," said Regis with a smile as he passed the tray to the Hog. "You need one grand slam, one small slam, and a game in the next three hands. Don't forget your lifeline, pal." Dr. RHO led another tedious discussion of defensive signals as the Hog stared at these cards:

\$250,000: choose two hands and a game or slam

♠ K83	♠ Q974	♠ T	♠ AJ652
♥ 6	♥ K87	♥ AT954	♥ QJ32
♦ Q762	♦ 8543	♦ AK	♦ JT9
♣ Q9532	♣ 84	♣ AKT76	♣ J

Another tough spot. With the last two hands, HHIT could declare 7♥ and run the Q♥. If RHO won, the Hog could use the lifeline to ask him to play something else. But the Hog chose 6♥ and Regis (who had a monitor in front of him showing him the hands being considered by the Hog) was very surprised at this decision.

Blondie led the K♣. The Hog won the ace in dummy and called for the queen of hearts. RHO played low, and when the Hog played low Blondie slapped her king on the table and played the Q♣. The Hog claimed the rest.

"A quarter of a million dollars!" yelled Regis Fill-In. He waited a few seconds for the music to play, and then thanked the Hog's RHO, and sent him off.

"Many of you in our audience," continued Regis, "will be wondering why Hideous here didn't try a grand slam and use a lifeline when the trump finesse lost. I must say I am too. Did you not think of the possibility, Hog?"

The Hog turned to face Blondie. "Did you have any other hearts, or just the one?"

Blondie remembered. "I had only the king."

"Well, Regis, that would have been a \$93,000 stiff now, wouldn't it?"

Regis shook his head. "I don't know whether to root for this guy...or hit him!" He passed the next tray across to the Hog. "You need a game and a grand slam on this and the next one for the big prize."

\$500,000: choose two hands and a game or grand

♠ AKT9	♠ J864	♠ Q5	♠ 732
♥ 642	♥ KJT3	♥ AQ87	♥ 95
♦ 94	♦ T6	♦ K52	♦ AQJ873
♣ T764	♣ AQ8	♣ J953	♣ K2

Once again, the Hog didn't hear much about his new RHO, a small bald man who had to repeat his name three times before Regis heard it. He quickly realized that if any two of these hands would make a game it would have to be the nine trick variety. A redeal using a lifeline was an option, but the Hog wanted to keep that option alive in case another such

(continued on page 6)

"The Hog put down his cards. 'What does the three of diamonds discard mean?' Blondie considered. 'It means he's out of clubs.'"

deal turned up in the final hand. So having decided to play 3NT, the six card diamond suit seemed the best bet, but with which hand? He decided the second hand would cover the most weakness, and he decided to make the hand with the diamonds the dummy hand.

After the reshuffle, Blondie held this hand...

♠ KQT5 ♥ AQ85 ♦ 52 ♣ J97

...and first grabbed the 5♥, but decided against it. The Vu-Graph then saw her thumb the K♠ for a few seconds, then the 7♣. Finally she decided that she couldn't risk leading from any honour and chose the 5♦. The new RHO won the trick and returned a small heart. The Hog tried the king and Blondie won the ace. HHIT saw Regis, watching the play on the monitor, close his eyes and assumed that all was lost. He decided that thirty-two grand was a fine total and he would at least go out in style, so he sat back in his chair as if unconcerned and waited.

And waited. And waited some more.

Regis took this opportunity to announce that since both defenders had a trick they would survive to the next hand if the Hog made 3NT.

Blondie could never have made herself believe that the Hog, a player who had somehow guided her to an above average game (in an open event!), could declare 3NT for a half million, missing the king of diamonds, the ace-queen of hearts, and the three top spades. She saw the diamonds in dummy and realized she would have to make some discards, so she cashed the queen of hearts before it got away. Regis looked up in surprise, but a second look at his monitor confirmed that this was merely the beginning of the end.

But then Blondie did something unexpected. She detached the J♣ and played it...and the Hog claimed the rest for a half million.

Regis yelled. Music played. Pandemonium reigned for almost a minute. And when it was all over and the cameras had stopped, the little bald man on the Hog's right slammed the table with his right hand loud enough to shake the bright lights. All attention turned to him as he lifted his hand to reveal the face up ace of spades.

"Gosh, pard," said Blondie. "I didn't think you could possibly have *that* one!" And when the little man got up and walked away, Blondie turned to HHIT and told him he had some nerve.

The Hog In Training grinned. A demented wailing noise was heard from behind the makeup area, the last known direction of the little bald man.

Regis was telling him he had to endure one more.

What happened next needs to be told from a slightly different perspective: in fact, from several. For, as reported in the last issue of the *Matchpointer*, a huge dispute has erupted between the dot-com company that sponsored the extravaganza, and the Hog In Training's legal team. The ACBL has ducked for cover, but the Hog had no trouble finding good lawyers to consider taking on his case during a trip to Florida last November.

All sides in the dispute had agreed to keep the details private until the court date or until there is a settlement of some sort. Luckily, aided by more liberal Canadian laws about freedom of information, plus a little investigative journalism, the facts have been coaxed out of the shroud of secrecy. We began by threatening litigation if we didn't receive the tape of the show, so that's where to start.

In the Vu-Graph room, cheers of amazement followed the defensive blunder by Blondie, as the crowd realized that they were about to see a shot at the Big Prize. A hush settled as all watched Regis deal the cards, pass the tray to HHIT, then ask Blondie about why she didn't switch to spades.

She was halfway through an answer that made no sense when the screen went blank, to the shocked silence of the crowd. After about five seconds, the picture returned to find only Regis standing before the green baize with the lights turned up.

"Well, quite an exciting run it has been up to now," he said. "Unfortunately, part of the master tape was damaged during editing this afternoon and we are unable to show you what happened in the grand slam attempt by the Hog In Training to win a million. The Hog was forced to use his last lifeline to get a redeal, and the second deal looked much better." The screen showed these hands:

\$1 Million: choose two hands and a grand slam

♠ Q962	♠ T7	♠ KJ84	♠ A53
♦ —	♥ AQT8752	♥ J9643	♥ K
♦ QT86	♦ J52	♦ 4	♦ AK973
♣ QJT32	♣ 4	♣ 875	♣ AK96

"The Hog," continued Regis, "chose to play in hearts with the second and fourth hands. In the reshuffle, Blondie held all five trumps, so the grand slam was impossible. Hideous does win \$32,000 and gave us our best drama of the contest thus far."

"Blondie then advanced to the hot seat and somehow got confused on the \$100 question, which ended the program. So we'll see you tomorrow with all new contestants!" The show ended.

But this doesn't make sense, because the cheque

shown me by the Hog at the airport upon his return was not for \$32,000. In return for the promise not to reveal exactly how much he received from the dot-com sponsor (except that it was for more than \$32,000 and less than a full million), I was able to get the full story from HHIT's perspective.

"I never requested a redeal," began the Hog when I showed him the tape. "I was shown that deal first, not some impossible one, and of course I chose to play 79. My plan was to pull trumps, hoping they were 3-2, pitch a spade on the ace-king of clubs, and then lead a diamond to the jack, using my lifeline if the queen appeared. I'd lose if the queen were singleton."

"Risking rather a lot on a 3-2 trump break," I commented.

"If trumps were 4-1 I could force out the jack on the third round with the lifeline, pull the fourth, and then pitch a diamond on the ace-king of clubs. Now I could try to ruff out the queen in three rounds, pitching the spade on a long diamond."

"Why should we believe your version?" I asked.

"It should be obvious that it would be lunacy to risk \$468,000 without a lifeline on the small chance that the diamond queen is going to drop and trumps are going to behave. Regis shuffled the other 26 cards and dealt them to the defenders and Blondie made a face down lead. I was ready to play the hand when the cameras stopped and the suits approached.

"The three of us were taken into separate rooms while they claimed security measures were being prepared. We waited for twenty minutes and then a man in a suit with a briefcase came in and showed me footage of Blondie and I playing in the Continuous Pairs the night before, and a few photos of our dinner together. He said that the misdefense on several hands led him to believe that we had made a deal to split the

winnings, and accused us of collusion. As further evidence he cited the two occasions where I had a chance to make the grand slam, but had chosen a small slam. He insinuated that I had chosen the small slam in order to keep Blondie in the game until the end."

We've not been able to locate Blondie, and the Hog (spending far more time than usual in America these days) will not help us find her. He denies all speculation that his new clothes, frequent travel, and a picture of the Hog and an almost familiar brunette in the Daily Bulletin of a Georgia Regional (winners of the Evening Continuous Pairs) are signs that there is more to this than meets the eye.

But we did locate the little bald man, and he confirms that when the lawyers approached he held three small in both red suits. This leaves no doubt: HHIT was about to win a million! How did the Hog react to the accusation?

"I was appalled at this so-called 'evidence'; until I heard their offer. The sponsor would air the 'technical difficulties' version, and give me a consolation prize, and Blondie—who may not be the brightest but would never flub a \$100 question—would get something too. But I fooled them! I decided to accept their offer, and a few days later signed a paper promising not to contest. But by then I had gathered enough evidence from Blondie and from the other chap to find out that the grand slam was making, with the lifeline, on my line of play. So I am now suing them for the balance, plus court costs and punitive damages."

"On what basis?" I asked. "You signed an agreement not to contest what happened!"

"That's true," said HHIT. "But I signed it 'The Hideous Hog In Training,' not with my real name. They were so relieved that I agreed to their terms they forgot to check!"

Check Your Closets

Several Unit 430 trophies missing

At the Trophy Sectional in January, it became apparent that several Unit trophies seem to have gone missing. As Unit President, I did the best I could during the announcing of the winners to subtly discourage any lengthy trophy presentation ceremony, placing myself before the microphone up on the stage where it would be difficult to reach me, choosing a time during the Sunday Swiss where everyone just wanted to shuffle cards for the next round, and acting calmly as though nothing was wrong. It worked!

We are missing no less than six trophies, some of which have been in this Unit for several decades. This is the list:

Edith Bonnell Trophy
Leo Steil Trophy
Henry Smilie Mixed Board-A-Match Teams Trophy
Mary Clarke Flight B Teams Trophy
Flight A IMP League Trophy
Flight C IMP League Trophy

We expect that previous winners of these trophies may still have them somewhere, or, just perhaps, one or more of these trophies is being held hostage because it contains a spelling error or an omission. (We'll correct errors if they're pointed out, but we need the trophy to do so!) If you have any hot tips, please contact Peter ("Pinkerton's") Morse at 988-3927 before he begins the lengthy process of abducting the previous winners and putting them under the bright lights for the third degree...

Give Me A Hand

by Joerg Schneider

Give Me A Hand comes to you this time from the Portland Regional! Our big moment came in the midweek Swiss. Pat and I were playing against "Dear Billy" Miller and Michael Katz. Our teammates Marigail and Leroy Abitinabi were up against Paul Soloway and Ken Scholes...and we won by 1 IMP! This was the decisive deal:

At our table Miller-Katz played in 4♠. Partner led a

Board Dir: East 14 Vul: None	NORTH ♠ A ♥ xxx ♦ QTxx ♣ Qxxxx	Swiss Teams Portland Reg.
WEST ♠ Txxx ♥ AKQJ ♦ xx ♣ Kxx	SOUTH ♠ xx ♥ xxxxx ♦ Kxxx ♣ Jxx	EAST ♠ KQJxxx ♥ xx ♦ AJx ♣ Ax

trump to my ace, and I returned a diamond. Katz won and claimed six. The Abitinabi's were more ambitious and climbed all the way to 6♠. Soloway found the only lead to cause trouble, a small diamond. Leroy's only hope was that the player with only three

hearts had to ruff the fourth with the singleton ace of trumps...and voila, his luck was in!

In the next round, we lost to ex-World Champion Fred Hamilton by 4 IMPs when our side bid a slam that was "not on:" easy come, easy go! Here is a hand from Fri-

(continued on page 9)

How To Get Lucky

by Sandra Borg

Two declarers play the same contract and get the same opening lead. One makes the contract, the other does not. A lucky guess? Something in the bidding? More inspired defence? An inference missed? A lazy play? In most instances the successful declarer is "lucky" for a reason. How lucky are you?

1. With only your side vulnerable, the bidding is:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♠	1♥	Double
3♥*	Pass	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

* — preemptive

The opening lead is a small heart, and this is what you see:

Dummy: ♠ T3 ♥ QT8 ♦ A84 ♣ AK832

Small heart led against 5♦

Declarer: ♠ AJ85 ♥ J ♦ KJT975 ♣ J4

East wins the K♥ and returns the 6♠ to West's king. The 9♠ is continued and East follows with the four. What inferences do you have from the bidding and play? What do you estimate are your chances of making this contract? What is your plan?

2. With neither side vulnerable the bidding is:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♠	3♠	4♥	4♠

All Pass

The opening lead is a small heart, and this is what you see:

Dummy: ♠ K93 ♥ 74 ♦ KJ4 ♣ QT74

Small heart led against 4♠

Declarer: ♠ QJT76 ♥ 9 ♦ AQT3 ♣ K92

East wins the K♥ and continues with the ace, which you trump. A spade to the king wins, but West wins the continuation and gets out with a third trump, East discarding two hearts. You play two rounds of diamonds, ending on the board, and play a third diamond, on which East discards yet another heart. Again, what inferences do you have from the bidding and play? What do you estimate are your chances of success? What is your plan?

(answers, page 23)

day afternoon that had everybody talking deep into the night!

Board 30	Dir: East Vul: None	NORTH	Friday Afternoon Portland Reg.
WEST		♠ QT73 ♥ — ♦ KQ8754 ♣ Q98	EAST
♠ — ♥ AKQJ987654 ♦ 9 ♣ T4	SOUTH		♠ AKJ9652 ♥ — ♦ AT6 ♣ J62
		♠ 84 ♥ T32 ♦ J32 ♣ AK753	

Tom Cross heard his partner open 1♠, and "blasted" 6♥. On the K♦ lead he made thirteen tricks. At other tables the bidding started more "scientifically" with 1♠-2♥. Now some Norths came in with 3♦ and the end result was usually 6♥ making seven on the same diamond lead. At our table (and one other), science took a different turn:

<u>EAST</u>	<u>WEST</u>
1♠	4NT
5♣ (0-3 keycards)	5NT
6♣ (no side kings)	6♥
6♣	

Since I thought I would be on lead I did not double 5♣. Why scare them off. The 6♣ response was lucky for me. If East bids 6♥ I cannot double, as that would bar a club lead (since I had failed to double 5♣). Now, of course, I doubled just in case West chose 6NT. When East decided to take charge, 6♣ became the final contract and the ten solid hearts were rendered worthless! 6♣ went down six for 300, the same score we would receive by doubling and defending the save in 7♥ doubled.

Now, a bidder's nightmare from the same event that evening:

<u>NORTH:</u>	♠ QJxxx	♥ AKJxx	♦ Q	♣ x
<u>SOUTH:</u>	♠ A	♥ x	♦ K987xx	♣ KJ9xx

Our auction:

<u>NORTH:</u>	1♠	2♥	3♥(1)
<u>SOUTH:</u>	1NT (forcing)	3♦	3NT(2)

(1) According to "system" North should pass—but who can blame him?

(2) Maybe I ought to have given preference to 3♣, but my hand, except for the trump ace, is useless in 3♣.

The opponents must have thought they owed me money the way they defended: a club to the ace was

followed by the ace and another diamond! Diamonds were 3-3 and I actually made an overtrick when on the run of the diamonds East crunched his queen of clubs into the table!

On Saturday afternoon, this play problem was tackled by **Bill Gates**, playing with **Sharon Osberg**:

Board 25	Dir: North Vul: E-W	Sharon Osberg	Saturday Aft. Portland Reg.
WEST		♠ KJT72 ♥ AQ8 ♦ AK ♣ KT2	EAST
♠ — ♥ K63 ♦ QJ87654 ♣ QJ3	Bill Gates		♠ Q6 ♥ T942 ♦ T932 ♣ 985
		♠ A98543 ♥ J75 ♦ — ♣ A764	

Those in 6♣ usually pitched two clubs on the ace-king of diamonds, took the heart finesse and lost the third round of hearts. But Bill was in 7♠! How do you play it?

Cash the diamonds, then run all the trumps coming down to this position before the last trump is played:

<u>NORTH:</u>	♥ AQ8	♣ KT2	
<u>WEST:</u>	♥ K63	♣ QJ3	
<u>SOUTH:</u>	♠ 9	♥ J75	♣ A7

The 9♣ squeezes West in heart and clubs. Did Bill (who spent some five minutes over this problem) find the answer? I'll never tell!

And now, the *Fix Of The Week*:

Board 31	Dir: South Vul: N-S	NORTH	Saturday Aft. Portland Reg.
WEST		♠ AQ65 ♥ AJ7 ♦ J72 ♣ KJ3	EAST
♠ T7 ♥ K6 ♦ A653 ♣ Q8754	SOUTH		♠ 43 ♥ Q9 ♦ KQT98 ♣ AT96
		♠ KJ982 ♥ T85432 ♦ 4 ♣ 2	

Pat and I had a good session until we surrendered 20 of 24 matchpoints in this round, helping our opponents to a respectable 46% game and first in Flight C.

South opened the hand 1♠ (!) and North had no trouble driving to game. Not surprisingly no one else found this opening bid. It would be interesting, however, if the auction had begun with a third seat 1NT opener by North. What do you do with the South hand? Since we received 2 matchpoints some other pairs did reach game!

Nomination Period Open

New Unit Secretary: Lenora Awram!

The Unit 430 Board of Directors needs your help for 2001/2002. Nominations are open for two-year Unit Board terms starting in July of this year. Board Members meet one evening each month to discuss Unit Business, and the Board has survived most of the year with three empty seats until the recent addition of **Lenora Awram** as Secretary left only two vacancies.

If you know someone who would make a good addition to the Board, please nominate them to any of these members of the nominating committee:

Brad Bart (chairman)	299-7750
Kathy Adachi	591-9113
Claire Burns	926-9530
Dianne Isfeld	464-1304
Pat Landau	984-8309

The Unit 430 bylaws (on the next two pages) require that the nominee be willing to accept the nomination, but there is no harm in suggesting someone as a nominee so that the committee can begin to apply pressure! If you think you are the only person in Unit 430 who feels that you would make a good Board Member, contact one of the people above: as long as you don't do it at gunpoint, they'll happily agree to nominate you. Members of the current Unit Board finishing their two-year terms also need to be nominated to be included in the slate for election.

The election to fill the vacancies (rumored to be as many as eight) will be held at the May Sectional. The Unit's Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday May 19, following the afternoon session of the tournament at the Bonsor Community Centre in Burnaby, likely starting at about 3:45pm. (An extra half-hour has been added to the evening session start time to encourage members to attend the meeting and

give their input.) Ballots will be distributed at the meeting if there are more nominees than vacancies, and nominations from the floor will be accepted if the nominee is present and agrees to run. For those unable to attend the meeting, ballots will be available until the end of the first session of the Monday Swiss Teams. Results will be announced before the beginning of the second session. The new Board Members will be invited to observe the June meetings, and the new terms will begin with the July meeting.

Flawless bridge expertise is not, repeat, not, a prerequisite! (This is plainly evident when you have a good look at some of the current members, most notably the person typing this.) The only requirement is that a nominee be a member of the ACBL and of Unit 430, willing to spend a few hours each month in doing work for the Unit. Members do receive a few sectional free plays for their services, but the real benefits are in gaining experience in how the bridge world works, and helping to keep duplicate bridge working in this area.

The bylaws on the next two pages were first passed in 1976, and last revised in 1999. The last time they were printed in the *Matchpointer* was in 1999, without the opening objects section. (It may well be that this section has been removed but I was unable to find any evidence of this.)

The Unit's bylaws may be amended by petition. A membership petition requires the signatures of 50 members to a petition presenting unambiguous changes to the existing text. A Board petition requires seven members of the Unit Board to agree to present an amendment to the Annual General Meeting. Proposed changes to the bylaws require a two-thirds majority when presented to the membership. The amending formula requires sixty days notice of a membership petition, which makes it impossible to do by the time this is printed, but the Unit Board will consider any suggested amendments for inclusion in the agenda of the meeting.

(Answer to cover problem)

The ABTA (American Bridge Teachers' Association) brings out a rather excellent quarterly bulletin. One of its features is an annual competition for the best teaching tip for the year. For the year 2000 it was very closely competed and the cover hand was given second place. It is designed to teach students about the importance of unblocking when playing a hand.

The theory of this type of hand is that if something is

exceptional enough you will remember it, and this hand certainly qualifies on that score!

The point of the hand is that once you get stuck in the South hand, there is no way to get back into dummy, so everything is designed to avoid getting there until you have to. The lead is won by the A♣, with the K♣ dropping under it. You next play dummy's good spades and throw away your A♥ and K♥. On dummy's now good hearts you throw away your three top diamonds, and now you

run dummy's good diamonds. All that is left after this is the A♣, which is the only trick made in declarer's hand!

Interestingly enough, there is no other way to make the contract, and it is certainly a good way to remember about unblocking!

—Louis Landau

(MCB: Three out of four people who I have shown this hand to have failed to find the answer—although each of them thought they had it several times, never quite hitting on the answer!)

ACBL Unit 430 Bylaws

Last amended July 3, 1999.

The Unit functions within the Bylaws and Regulations of the American Contract Bridge League and its District. The objects of the organization are:

(a) To preserve and promote the best interests of and to stimulate interest in the art of playing competitive duplicate contract bridge and any modifications thereof;

(b) To cooperate with, and assist the League in the promotion of and conduct of contract bridge tournaments;

(c) To encourage the highest standards of conduct and ethics by its members, and to enforce such standards;

(d) To promote the development and organization of affiliated clubs within the District;

(e) To cooperate in the League's charity programs and to sponsor and conduct charity events with the object of realizing funds to be devoted to worthy humanitarian causes;

(f) To conduct such other activities as may be in keeping with its principal objectives.;

Article I—Unit Jurisdiction

The geographical area within which this Unit shall have jurisdiction shall be such area as is presently or may be in the future assigned to it by the Board of Directors of the ACBL.

Article II—Membership

A. Any person of good moral character and residing within the jurisdiction of the Unit, subject to District regulations, is eligible for membership, and no person shall be denied membership because of race, creed or colour.

B. Such person, upon favourable action, shall become and remain a member unless:

1. He changes his residence to a place outside the jurisdiction of the unit, in which case he shall become a member of the new Unit immediately on processing by the League of his change of address.

2. He has failed to pay his dues in accordance with regulations of the ACBL.

3. He has been suspended or expelled from membership in accordance with regulations established by the ACBL and the Board of Directors of the Unit, provided, however, that such regulations as are established by the Board of Directors of the Unit shall not be in conflict with the regulations of the ACBL.

C. Membership in the Unit carries with it membership in the ACBL.

Article III—Dues

Annual Dues shall be in the amount fixed by the ACBL.

Article IV—Membership Meetings

A. There shall be an annual meeting of the members, which may be held in connection with a tournament or

special event which Unit members attend.

B. The Unit Board of Directors shall fix the time and place of the annual meeting. Form of the notice of meeting shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors of Unit 430 in accordance with the regulations of the ACBL.

C. Special meetings of the members may be called at any time to consider specific subject matters by the Unit Board of Directors or by the President or by a petition signed by fifty (50) of the members and submitted to the Unit President or Secretary. Notice of the time and place of any special meeting shall be given by mail at least ten (10) days before such meeting. The notice of any special meeting shall contain an Agenda of the matters to be taken up at such meeting. No other business shall be acted upon at such special meeting.

D. A quorum for the transaction of business at any annual meeting shall consist of twenty-five (25) members.

Article V—Unit Board of Directors.

A. **Number of Directors:** The affairs of the Unit shall be managed and conducted by the Unit Board of Directors which shall consist of twelve elected persons and, on occasion (as per section B below) the President from the previous term. All Directors must be members of the Unit.

B. **Term Of Office:** Each year six Directors shall be elected for a two-year term beginning July 1st. The Director who served as President just prior to the expiry of his term of office shall, without election, serve the following year as past-President unless he/she chooses to run for a new two-year term on the Board. All elected Directors shall hold office until their successors have been duly elected.

C. **Nomination of Directors:** The Board of Directors, at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual membership meeting, shall select a nominating committee, composed of at most three active members, a majority of whom shall not be members of the current Board of Directors. Any member including members of the nominating committee may send the name of a person or persons with written consent of the nominee(s) to the Chairman of the nominating committee before the date of the election. The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of nominees to be published in the *Matchpointer* issue immediately preceding the election. Nominations from the floor may be accepted at the election.

D. **Election of Directors:** To qualify as a voting member at the annual election, members must be included in the league's April computer listing of Vancouver Unit members. Every qualified member shall be entitled to one vote for each director to be elected. Voting shall be by secret ballot. All candidates are entitled to have a witness present at the counting. The Board may

(continued on page 12)

include a maximum of three club owners and/or employees. Subject to section D.1, the election shall take place at the sectional or regional closest to June 1st.

D.1. Alternate Election Procedures: The Board may, by two-thirds majority vote, decide to adopt one of the following alternate election procedures to allow the Unit's membership greater access to, and participation in, the election of the Board of Directors:

1. Mail-in ballots.
2. Election at clubs.
3. Election at the Annual Membership Meeting.

Any alternate election method chosen by the Unit Board, and the procedure devised by the Board for the distribution, collection, and counting of ballots, shall be announced in the *Matchpointer* or by circular at least sixty days prior to the election. The procedures devised by the Board must ensure that only eligible voters are given ballots, and shall provide for nominations "from the floor" at the time of the election, or for write-in votes in the case of mail-in ballots.

E. Vacancies: Any vacancy on the Unit Board of Directors shall be filled by the Board of Directors and any person so appointed shall hold office for the balance of the vacancy's two year term.

F. Meetings: The Unit Board of Directors shall hold a minimum of ten (10) meetings a year.

G. Quorum: Seven directors shall constitute a quorum at Board meetings.

H. Powers and Duties: In addition to the power herein granted by other provisions herein, and by the laws of the Province of British Columbia, the Unit Board of Directors shall have powers and duties including but not limited to:

1. The conduct, management, supervision and control of the business and assets of the Unit.
2. Conduct of Unit tournaments.
3. The employment and discharging of employees, and the supervision of their conduct and fixing of their compensation.

I. Board Membership: The Unit Board of Directors shall be the sole judge of its membership.

J. Honoraria: Each director shall be entitled to six free plays at any unit sectionals upon the completion of each year of service on the Unit Board. Free plays are non-transferable and must be used within one year of the date of issue. A director shall be entitled to miss one unit board meeting per year, but will be deducted one free play for each additional meeting missed during the year. A director who resigns or is impeached shall receive no free plays for the year of resignation or impeachment.

Article VI—Unit Officers

A. Number: The officers of the Unit shall consist

of a President (whose term of office shall not exceed two consecutive years), a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

B. Election of Unit Officers: The Unit Board of Directors shall elect all officers at its first meeting following the annual membership meeting, and the persons elected shall hold office for one year or until their successors have been duly elected.

C. Vacancies: Vacancies due to death, resignation or other cause shall be filled by the Unit Board of Directors.

D. Duties: The duties of the officers shall be those that normally pertain to their respective offices and such others as may be arranged by the Unit Board of Directors.

Article VII—Impeachment

Any director may be removed for cause from any meeting of the Unit Board of Directors provided two-thirds of those present (and consisting of at least seven (7) members) shall so vote. Any directors against whom impeachment charges shall be brought shall be notified in writing, by registered mail, of charges against him, at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting and shall be given the opportunity to be heard before the Unit Board of Directors and to be represented by counsel of his own choosing. Absence from three consecutive meetings may be cause for removal of a director.

Article VIII—Committees

The President shall appoint such committees as may be necessary to perform the functions of the organization. Standing committees shall be appointed with the approval of the Unit Board of Directors.

Article IX—Disciplinary Actions

A unanimous vote of the Directors present is required for expulsion of a member and a two-thirds majority of the Directors present for any other disciplinary action.

Article X—Unit Regulations

The Unit Board shall establish regulations for the proper management of Unit affairs. These regulations will be in accordance with the bylaws of the ACBL and of this Unit. They will be made known to the membership. Regulations may be altered from time to time by the Unit Board by a vote of seven or more of the directors.

Article XI—Amendment to the Bylaws

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made by the members of the Unit upon petition signed by at least fifty (50) members and submitted to the Secretary at least sixty days in advance of the annual meeting or any special meeting called for the purpose or upon petition signed by at least seven (7) members of the Unit Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to incorporate the text of the proposed amendment in the notice of the meeting. The concurrence of two-thirds of all members present and voting shall be required to pass any amendment.

Early 2001 Trophy Race Leaders (3 sectionals to go)

Phil Wood Trophy

1. Gord McOrmond.....	27.75
2. Mike Hargreaves.....	16.50
2. Dan Jacob.....	16.50
2. Larry Hicks.....	16.50
5. Greg Arbour.....	16.14
6. Dick Yarrington.....	15.00
7. Trudy Hurdle.....	14.45
7. John Hurdle.....	14.45
9. Chris Diamond.....	14.42
10. Ben Takemori.....	14.33
11. Mike Takemori.....	13.09
12. Martin Henneberger.....	12.38
13. Doreen McOrmond.....	11.25
14. Ewa Wroblewicz.....	10.02
14. Andrew Zorawski.....	10.02
16. Rhoda Tafler.....	10.01
17. Delphine Tablotney.....	9.90
18. Phil Hernandez.....	9.64
18. Gerry McCully.....	9.64
20. John Anthony.....	9.58
21. Greg Barszcs.....	9.32
21. Waldemar Jez.....	9.32
23. Balusu Rao.....	9.20
23. Stan Christie.....	9.20
25. Les Foucs.....	8.24
26. James Dickie.....	8.12
26. Leonard Feeny.....	8.12
26. Elaine Ryan.....	8.12
26. James Sache.....	8.12
30. Jim Lenobel.....	8.02

838.46 silver points were won by 302 players (a further 59 played but did not win any) at the 2001 Trophy Sectional in January.

Edie Bonnell Trophy

1. Trudy Hurdle.....	14.45
2. Doreen McOrmond.....	11.25
3. Ewa Wroblewicz.....	10.02
4. Rhoda Tafler.....	10.01
5. Delphine Tablotney.....	9.90
6. Elaine Ryan.....	8.12
7. Phyllis Gerber.....	7.90
8. Patti Adams.....	7.39
9. Betty Jackson.....	6.99
9. Sandra Hawk.....	6.99
9. Ruby Jackson.....	6.99
12. Marcia Christie.....	6.64
13. Mariann Hutton.....	5.63
13. Thelma Hofstede.....	5.63
15. Audrey Norman.....	5.51

Phil Wood Under 200 Trophy

1. Andrew Zorawski.....	10.02
2. Greg Barszcs.....	9.32
3. Betty Jackson.....	6.99
4. Noorali Dhahani.....	5.24
5. Wuyen Ni.....	4.10
6. Joan Steuart.....	3.93
7. Sam Yamanouchi.....	3.75
8. Arun Chopra.....	3.51
9. Mike Stickland.....	2.95
9. Gordon Burns.....	2.95
11. Glenda Affleck.....	2.72
11. Ian Affleck.....	2.72
13. Rick Hoggarth.....	2.58
14. Veronica Peacock, Roy Bishop, Kristina & Matt Bohdanowicz.....	2.14

Leo Steil Trophy

1. Richard Christie.....	7.05
2. Pearl Minkoff.....	4.84
3. Nathan Divinsky.....	4.65
4. Peter Morse.....	4.64
4. Claire Burns.....	4.64
6. Stan Bodlak.....	4.13
6. Anne Nagy.....	4.13
8. Wilf May.....	3.59
9. Haiderali Nazak.....	3.34
10. Daisy Neilson.....	2.58
11. Pat Landau.....	2.54
12. Donna Morrison.....	2.52
12. Joerg Schneider.....	2.52
14. Andrew Ross.....	2.32
14. Harold Hansen.....	2.25

(Lists made *without* asking birthdates. If you were born in 1946 or later you are ineligible.)

Future Stars Top Ten

1. Douglas Grant.....	4.98
2. Brian Cross.....	4.58
2. Eda Kadar.....	4.58
4. Lynn Erickson.....	3.21
4. Theresa Kong.....	3.21
6. John Zohrab.....	3.12
7. Stuart Carr.....	2.99
8. Bruno Moras.....	2.96
8. Margaret Moras.....	2.96
10. Ross Lam.....	2.92
10. David Breton.....	2.92

122.44 silver points were won by 89 players (a further 32 played but did not win any) at the 2001 Future Stars Sectional.

Where's It's Your Bid?

And who was the nut on question #3?

Only nine responses were received for the *It's Your Bid* problems posed in the December issue. We attribute this to several factors, among them the fact that some of the problems made little sense. The corrected version appears on the front cover of this issue.

The original version of problem #3 had the 2-3-6-2 hand respond 1♥ to 1♣, only to hear LHO jump overcall in the ignored solid six card diamond suit! This was enough to drive most responders to clear the air with a Blackwood call, but with a sensible auction, people may well want to revise their answers. Some noticed that the bizarre auction with problem #5 con-

tained an even more bizarre hand, with the rare 5-4-3-2 distribution. We corrected this for this issue too.

The object of the exercise is to give away a few free plays for the players who come up with the best bid, that being defined as the bid which meets the weighted consensus. Without much of a consensus, who knows what the best bid is, so we'll hold it over for another issue, and try harder to get responses. Thanks to **David Breton, Stuart Carr, Harold Hansen, the Hideous Hog (in Training), Larry Meyer, Bev Oldham, Janice & Nick Parker, Stan Sangdahl, and Carol Thompson** for attempting to make sense out of the chaos. You're all welcome to change your answers for next time now that you know what the problems really are!

All respondents are also encouraged to send in bidding problems for future contestants to ponder.

Matchpointer Mailbag

The "Lap Two" Double

Here is a letter and my response which may cause some heated opinions and replies. We at *Matchpointer* headquarters shy away from none of these, of course, so bring 'em on!

From **Peter Morse**:

At the recent Portland Regional, I was faced with a dilemma. Should I point out a mistake in the auction or not before making the opening lead. Since partner (South) and I (North) had both passed throughout most of the auction, and had not made any alerts or announcements, what could the problem be? The auction was as follows:

<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>	<u>SOUTH</u>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥ (GF)	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass		

Those with sharp eyes will note that the green pass card was used by all four (not just three) players, before we got up the courage to double! After putting down what I thought was the third pass following the 4♥ bid, I started to gather up the bidding cards, when I looked up to find the bidding coming back to me like a boomerang. Chastising myself for prematurely picking up the bidding cards, I quickly passed and then paused to contemplate my opening lead. However, I found my mind wandering back to the bidding. Finally, it dawned on me that East had put down a pass card, even though the auction was over, as he had been anticipating another bid from his partner. When he realized West had settled on a contract of 4♥, his pass was indicating that this contract was acceptable to him too. My partner was going to let them get as high as they wanted before doubling, and the Gerber response had given a reasonable expectation that there would be another round of bidding, so she hadn't doubled the first time around. After I sorted this out, I then had to decide what I should do, leave the auction as it was (I had a King that I thought would contribute to our defensive effort) or advise the opponents that the auction was flawed and that the double did not appear to be a legal bid. What would you have done? I discussed the situation with a couple of experienced players later, and both suggested that I did not have to point this out and protect the opponents, as it was

comparable to any other bidding error that the opponents do not pick up, such as an insufficient bid or a bid out of turn. At the table, I chose to advise the opponents of the error before I made the opening lead. They thanked me and we agreed that the double was ineffective. While I doubt that partner was pleased with me, time has a way of healing all. In this case it took about three minutes, as declarer, holding 2-7-4-0 distribution, managed to make 4♥, losing the ace-king of trumps and another ace, but avoiding any other losers. Was I right to mention it? I'm not sure, but I will check with a director in the near future as to what my responsibility actually was in that situation.

McB: Thanks for the interesting story; I'll likely find a spot for it somewhere.

I think your action was correct, if for no better reason than that it saves trouble later. Suppose the contract goes down one and now, after the fact, an opponent points out the four passes. It would seem like some sort of sharp practice, wouldn't it? Same thing applies to the situation where it makes and then you or partner point out that the auction ended before the double. Pointing it out before the opening lead prevented any such bad feeling later, whatever the result, and keeps the auction honest while it is still clear in everyone's mind. Imagine trying to prove that there were four passes before the double after the bidding cards have been put away and the whole hand has been played.

The Laws are clear that you need not mention the illegal bid, but as soon as you do, you are liable to be penalized with a lead penalty on the opening lead! If you say nothing, declarer makes ten tricks, and a Director is called, the double will be cancelled (if the Director determines that there were four passes) but the lack of the lead penalty may cause the Director to adjust the score to 4♥ making five or even six!

The second thing that occurs to me is this emerging practice of using four clubs as Gerber all the time. Why should 4♣ be Gerber here: can't opener have a 6-4 hand that needs to rebid hearts before showing club support? If 4♣ is always Gerber, however do you show this hand? Raising 3♣ to 4♣ right away misses out on lots of fine 6-2 (or even 6-1) heart fits. My experience with Gerbermaniacs though, is that even this sequence (1♠-2♥, 3♣-4♣) would be Gerber! They defend the treatment by saying that "you can ask for aces and still stop in game," which seems like a frank admission that they really haven't the slightest idea of when they have the values to make a slam try safe for a five-

(continued on page 75)

Honour Roll

Unit 430's Top 50

Cam Doner now heads the list of Unit 430 top masterpoint holders. With a very strong end of 2000 (Cam had 222 recorded points on November 1 and ended with over 435), Cam surpassed the 9,000 point mark and vaulted past **Leo Steil**, who amassed 9,130 points before his death in 1996. I discovered last time that Cam was on the

leader board in a Future Stars 0-100 tournament only sixteen years ago, making for an average of well over 550 points per year since then!

The table below shows the current leaders (as of beginning of February 2001), along with their positions on the list produced using a database from early 2000, and the April 1998 *Matchpointer* listing. The 2000 list is limited to the players in the ACBL database at the time, and several players are missing. The 1998 list had **Allan Graves** in

second place; he has since moved out of Unit 430.

Asterisks indicate the players who we think (let me know if I've missed you) have won an unlimited-masterpoint NABC event, making them eligible for the ACBL's Grand Life Master rank.

In 1998, just under 2100 points were required to make the Top 50. Three years later that figure is up to 2250, but I would bet that more than 50 points will be required to stay on the list for next year...

2001	2000	1998	Player	Lifetime MP	2001	2000	1998	Player	Lifetime MP
1	1	1	Cam Doner	9161.93	26	23	30	Jean Groome.....	3250.86
			Leo Steil	9130				Jim Donaldson	3222
2	2	3	Aidan Ballantyne*.....	7303.02	27	24	46	Bryan Maksymetz.....	3181.88
3	3	8	Dan Jacob.....	5979.13	28		26	Buddy Crapko.....	3170.40
4	4	10	Gord McOrmond*.....	5753.29	29	25	31	Mike Wilson.....	3148.94
5	5	4	Laurence Betts.....	5638.02	30		27	Mike Strebinger.....	3063.19
6	6	6	Peter Herold.....	5347.42	31		28	Ted Hicks.....	3048.22
7	7	5	Ron Borg.....	5198.79	32	27	37	Ernie Dietrich.....	3047.24
8	8	9	Marylou Bert.....	5106.93	33	26	34	Mike Dimich.....	2999.12
9		7	Jim Dickie.....	4819.08	34	29	43	Phyllis Gerber.....	2897.12
10	9	17	Kathy Adachi.....	4599.81	35	28	42	Pat Landau.....	2862.47
11	10	12	Larry Hicks*.....	4521.03	36		29	Cam Lindsay.....	2855.88
12		11	Paul Hagen.....	4450.42	37	32		Don Sache.....	2839.10
13	11	14	Ev Hodge.....	4408.73	38	31	40	Larry Pocock.....	2781.48
14	12	18	Wilf May.....	4395.95	39	30	36	Marge Neate.....	2777.51
15	13	19	Mary Fines.....	4325.65	40	33	39	Ina Andersen.....	2608.74
			Adrian Hicks	4175	41	34	47	Delphine Tablotney.....	2583.30
16	14	20	Donna Morrison.....	4150.50	42			Katrin Litwin.....	2529.11
17	16		Michael Yuen.....	4051.53	43		38	Jennifer Ballantyne.....	2512.39
18	15	16	Don Brazeau.....	3982.13	44	36		Doug Cowan.....	2505.70
19	17	21	Rhonda Foster.....	3916.50	45	35	44	John Hurdle.....	2478.66
20	19	23	Greg Arbour.....	3860.42	46	37		Joerg Schneider.....	2432.40
21	18	15	Lauren Miller.....	3783.29	47		41	Charles Swanson.....	2323.98
22	20	25	Stella Alliston.....	3653.62				Liz Lee	2314
23	21	33	June Pocock.....	3468.90	48	41		Sheila Sache.....	2266.75
24		22	Fred Sontag.....	3426.07	49			Joyce Peters.....	2256.11
25	22	35	Gerry McCully.....	3335.13	50	39		Tom Cross.....	2250.43

(*Matchpointer Mailbag*, cont. from p. 14)

level bailout. Worst of all are the "rolling Gerber" fanatics, who bid the next suit up to ask for kings, hesitating nicely if it happens to be the agreed trump suit, as in 1♠-3♣, 4♣-4♥. A quick 4♣ is a signoff, a long pause, then 4♣ asks for kings. Sometimes the partner will explain that 4♣ asks for kings and then pass it because he doesn't feel he has

enough to go on—and amazingly enough, he's never wrong! It gets even more intricate when the opponents interfere, as can happen at the four level.

The trouble is that 4♣ is not alertable until the auction ends in most sequences, so that the opponents hear what appears to be a cuebidding sequence and then discover (if the Gerbermaniacs even remember to mention it) that the

auction's meaning was completely different. Perhaps in a future *Matchpointer* issue I shall hold a debate on this subject. It seems to be the major difference between playing at the VBC (where almost nobody does this) and playing elsewhere (where you see it several times a night).

—Bruce McIntyre

Ace of Clubs, Mini-McKenney 2000 Final Standings, except that...

...we understand that the Vancouver Bridge Centre was again unable to meet the ACBL's deadline for submitting results. On at least two occasions when this has happened in the past, the Unit Board has tried to reconstruct the actual standings from the lists provided and the VBC's records for the unprocessed months. We decided this year not to do this, and in a few cases the listed winner might have been different had the results been submitted. In several cases there may well be people left out of the list because of the

missing results. In the end, it is up to players to let the VBC management know that these masterpoint races are important to them and that, in order to avoid the potential of players missing out on deserved honours, the results need to be sent in within the ACBL's very liberal deadline.

Some of the top three are only duos. The reason: in several cases here, Memphis has provided names of people who are not in our Unit, omitted here. And because this bugaboo always nets me several irate phone calls if left unmentioned, you are hereby notified that these lists are based on the category that the ACBL computer thought you were in when the fireworks stopped at the beginning of 2000.

Unit 430 Ace Of Clubs 2000 Final Standings (points won at club games only)

Rookie (0-5)

1. GREG BARSZCZ.....34.20
2. Mary-Jean Young.....19.01

Junior Master (5-20)

1. BARRY YAMANOUCHI.....33.26
2. Charlotte Alekson.....23.81

Club Master (20-50)

1. SUZETTE BEHAR.....62.70
2. Debbie Williams.....41.86
3. Janice Barr.....30.93

Sectional Master (50-100)

1. RICHARD SMILLIE.....78.78
2. Samantha Nystrom.....48.95
3. Antoinette Sheffield.....41.51

Regional Master (100-200)

1. EWA WROBLEWICZ.....56.35
2. Andrew Lee.....53.78
3. Ken Cowherd.....44.38

NABC Master (200-300)

1. HARRY FRIEDMAN.....97.93
2. Vicki Croome.....84.10
3. Marylou Varga.....54.75

Life Master (300-500)

1. HAROLD HANSEN.....58.76
2. Nomi Kaplan.....46.67

Bronze Life Master (500-1000)

1. AMIR ALIBHAI.....107.86
2. Mike Moffatt.....82.63
3. Bev Kanee.....79.15

Silver Life Master (1000-2500)

1. DAVE HOUSE.....127.19
2. Sandi White.....115.03
3. Bonnie Anderson.....108.57

Gold Life Master (2500-5000)

1. ERNIE DIETRICH.....135.05
2. Mary Fines.....131.35
3. Wilf May.....129.73

Diamond Life Master (5000-10,000)

1. LAURENCE BETTS.....36.10
2. Aidan Ballantyne.....32.11
3. Dan Jacob.....16.64

Unit 430 Mini-McKenney 2000 Final Standings (points won from all ACBL sources)

Rookie (0-5)

1. ALICE THOMAS.....106.66
2. Gary Thomas.....105.95
3. Julia Barsel.....69.31

Junior Master (5-20)

1. TURE ERICKSON.....45.00
2. Barry Yamanouchi.....44.18

Club Master (20-50)

1. COLIN RANSOM.....80.42
2. David Hooey.....79.00
3. Doreen Ransom.....73.39

Sectional Master (50-100)

1. BRIAN CROSS.....112.74
2. Betty Reynolds.....109.57
3. Richard Smillie.....92.17

Regional Master (100-200)

1. CAROL-ANN HALLIDAY.....143.50
2. Maureen Crompton.....92.41
3. Andrew Lee.....89.87

NABC Master (200-300)

1. VICKI CROOME.....223.75
2. Harry Freidman.....126.04
3. Kenny Chan.....120.77

Life Master (300-500)

1. TOVE CHEN.....134.80
2. Harold Hansen.....121.18
3. Marion Crowhurst.....111.15

Bronze Life Master (500-1000)

1. MIKE MOFFATT.....302.66
2. Peter Morse.....301.23
3. Claire Burns.....291.60

Silver Life Master (1000-2500)

1. AL FRENCH.....279.91
2. Larry Chow.....269.69
3. Gilbert Lambert.....253.79

Gold Life Master (2500-5000)

1. KATHY ADACHI.....261.07
2. Mike Wilson.....243.81
3. Phyllis Gerber.....235.95

Diamond Life Master (5000-10,000)

1. CAM DONER.....435.18
2. Aidan Ballantyne.....316.29
3. Dan Jacob.....199.93

The certificates for the Ace of Clubs awards and medallions for the Mini-McKenney awards will be given out at the May sectional.

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

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

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:

Monday, July 9
Wednesday, May 2 (am)
Wednesday, June 13 (pm)

Holiday Monday Party Games:

April 16: Easter Mon. Holiday Pairs
May 21: Victoria Day Holiday Pairs

Handicap Games:

Wednesday April 25 (am)
Monday May 9

STaC! Silver Points at the Club!

March 26 and 28; May 28 and 30.

Hastings Bridge Club

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

cookies, tea, coffee

Marianne Scott 298-3932

Wednesdays at 10:30 am sharp

Coming Events:

May 30: District-wide STaC Game (silver points)

June 20: Club Championship

Arbutus Village Bridge Club

Arbutus Village Recreation Centre
28-4255 Arbutus Street, Vancouver

OPEN TO ALL PLAYERS

coffee, tea, cookies

Thursdays at 7:30 pm sharp

Jan Tarry 733-2807

North Shore Winter Club Bridge

1325 E. Keith Road,
North Vancouver

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
(pairs)

Louis Landau 984-8309

Hollyburn Bridge Club

Hollyburn Country Club "Bridge with a view"

950 Cross Creek, West Vancouver Louis Landau 984-8309

Mondays at 7:30 pm, open to all!

Thursdays at 9:30 am, by invitation only

Burnaby Duplicate Bridge Club

1491 Carleton Ave., Burnaby
Hazel Dressler 524-4445

Mondays

10:45 am

May 14

March 26

Next Club Championship

STaC Game (silver points!)

Tuesdays

7:30 pm

May 29

March 27

Tuesday April 24: Beat The Experts and win a free play to any Burnaby regular game!

Feb 26 Seniors Game Winners: Ernie Dietrich/Chester Michno

IMP League matches welcome (call first).

☆☆ 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)

New lesson series, "Bidding," starts Apr 2, 7pm-9pm

Partnerships: Marge Groberman 266-7722

Polski Klub Brydzowy

Polish Combatant Centre
1134 Kingsway, Vancouver
Waldemar Jez 527-8854
Alternate Fridays at 7:30pm

BY INVITATION ONLY



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

May 16: Club Championship

March 28, May 30: STaC Games (silver points!)

Club Championship Winners: Harry Friedman/Tai Eng

SUBURBIA CLUBS Gilbert Lambert 535-8286

New Westminster Bridge Club

Century House, 620 8th St.
New Westminster

Thursdays 7:15 pm

March 29: Swiss Teams

April 26: Club Championship

May 31: STaC (silver points!)

April 5, May 17: may be

closed, call Gilbert to confirm

Club Championship Winners:

Ernie Dietrich/John Horne-64%

Sur-Del Bridge Club

St Cuthbert Anglican Church
11601 82nd Ave.

North Delta

Fridays 7:30 pm

Apr 27: Club Championship

May 4: Swiss Teams

June 1: STaC (silver points!)

Closed April 6

Closed for sectional May 18

Club Championship Winners:

Vicki Croome/Mike Moffatt-63%

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

Unit 430 Weekly Duplicate Game List

Most recent update: March 18, 2001. Not including invitation-only clubs.

Day	Time	Club	Director	Club Contact/Phone Number	Game Details
Mon	10:00	VCR	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	10:30	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Introduction to Duplicate: 0-20 MP, stratified</i>
	10:45	BBY	H. Dressler	Hazel Dressler 524-4445	Open
	7:15	SRY	A. Browning	Arlene Browning 870-9300	Open (1st Monday stratified)
	7:15	TSW	R. Dunn	Richard Dunn 940-9809	Open (last Monday stratified)
	7:30	CWK	B. Percher	Bob Percher 792-4389	Open (last Monday stratified)
	7:30	SQU	W. Jonat	Lorraine Hurren 898-2702	Open, monthly handicap and trophy race games.
	7:30	HBN	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	VBC	B. Bart	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Intermediate: 0-300 MP, stratified</i>
Tue	10:30	VBC	B. Russell	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified
	11:00	S-W	F. Schultz	Finn Schultz 534-5025	Open stratified (?)
	7:30	NSW	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	BBY	H. Dressler	Hazel Dressler 524-4445	Open
	7:30	VBC	A. Ballantyne	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Winner-Take-All Jackpot: Open stratified</i>
Wed	10:00	VCR	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	10:30	HAS	M. Scott	Marianne Scott 298-3932	Open stratified
	10:30	VBC	B. Russell	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Adventures In Duplicate: 0-200 MP, stratified</i>
	7:00	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified (monthly hand records)
	7:15	WRK	A. Browning	Arlene Browning 870-9300	Open (last Wednesday stratified)
	7:15	VCR	L. Landau	Louis Landau 984-8309	Open stratified
	7:30	C.R	A. Yallouz	Albert Yallouz 321-1891	Open stratified
	7:30	M-R	B. Percher	Bob Percher 792-4389	Open stratified
Thu	11:00	JCC	C. Delisle	Connie Delisle 263-9196	Open stratified
	7:15	NWR	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 535-8286	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:30	ARB	A. Nagy	Jean Terry 733-2807	Now open
	7:30	MIS	B. Percher	Bob Percher 792-4389	Open stratified
	7:30	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Newcomer/Novice: 0-20 MP</i>
	7:30	VBC	G. Davis	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified
Fri	10:30	VBC	B. Russell	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Soup Kitchen: Open stratified</i>
	7:30	PKB	W. Jez	Waldemar Jez 527-8854	Alternate Fridays, non-ACBL. See club ad for dates.
	7:30	S-D	G. Lambert	Gilbert Lambert 535-8286	Open stratified, occasional team games
	7:30	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	<i>Lucky # Jackpot: Open (last Friday: TGIF Party)</i>
Sat	check	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	Monthly individuals and other special games.
Sun	1:00	RMD	E. Dietrich	Ernie Dietrich 936-2298	Open (1st Sunday stratified)
	1:00	VBC	E. Chan	Club telephone 255-2564	Open stratified, monthly team games
	7:00	VBC	R. Dunn	Monthly Unit Game (see p. 33)	Open stratified, separate 99er game.

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

March 26—June 3, 2001

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
25 Mar	1:00	RMD	ABCL-wide Charity Game
25 Mar	1:00	VBC	Monthly Mish-Mash Swiss Teams
26 Mar-Apr 1			Seattle-sponsored District-wide STaC VCR, BBY, VBC, C-R confirmed
26 Mar	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
26 Mar	7:30	VBC	0-300 Club Championship
26 Mar	7:30	TSW	Stratified Club Championship
28 Mar	10:30	HAS	Club Championship Game
28 Mar	7:15	WRK	Monthly Stratified Game
29 Mar	7:15	NWR	Swiss Teams
30 Mar	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
31 Mar—1 Apr		VBC	CNTC Zone Final (details, p. 30)
1 Apr	1:00	RMD	Monthly Stratified Game

Club Abbreviations and Ad Locations

Abbr	Club Name	Page
ARB	Arbutus Village BC	17
BBY	Burnaby DBC	17
C.R	Central Richmond BC	17
CWK	Chilliwack DBC	21
HAS	Hastings BC	17
HBN	Hollyburn BC	17
JCC	Jewish Comm. Ctr. DBC	17
MIS	Mission DBC	21
M-R	Maple Ridge DBC	21
NWR	New-West BC	17
NSW	North Shore Winter Club	17
PKB	Polish Bridge Club (non-ACBL)	17
RMD	East Richmond BC	22
S-D	Sur-Del BC	17
S-W	South-West DBC	20
SRY	South Surrey BC	28
SQU	Squamish DBC	20
TSW	Tswassen BC	23
VBC	Vancouver Bridge Centre	20, 22
VCR	Vancouver Bridge Club	17
WRK	White Rock BC	23

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
1 Apr	1:00	VBC	Monthly Winners Free Play Game
1 Apr	7:00	VBC	April Fools Monthly Unit Game
2 Apr	7:00	JCC	New Lesson Series Begins
2 Apr	7:15	SRY	Monthly Stratified Game
2 Apr	7:30	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
5 Apr	—	NWR	Possibly Closed
6 Apr	—	S-D	Closed; Location Unavailable
9 Apr	7:30	CWK	Club Championship Game
11 Apr	7:00	VBC	Monthly Hand Record Game (Club Championship)
13 Apr	10:30	VBC	Soup Kitchen Club Championship
13 Apr	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
13 Apr	7:30	VBC	Lucky # Club Championship
14 Apr	7:00	VBC	Monthly Individual Game
16 Apr	10:00	VCR	Easter Monday Holiday Pairs
16 Apr	7:30	SQU	Monthly Trophy Race Game
18 Apr	7:15	WRK	Club Championship Game
20 Apr	8:00		GNT District Final, Bellevue WA (4 or 5 sessions: details, p. 31)
21 Apr	1:00	VBC	Vancouver Public Library Fund Raiser (details, page 20)
22 Apr	1:00	VBC	Sunday Aftn. Club Championship
23 Apr	7:15	SRY	Club Championship Game
24 Apr	7:30	BBY	"Beat The Experts" Game
25 Apr	10:00	VCR	Handicap Game
25 Apr	7:15	WRK	CBF Helen Shields Canada-wide Rookie/Master Game
25 Apr	7:30	VBC	CBF Helen Shields Canada-wide Rookie/Master Game
26 Apr	7:15	NWR	Club Championship
27 Apr	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
27 Apr	7:30	VBC	TGIF Party Game
30 Apr	7:15	SRY	Swiss Teams
30 Apr	7:30	CWK	Monthly Stratified Game
30 Apr	7:30	TSW	Stratified Club Championship
1 May	7:30	VBC	Winner-Take-All Club Champ.
2 May	10:00	VCR	Club Championship
2 May	7:00	VBC	Monthly Hand Record Game
3 May	7:30	VBC	Club Championships (open, 0-20)
4 May	7:30	S-D	Swiss Teams
5 May	7:00	VBC	Monthly Individual Game
6 May	1:00	RMD	Monthly Stratified Game
6 May	1:00	VBC	Monthly Winners Free Play Game
6 May	7:00	VBC	April Fools Monthly Unit Game
7 May	7:15	SRY	Monthly Stratified Game
7 May	7:30	SQU	Monthly Handicap Game
9 May	10:30	VBC	"Adventures in Duplicate" Club Championship Game (0-200)
11 May	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
12 May	noon	VBC	CWTC Zone Final (details, p. 30)
13 May	1:00	VBC	Mother's Day—free play for all Moms!

(continued on page 20)

CLUB NEWS YELLOW PAGES

(Special Events at Clubs, continued from page 19)

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
14 May	10:30	VBC	"Introduction to Duplicate" Club Championship Game (0-20)
16 May	7:30	M-R	Club Championship Game
16 May	7:30	C-R	Club Championship Game
17 May	7:15	NWR	Possibly Closed
18-21 May			Victoria Day Sectional at Bonsor Community Centre (most clubs closed)
19 May	3:45		Unit 430 Annual General Meeting, following the afternoon session.
21 May	10:00	VCR	Victoria Day Holiday Pairs
22 May	10:30	VBC	Club Championship Game
23 May	7:15	WRK	Club Championship Game
25 May	7:30	PKB	Bi-weekly Game
25 May	7:30	VBC	TGIF Party Game
27 May	1:00	VBC	Monthly Mish-Mash Swiss Teams
28 May-June 3			Unit 430-sponsored District-wide STaC Most local clubs will participate

South-West Duplicate Bridge Club

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

Friends of the Vancouver Public Library Fund Raiser

Saturday, April 21, 1:00-4:00 pm

Prizes and fun in support of a great cause: your public library.

Live and silent auction, 1:00 to 1:30.
(Donations for the auction graciously accepted)

Homestyle bridge 1:30 to 4:00.

Funds raised will enhance the book collections at all the branches of the Vancouver Public Library. This fun bridge event is open to all bridge players in the Lower Mainland. Advance registration is required.

Entry fee: \$10.00 per person

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
1 June	7:30	VBC	World-Wide Pairs 1
2 June	1:00	VBC	World-Wide Pairs 2
3 June	7:30	VBC	Monthly Winners Free Play
3 June	7:00	VBC	Monthly Unit Game

ADVANCE NOTICE

Date	Time	Club	What's Happening
11 June	7:15	SRV	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
11 June	7:30	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game (Flight C only)
22 June	6:00	VBC	Hands Across The Border (pre-registration required)
26 June	7:30	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game
2 July	7:30	VBC	NAOP Club Qualifying Game (Flight C only)
13 July	7:15	WRK	NAOP Club Qualifying Game

Squamish Bridge Club

1471 Pemberton Street, Squamish
Mondays at 7:30 pm
Monthly Handicap & Trophy Race Games
Lorraine Hurren 898-2702

♠ ♥ **FOR SALE** ♦ ♣

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and many other readers, five times annually.

Full details on page 2.

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The Valley Clubs Bob Percher 792-4389

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Chilliwack

Senior Recreation Centre
9400 College Street
Mondays, 7:30pm
Stratified last Monday of each month
April 9: Club Championship
May 28: STaC Game
Milk Bottle Charity & Christmas C.C.:
Jim Sache/Len Feeny (they won both!)
1st Qtr C.C.: Brian Lee/Roselle McRae

Maple Ridge

Ridge Meadows Seniors Activity Centre
12148 224th Street
Wednesdays, 7:30pm
May 16: Club Championship
May 30: STaC Game
Christmas Club Championship Winners:
Dan Webster/Garry Skoropada, and
Jim Sache/Jim Groves (tie)
March C.C.: Julie Stone/Evelyn Start

Mission

33529 Catherwood St.
(new site since September 2000)
Thursdays, 7:30pm
June 14: Club Championship
May 31: STaC Game
Christmas Club Championship:
Cancelled by snow!
March 15 Club Champions:
Dan Webster/Garry Skoropada

1. On the bidding and play, it appears that East has five hearts and four spades. The opponents are probably playing third and fifth leads. You should look at their convention card. But even if they are playing fourth best leads, it should not deter you from your assessment that East has four spades. West's return of the 9♠ is the clue.

Your chances of making this contract are almost one hundred percent.

Win the T♠ in dummy. Lead the Q♥. If East covers you will trump, if not, you will discard a club. Assume East covers. You trump and lead a club to the ace. On the T♥ you discard a Club and then lead the K♣. Do you see the plan? Assuming that trumps are not 4-0, you are laying the groundwork to make the hand no matter what the distribution of East's four minor suit cards might be. If East follows to the club, you will discard your spade loser and continue with a third club. Whether East follows or not, you will know how to play the diamonds. Should East discard, or trump the K♣, you will again know the distribution of his minors and play accordingly. The East hand, although it doesn't matter, turns out to be:

♠ Q764 ♥ AK532 ♦ Q62 ♣ 7

2. This one is easy if you have processed all the information from the bidding and play. East has done a lot of bidding. Your first thought might be that he has the A♣ and you are trying to find the jack. Not so. Go back and review the bidding. Didn't West bid 2♣? Where is his bid? Regardless of how much East has bid, it is almost certain that West has the A♣ to justify his 2♣ bid. And it is probably a doubleton ace. He has shown three spades and four diamonds. He may have only three hearts, but more likely four. That leaves two clubs. This distribution is also consistent with East's bidding. With seven hearts he might well have carried on to 5♥ or, perhaps, have opened 4♥ at the outset. In any event the odds clearly favour winning the diamond in your hand and leading a club to the queen, intending to play low on the club continuation from dummy. East's hand:

♠ 5 ♥ AKJ863 ♦ 76 ♣ J865.

Even though East did a lot of bidding in the auction with 'only' a nine point hand, it can be seen that 5♥ is down only one. Bear that in mind the next time you hold a 6-4 hand and partner supports your primary suit.

Junior Development Fund

VBC raises money for young players

Eugene Chan at the Vancouver Bridge Centre reports that a recent VBC event raised \$162.26 for the Junior Development Fund, which goes into funding for bridge camps and other Junior player programs.

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

March 25: ACBL-wide Charity Game

Closed May 20 (Sectional)

April 1, June 3: STaC Games (silver points!)

Recent Winners:

Club Championship: Waldemar Jez/Greg Barszcz (71.89%)

Junior Development Fund Game: Shirley % Ozzie Isfeld

March Club Championship: Pat Stapf, Joerg Schneider,

Barbara Jedrzejewska, Krystyna Piotrowska (tie)

Huge Game: John Anthony/Bill Osten (70.31%)

CBF Canada-wide Helen Shields Rookie/Master Game

Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 pm

The Vancouver Bridge Centre is proud to have hosted the biggest Rookie/Master game in Canada last October! The next Canada-wide game is only a few weeks away. Partners will be arranged, and souvenir hand records will be available to players (after the event, of course!)

All "Rookies" must have less than 20 masterpoints. All "Masters" must have a cheerful disposition. (Please note: "Rookies" should also have a cheerful disposition but it is not necessary for "Masters" to have more than 20 masterpoints!) Pre-registration is required for this event.

Vancouver Bridge Centre, 2776 East Broadway, ph. 255-2564

Flight A IMP League Standings

Includes reported matches thru March 18, 2001.

Data obtained from the IMP League Web Page at <http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS>

57 match results out of 78 total matches have been reported. The Goldstone team is two or three matches behind the pace. All other teams are on pace to complete the round-robin on time.

The 13 teams in Flight A play a complete round-robin of 12 matches, and the top six teams make the play-offs, with the top two earning a first-round bye. Predictions are by the anonymous *Matchpointer* prognosticator from the October issue and by the only person to send in predictions, Harold Hansen. So far, the unknown *Matchpointer* handicapper's predictions are ahead, by a correlation score of +79.67% to +59.34% for Mr. Hansen's picks. Octane Level is an indicator of how many IMPs get swung in matches involving this team; higher numbers indicate swing-dependent teams. In a typical match against this team, you need this many IMPs to have a 50% chance of winning. There have been no roster changes since last time in Flight A.

Team Captain	Record W-L-T	Total VPs	VP Avg.	IMP Avg.	Octane Level	Predictions		Team Roster
						MP	H.H.	
Lindsay	8-1-0	202	22.44	+35.33	60	2nd	7th	Cam Lindsay, Ron Borg, Paul Hagen, Dave Waterman, Steve Vincent, Martin O'Reilly.
Foster	6-1-1	168	21.00	+31.43	59	7th	1st	Rhonda Foster, Richard & Marcia Christie, Gerry McCully, Greg Arbour, Felipe Hernandez.
Divinsky	7-2-0	181	20.11	+25.00	63	1st	2nd	Nathan Divinsky, Gord Davis, Dan Jacob, Don Brazeau, Larry Hicks, Gord McOrmond.
Goldstone	4-2-0	118	19.67	+27.67	66	6th	8th	Bill Goldstone, Mike Wilson, Peter Maclean, Steve Clements, Gray McMullin, Marylou Bert.
Ballantyne	6-3-0	174	19.33	+26.22	68	3rd	4th	Aidan Ballantyne, Jim & Audrey Norman, Katrin Litwin, Bryan Maksymetz, Mike Yuen.
Watson	7-3-0	166	16.60	+2.20	61	8th	11th	Dan Watson, Pete Walton, Gary Phelan, Jean Groome, Paul & Carol Waters.
House	4-5-0	143	15.89	+10.56	64	4th	3rd	Dave House, Laurence Betts, Ron Ohmart, Martin Henneberger, Larry Pocock, Paul Sontag.
Bart	3-6-1	138	13.80	-7.22	63	5th	9th	Brad Bart, Mike & Ben Takemori, Chris Diamond, Tony Remedios, Gregorz Barszcz.
McClafferty	4-4-0	105	13.13	-15.63	54	12th	10th	Pauline McClafferty, Diane Ayukawa, Dennis McMahon, John Reay, Marguerite Chiarenza, Tove Chen.
Sache	2-7-0	99	11.00	-14.22	63	9th	5th	Don Sache, Doug Hansford, Wilf May, Brian Russell, June Pocock, Kathy Adachi.
Strebinger	3-6-0	90	10.00	-28.33	62	11th	6th	Judy Strebinger, Jenny Ballantyne, Aban Gerrie, Linda Sims, Duane Tilden, Rhoda Tafler.
Laudan	1-8-0	76	8.44	-28.44	67	10th	12th	Leslie Laudan, John Anthony, Jim LeNobel, Bill Osten, Barry Kirkham, Neil McAllistair.
Moffatt	1-8-0	50	5.56	-50.33	65	13th	13th	Mike Moffatt, Vicki Croome, Sandra Robson, Patti Adams, Ray Morrison, Insa Fricker.

TSAWWASSEN BRIDGE CLUB

South Delta Rec. Centre, 1720 56th Street

Richard Dunn: 940-9809

e-mail: hyflex@globalserve.net

Mondays at 7:15 pm

REGULAR OPEN PAIRS

Stratified Game last Monday of each month.

March 12: **14 TABLES**: new TSW record!

March 26: Club Championship Game

Congratulations to Margaret & Bruno Moras, Charlotte Aleksen and Clay Connolly, event winners at the Future Stars Sectional!

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

April 18, May 23: Club Championship Games

April 25: Helen Shields CBF Rookie/Master Game

May 30: STaC Game (Silver Points)

July 13: NAOP Club Qualifying Game

Big Game: Brad Barton/Dave Pritchard 65.80%

Club Championships: Kathy Adachi/Wilf May (Jan.),

Sheila Sache/Gilbert Lambert (Mar.)

Flight B IMP League Standings

Includes reported matches thru March 18, 2001.

Data obtained from the IMP League Web Page at <http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS>

61 match results out of 84 total matches have been reported. All teams are on pace to finish on schedule.

The 7 teams in each Flight B division play a double round-robin of 12 matches. The top two teams make the playoffs, with division winners playing against the second place team in the other division in round one. (Bodlak has clinched the "Bad" Division title.) In addition, five teams in each division are also eligible for the separate and simultaneous B2 playoffs, which similarly involve the top two B2-eligible teams in each division. Teams with players over 1500 masterpoints are ineligible for the B2 playoffs and indicated with SMALL CAPS.

Predictions are by the anonymous *Matchpointer* prognosticator from the October issue and by the only person to send in predictions, Harold Hansen. (The names of the divisions are those applied by the *Matchpointer* prognosticator.) So far, the correlation formula has both predictors tied at +60.71% in the "Bad" Division, and the anonymous predictor leads in the "Ugly" Division by +96.43% to +82.14%. Octane Level is an indicator of how many IMPs get swung in matches involving this team: higher numbers indicate swing-dependent teams. In a typical match against this team, you need this many IMPs to have a 50% chance of winning. Since the last issue of the *Matchpointer*, the Kwan team has added Terry & Fran Gould, the Lévesque team has added Rangie Sylvestrie, and the Danielsen team has replaced Ron Groome with Isabel Chernoff. The player listed as "Any Hellquist" last time, as though it really didn't matter, is actually Andy Hellqvist, and it does.

The "Ugly" Division

Team Captain	Record W-L-T	Total VPs	VP Avg.	IMP Avg.	Octane Level	Predictions		Team Roster
						MP	H.H.	
SKOROPADA	7-1-0	155	19.38	+14.88	64	2nd	2nd	Garry Skoropada, Flora Tereposky, Brad Fletcher, Mark Eddy, Dan Webster.
Kwan	5-3-0	139	17.38	+10.75	67	1st	1st	Sherman Kwan, Danny Lee, John Whittlesey, Ron Fox, Terry & Fran Gould.
ANGUS	5-4-0	143	15.89	+4.11	55	3rd	3rd	Monica Angus, Julia Barsel, Andrey Artamonov, Sheila Sache, Gilbert Lambert.
Jez	4-5-0	133	14.78	-0.89	60	4th	5th	Waldemar Jez, Ewa Wroblewicz, Andrej Zorawski, Armando Andreoli, Kel Raywood, Geoff Fetterley.
Sumner	4-4-0	117	14.63	-0.88	63	5th	3rd	Ric Sumner, Pat Jones, John Horne, Tom Cotton.
Dunn	3-5-0	112	14.00	-2.13	58	6th	4th	Richard Dunn, Bruce McIntyre, Greg Morse, Andy Hellqvist.
Lévesque	1-7-0	71	8.88	-26.25	69	7th	7th	Julien Lévesque, Greg Lam, Marti Oppenheimer, Judy Murphy, Nigel Fulbrook, Rangie Sylvestrie.

The "Bad" Division

Team Captain	Record W-L-T	Total VPs	VP Avg.	IMP Avg.	Octane Level	Predictions		Team Roster
						MP	H.H.	
BODLAK	8-2-0	194	19.40	+15.30	56	1st	1st	Stan Bodlak, Pearl Minkoff, Sandi White, David Walker, Cheryl Brander, Christina Jacob.
Danielsen	4-4-0	122	15.25	+2.88	58	2nd	4th	Ken Danielsen, Isabel Chernoff, Pat Wotherspoon, Elaine Levins, Chris Maylin, Chris Robbins.
Morse	4-4-0	121	15.13	+1.50	54	4th	3rd	Peter Morse, Claire Burns, Ozzie & Shirley Isfeld.
Crowhurst	4-4-1	131	14.56	-4.25	60	5th	6th	Marion & Jeremy Crowhurst, Kathy Bye, H.K. Ho, Kenny Chan, Aase Haines.
Lai	3-5-1	127	14.11	-2.25	59	7th	2nd	Samuel Lai, Kam Tang, Anderw Nalos, Grant Gayman, Li Sho, Vincent Ho.
Meyer	5-5-0	136	13.60	-6.50	56	6th	7th	Larry Meyer, Rod Coote, Rick Hogarth, Jim McKenzie, Dick Simpson, Bob Takashita.
ISFELD	2-6-0	99	12.38	-8.88	58	3rd	5th	Dianne Isfeld, Brian Badger, Joerg Schneider, Pat Stapff, Joan Richards, Gus Axen.

Flight C IMP League Standings

Includes reported matches thru March 18, 2001.

Data obtained from the IMP League Web Page at <http://www.cs.sfu.ca/~bbart/personal/IMPS>

21 match results out of 28 total matches have been reported. The Bohdanowicz team is one match behind the pace. All other teams are on pace to complete the round-robin on time.

The 8 teams in each Flight C play a round-robin of 7 matches. The top three teams make the playoffs, with division winners receiving a first-round bye. In addition, five teams in Flight C are also eligible for the separate and simultaneous C2 playoffs, which similarly involve the top three C2-eligible teams. Teams with players over 100 MP are ineligible for the C2 playoffs and indicated with SMALL CAPS.

Predictions are by the pseudonymous *Matchpointer* prognosticator from the December issue, Dr. Kent Bidwell, and by the Hideous Hog (in Training). So far, Dr. Bidwell's predictions are ahead, by a correlation score of +83.33% to +57.18% for the Hog's picks. Octane Level is an indicator of how many IMPs get swung in matches involving this team: higher numbers indicate swing-dependent teams. In a typical match against this team, you need this many IMPs to have a 50% chance of winning. Since Dr. Bidwell's article, Breton has replaced Ryan Park with Tamara Dakic, and Erickson has replaced Ture Erickson with Theresa Kong.

Team	Record	Total	VP	IMP	Octane	Predictions		Team Roster
Captain	W-L-T	VPs	Avg.	Avg.	Level	Dr.B	HHIT	
Ochnio	5-0-0	114	22.80	+30.00	61	1st	3rd	Jan & Anna Ochnio, Krystyna Piotrowska, Barbara Jedrzejewska, Ryszard Wojtowicz, Marek Gruszowski
CROSS	3-2-1	111	18.50	+26.80	54	5th	4th	Brian Cross, Eda Kadar, Peggy Ross, Karin Dunlop, Carol-Ann Halliday
Erickson	3-1-1	92	18.40	+18.50	61	2nd	2nd	Lynn Erickson, Anna & Terry Eastwood, Theresa Kong, Gary & Alice Thomas
BOHDANOWICZ	2-2-0	66	16.50	+10.00	53	4th	5th	Krystina & Matt Bohdanowicz, Victor Finberg, Veronica Peacock, Margaret Krucik, Bob Faraci
Breton	3-2-0	69	13.80	-10.00	66	3rd	1st	David Breton, Reza Naserasr, Jeremy Bell, Norman Dreger, Chris Seltentrich, Tamara Dakic
RUSINEK	2-4-0	72	12.00	-15.00	58	6th	8th	Maggie Rusinek, Mark Rojewski, Adam Mszczynski, Tadeusz Smaruj, Jerzy Ambroziewicz, Krzysztof Barski
Barr	1-5-0	58	9.67	-19.83	57	7th	7th	Janice Barr, Ruth Winkler, Chloe Clark, Dawn Smith, Bonnie & Gerry Purcell
Ho	1-4-0	48	9.60	-27.80	60	8th	6th	Ian Ho, Ross Lam, Mike Ludkovski, Yi Yang, Phillippe Westreich

(Only Yesterday, continued from page 29)

25 years ago in the *Matchpointer* (Spring 1976, Gary Harper, editor)

Last time we mentioned that the SFU Bridge Club had advertised a tournament for prizes: 12" black and white TV's to winners in each direction, \$50 each for second, and \$50 to the top SFU pairs. At \$3.00 per person we wondered if this event could fly. It did. Fifty-one tables showed up to play. The winners of the TV's were **Alex MacBeth** and **Willie Weinstein** (first E/W and overall), and **Karl van Renesse** and **Ann Anderson** (first N/S). **John Bryden**, **Doug Strachan**, **Ron Fox** and **Sherman Kwan** won \$50 each for second place. The event took in \$542 in entry fees and paid out \$400 in prizes plus the TV sets. I expect that with beer sales they made a healthy profit.

More Unit History: Phil Wood reported the news that Unit 430's second Life Master, **Erik Stark**, passed

away last fall. Erik approached Phil a short time before a Regional in Seattle in the mid-fifties, just a few points shy of the required 300 that only **Adrian Hicks** had yet reached. They perused the schedule and one event, the Life Masters Individual, seemed interesting, but not quite being a Life Master, Erik would not be allowed to enter. Phil advised Erik to go down and approach the directors and ask to be a stand-by, individual movements usually requiring a number of contestants divisible by four. He did so and got in at the last minute to fill a table. Things went very well, and Erik won the event he was technically ineligible for to make him Unit 430's second LM!

Old copies of the *Matchpointer*, back to the early 1970s, are collected and bound by the Vancouver Public Library's Central Branch downtown. The Unit also has a collection of old *Matchpointer* issues, and donations to this collection of any issues prior to 1973 are happily accepted: we'll copy them and return them to you.

Winners



January-March 2001

LOCAL WINNERS

2001 TROPHY SECTIONAL
BURNABY, JANUARY 19-21
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 295 TABLES

A B C Friday Afternoon Stratified Pairs (36 tables)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Phil Hernandez/Gerry McCully |
| 2 | Phyllis Gerber/Delphine Tablotney |
| 3 | 1 Thelma Hofstede/Mariann Hutton |
| 4 | Wilf May/Les Fouks |
| 5 | Laureen Holley/Derek Ward |
| 6 | 2 Tomie & Sam Yamanouchi |
| 3 | Ken Lochang/Arun Chopra |
| 4 | Shirley Fitterman/Jeanette Greenhut |
| 5 | William Osten/Jim Lenobel |
| 6 | Chester Michno/Haiderali Nazak |
| 1 | Gordon Burns/Mike Stickland |
| 2 | Carol-Ann Halliday/Clarence Dodd |
| 3 | Roberta Richards/Pat Pope |
| 4 | Dominique Baker/Theresa Kong |
| 5 | Lynn Erickson/Lila Jay |

D E Friday Afternoon Future Masters (5 tables)

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Hsiang Li/Wuyen Ni |
| 2 | 1 Kumiko Yoshimoto/Michiyo Takeda |
| 3 | 2 Leif Pedersen/Bob Smith |
| 4 | 3 Ian & Glenda Affleck |

D E Friday Evening Future Masters (4 tables)

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Sachi Yamakami/Cathy Miller |
| 2 | 1 Ian & Glenda Affleck |
| 3 | 2 Scott & Joan Furness |

Friday Evening Henry Smilie Trophy

A B Board-A-Match Mixed Teams (14 teams)

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1 | 1 Claire Burns, Peter Morse, Marylou Varga, Bob Kiggins |
| 2 | Mark Eddy, Edith Krul-Hicks, Liz & Ted Hicks |
| 3 | 2 Ric Sumner, Pat Jones, John Horne, Debbie Williams |
| 4/6 | Gerry McCully, Marcia & Richard Christie, Rhonda Foster |
| 4/6 | 3/4 Bruce McIntyre, Ben Takemori, Pauline McClafferty, Diane Ayukawa; Jeremy & Marion Crowhurst, Kenny Chan, Kathy Bye |

A B C Friday Eve. Side Stratified Pairs (27 1/2 tables)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 Ralph Cole/Dave Jeffries |
| 2 | Dan Watson/Christopher Maylin |
| 3 | 2 Tom Cotton/Lotte Elias |
| 4 | Sherman Kwan/Wilf May |
| 5 | Dave House/Eugene Chan |
| 6 | 3 Barry Kirkham/Mike Hurley |
| 4 | 1 Ghodsi Ahmadi/David Hooey |
| 5 | Haiderali Nazak/Nigel Fullbrook |
| 6 | Andrew Zorawski/Ewa Wroblewicz |
| 2 | Gordon Burns/Mike Stickland |
| 3 | Edite Phillipotts/Beverley Hall |
| 4 | Wink & Ann Andres |
| 5 | Linda & Les Ellis |

Adrian & June Budd Hicks Trophy

Saturday Two Session Open Pairs (43, 20 tables)

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Dick Yarrington/Greg Arbour |
| 2. | Doreen & Gord McOrmond |
| 3. | Stan Christie/Balusu Rao |
| 4. | Trudy & John Hurdle |
| 5. | Sheryl Brander/Christina Jacob |
| 6. | Mike Dimich/Brad Bart |
| 7. | Kenny Chan/William Ge |
| 8. | Helen Montgomery/Delphine Tablotney |

Saturday Two Session 99ers

D E Future Masters Championship (6 1/2, 6 tables)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 Ian & Glenda Affleck |
| 2 | Chloe Clark/Marie Cahill |
| 3 | 2 Bruce Partridge/Dave Hicks |
| 4 | 3 Edite Phillipotts/Beverley Hall |
| 5 | Gaby Uranyi/Joyce Goddard |
| 4 | Jacqueline Phillips/Linda Wormworth |

Saturday Evening Consolation Pairs (21 tables)

- | | |
|----|------------------------------|
| 1. | Claire Burns/Peter Morse |
| 2. | Barry Kirkham/Jim Lenobel |
| 3. | Rhoda Tafler/Andrew Ross |
| 4. | Tomie Yamanouchi/Toyo Nunoda |
| 5. | Marion Crowhurst/Kathy Bye |
| 6. | David Hooey/Bruce McIntyre |

Willie Weinstein Trophy

A X Sunday Flight A/X Swiss Teams (20 teams)

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1 | Dan Jacob, Larry Hicks, Gord McOrmond, Mike Hargreaves |
| 2 | 1 Martin Henneberger, Mike Takemori, Ben Takemori, Chris Diamond |
| 3/4 | Jim Sache, Len Feeny, James Dickie, John Anthony |
| 3/4 | 2 John & Trudy Hurdle, Elaine Ryan, Rhoda Tafler |
| 5 | 3 Marcia & Richard Christie, Jim & Audrey Norman |
| 6 | Nathan Divinsky, Les Fouks, Don Brazeau, Jim Lenobel |
| 4 | Sandi White, Stan Bodlak, Anne Nagy, Pearl Minkoff |

		Mary Clarke Trophy	
B	C	Sunday Flight B/C Swiss Teams (36 teams)	
1		Waldemar Jez, Ewa Wroblewicz, Andrew Zorawski, Greg Barszcs	
2		Patti Adams, Betty Jackson, Sandra Hawk, Ruby Jackson	
3		Les Baldys, Noorali Dhahani, Rajab Vaiya, Marjorie McLeod	
4		Ken Lochang, Maureen Crompton, Joan & Alice Stuart	
5/6	1	Wuyen Ni, Hsiang Li, Vincent Ho, Frank Chin	
5/6		Larry Meyer, Jim McKenzie, Rod Coote, Rick Hoggarth	
7		Don Keith, Christa Mead, Kenny Chan, H.K. Ho	
2		Matt & Kristina Bohdanowicz, Veronica Peacock, Roy Bishop	
3		Eda Kadar, Brian Cross, Carol-Ann Halliday, Wayne Salter	
4		Gerald Paul, Larry Gillott, Clay Connolly, Charlotte Alekson	

2001 FUTURE STARS 0-200 SECTIONAL
VANCOUVER BRIDGE CENTRE, JANUARY 19-21
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 58 TABLES

A	B	C	Saturday Afternoon Stratified Pairs (12 tables)
1	1	1	Douglas Grant/John Zohrab
2	2	2	Margaret & Bruno Moras
3	3	3	Stanley Buckmaster/Jerry Haynes
4	4	4	Jeffrey Zhu/Joan Tang
5/6/5/6			Philippe Westreich/Taleen Harasymow
5/6/5/6			Bonnie & Gerald Purcell
		6	Ian & Glenda Affleck

A	B	C	Saturday Evening Stratified Pairs (17 tables)
1	1	1	Betty Sagi/Lena Kwak
2	2	2	Barb & Douglas Grant
3	3	3	Pat Thom/Pearl Wiens
4			Eda Kadar/Brian Cross
5			Samantha Nystrom/Stuart Carr
6	4	4	John Emmerson/Brian Engler
	5	5	Ross Lam/David Breton
	6		Beverley Hall/Edite Phillpotts
		6	Judy Christensen/Susan Mitchell

A	B	C	Sunday Morning Stratified Pairs (15 tables)
1			Eda Kadar/Brian Cross
2			Lynn Erickson/Theresa Kong
3	1		Harvey & Jean Bridges
4	2	1	Ross Lam/David Breton
5			Colin & Doreen Ransom
6/7			Betty Reynolds/Kazuko Koda
6/7			Frances Gunn/Bill McMartin
3	2		Glenda & Ian Affleck
4	3		Jerry Haynes/Linda Haynes
5	4		John Emmerson/Brian Engler
6			Beverley Hall/Edite Phillpotts
	5		Susan Wilks/Joe Balog

A	B	Sunday Afternoon Swiss Teams (14 teams)
1/2	1	Cathy Miller, Stuart Carr, Sam & Barry Yamanouchi
1/2		David Hooley, Brian Fox, Charlotte Alekson, Clay Connolly
3		Lynn Erickson, Theresa Kong, Eda Kadar, Brian Cross
4		Ross Lam, Tamara Dakic, Samantha Nystrom, David Breton
5		Betty Reynolds, Kazuko Koda, Colin & Doreen Ransom
2		Julianne Wooden, Beverley Hall, Edite Phillpotts, Freda Cryer

The top ten masterpoint winners at the 2001 Future Stars tournament are listed on page 13. Has anyone noticed that Flight C (0-20) pairs took a very large portion of the Flight A (100-200) overalls? Dare I say it? Masterpoints don't mean a thing if the people without them play the game well.

OUT-OF-TOWN WINNERS

OREGON TRAIL REGIONAL
PORTLAND OR, FEBRUARY 19-25

Tuesday Morning Continuous Stratified Pairs

A3. Harold Hansen/Al French
 B2/3. Bachan Buttar

Tuesday Evening Stratified Open Pairs

A3. Cam Doner

Wednesday Morning Continuous Stratified Pairs

A1. **Harold Hansen/Al French**

Senior Knockout Teams, Bracket 3

2. Roberta Richards, Betty Reynolds, Colin & Doreen Ransom

Morning Continuous Pairs

3/4. Harold Hansen/Al French

Friday Evening Swiss Teams

BC1. **Roberta Richards, Betty Reynolds, Colin & Doreen Ransom**

Friday Stratified Senior Pairs

B1. **Claire Burns/Peter Morse**

Early Bird Knockout Teams, Bracket 1

3/4. Cam Doner

Early Bird Knockout Teams, Bracket 2

3/4. Bachan Buttar; Gerry Cross, Gloria Allen

Early Bird Knockout Teams, Bracket 3

3/4. Roberta Richards, Betty Reynolds, Colin & Doreen Ransom

Weekend Knockout Teams, Bracket 1

1. **Cam Doner**

50TH ANNUAL HAWAII REGIONAL
HONOLULU HI, FEBRUARY 19-25

Aloha Charity Stratified Pairs

C6/7. Gloria Allan

Tuesday Stratified Open Pairs

A8. Ken Danielsen

(continued on page 29)

(Opening Lead, continued from page 2)

Is this treatment alertable? I don't know. I don't care. I'm not wading through the rules to find out: my word processor doesn't even recognize alertable as an English word. And I'm not going to listen to your lecture about how it is misleading, because it isn't. Did you really think that responder would transfer to clubs with at most a four card suit? (You have seven, the notrumper has at least two: do the math.)

Let's face it: most of the time, "that's not alertable" is not a friendly word to the wise (which could just as easily be delayed until the round is over). It's more often a prelude to action if things go wrong, or an attempt to shake the opponents confidence in their system. It wastes time.

Here's my advice on how to cope with the ACBL alert procedure:

• Alert anything that is normally alerted, plus any call which may be misconstrued by the opponents if they assume it to be natural, or if they assume it to be the

most likely convention to pop up in this spot.

• Don't forget that ace-asking bids and all bids (bids, not calls: doubles and redoubles and passes with specialized meanings are always alertable) above 3NT, beginning with the rebid of the opener, are not alertable until the auction is over, when you get to say "surprise: 4NT was ace-asking!"

• If in doubt, alert.

• If an opponent tells you that your partner's call (which you alerted) is not alertable, say this without rancor: "I don't care." If the director is summoned, check your watch and prepare this simple speech, delivered without sarcasm or frustration: "Mr. Director, which do you think is worse: alerting a bid which I thought at the time might require one, or wasting [check your watch and insert the accurate number here] eight minutes of playing time at this table in order to embarrass me for trying to do the right thing?"

Do you think that you'll be hauled before a committee and will lose matchpoints for your ignorance of the procedure? You

might, but if it happens more than once a year you need a better lawyer. The regulations themselves say this:

• Players who, by experience or expertise, recognize that their opponents have neglected to Alert a special agreement will be expected to protect themselves.

• Adjustments for violations are not automatic.

• An opponent who actually knows or suspects what is happening, even though not properly informed, may not be entitled to redress if he or she chooses to proceed without clarifying the situation.

• When an Alert is given, ASK, do not ASSUME.

You can read, skim or ignore any portion of the 6,064 words in the ACBL alert procedure at this Internet address:

<http://www.acbl.org/info/charts/alertproc.htm>

You'll find it with one click from:

www.acbl.org

Congratulations!

New Life Master, Two New Gold LMs!

Julien Lévesque sent a last minute note that Doug Cowan and Katrin Litwin have passed 5,000 masterpoints and have become Gold Life Masters, and that Doreen McOrmond is the Unit's newest Life Master. Congratulations to all three.

Get the Chuckwagons!

Sept. Sectional coming to Cloverdale

Eda Kadar spent much of the month of March phoning any place where a tournament might be held without causing a huge entry fee increase. The most promising site was the Sunrise Banquet & Convention Centre, near Cloverdale on 188th St., where we will hold the Evergreen Sectional in September. More details

28 will appear in the May-June *Matchpointer*.

South Surrey Bridge Club

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

Director: Arlene Browning 1-604-870-9300

Partnerships: Dot Carnegie 535-8286

Mondays at 7:15 pm

First Monday of each month Stratified
Computer Scoring Partners Guaranteed

Coming Events April 23: Club Championship

April 30: Swiss Teams

May 28: STaC Game (silver points!)

June 11: NAOP Club Qualifying Game

Winners

Stratified Game: Isabel Chernoff/Rita Hasselbach

Club Championship: Lotte Elias/Daisy Neilson

Teams: John Lien, Judy Acheson,

Liz Stoneman, Rekha Shah

(Only Yesterday, continued from page 32)

20 years ago in the Matchpointer

(Jan./Feb. 1981, Aidan Ballantyne, editor)

The big issue in early 1981 was the ACBL's suggestion that tournament sites should be videotaped. The perceived problem then was wandering players seeing information from boards and discussing hands yet to be played. Little was said about today's main bugaboo, hesitations. The opposition to the proposal centered on invasion of privacy, plus the frequent non-conclusive nature of video evidence. The ACBL Board of Directors was due to vote on the issue at the Spring NABC. In Unit 430, the Victoria Unit was in favour, while Vancouver and Seattle were opposed.

A new event was about to be added to Vancouver Sectionals, the Board-A-Match Swiss Teams. The scoring and match pairing are based on boards won and lost, so teams winning their first match 7-0 will be paired not just against other winners, but against other teams scoring up a blitz. The event lasted until the mid 1990s when Victory Points began to prove more popular in Flight A Swisses.

The 1980 trophy winners were **Dan Jacob, Janet Daling** of Seattle, and in the Under 200, a tie between **Nuridin Kassam** and **Haiderali Nazak**. Tenth place in the under 200 in 1980 scored 21.66 masterpoints, enough for second place in 2000!

Odd things were happening in the IMP League twenty years ago. A team from Victoria captained by **Doug Hawkes** had entered and had played three matches, about four behind the pace, so there was confusion about whether to include them. In Flight B, the team with **Martin O'Reilly** as non-playing captain had a big lead, and the team O'Reilly was actually playing for was only three IMPs out of the lead in Flight A, making possible a rare double!

The winners list for this issue includes this result from Reno: "**Alana Skuce**—four consecutive black-jacks at Jessie Beck's."

Board Dir: East 14 Vul: None	NORTH	1980 Round-Up; Masters Pairs
WEST	♠ x x x ♥ J x x ♦ x x x ♣ Q 9 x x	EAST
♠ — ♥ A Q x x ♦ K J T x x x ♣ A J x	SOUTH	♠ AK Q J T x x x x ♥ — ♦ Q ♣ T x x
	♠ x ♥ K T x x x x ♦ A x x ♣ K x x	

This hand provided some good stories from the Masters Pairs. One lady opened the East hand 4NT, after an internal struggle designed to let partner know this was Blackwood. Hearing two aces she settled for 6♣, making on the trump lead.

Peter Cooper opened the East hand 2♣, after some thought, and **Chris Christofferson** scoffed, "must be a pretty bad weak two, it took so long!" before overcalling 3♥! The West player decided to double this, and Cooper recognized his lack of defense and carefully pulled...to 3♣. Unfortunately, nobody doubled and +230 was a poor score.

And then there is this story: "**Gerry McCully** found himself on lead against 6♣, and after a momentary sampling of the vibes got off to the killing lead of a low club. However, **Doug Baldwin**, who shall remain anonymous, put in the nine...making six!"

Dick Yarrington opened the East hand 2♣, strong and artificial. His partner Blackwooded and then settled in 6NT, where "the final count was down five. A similar auction occurred at another table, but the opening leader decided to play it safe with a neutral spade lead. Three people at the table managed to laugh."

(continued on page 25)

(Hawaii winners, continued from page 27)

Tuesday Stratified Open Pairs

B6. Mike Moffatt/Vicki Croome

Quick Knockout Teams, Bracket 1

1. Aidan Ballantyne, Katrin Litwin

Quick Knockout Teams, Bracket 2

1. Don & Sheila Sache, Doug Hansford, June & Larry Pocock

2. Ron & Jean Groome, Dot Carnegie, Gilbert Lambert

Thursday Afternoon Continuous Stratified Pairs

A3. Gary Post

AM-PM Knockouts, Bracket 1

2. Larry & June Pocock

Weekend Knockouts, Bracket 2

1. Don & Sheila Sache, Doug Hansford, Gilbert Lambert

Saturday Afternoon Continuous Stratified Pairs

A5. Angela Fenton/June Pocock

(Thanks to **Dianne Isfeld** for providing the complete Daily Bulletins from Hawaii. This is the 25th issue of the Matchpointer I have typed up winners lists for, and the first ever time that someone has provided me with a set of Daily Bulletins from a far-off tourney, **not having won anything**. Even though it is Dianne and therefore not as surprising as it might be were it anyone else, I'm terrified I've missed something...)

Zone Finals Information

by Larry Meyer

The BC Zone Finals for the **Canadian National Team Championship** (CNTC) will be held on Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1, at the Vancouver Bridge Centre—2776 East Broadway, Vancouver. Flight A is unlimited; Flight B is limited to players with less than 1000 masterpoints as of September 1, 2000. A captain's meeting to discuss unusual methods and suggested defenses will be held at 11am, play starts at noon. Other session start times will be announced at the event.

The format will be a full round-robin, stratified unless enough Flight B teams enter to warrant a separate event. Teams have earned their qualifications at the club level by playing at events held at the Prince George Bridge Club, Victoria Bridge Centre, Island Bridge Club, and Vancouver Bridge Centre. The top team in each flight will receive a subsidy from the CBF to attend the National Final, and at least one other team in each flight will be invited to participate in the final, which is in Montreal in August.

Players who did not earn a club qualification can still participate in the Zone Final by paying a qualification fee of \$100 to the Canadian Bridge Federation (this fee does not include the event entry fee or the required fee for membership in the CBF). Teams at the Zone Final may be formed from players on qualifying teams and players who have paid the qualification fee.

These are the players who qualified in CNTC qualifying events held in Unit 430:

Armando Andreoli, Monica Angus, Greg Arbour, Gus Axen, Brad Bart, Julia Barsel, Matt Bohdanowicz, David Breton, Kenny Chan, Arun Chopra, Steve Clements, Rod Coote, Maureen Crompton, Brian Cross, Gord Davis, Mike Dimich, Ron Doucet, Norma Doucette, Richard Dunn, Lynn Erickson, Manuel Espinosa, Rhonda Foster, Audrey Fox, William Ge, Bill Goldstone, Carol-Ann Halliday, Andy Hellqvist, Martin Henneberger, Phil Hernandez, H.K. Ho, Vincent Ho, Rick Hoggarth, Dave House, Dianne Isfeld, Alex Jack, Waldemar Jez, Eda Kadar, Eleanor Kaufman, Margaret Krucik, Ted Lai, Samuel Lai, Ross Lam, Hsiang Li, Julien Lévesque, Ken Lochang, Pauline McClafferty, Gerry McCully, Bruce McIntyre, Jim McKenzie, Larry Meyer, Hushang Mohtadi, Greg Morse, Adam Moszcynski, Wayne Ni, Bruce Partridge, Veronica Peacock, Jacqueline Phillips, June Pocock, Larry Pocock, Betty Reynolds, Brian Russell, Hoshang Shroff, Joan Steuart, Ben Takemori, Mike Takemori, Barry Wade, Carel Wilkin, Ted Worsfold, June Young.

The BC Zone Final for the **Canadian Women's Team Championship** (CWTC) will be held on Saturday May 12, also at the Vancouver Bridge Centre. The top three teams will be eligible to play in the national finals in August in Montreal. The Zone Final is a one day event open to all who meet the criteria inherent in the event's name. There are no pre-qualification events, any team consisting of 4-6 women is eligible to participate. (If not a member of the ACBL, you will have to purchase a membership to play or buy a CBF membership for \$25.) Starting time is noon, and there will be a captain's meeting at 11 am to discuss defenses to all these unusual conventions that the ladies play these days.

Ugly rumours persist that this event is a cut-throat, dog-eat-dog—er, catty affair. There are stories about that Director calls are frequent, that the lavish hospitality has nearly resulted in food-fights, that several bid-boxes were spilled when alert strips were tapped too vigorously, and that the event organizers are hoping to recoup the losses from last year when an Appeal involving members of five teams resulted in damage to the furniture. There are only three possibilities: either these stories are completely false, or they are the vindictive creations of the players barred from participating in the event: **men**. Or possibly both!

In fact, the event last year was a fun time for all concerned, a perfect blend of competition and cordiality, and two of the teams that went to the National Finals in Halifax, survived the round-robin, won their quarterfinal matches, and met in the semifinal. The winning team of **Kathy Adachi, Ina Anderson, Grace Jeklin** and **Leslie Gold**, lost in the final to the favorites from the east. The other semi-final team of **Dianne Isfeld, Pauline McClafferty, Tove Chen** and **Diane Ayukawa** played in the Zone Final last year just to try it out, and ended up a few game swings away from contesting the national championship!

The Grand National Teams District 19 Final will take place in suburban Seattle. The event begins at the Bellevue Masonic Center, 16229 Northrup Way, Bellevue WA, at 8pm on Friday, April 20. A qualifying Swiss in all flights will be held on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon, with knockouts commencing Saturday evening among the survivors. Semi-finals and finals on Sunday morning will be held at the Eastside Bridge Centre in nearby Renton.

There are four separate events: An unlimited championship flight, a 0-5000 Flight A, a 0-2000 Flight B, and a non-Life Master (up to a maximum of

(continued on page 31)

Special Events in a Box

For more information, contact Unit Co-Ordinator Larry Meyer (271-8692) Larry.Meyer@BCHydro.bc.ca

EVENT	Qualifying Club Level Games	Unit Final	District or Zone Final	National Final	Subsidies Available
COPC Canadian Open Pairs Championship	Complete. Brad Bart and Mike Dimich had the highest reported score.	No Unit or Zone Final. Any player qualifying at the club level may play in the National Final with any other qualified player.		CBF Bridge Week Montréal Québec August 5-12, 2001 COPC: Aug. 8-9	\$1009.67 to high Q-score from Unit, also a CBF subsidy.
CNTC Canadian National Team Championship Flight A unlimited Flight B 0-1000	2001 qualifying period has ended. 2002 qualifying starts in the fall.	none	March 31-April 1 noon & TBA, VBC Players qualified are listed on page 30	CBF Bridge Week Montréal Québec August 5-12, 2001 CNTC: Aug. 5-12	\$209.22 in Unit fund, also a CBF subsidy.
CWTC Canadian Women's Teams Championship	There are no club or unit qualification rounds for the CNTC. Any team of women may enter the Zone Final.		Sat. May 12, VBC noon and TBA (captain's system discussion meeting: 11am)	CBF Bridge Week Montréal Québec August 5-12, 2001 CWTC: Aug. 5-9	\$94.95 in Unit fund. No CBF subsidy.
GNT Grand National Teams Championship Flight: Unlimited Flight A 0-5000 Flight B 0-2000 Flight C 0-500 NLM	2001 qualifying period has ended. 2002 qualifying period starts in the fall.	none	April 20-22, in Bellevue and Renton WA Qualified teams from Unit 430 are listed on page 31	Summer NABC: Toronto ON July 19-29, 2001. Washington DC July 18-28, 2002.	\$400/team from DINO, not much left in Unit subsidy.
NAOP North American Open Pairs Flight A unlimited Flight B 0-2000 Flight C 0-500 NLM	Club Managers, do you have your 2001 qualifying game dates (June-August) planned?	Fall 2001 Date and time TBA	December 1, 2001 Tacoma Sectional.	Spring NABC: Kansas City KS, Mar. 15-25, 2001. Houston TX, Mar. 7-17, 2002.	Teams 3rd in district final split \$500. ACBL pays top two.

CBF Rookie Master Games: Wed. April 25, Thu. October 25, 2001; Thu. April 25, Wed. October 30, 2002.

(continued from page 30)

500 points) Flight C. These are based on your September 2000 masterpoint holdings. (Note: several years ago, regulations discouraged Canadian players from playing in Flight A of the GNT. There are no longer any such rule and Canadians are now welcome in all flights.) Players who have not qualified at the club level games may enter by paying a fee of \$25 US (plus the applicable entry fees) to play in the District Final.

The winning team in each flight is eligible for a \$400 US subsidy from District 19 to attend the National Final at the Toronto NABC in July. The Unit 430 team of **Tai Eng, Insa Fricker, Mike Moffatt,** and **Gilbert Lambert** won the Flight B GNT at the Anaheim NABC last year!

These are the players who qualified in GNT qualifying events in Unit 430:

Kathy Adachi, Monica Angus, Greg Arbour, Diane Ayukawa, Aidan Ballantyne, Julia Barsel, Stuart Carr, Kenny Chan, Marguerite Chiarenza, Gord Davis, Mike Dimich, Cam Doner, Richard Dunn, Mark Eddy, Tai Eng, Geoff Fetterley, Insa Fricker, Nigel Fullbrook, William Ge, Carol-Ann Halliday, Doug Hansford, Larry Hicks, H.K. Ho, Dave House, Dianne Isfeld, Dan Jacob, Don Keith, Ted Lai, Greg Lam, Gilbert Lambert, Julien Lévesque, Lisa Li, Katrin Litwin, Ken Lochang, Bryan Maksymetz, Wilf May, Christa Mead, Jim McKenzie, Catherine McKinnon, Larry Meyer, Cathy Miller, Mike Moffatt, Samantha Nystrom, June Pocock, Larry Pocock, Don Sache, Ben Takemori, Mike Takemori, Duane Tilden.

Good luck to all participants!

coveted gold card. Only a few years ago he was eligible to play in 0-20 games, but then with improved results, it quickly became apparent, then inevitable, that the goal would be reached. He compared the quest to a high school graduation: certainly not a final goal, but an important threshold of achievement: one to be celebrated, but not an excuse to stop playing and learning.

The Unit subsidy fund was \$1480 richer after the best year of *Entertainment* book sales ever, by **Jennifer Ballantyne** and assistants. That's about 200 copies!

At the Winter Sectional, **Marcia** and **Richard Christie** won the Jean Turnbull Mixed Pairs Trophy. **Dan Jacob** and **Ron Borg** won the Adrian and June Budd Hicks Open Pairs Trophy. The team of **Mike Strebinger**, **Peter Herold**, **Jim Dickie** and **Aidan Ballantyne** won the Willie Weinstein Flight A Teams Trophy.

15 years ago in the Matchpointer
(February 1986, Lauren Miller, editor)

Many responses appeared to several items in the previous issue. **Doug Cowan** and **Laurence Betts** responded to the editorial by **Lauren Miller** about the proliferation of flighted and age-limited events. Doug defended the new tournament schedules by pointing out that only 20% of players ever become Life Masters, so keeping all players together makes it more likely that weaker players will become discouraged with their lack of success. Laurence focused on Lauren's criticism of the "more sociable" argument: "being a member of the male, under 55, Flight A population, I am loathe to believe that my peer group is nastier than others." Laurence pointed out that the vast majority of winners was in this peer group, creating the perception that it is near-impossible for someone else to win. He urged compromise, a mixture of open and flighted events. Both Doug and Laurence pointed out that the flighted events actually improved the standard of play in the top flight, where less match-points could be expected as a result of the opponents' errors.

It's important to recognize, looking back, that this whole debate was three years before stratified events began. There are *Matchpointer* issues from the 70s that describe a ballroom full of players, hundreds of tables, all playing in the same Regional or NABC event. By 1986 this was gone, replaced by slightly smaller rooms full of several different knockouts and flighted events, and the introduction of entire tournaments limited to seniors or new players.

Stratification was the breakthrough that allowed the whole field to play in the same event again, while still

allowing the players in the lower strats to achieve some measure of success. But it was not a perfect solution. The extra points awarded to the lower strats, combined with the use of computers to automatically credit points to players, meant that the 300 points needed for Life Master came faster and faster. Today well over 50% of our members (not 20%) are either Life Masters or are a good bet to make it soon. Today we run a mixture of stratified (often with a separate top flight, itself stratified into Flights A and Flight "X") and non-stratified events each year in our four annual sectionals. The most common complaint now comes from those who have just gone over into the next strat up...

Louis Landau held this hand...

♠ 742 ♥ AJ85 ♦ A5 ♣ AQT5

...and the opponents got to six spades vulnerable. Louis opened 1♠ in second seat, and partner made a negative double after LHO overcalled 1♣. RHO, who had originally passed, came to life with a 4NT call, heard 5♥ from partner (two keycards, no trump queen) and bid 6♣.

Three aces. Wouldn't you double?

Unfortunately, the opponents hands were...

♠ Q865 ♥ 4 ♦ KQJT8764 ♣ —

...and...

♠ AKJ93 ♥ KT32 ♦ — ♣ 9863

...and six spades—redoubled—was cold for a score of 2420! Even worse was the comparison, because Louis's teammates were happy to have made 5♦ doubled, to hold the loss to only 16 IMPs!

This was the previous issue's *Hand of the Tournament* feature hand:

Dealer: ♠ KJT9 ♥ x ♦ x ♣ AKTxxx

Partner: ♠ AQxxx ♥ AKQx ♦ x ♣ Qxx

Most auctions began 1♣, pass, 1♠, 3♦, leading to a non-vul sacrifice in 7♦, for 700 under the old scoring. Some tables doubled 6♦ and few got to play the spade slam for the best score. **Liz Hicks** reported that 1430 was obtainable by simply deciding that the 6-5 hand was not enough for an opening bid! Her partner opened 1♣ in third seat and then there were diamond bids from everyone else, at the three, four, and five levels. Opener now tried 5♥ and was raised to 6♣. The opponents sat for this, no doubt thinking this was a sure plus!

Monthly Unit Games

Barszcs and Jez take the early lead

At the quarter *pole*, with three Monthly Unit Games down and nine to go, the *pole* position in the masterpoint race has been taken by a duo of *Poles*! **Waldemar Jez** and **Greg Barszcs** won the 15-table opener in January and finished near the top in the "March" game, actually held in the last week of February to avoid conflict with the Future Stars Tournament.

These guys are both non-Life Masters beginning 2001, so they lead all three lists. The winner in Flight A (for which all are eligible) wins free plays to Monthly Unit Games in 2002. The winners in Flight B (open to all players under 2000 masterpoints at the beginning of this year) and in Flight C (open to all non-Life Masters as the year began) win six free plays to Monthly Unit Games in 2002.

Attendance at the Monthly Unit Games are up a

bit over the same time last year. We have had a few under-100 pairs each time, but sadly not enough to run a separate game. We do understand that several have managed to win masterpoints in the open field! If there are six or more under-100 pairs, we will run a separate section, so call your friends and bring them along! The games take place on the first Sunday evening of most months at the Vancouver Bridge Centre. April 1, May 6, and June 3 are the next three dates. Starting time is 7:00 pm.

Partners are guaranteed at the games, with a standby system in place. Players without partners are matched up and if one is left over, the standby player is called into action. To get on the list you need to arrive early, or let either the Director, Richard Dunn (940-9809) or Unit Game Director Julien Lévesque (254-1334) know in advance. You can also call the VBC at 255-2564 just before game time to get onto the partner-needed list, or if you are going to be late. (We could use more standby volunteers, too.)

A B C January 7, 2001 (15 tables)

1	1	1	Waldemar Jez/Greg Barszcs
2	2		Jackie Phillips/Garry Skoropada
3			Laurence Betts/Dave House
4	3		Steve Clements/Custav Axen
5			Helen Montgomery/Delphine Tablotney
6	4		Sandra Robson/Geoff Fetterley
5			Diane Ayukawa/Geraldine Sugarman
6			Tove Chen/Tony Remedios
2			Kristina Bohdanowicz/Victor Finberg
3			Fran Dodds/Ireta Fisher

A B C February 4, 2001 (13½ tables)

1	1		Samantha Nystrom/Ben Takemori
2	2		Yuko Fujieda/Kazuko Koda
3	3		Vicki Croome/Mike Moffatt
4	4		Pearl Minkoff/Anne Nagy
5	5		Bruce Macdonald/Eugene Chan
6	6		Garry Skoropada/David Hooley
1			Kristina Bohdanowicz/Victor Finberg
2			Julien Lévesque/Nigel Fullbrook
3			Harry Greenhut/Henry Lai

A B C February 25, 2001 (13 tables)

1	1		Ken Lochang/Eugene Chan
2			Larry Pocock/Dave House
3	2		Tove Chen/Tony Remedios
4	3		Tony Y. N. Shyu/William Ge
5	4	1	Greg Barszcs/Waldemar Jez
6	5		Christa Mead/Don Keith
6	2		Stuart Carr/Barry Yamanouchi
3			Maureen Crompton/Veronica Peacock

A B C MUG Standings after three games Pts.

1	1	1	Greg Barszcs 5.15
1	1	1	Waldemar Jez 5.15
3			Dave House 4.78

A B C MUG Standings (continued) Pts.

4	3		Eugene Chan 4.34
5	4		Garry Skoropada 3.85
6	5	3	Samantha Nystrom 3.40
6	5		Ben Takemori 3.40
8	7		Ken Lochang 3.26
9	8	4	Jackie Phillips 2.94
10			Larry Pocock 2.73
11	9		Tove Chen 2.56
11	9		Tony Remedios 2.56
13	11		Yuko Fujieda 2.55
13	11	5	Kazuko Koda 2.55
15	13		Vicki Croome 2.36
15	13		Mike Moffatt 2.36
17			Laurence Betts 2.33
18	15	6	Kristina Bohdanowicz 2.16
18	15	6	Victor Finberg 2.16
20			Helen Montgomery 1.97
21			Pearl Minkoff 1.70
21			Anne Nagy 1.70
23			Delphine Tablotney 1.69
24			Gustav Axen 1.51
24			Steve Clements 1.51
8			Tony Y.N. Shyu 1.44
9			David Hooley 1.19
10			Stuart Carr 0.89
10			Barry Yamanouchi 0.89
10			Julien Lévesque 0.89
13			Ireta Fisher 0.73
14			Veronica Peacock 0.67
14			Harry Greenhut 0.67
14			Maureen Crompton 0.67

98.92 masterpoints have been won by 62 people (a further 32 played but didn't win any) in the first three Monthly Unit Games of 2001.

Only Yesterday

by Bruce McIntyre

Our trips back into *Matchpointer* and Unit history continue with a look back at springtime *Matchpointer* issues.

5 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

(March 1996, Bruce McIntyre, editor)

For some reason, a common theme about the February or March issues over the past fifteen years is entry fees. Five years ago Unit President **David Schmidt** was defending the District Board's decision to charge \$12.50 per player each session at the coming Regional in Richmond. The reason of course was the dollar disparity, and the GST. No Unit President has to my knowledge ever seen fit to divulge the real reason, which is that Canada is the largest country in the world without an independent bridge sanctioning organization, preferring instead to be held hostage by the ACBL's insistence on the American dollar.

It was in 1996 that Unit 430 began to start thinking about running a district-wide STaC. In March 1996 the political action began with the Vancouver Bridge Centre declining to participate in the Seattle-run STaC. The VBC argued that the profit-making sanction fees contributed by Vancouver clubs should benefit Vancouver and not only the sponsoring Unit, by the rules agreed to when Seattle's Unit began running the STaC. The Unit Board's position at the time, based on what we were told by Seattle, was that the Seattle-run STaC was not a profit-maker. We asked for detailed accounts of previous years and offered to co-sponsor the event, but there was no time to do anything to affect the VBC decision. Editor **Bruce McIntyre** raised the hackles of the VBC by writing that "the stubbornness of the VBC in this matter disappoints me," which forced an apology later that year when the real truth emerged.

In 1996, online bridge exploded onto the Internet scene with the introduction of a Windows interface to OKBridge, and the *Matchpointer* was there to check it out. The report by **Bruce McIntyre** included several screen shots of so-called experts butchering a defense to allow McBruce to win 7 online IMPs.

David Schmidt interviewed **Larry Chow** for his *Meet The Players* feature. "My biggest mistake was I thought I could learn bridge in six months, then I thought I'd learn it in a year, then I thought two, now I know I'll never learn it." Larry's company, Pacific Delectables Inc., was originally formed (with Lynda Cole of Anacortes) to sell smoked salmon to help pay for bridge expenses. By 1996, the business was expanded into moving tables, chairs, and bridge

supplies to bridge tournaments nearly everywhere.

Micheal Neagu gave the *Matchpointer* this story. Partner opens 1♠ and RHO overcalls 2NT—alerted, to your surprise, so you ask. "Hearts and one of the minors," says LHO casually. "Don't you play Michaels?" you ask. "What would it have meant if he overcalled 2♠?" LHO thinks for a few seconds, and then, with full confidence that he *knows the system*, says: "that would show hearts...and the *other* minor!"

10 years ago in the *Matchpointer*

(March 1991, David Schmidt, editor)

Unit President **Larry Pocock** reported that the Winter Sectional at the Engineer's Hall attracted 397 tables, the second largest in Unit history, and the first in North America to gross over \$10,000. (We suspect that this too had to do with the dollar disparity; the first sectional to gross five figures in American dollars was probably a few years away.)

David Schmidt's subject for *Meet The Players* was **June Stenning**. (Ask Larry Pocock what June Stenning calls herself these days.) The repeat winner of the Edie Bonnell Trophy in 1989 and 1990 began playing duplicate in 1983, but had this response to how she began playing bridge: "The patients at Riverview taught me!"

Doug Cowan ended a six year stint on the DINO board (two as DINO president) with an article describing his experiences on the District Board. Again there was a defense of regional entry fees to Canadians (which in 1991 was to be \$9.50). But then there was this account:

"The other issue which dominated discussions in the 80s was smoking. When I first came on the Board it was assumed you could smoke at the table if you wanted to although we did sell non-smoking sections. I well remember our concern about having one non-smoking day at a Yakima Regional, but it came off all right and shortly thereafter we decided smokers and non smokers had to be in separate rooms.

"That was the beginning of the end. Even smokers didn't want to play in an area with nothing but smoke, and by the Spokane Regional in fall 1988 the directors could not fill a smoking section. So players made the decision for us—no more smoking at the table! It's amazing how easily it has been accepted. Except at the Haida Club, I haven't played a session of bridge anywhere in the past two years that permits smoking at the table. Both smokers and non-smokers accept this and it is no longer an issue."

New Life Master **Eugene Chan** mused about the

(continued on page 32)

Tournaments & Dates

March 23—June 10, 2001

MARCH 2001

23-25 Yakima Sectional

APRIL 2001

26-1 Seattle Unit-sponsored
District Wide STaC

31-1 CNTC Zone Final,
VBC. Details on
page 30

1 April Fools Monthly
Unit Game
(7:00, VBC)

2-8 Victoria Regional

20-22 GNT District Final in
Bellevue WA. Details
on page 31

27-29 Sectionals in Juneau,
Kimberley, Tacoma

MAY 2001

4-6 Sectionals in Vernon,
Parksville, Richland

6 Monthly Unit Game
(7:00, VBC)

MAY 2001 (CONT.)

12 CWTC Zone Final,
VBC. Details on
page 30

18 Matchpointer deadline
(May-June issue
covers events from
May 25—Aug 31)

18-21 Victoria Day Sec-
tional, Bonsor Com-
munity Ctr, Burnaby
(Unit 430 Annual
General Meeting fol-
lows Sat. aft. session)

25 May-June Matchpointer
target release date

25-28 Renton Sectional

JUNE 2001

28-3 Unit 430 sponsored
District-wide STaC

3 Monthly Unit Game
(7:00, VBC)

Contributors

Thanks for your help!

Jenny Ballantyne

Brad Bart

Steve Bates

Sandra Borg

Eugene Chan

Richard Dunn

Harry Friedman

the Hideous Hog (in Training)

Dianne Isfeld

Eda Kadar

Louis Landau

Julien Lévesque

Larry Meyer

Peter Morse

Brian Russell

David Schmidt

Joerg Schnieder

Phil Wood

Unit 430's many Club Managers

all Matchpointer advertisers

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"

Late May

Mid-August

Mid-October

Mid-December

Mid-March

NEXT ISSUE: May-June 2001

Deadline: Friday, May 18, 2001.

Dates Covered:

May 25—August 31, 2001.

Unit 430 Main Events

A One Year Planner

2001 Victoria Day Sectional
May 18 – 21, 2001 at the Bonsor
Community Centre, Burnaby

2001 Unit 430

Annual General Meeting
Saturday, May 19, at the Victo-
ria Day Sectional, following the
first session (about 3:45 pm).

**2001 Unit 430-sponsored
District-wide STaC (Sectional
Tournament at Clubs)**
Silver points at your local club!
May 28 – June 3, 2001.

2001 Evergreen Sectional
Sept 14-16, 2001 at the Sunrise
Banquet & Convention Centre,
Surrey/Cloverdale

2001 Round-Up Sectional
November 9-12, 2000, at
the Engineers Hall in Burnaby
(note changes from last issue)

2001 Unit Christmas Party
Saturday, November 24
at the Bonsor Community
Centre, Burnaby

2002 Trophy Sectional
February 1-3, 2002 at the
Engineers Hall, Burnaby
(date and site unconfirmed)

2001 Future Stars Sectional
April 13-14, 2002 at the
Vancouver Bridge Centre
(date and site unconfirmed)

Vancouver ACBL Unit 430 invites you to the
Victoria Day Sectional



May 18-21, 2001
Bonsor Community Centre
6550 Bonsor, Burnaby
(near Metrotown Centre)



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

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ **EVENT SCHEDULE** ♣ ♦ ♥ ♠

FRIDAY, MAY 18

FRIDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: 1:30 PM

- Open Stratified Pairs**
unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300
- Senior Stratified Pairs**
unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300
- Future Masters Stratified Pairs**
50-100, 20-50, 0-20

FRIDAY EVENING START TIME: 7:30 PM

- Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams**
first of three sessions (two more Saturday)
- Side Stratified IMP Pairs**
unlimited, 300-1500, 0-300
- Future Masters Stratified Pairs**
50-100, 20-50, 0-20
ACBL Members with 0-5 masterpoints play free!

SATURDAY, MAY 19

SATURDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: NOON

- Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams**
semi-finals in all brackets
- Open Pairs Qualifying**
not stratified; single session entries accepted
- Future Masters Stratified Pairs**
50-100, 20-50, 0-20

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

SATURDAY EVENING START TIME: 7:00 PM

- Ben Lapidus Bracketed Knockout Teams**
final—top bracket winner wins the Ben Lapidus Trophy
- Open Pairs Final**
- Consolation Pairs**
not stratified; single session entries accepted
- Future Masters Stratified Pairs**
50-100, 20-50, 0-20

SUNDAY, MAY 20

SUNDAY AFTERNOON START TIME: NOON

- Stratiflighted Open Pairs, first session**
Single session entries accepted. Flight A/X: unlimited, 0-3000. Flight B/C/D: 750-1500, 300-750, 0-300
- Future Masters Stratified Pairs**
50-100, 20-50, 0-20

SUNDAY EVENING START TIME: 6:30 PM

- Stratiflighted Open Pairs, second session**
Single session entries accepted. Flight A/X: unlimited, 0-3000. Flight B/C/D: 750-1500, 300-750, 0-300
- Future Masters Stratified Pairs**
50-100, 20-50, 0-20

MONDAY (VICTORIA DAY), MAY 21

MONDAY START TIMES: 10:30 AM, TBA

- Stratiflighted Swiss Teams** (two sessions, VPs)
Flight A/X: unlimited, 0-3000
Flight B/C: 300-1000, 0-300

Tournament Co-Chair: Eda Kadar, 604/733-0042, e-mail edakadar@telus.net

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

Entry Fees: \$8.00 (paid ACBL members), \$8.50 (non-members, unpaid LMs). \$3.00 discount for junior players.
 ACBL Members with 0-5 recorded masterpoints play for free in the Friday Evening Future Masters Game.

Advance Notice: 2001 Unit 430-sponsored District Wide STaC
 Mon., May 28-Sun., June 3. Silver Points at Your Local Club!