

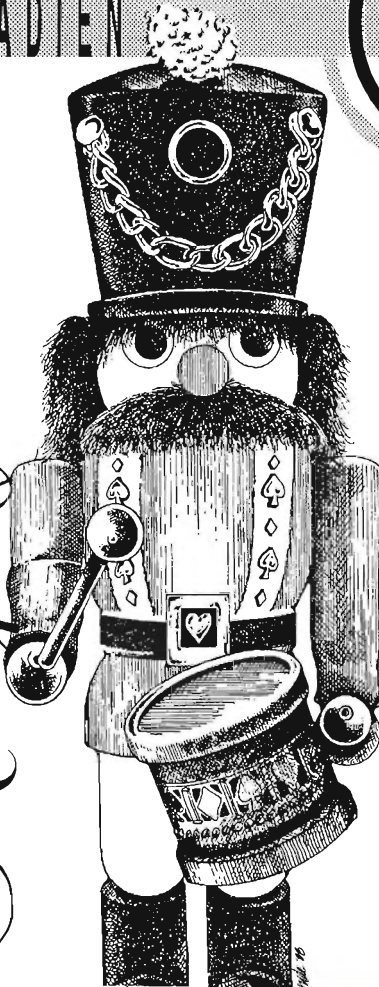
CANADIAN



bridge

CANADIEN

Merry Christmas



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PHOTO:

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Bottom, left to right

Gim Ong, Gary Mitchell, John

Carruthers, Jan Anderson



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1994 CANADIAN CHAMPIONS

* CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONS

Joseph Silver - Fred Gitelman - George Mittelman -
Mark Molson - Eric Kokish

* CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONS

Gloria Silverman - Joan Eaton -
Roisin O'Hara - Barbara Clinton

* CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONS

Dick Anderson - Peter Basarsky

* CANADIAN JUNIOR TEAM

Jeff Blond - David Levy - Darrell Kovacz -
Fred Pollack - (Eric Sutherland - Mike Roberts)

* ROOKIE-MASTER PAIRS

Nicole Limoges - Zotique Goudreau



This issue's
quote:

"Don't
they
know
that
thinking
can be a
passion?"

George
Bernard
Shaw

WBF PRESIDENT HONOURS CANADA

José Damiani, the newly elected President of the WBF, has honoured us by making his first official trip a trip to Canada. He visited Montreal in order to assess our capability of hosting the 2002 World Championships. Then, with his charming wife Monique, continued to Quebec City where he was the guest of honour of the Regional Tournament. He participated in the opening of the tournament with the Honourable Martial Asselin, Lieutenant Gouverneur de Québec.



HOLLAND REMAINS

CBF President George Holland was re-elected as Director of Zone I by acclamation. Newcomer Bill Treble was elected as Zone IV Director. Both Directors' terms begin in January 1995.

NEC BULLETINS AVAILABLE ON THE NET

There is a site in Amsterdam at the address "ftp.cs.vu.nl". Bulletins were placed into the directory sater/bridge/bulletins/wbf-1994. There are subdirectories: "txtfiles" - ASCII; "wpfiles" - Word Perfect source files; "psfiles" - PostScript files for most laser printers.

CANADIANS WIN BRONZE MEDALS

Congratulations to Duncan Phillips and Bill Solomon of Willowdale ON for their Bronze medals in the Senior Swiss Teams and the Senior Pairs at the recent NEC 1994 World Championships. See page 22 for story.

CONDITIONS OF CONTEST CHANGE

The CBF Board has recently changed key items in the Conditions of Contest for the CWTC, the CNTC and the COPC. See inside for details

SCOOPS

- Bernard Marcoux is now in the final 8 in the Bols Tip Contest 1994. Good Luck Bernard!
- The CWTC Team has added Katie Thorpe and Mary Paul to their ranks for international competition.



RETRACTION - CORRECTION

In George Retek's article, page 17, August issue, paragraph 2 incorrectly read "It is interesting to note that in some events the Canadian applications exceed USA applications by over 20%." As written, the paragraph actually should have read "In some events Canadian applications exceeded 20% of the US applications." This editor apologizes for the misprint.

The New Principles (see p. 14) for the CWTC explain that a Zone might elect to have Unit Finals and Zone Finals, or just Zone Finals or no playoffs at all. In the latter case, interested teams need only send written application to the Zone Coordinator.

Why would a Zone bother with the trouble of organizing Unit playoffs and then Zone playoffs when it is not required? Volunteers and coordinators are becoming harder and harder to find in the bridge world. Certainly local organizations will not want to waste available talent on events that are seemingly superfluous.

It is my prediction that the Unit and Zone playoffs will disappear completely and with their demise we will lose some very real benefits and opportunities.

What better way is there to promote a bridge event than the Unit Final? It is organized by a group of local bridge players, publicized through posters and newsletters, held at a local site, and accompanied by encouragement ("Sure, come on out and play - it's just for fun!") and hospitality. The game is friendly and non-threatening, encourages newcomers to get their feet wet, increases awareness of, in this case, Women's Teams, and generally broadens and strengthens the base of our bridge pyramid - something we must encourage in order to survive. As will it gives teams the opportunity to practice, learn the ropes, and test compatibilities. All this from one, supposedly expendable, game!

narrower range of players. If there were a Zonal only, new players would likely not play, considering the probable travel and expense and 'advanced' nature of the event ("Good heavens No! - what chance would I have?"). However, we would still have the 'regulars' and perhaps a few adventuresome newcomers. Again, if the coordinators did their jobs, we could still benefit by some local publicity and hospitality. Chances are, however, the attendance would be poor. With nothing encouraging women to proceed onto the Zone Finals (local fame and renown for example) the best attendance would be from those who lived nearby. This phenomena has already been witnessed by those Zones who no longer hold Unit Finals. Some have very small Zone playoffs and some have become unable to field enough teams for any Zone playoff at all.

And let us not forget fundraising. The various levels help in fundraising, not so much through entry fees, but through awareness of the event. In BC, for example, the Zone Coordinator and committee members raise money through a variety of raffles and sales. It is known this money goes to the official Zone VI Representatives and players are happy to help out. Unit Boards, too, often help their local reps with subsidy funding. The final subsidy amounts are never much but they help and encourage the women to proceed on to the National Finals. After all, if your local peers feel confident enough in you to raise all that money for your team, you must go on and do your best!

The National Finals, if held without the backup of Unit and/or Zone Finals, will quickly become lifeless. Only women already experienced and familiar with the event will bother to enter. The grassroots, from which originate all players, will be ignored and lost. With this goes equal opportunity, a catchphrase which is no less important in the bridge world than in the world at large. The end product of these changes to the CWTC could easily be a quiet death. Lack of publicity will result in only "those in the know" applying for entry, creating a difficult clique situation. Lack of funding and encouragement will dissuade many teams from traveling to the National Finals will be made up largely of local teams. In the end, lack of participation and interest will kill the

LA RECETTE DU SUCCES

par *Rollande Makarewicz*

Le 4 septembre dernier, j'ai participé à une activité d'Unité 199, la lique de bridge st-Laurent-Saglac. J'en suis revenue enchanthée. Cette unité compte 350 membres éparpillés dans des villes peu peuplées. Pourtant, 1200 personnes sont venues voir ce qui se passait. Laissez-moi vous expliquer comment préparer une activité de promotion pour le bridge.

Chaque club avait délégué ses représentants. Hélène Fournier et Gilles Tremblay, de Chicoutimi, se sont classés premiers.

Bravo à une équipe dynamique, innovatrice et travaillante.

LA RECETTE:

- vidéo à la télé locale
- publicité gratuite dans le quotidien local;
- site offert gratuitement par la ville de Chicoutimi;
- 3 ordinateurs afin que les visiteurs puissent s'amuser à jouer au bridge;
- 18 tables de duplicata, deux sessions, avec estrade prévue pour les kibitzers;
- section de 6 tables pour les amateurs de bridge-maison;
- kiosque de livres de bridge;
- affiches expliquant l'attrait du bridge;
- tirage d'un ordinateur;
- kiosque animé par un bridgeur démontrant le maniement des cartes.

ET LE SECRET DU SUCCES:

- une planification sans faille;
- un foule de bénévoles disponibles pour se retrousser les manches, travailler et servir le public;
- pas d'esprit de clocher; tous les clubs de l'Unité se sont donné la main pour assurer le succès de cette promotion.

THE CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAMS - AN OPINION (continued from page 4)

CWTC altogether. Within a few years, teams will simply form by written application for World Championships and some kind of board will decide who gets to go.

Why have we created this seemingly suicidal situation in the CWTC? Some might say "We are only interested in the best teams at our National Final - we don't really need the newcomers and grassroots teams". This may be true at the upper end of Canadian National Competition but what happens when the teams we have fall by the wayside? Who will be there to take up the torch? And who is to say that inbred competition is the best? With only themselves to play against, will our teams really improve their play? With only one event to participate in, are we really providing the teams with the best opportunity to develop and hone their skills? Some might say "We were losing participation, and most zones don't want to bother with the event. If there are zones where lack of interest and apathy are setting in, is it not in all our best interests to concentrate new promotional programs on those areas, to fan the flame of enthusiasm so to speak?

In these times of dwindling membership and participation, everyone talks about our need to encourage new players. We are supposedly 'developing programs' for this purpose. Yet here is a perfectly good vehicle for new player development, the multi-level event, being neglected and even undermined.

If we have any interest in the future of the CWC we must take steps to nurture the event. A big step forward would be to Save the Unit Finals! Devise an incentive program to encourage the organization of and participation in localized Women's Teams. Allow split-finals if necessary for large or wide-spread units. Put together promotional guidelines and checklists to help local groups with the running of a Unit Final. In fact, the guidelines should be so clear even a novice could organize the event - this way we take pressure off the women who do it 'year after year'. earmark some of the new player development monies for developing the Unit Finals. Base National Final berth allotments on participation at the Unit Level making it important to the 'big guns' that there be good turn-outs.

If everyone understands the importance of the Unit Finals, and sees the benefit, surely all areas of Canada will be able to organize a game.

CNTC CONDITIONS OF CONTEST - NEW PRINCIPLES



The intended effect of the following general principles is to open up the withdrawal criteria completely, and to allow substitution freely, with the intent of making it very easy for teams to field the best team, and strengthen the National Final, and for geographically remote areas to avoid travel as much as possible. The principle of avoiding augmentation to the Zone Final is retained to keep a level playing field and to encourage four person teams to play and thereby increase participation.

1. Teams are formed at the Unit final (Intermediate Level). All team members must be listed on the entry form at the Unit Final, whether or not they will be able to play in the Unit or Zone Final.
2. There are no board requirements at the Unit or Zone Level.
3. One substitute may be used at the Unit or Zone level for any reason, to bring the team up to four players. The only restriction on the substitute is that he or she may not be a member of an active team. The substitute will not be poisoned, and may be used later as an augmentee.
4. Three of the original members (those listed on Unit Final entry) must continue at all stages of the event. If a team for whatever reason becomes as few as two or less, that team cannot continue in the event. Nevertheless, all active (remaining) members of the team are eligible for replacement or augmentation.
5. Withdrawal for any reason is allowed and does not harm the team provided at least three of the original members survive. However, a player who withdraws is not eligible to play any further in the current event under any circumstances.
6. A member or members of a team who have withdrawn may be replaced.
7. Augmentation will not be allowed until the Zone Final has been completed.



The National Final has been extended by one day to allow for a quarter-final round. The top eight teams from the round robin will now qualify to the Knockout portion of the National Final.



RECENT CNTC CHAMPIONS

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1994 | Joseph Silver - Fred Gitelman - George Mittelman - Mark Molson - Eric Kokish |
| 1993 | Mike Cafferatta - Mike Kenny - Mary Paul - Dave Colbert - Michael Roche - Chris Hough |
| 1992 | Jim McAvoy - Duncan Smith - Michael Strebinger - Peter Herold - Jim Dickie - Bruce Ferguson |
| 1991 | Ed Bridson - John Gowdy - David Lindop - Geoff Hampson - Boris Baran - Mark Molson |
| 1990 | Doug Heron - Ed Zaluski - David Willis - John Valliant - Mike Betts - Randy Bennett |
| 1989 | Mark Molson - Boris Baran - George Mittelman - Arno Hobart - Marty Kirr - Billy Cohen |
| 1988 | Maurice Laroche - Jean Bernier - Andre Laliberte - Jacques Laliberte - Raymond Fortin - Kamel Fergani |

Canadian National Team Championships



Joseph Silver,
Hampstead PQ



Fred Gitelman,
Toronto ON



George Mittelman,
Toronto ON



Mark Molson,
Montreal PQ



Eric Kokish,
Westmount PQ

1994 CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONS

2. **FRASER** Doug, Mont Royal PQ - P. Schwartz, Cote St. Luc PQ - Nader Hanna, Willowdale ON - Martin Caley, Montreal PQ
- 3/4. **WILLIS** Dave, Orleans ON - Dennis Lesage, Saskatoon SK - Doug Heron - John Valliant - Edward Zaluski, Ottawa ON - Richard Lesage, La Prairie PQ
- 3/4. **McAVOY**, Jim - Allan Graves - Michael Hargreaves, Victoria BC - Jim Dickie, Blaine WA

by Eric Kokish

Twenty teams that had qualified earlier in the six CBF zones gathered in Dartmouth, NS June 25-29 to contest the finals of the 1994 CNTCs. Playing conditions at the Holiday Inn and hospitality were excellent, fully up to the standards established by the Maritimers over the years.

The first stage was a 19-match round robin of nine-board matches (with 80 Victory Points available in each match) to qualify four teams for the knockout semifinals. The round robin was won by SILVER who lost only once en route to racking up 1003 VP. SILVER's sole loss was to FRASER, who played consistently throughout and finished a strong second. Third was BC's McAVOY team and fourth Ottawa's WILLIS team. (See next page for full Round Robin results)

SILVER earned the right to choose between the third and fourth place teams and opted to face WILLIS with a carryover of 20imps. FRASER was left to face McAVOY in the other semifinal, with a 12-imp carryover edge.

The results of the Semi-finals were:

| | c/o | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| SILVER | 20 | 74 | 108 | 147 | 179 |
| WILLIS | 0 | 8 | 26 | 65 | 103 |
| FRASER | 12 | 47 | 777 | 101 | 156 |
| McAVOY | 0 | 24 | 47 | 76 | 109 |

The final would be between SILVER and FRASER. It was perhaps a trifle unlucky for SILVER to start the 72-board final 20imps behind, but that was what their round robin loss to FRASER had achieved. FRASER's four-man team appeared to be none the worse for wear after four gruelling days of play. SILVER's five-man team (like FRASER's an amalgam of Montreal and Toronto players) had changed since the start of the event. Geoff Hampson, an original member, had withdrawn for personal and professional reasons, and could not be replaced. one augmentee was permitted by the CBF, however, and

Mark Molson was conscripted. Each of SILVER's five players had two partnerships and this odd arrangement seemed to work quite well through the first four days, perhaps because no one had to endure the same partner for an extended period of time.

The results of the Finals were:

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|----|----|-----|-----|
| | c/o | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| SILVER | 0 | 35 | 71 | 101 | 148 |
| FRASER | 20 | 59 | 78 | 84 | 106 |

FRASER had enjoyed a great run, and it was particularly heartening to see Peter Schwartz back in competitive bridge after a hiatus of more than 25 years. For the new champions, Fred Gitelman and the intense Joseph Silver won their first CNTC title. The SILVER team will play off with Mexico and Bermuda (the hosts) in January of 1995 for a place in the 1995 Bermuda Bowl in Beijing. It is not clear whether they will add a sixth for the Tri-Country Playoff.

ROUND ROBIN RESULTS

| | | |
|-----|--|------|
| 1. | SILVER | 1003 |
| 2. | FRASER | 927 |
| 3. | McAVOY | 885 |
| 4. | WILLIS | 863 |
| 5. | CAMP, William - William Presse - Ian Crowe - George Holland - Gord Chippin - Brian Alexander | 861 |
| 6. | COCHRANE, Paul - Daniel Doston - Wayne Perrin - Cliff Campbell - Ron Bishop - Doug Baxter | 853 |
| 7. | JACOB, Dan - Gord McOrmond - Aidan Ballantyne - Rob Crawford - Ron Borg - Larry Hicks | 839 |
| 9. | SANTA, Bob - David Ingham - P.K. Madany - Karl Sudeikat - Judy & Nick Gartaganis | 829 |
| 10. | CAMPBELL, Gordon - Doron Flock - Allan Simon - Doug Deschner | 787 |
| 11. | McINTYRE, Laurie - John Bowman - Allen McDonald - Bill Bowman - David Kent - Stephen Brown | 786 |
| 12. | LECUYER, Nicolas - Yves Bonny - Gordon Crispin - Zygmunt Marcinski | 754 |
| 13. | GRACE, Ray - Daniel Bertrand - Alex Knox - Lois Dunsmore | 729 |
| 14. | THORNBOROUGH, Glen - Jym Galand - Scott Morrison - John Osborne - John Gillespie - Jeffrey Mayhew | 714 |
| 15. | LITVACK, Irving - Roy Hughes - Gordon Chapman - John Sabino - Kamel Fergani - Raymond Fortin | 682 |
| 16. | TREBLE, William - Zbigniew Radwanski - Tom Butterworth - Kai Cheng - David Sired - Allan Mowat | 677 |
| 17. | ALTAY, Andy - David Lindop - Ian McKinnon - Ed Bridson | 658 |
| 18. | FERGUSON, Earle - Russell Boyle - Brendan Dempsey - Roderick Mackenzie - Randy Bennett - James Kirby | 626 |
| 19. | HARRIS, Lloyd - Kevin Conway - Dale Freeman - Frances Freeman - Brian Thomas - Marc Langevin | 556 |
| 20. | COHEN, Ralph - Jordan Cohen, Stephen Cooper - Robert Lebi - Michael Schoenborn - Fred Lerner | 546 |

SELECTED HANDS

by Eric Kokish

Eric Kokish's CNTC report covered all the deals. The selection of hands for this magazine was entirely that of this editorial staff. Readers may look for Eric's full report in the International Popular Bridge Monthly.

SON OF THE TALE OF THE 9 OF CLUBS

| | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------|--|
| BD: II-11 | NORTH | | |
| DLR: S | ♠ J743 | | |
| VUL: None | ♥ J84 | | |
| | ♦ 43 | | |
| | ♣ J942 | | |
| | | EAST | |
| | | ♠ A1086 | |
| | | ♥ A5 | |
| | | ♦ AQ9 | |
| | | ♣ A1073 | |
| | | | |
| | | SOUTH | |
| | | ♠ Q5 | |
| | | ♥ K1063 | |
| | | ♦ 1087652 | |
| | | ♣ 6 | |

| | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | Fergani West | Silver North | Fortin East | Kokish South |
| | 1NT(weak) P | | 2♦(FGS) P | P |
| | 2♥ | P | 2NT | P |
| | 3♣ | P | 4♣ | P |
| | 4♦ | P | 4♥ | P |
| | 4♠ | P | 6♣/// | |

Six ♣ is pretty good on Board II-11 from the Round Robin. With trumps three-two, there would be lots of chances but here it looks like an uphill struggle. Kamel Fergani-Raymond Fortin duly reached it and Joey led a ♦. Kamel won in dummy and tried the ♥5. I won and returned a hopeful diamond but everyone followed. Kamel continued with ♥A, ♠K, and Joey followed with the nine, the classical false card. Kamel sniffed at that but continued with the ♣Q and a third ♣ to the ten. Joey ruffed the third ♦ however, and so Kamel was one down after all.

Irving Litvack pointed out later that once Fergani was going to credit Silver with the trump length, he might have led the eight before cashing the queen. When a low trump came up, he might then have divined the position (would Silver have played the nine to the first trump trick from 92 or 942?) and made the hand. Let the eight run, ruff a heart with the ♠10, cash the ♠A, come to the ♠K, draw trumps

with the ♠Q, claim. Mittelman-Molson played in 3NT at the other table, so we gained 11 fortunateimps. Call this Son of the Tale of the Nine of Clubs.

John Sabino pointed out that a player might well make 6NT on a diamond lead by the simple expedient of playing off four ♣ tricks. South has to discard three ♦s to keep his major suit protection, so declarer continues with three rounds of ♦s, ♠K, ♠9, running it to the queen. Poor South is enplayed, forced to lead a ♥ from the king into the split tenace.

IT'S YOUR LEAD

Another 6♣ followed immediately on Board II-12. What would you lead as South, after this auction?

You Hold: ♠754 ♥5 ♦Q97654 ♣QJ3

| | | | |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| Fergani | Silver | Fortin | Kokish |
| West | North | East | South |
| P | P | 1♠ | P |
| 1♥ | P | 2♦ | P |
| 2♥ | P | 2NT | P |
| 3♣ (FG) | P | 3♥ | P |
| 3NT | P | 4♣ | P |
| 4♦ | P | 6♣/// | |

Perhaps a ♠ lead stands out, but I didn't think so. North was unlikely to hold six spades after failing to open, preempt, or overcall, so declarer was marked with a singleton spade, almost surely the ace. West had bid 3NT into the teeth of East's shortness and so figured to hold strong spades. If they were very strong, declarer might discard all three of his hearts from a holding like KQx, and we'd go to bed with the ♥A. And so it struck me that I ought to make the strange lead of the singleton heart, holding a natural trump trick.

BD: II-12
DLR: W
VUL: N/S

NORTH
♠ KJ962
♥ J9872
♦ 3
♣ 98

WEST
♠ Q1083
♥ K1043
♦ A8
♣ 1065

EAST
♠ A
♥ AQ6
♦ KJ102
♣ AK742

SOUTH
♠ 754
♥ 5
♦ Q97654
♣ QJ3

I had my regrets when I saw dummy, but when the seven forced the ace, we were still in touch. Before continuing, ask yourself how you would play 6♣.

Raymond decided to try for two ♦ ruffs, hoping that an opponent would have to ruff the fourth from length, telescoping a trump trick. When Joey ruffed the second ♦, Raymond had to go one down. After the ♥ lead, and perhaps also on any neutral lead, it might be better to play ace-king of trumps before starting ♦s. It would be declarer's intention to ruff one ♦ and concede a trump, falling back on one of several squeezes if the ♦Q has not appeared (for better or for worse, incidentally). Falling into the proven ruffing finesse in ♦s would be a nice bonus here. Spies have revealed that George Holland (for CAMP) played 6♣ just this way.

In our match, Molson-Mittelman bid the same way as Fortin-Fergani through 3NT, but George elected to pass that, expecting more in spades opposite. Do you agree with that assessment? If you do, what would you have West bid over 3♥? George suggests 3♠ or 4♣ on the theory that 5♣ ought to be safe and 3NT might not be. For this we gained a further 11 net unfortunateimps.

CONSISTENTLY EXCELLENT CARD PLAY

One of the reasons for the success of the FRASER team was consistently excellent card play.

BD: III-24
DLR: S
VUL: None

NORTH
♠ AK85
♥ A6
♦ J1073
♣ Q62

WEST
♠ 10432
♥ Q43
♦ AK82
♣ 104

EAST
♠ J7
♥ 52
♦ Q9
♣ AKJ9873

SOUTH
♠ Q96
♥ KJ10987
♦ 654
♣ 5

East started with a heavy 3♣ preempt and that got past South, Marty Caley. Ask yourself what you would have done in the place of North, Peter Schwartz, when 3♣ came around to you. In an expert bidding competition, you would get votes for pass,

3♠, 3NT, and double. Peter elected to double and was not without hope when Marty jumped to 4♥.

Had West started with the ♦K, there might have been no story, but West led the ♣10. Declarer covered in order to make it as easy as possible for East to continue clubs and so it went. Declarer ruffed, ran the ♥J successfully, crossed to the ♥A, came to the ♠Q, and drew the last trump. Then he cashed another trump, and led the ♠9 to dummy's king, felling the jack. When he ruffed the last ♣ in hand, extracting a second ♦ discard from West in the process, he could be certain that East was either two-two-two-seven or three-two-one-seven with a singleton ♦ honour (else West would have led a high ♦). The odds greatly favoured the former and so declarer led the ♠6 to dummy's eight, picking up West's guarded ten and securing his contract. Getting the ♠9 out of the way had been critical, just as Marty had envisioned.

FAVOURITE HAND

Here is my favourite hand of the round robin.

BD: XIV-3
DLR: S
VUL: E/W

NORTH
♠ K5432
♥ KJ10
♦ 9
♣ K964

WEST
♠ AJ8
♥ Q
♦ Q83
♣ AJ10752

EAST
♠ Q10976
♥ 9432
♦ K76
♣ 8

SOUTH
♠ -
♥ A8765
♦ AJ10542
♣ Q3

I'm sure that you've formed an opinion about what South should do as dealer with his promising canape type. There are flaws in both 1♦ and 1♥, however, and I have always considered them serious enough to prefer a pass. The theory is that you will have a better chance to describe your lengths and strength accurately if you let the bidding develop around you. Here the auction came up very well for me, I thought. When I reopened with 2♦, I thought that Joey would play me for both red suits and ♠ shortness (else a direct 2♦ over the double or a cooperative reopening double). When West volunteered a third bid - what was East doing anyhow? - I had a chance to express my values perfectly with a very delayed under-the-bidder action

double. 3♣x went three down; minus 800. 4♥, a delicate affair, went down at the other table, so we gained 14 imps from nowhere. Ah, yes, there it is again - "If double is one of your options, choose it."

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Bertrand West | Silver North | Grace East | Kokish South |
| 1♣ | 1♠ | DBL* | P |
| 2♣ | P | P | 2♦ |
| 3♣ | P | P | DBL!!! |

I can report that Jordan Cohen made 4♥ in another match. He got the lead of the ♥Q and put up the king. Then he came to the ♦A and led the ♠3, knowing the layout in that suit. West rose with the ♠A and tried to cash the ♠A. Jordy ruffed, ruffed a ♦, ruffed a ♠, ruffed the ♦s good and led a ♣ from dummy. East threw a spade and the ♠Q won. Jordy played a good ♦ and when East ruffed, he could play a trump and give declarer the rest with the marked finesse or play a ♠ to dummy's king and allow himself to be couped on the lead of the ♠K from dummy or on the ensuing lead of a black card.

THE SEMI-FINALS

BD: 16
DLR: S
VUL: None

NORTH
♠ Q97
♥ 943
♦ KQ96
♣ J83

WEST
♠ -
♥ 1085
♦ J852
♣ AKQ1092

EAST
♠ K6532
♥ AK
♦ A10743
♣ 5

SOUTH
♠ AJ1084
♥ QJ762
♦ -
♣ 764

SILVER vs WILLIS - Open Room

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| DLesage West | Silver North | RLesage East | Gitelman South |
| 1♣ | P | 1♠ | P |
| 2♣ | P | 2♦ | P |
| 3♦ | P | 3♥ | P |
| 3NT!!! | | | |

SILVER vs WILLIS - Closed Room

| | | | |
|--------|--------|-----------|----------|
| Molson | Willis | Mittelman | Valliant |
| West | North | East | South |
| P | P | 1♠ | 2♥ |
| 3♣ | 3♥/// | | |

FRASER vs McAVOY - Open Room

| | | | |
|--------|-------|--------|----------|
| Graves | Caley | Dickie | Schwartz |
| West | North | East | South |
| 1♠ | P | 1♠ | P |
| 2♣ | P | 2♦ | P |
| 3♦ | P | 4NT | P |
| 5♦ | P | 6♦/// | |

FRASER vs McAVOY - Closed Room

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|------------|
| Fraser | McAvoy | Hanna | Hargreaves |
| West | North | East | South |
| 1♠ | P | 1♠ | P |
| 2♣ | P | 2♦ | P |
| 3♣ | P | 3NT/// | |

It's easy to see how to make 3NT against any defense, and indeed Nader Hanna cashed clubs from the top on a ♥ lead; plus 600. Denis Lesage got the lead of the ♦K from Joey Silver, which he took. Unwilling to stake the fate of the hand on the ♣ suit, Denis elected to exercise his new option, returning a ♦ to the jack and queen. Alas, Silver switched to the ♠Q and Lesage was soon one down, minus 100. Argghhh.

In 6♦, Jim Dickie cashed the ♦A and so went one down; minus 100. At the fourth table, Mittelman-Molson sold out to 3♥, but they did go plus, and their 100 combined with their teammates' for a strange 5-imp gain.

WHAT'S YOUR LEAD

On Board 30 from the Semi-Finals, 2nd quarter, you are South with: ♠984 ♥1072 ♦J3 ♣97653.

What would you lead against 3NT after East shows a very strong (probably) balanced hand and West a fairly weak one? And what would you lead after this sequence:

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Silver | Heron | Kokish | Zaluski |
| West | North | East | South |
| | | 2♣ | P |
| 2♦(1) | P | 2♥(2) | P |
| 2♠(3) | P | 2NT(4) | P |
| 6NT | DBL/// | | |

- (1) 0 or 1 control; (2) Hearts or strong, balanced;
- (3) Forced puppet; (4) 25+ balanced, game forcing.

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| BD: 30 | NORTH |
| DLR: S | ♠ 10753 |
| VUL: None | ♥ 9653 |
| | ♦ 2 |
| | ♣ AK108 |

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| WEST | EAST |
| ♠ Q6 | ♠ AKJ2 |
| ♥ Q84 | ♥ AKJ |
| ♦ Q109865 | ♦ AK74 |
| ♣ 42 | ♣ QJ |
| SOUTH | |
| ♠ 984 | |
| ♥ 1072 | |
| ♦ J3 | |
| ♣ 97653 | |

Neither Peter Schwartz nor Jim Dickie led a club against 3NT, and I confess that I would not have done so either. They went minus 520 rather than plus 50 and must have expected to lose 11 imps for their effort.

The stakes were higher for Ed Zaluski, who knew that Doug Heron was almost surely doubling on the strength of an ace-king. But which one? Silver's non-sense 6NT had left him with little to go on. After a few moments, Zaluski selected ... the ♦J. Declarer claimed seven, plus 1330. In the other room, the Lesages started the same way through 2NT, but then embarked on a complicated artificial sequence that ended at 6♦. Alas, that left West on play and North on lead with the ♠AK. One down and 16 imps to SILVER, 106-22. You can form your own opinion as to whether that swing was entirely random.

Perhaps there is something special about this fourth best business.

BIDDING DECISIONS

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| BD: 34 | NORTH |
| DLR: E | ♠ Q1063 |
| VUL: N/S | ♥ 98732 |
| | ♦ QJ4 |
| | ♣ 3 |
| WEST | EAST |
| ♠ A972 | ♠ K5 |
| ♥ - | ♥ K54 |
| ♦ AK10986 | ♦ 73 |
| ♣ A105 | ♣ Q98742 |
| SOUTH | |
| ♠ J84 | |
| ♥ AQJ106 | |
| ♦ 52 | |
| ♣ KJ6 | |

SILVER vs WILLIS - Open Room

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Willis | Molson | Valliant | Mittelman |
| West | North | East | South |
| | | P | 1♥ |
| DBL | 2♠*(♥) | 3♣ | P |
| 3♦/// | | | |

SILVER vs WILLIS - Closed Room

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Silver | Heron | Kokish | Zaluski |
| West | North | East | South |
| | | P | 1♥ |
| 2♦ | 3♥ | P | P |
| DBL | P | 5♣/// | |

FRASER vs McAVOY - Open Room

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Graves | Caley | Dickie | Schwartz |
| West | North | East | South |
| | | P | 1♥ |
| 2♦ | 4♥ | P | P |
| DBL | P | 5♣ | DBL/// |

FRASER vs McAVOY - Closed Room

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Fraser | McAvoy | Hanna | Hargreaves |
| West | North | East | South |
| | | P | 1♥ |
| 2♦ | 2♥ | 3♣ | P |
| 3♥ | P | 3NT | P |
| 4♥ | P | 4♠ | P |
| 5♣ | P | 6♣/// | |

5♣ was easy to make, doubled or otherwise and Willis-Valliant turned over 6 imps for missing game in SILVER vs WILLIS. In the other match, Dickie was not unhappy with his plus 550. At least not until the comparisons. In 6♣, Hanna got the lead of the ♥A. He ruffed, came to the ♠K, and led the ♣Q. Hargreaves had no good answer to that. If he ducked, Hanna would establish ♦s and return to the ♣A for a late discard. If he covered, Hanna could arrange to ruff his ♥ loser. Plus 920, and 9 imps to FRASER.

THE FINALS

YOU BE THE JUDGE

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Gitelman | Caley | Silver | Schwartz |
| West | North | East | South |
| P | P | 1NT | P |
| 2♥/// | | | |
| Fraser | Mittelman | Hanna | Molson |
| West | North | East | South |
| P | P | 1♣ | 1♦ |
| 2♥(♥+♠) | DBL(♠) | 4♥/// | |

BD: 12
DLR: W
VUL: N/S

NORTH
♠ 1097432
♥ K4
♦ K6
♣ J92

WEST
♠ J
♥ 98752
♦ AJ7
♣ A1074

EAST
♠ K5
♥ AJ63
♦ 104
♣ KQ863

SOUTH
♠ AQ86
♥ Q10
♦ Q98532
♣ 5

With N/S on for 4♣, Gitelman-Silver had reason to think that their plus 170 at 2♥ was a pretty good result. The weak notrump had given Schwartz-Caley a hard ride, but I believe that Schwartz was duty bound to reopen with a double on the South hand, at least securing a plus for his side. However, plus 170 was not nearly good enough. In the Closed Room, Hanna-Fraser rolled effortlessly into 4♥ and were left to play there for plus 420 and 6 imps to FRASER.

This might be a good "You be the Judge" hand for N/S. Mittelman might have shown his sixth spade by bidding 2♠ rather than doubling 2♥ (which suggested four or five), and Molson might have volunteered 4♣, counting on his distribution to compensate for his high card deficiencies.

TEST YOUR PLAY

BD: 16
DLR: W
VUL: E/W

NORTH
♠ A763
♥ J3
♦ 72
♣ J9852

WEST
♠ KJ105
♥ 6
♦ 1064
♣ AK1073

EAST
♠ 942
♥ KQ108752
♦ A85
♣ -

SOUTH
♠ Q8
♥ A94
♦ KQJ93
♣ Q64

Contract: 4♥ by East
Opening Lead: ♦K

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Gitelman | Caley | Silver | Schwartz |
| West | North | East | South |
| 1♠ | P | 1♥ | 2♦ |
| P | P | 4♥/// | |
| | | | |
| Fraser | Mittelman | Hanna | Molson |
| West | North | East | South |
| 1♠ | P | 1♥ | 2♦ |
| P | P | 3♥/// | |

BD: 35
DLR: S
VUL: E/W

NORTH
♠ 92
♥ KQ10765
♦ 82
♣ K92

WEST
♠ Q53
♥ 3
♦ KJ10963
♣ QJ5

EAST
♠ K1084
♥ AJ82
♦ A
♣ A764

SOUTH
♠ AJ76
♥ 94
♦ Q754
♣ 1083

On Board 16 of the Finals, Nader Hanna contented himself with an invitational jump to 3♥. That was quite high enough, as it went, he elected to win the ♦ lead to lead a ♠ up, but winning the first ♦ was fatal. He misguessed the ♠s and so went down two, eventually running into an uppercut; minus 200.

At the other table, Silver stretched to 4♥. He did appreciably better in the play. He ducked the first ♦, won the second, and led a ♠, but here it could not be right to put up the king (South would have taken the ♠A and cashed the ♦) so he put in the ♠J. Caley won and could have defeated the contract easily by leading a trump back. Instead, he played a ♣ and Silver threw his ♦, won in dummy, and led a trump to the ten. Schwartz could have defeated the contract now by winning the ♥A and leading a ♦ for Caley to uppercut with the ♥J. Instead Schwartz played low on the ♥10 and Silver continued trumps for a huge plus 620 and 13imps.

SCIENCE

Science. The vaunted two-under preempt made a surprise appearance on Board 35 of the Finals.

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Fraser | Silver | Hanna | Kokish |
| West | North | East | South |
| 2♠(♦) | P | 3♦/// | P |
| | | | |
| Gitelman | Caley | Molson | Schwartz |
| West | North | East | South |
| P | 3♥ | 3NT/// | P |

This creature is supposed to allow you the luxury of preempting with a wide variety of hands. Partner bids the intermediate step if he is interested in game, allowing the preemptor a further opinion about his hand. Not that this theoretical analysis comes close to explaining why anyone would want to open anything like 3♦ with that West hand, vul vs not. Or why East

would not at least suggest game facing such an opening bid. Might West not hold ♦KQ10xxxx and a king? Why are these guys sneering at me over my shoulder as I write this? Hanna made 30; plus 110.

In the other room, Gitelman passed the West hand in second seat and Caley tried a most reasonable 3♥ in third. Molson took a shot at 3NT and was treated to the lead of the ♥9. Caley had to decide whether to duck and go for the ♥s or put up the queen and try to beat declarer outside ♥s. He chose to play low and Molson scooped in the ♥J. He thought he had to kill North's entry before ♥s were established and I was projecting a ♣ play. No, he tried a ♠. Schwartz, who could be sure that hearts were not waiting to run, put up the ♠A to lead his remaining ♥. Molson ducked, won the third ♥ as Schwartz threw a ♣, crossed to the ♠Q without cashing the ♦A, ran the ♠Q, came to the ♦A, and cashed the ♠K. When Caley showed out, Molson cashed the ♣A and exited with the ♠10 to Schwartz's jack. Schwartz had to lead a ♦ and Molson put in the jack and cashed the ♦K to land his scrambley contract in style; plus 600. 10imps to SILVER.



Left to right Doug Fraser, George Mittelman, Nader Hanna and Mark Molson play in the finals while kibitzers look on.

CWTC CONDITIONS OF CONTEST - NEW PRINCIPLES

THE INTENT of the following general principles is to open up the withdrawal criteria completely, and to allow substitution freely, with the intent of making it very easy for teams to field the best team, and strengthen the National Final, and for geographically remote areas to avoid travel as much as possible. The principle of avoiding augmentation to the Zone final is retained to keep a level playing field and to encourage four person teams to play and thereby increase participation. We have also tried to clarify in the Conditions of Contest some grey areas that are a result of the fact that different Zones have different levels of play.



1. Teams are formed at different levels in different zones. If you hold:
 - a) Unit Finals - teams are formed at this point. All members must be listed on the entry form at the Unit Final, whether or not they will be able to play in the Unit or Zone Final.
 - b) Zone Finals - if no Unit Finals were held in a Zone, then teams are formed at the Zone Final. All members must be listed on the entry form at the Zone Final, whether or not they will play in the Zone Final.
 - c) No Zone Final - if a Zone is not able to hold a Zone Final, then teams are formed by the written application submitted by a team to the Zone Coordinator. All members must be listed in this application even though there is no Zone Play-off.
2. There are no board requirements at the Unit or Zone level.
3. One substitute may be used at the Unit or Zone level for any reason, to bring the team up to four players. The only restriction on the substitute is that she may not be a member of an active team. The substitute will not be poisoned, and may be used later as an augmentee.
4. Three of original members (as defined in point 1) must continue at all stages of the event. If a team for whatever reason becomes as few as two or less, that team cannot continue in the event. Nevertheless, all active (remaining) members of the team are eligible for replacement or augmentation.
5. Withdrawal for any reason is allowed and does not harm the team provided at least three of the original members survive. However, a player who withdraws is not eligible to play any further in the current event under any circumstances.
6. A member or members of a team who have withdrawn may be replaced.
7. Augmentation will not be allowed until the Zone Final has been completed.
8. The Conditions of Contest state that "upon qualifying for the National Final, a team with less than six players may augment with any player(s) who played in the event at the Qualifying Level to bring its total team membership to five or six." Since very few areas of the country hold qualifying levels of play in the CWTC a team may augment with any player that has played in the current CWTC at some level OR a player that has submitted her name and \$8 to the National Coordinator in order to be eligible for augmentation. This will cover the instance of a player wishing to be available for augmentation but unable to join the play at the Unit or Zone level where withdrawal could become a problem. It should also be noted that with no board requirements at the Unit or Zone level of play, it will be much easier for players from different areas of the country to be listed as original team members.

1994 CHAMPIONS

Gloria Silverman, Toronto ON
 Joan Eaton, Willowdale ON
 Roisin O'Hara, Oakville ON
 Barbara Clinton, Don Mills ON

RUNNERS UP

2. Helen COLTER - Evelyn Richards,
 Fredericton NB - Lynn Fleming, Blaine
 WA - Sandra Fox, Sackville NB - Rhonda
 Betts, Burnaby BC - Louise Fisher, New
 Glasgow NS.
- 3/4. June POCOCK, Coquitlam BC - Sheila
 Giroto, Delta BC - Alison Dorosh,
 Squamish BC - Ina Andersen, Surrey BC
- 3/4. Audrey NORMAN, Burlington ON - Bev
 Ross, Brampton ON - Barbara Sims,
 Mississauga ON - Mary Bryce, Scarborough
 ON - Patti Lee, Toronto ON - Sallie Caty,
 Oakville ON

CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS



This year's CWTC was hosted by the Toronto Unit with Patti Lee as Chairperson. The hospitality included a welcoming reception, hospitality suite and closing dinner. There were many special touches including unique leather pins for every participant and line dance entertainment at the dinner.

Twenty teams of women from across Canada participated in the 3-day round robin with the top 4 teams qualifying for the semi-final. The event was competently directed by Nancy Hart who, by all accounts, did a fabulous job.

ROUND ROBIN RESULTS

- | | | |
|--|-----|---|
| 1. COLTER | 968 | 12. LEVI , Caroline - Marilyn Walder - Lorraine Serlin - Naomi Silver - Maureen Marsch - Lana Blackett, Winnipeg MB 747 |
| 2. POCOCK | 923 | 13. HARGREAVES , Debbie - Carol Fagan - Karen Turner - Karen Billett, Victoria BC 731 |
| 3. SILVERMAN | 891 | 14. BRAWN , Elizabeth - Eva Good - Judi Waters - Marie Wiley - Arlene Lundgren, London ON - Janette Thwaites, St. Thomas ON 730 |
| 4. NORMAN | 879 | 15. PECKETT , Heather - Sandra Terrade, Nepean ON - Mary Saunders, Winchester ON - Joyce Lemoine, Ottawa ON 729 |
| 5. REUS , Sharyn, St. Laurent PQ - Dianna Gordon, Toronto ON - Rhoda Habert - Barbara Saltsman - Francine Cimon, Montreal - Beverly Kokish, Westmount PQ 877 | | 16. GERBER , Phyllis - Delphine Tablotney, Vancouver BC - Arlene Browning, Surrey BC - Pat Caruthers, Agassiz BC 659 |
| 6. PAYNTER , Jennifer, Vancouver BC - Leslie Gold, Richmond BC - Marcia Christie, Surrey BC - Nicola Charleson, Ladner BC 869 | | 17. MOULTON , Myrtle, Halifax NS - Elsie Adams, Dartmouth NS - Eileen Withers, Toronto ON - Virginia Giza, Timbeter NS 601 |
| 7. CULP , Maureen, Pickering ON - Linda Wynston - Kathy Adachi, Toronto ON - Joyce Phillips, Willowdale ON - Shelagh Paulsson, Toronto - Anna Boivin, Chomedey Laval PQ 861 | | 18. BRITAIN , Terol, Roxboro PQ - Monika Bertage-Smith, Kirkland PQ - Eva Prorok, Chomedey PQ - Rollande Makarewicz, Montreal PQ - Francoise St. Pierre - Marsha Ditomasso, Beaconsfield 563 |
| 8. HOUGH , Valeria, Oakville ON - Sheri Wnестock - Wendy Krause - Linda Lee, Toronto ON 811 | | 19. WOODS , Gwenfil - Dorothy Herbert - Norma Elaine Davey - Beverley Carbone - Clare Weatherby, Sault Ste Marie 542 |
| 9. TARTICK , Shirley - Joan Klap, Toronto ON - Muriel Back, Hamilton ON - Ruth Stephens, Stoney Creek ON - Gwen Lynn, Parry sound ON - Leigh Ives, Barrie ON 792 | | 20. TURCOTTE , Doris - Delina Hay - Betty Dunn - Anne Harper - Carol Anderson - Sherrill Sly, Thunder Bay ON 501 |
| 10. BULLIS , Anne Marie, Mississauga ON - Judy Overland, Weston ON - Margaret Ladochy, Toronto ON - Marge Neate, W. Vancouver BC 773 | | |
| 11. RIVARD , Janine, St. Augustin PQ - Noella Masse - Pauline Lemonde - Inette Lepage, Ste Foy PQ 753 | | |

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1995 COPC

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Regional in Toronto
Wednesday April 12 &
Thursday April 13, 1995**

*** NOTE DATE CHANGE ***

COPC CONDITIONS OF CONTEST CHANGES

Changes have been made to the COPC Conditions of Contest to open the field up so that more players are eligible to play in the National Finals. It is hoped that this will give rise to a large National Final having representation from all units in Canada.

All players playing in Club Level Games will be eligible to play in the National Final. Unit Finals may still be held in areas that would receive subsidy money to determine overall placings for the disbursement of any funds. A player is not required to play in a unit Final in order to be eligible to play in the National Final. However, to be eligible for subsidy money, a player must have played in the Unit Final.

Partnerships are not formed until the National Final, thus allowing players from different areas of the country to play

together without the added expense of travelling to a Unit Final.

The important thing to remember is that players **MUST** play in a club qualifying game in order to be eligible to play in the National Final. It is then up to them if they wish to play in the unit Final to try and qualify for subsidy money.

As in the past any Unit receiving subsidy money that does not have a pair representing it at the National Final must return the subsidy money to the CBF.

It is hoped that these changes will open up the pool of players eligible to play in the National Final and thus enhance the size of the National Final and enable players from different parts of the country to form partnerships for the National Final.

JUNIOR BRIDGE

THE 1994 CANADIAN JUNIOR BRIDGE TEAM TRIALS

by John Carruthers

(with assists from Eric Kokish and Fred Gitelman)

The players had formed themselves into four teams for the Trials. They would play a double round robin of 20-board matches over two days to decide the two finalists. The finalists would then play a 128-board match over two more days to decide the winner. Since each team had only four members, a third pair would be added by Non-playing Captain John Carruthers and National Team Coach Eric Kokish. To help them decide, the bidding and play of all matches were recorded. The teams were:

TORONTO - Craig Barkhouse, Waterloo ON - Joe Varnell, Toronto - Daniel Nadler - Michael Nadler, Toronto

WATERLOO - Brad Bart - Jared Riley, Waterloo - Colin Lee - Ben Zeidenberg, Toronto

MONTREAL - Jeff Blond - David Levy, Montreal - Darrell Kovacz - Frederic Pollack, Montreal

TRANS CANADA - Mike Roberts, Victoria, BC - David T. Willis, Ottawa - Eric Sutherland, Waterloo - Darren Wolpert, Toronto

A large portion of the players were from Waterloo, Ontario. They are all students at the University of Waterloo and their participation is due to the efforts of Eric Sutherland, who has been very active in bringing his classmates to the game. In fact, there were seven past, present or future U. of W. students participating. The only disappointment was that, but for Mike Roberts, there was no representation from anywhere outside Ontario and Quebec.

The early morning line had MONTREAL and TRANS CANADA as 6-5 co-favourites. Both teams had representatives from the 1993 Junior Team and considerably more experience than either Toronto or Waterloo. it would have been considered an upset if one of the favourites didn't win.

In the event, MONTREAL burst from the starting blocks like Ben Johnson in Seoul with a convincing 52-20 IMP win over TRANS CANADA. WATERLOO beat TORONTO 60-51 IMPs in a match with scoring like a basketball game. In round 2, both favourites won big, and

1994-95 CANADIAN JUNIOR TEAM

- ❖ Jeff Blond
- ❖ David Levy
- ❖ Fred Pollack
- ❖ Darrell Kovacz
- ❖ Mike Roberts
- ❖ Eric Sutherland

On August 16, 1994 sixteen of Canada's best junior players (25 years of age or younger) gathered at the Airport Hilton in Dorval, Quebec, to contest this year's Junior Trials. At stake was the right to represent Canada at the 1995 World Junior Bridge Championship in Bali, Indonesia, a pretty good prize for a bridge player of any age.



1994 JUNIOR TEAMS

in the third match MONTREAL continued its winning ways with a big win over WATERLOO. However, TORONTO eked out a narrow win over TRANS CANADA to leave the standings as follows after completion of the first round robin (Day 1):

| | |
|--------------|----|
| Montreal | 79 |
| Trans Canada | 41 |
| Toronto | 32 |
| Waterloo | 28 |

The following deal from the WATERLOO-TRANS CANADA match provided some interest:

BD: 12
DLR: W
VUL: N/S

NORTH
♠ 105
♥ KJ743
♦ A
♣ AK954

WEST
♠ A8
♥ AQ852
♦ KQ76
♣ J8

SOUTH
♠ KQ62
♥ 6
♦ J98543
♣ 76

EAST
♠ J9743
♥ 109
♦ 102
♣ Q1032

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Riley | Sutherland | Bart | Wolpert |
| West | North | East | South |
| 1♥ | 2♣ | P | P |
| 2♦ | P | 2♥ | All Pass |

Although Sutherland was charmed to defend 2♥, he would have been less charmed to declare 2♣, especially if East had converted a reopening double (very unlikely) and led trumps (even less likely). Take note of this hand - it illustrates the price one pays for negative doubles. It's easy to say that with a penalty double of ♣ East can pass West's reopening double. However, in this case, with West showing no extra values with a reopening double, East would be hard pressed to pass. In the old days, West's reopening double would promise extra values, so East, with a couple of trump tricks, could chance a pass. Lest you think I don't like negative doubles, let me assure you that if I had to choose only one convention to play, it would be negative doubles.

In any event, on the actual hand, Sutherland led three rounds of ♣s. Wolpert ruffed the third with the ♥6, Riley overruffing with the ♥8. The ♦K was won by

the ♦A perforce, and the ♥J was led, won by the ♥Q. Riley now tried the ♦Q, but Sutherland ruffed and continued with the ♥K won by the ♥A. Ace and another ♠ went to South who cashed two rounds of ♠s. In the two card end game North had the ♥74 over West's ♥52 - a trump coup for the defence! Down four.

A new day dawned full of promise for those trailing the leaders. Nevertheless, MONTREAL continued its winning ways, defeating TRANS CANADA 52-43 and blitzing TORONTO 91-31, easily securing its place in the final. Meanwhile, WATERLOO beat TORONTO 70-46 and in an upset, TRANS CANADA went down 55-38. With one round to go, MONTREAL was, TORONTO was out, and WATERLOO led TRANS CANADA by eight Victory Points. WATERLOO still had to play the steam rolling MONTREAL team, while TRANS CANADA had to negotiate the sometimes-tricky TORONTO aggregation. It was the stuff of nightmares for me - one team (Montreal handily qualified, playing a team (Waterloo) it rated (on paper) to best if that team qualified; another team (Trans Canada), which rated to give Montreal a tougher match over two full days of play, fighting for its life to qualify.

With his team in a life or death struggle to qualify in the last match of the round robin, David Willis as West was faced with the following problem (Michael and Daniel Nadler defending):

BD: 20
DLR: W
VUL: Both

NORTH
♠ K1098
♥ J
♦ 863
♣ KQ1042

WEST
♠ AQJ4
♥ 4
♦ A1072
♣ AJ83

EAST
♠ 762
♥ A1096
♦ KQJ9
♣ 65

SOUTH
♠ 53
♥ KQ87532
♦ 64
♣ 97

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| 1♦ | P | 1♥ | P |
| 1♠ | P | 3♦ | P |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |

1994 JUNIOR TEAMS

Michael Nadler led the ♠9 (0 or 2 higher) which Willis won with the ♠J. He crossed to a ♦ and led a ♣ to the nine, Jack and Queen. Nadler continued with the ♣K, which Willis allowed to hold, and then

switched to the ♥J. Willis won the ♥A and cashed his remaining ♦s, extracting a ♣ from North. Now, with ♠AQ4 and ♣A8 left, Willis could endplay Nadler in either black suit with his remaining ♠K108 and ♣104. Plus 600. The East-West auction at the other table was contested, with Eric Sutherland interposing 1NT over 1♦, showing 5+ ♠s and four of a major. East bid 2♦ and the auction continued P-2♣-P-3♣-3♥-All Pass. Wolpert lost the obvious six tricks, two down (-200) and 9 IMPs to TRANS CANADA.

I needn't have worried. David Levy assured me and the TRANS CANADA team that their team would play their hardest and so it proved with both favourites winning their last matches. A close call for the co-favourites. The final round robin standings:

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Montreal | 150 |
| Trans Canada | 93 |
| Waterloo | 79 |
| Toronto | 38 |

The final began in much the same way as the round robin with MONTREAL winning each of the first five sixteen-board segments by narrow margins to lead by 58 with three sets to go. The teams traded 12 imp wins in each of the sixth and seventh stanzas, and it looked as though it were all over. Or did it? As often happens when one team has a huge lead, TRANS CANADA staged a tremendous rally over the final sixteen boards winning imps by the bushel. Witness!

BD: 116 **NORTH**
 DLR: W ♠ Q9
 VUL: Both ♥ 10986
 ♦ J1062
 ♣ Q87

WEST
 ♠ J108754
 ♥ 42
 ♦ 64
 ♣ J105

EAST
 ♠ AK3
 ♥ J
 ♦ K973
 ♣ AK432

SOUTH
 ♠ 62
 ♥ AKQ753
 ♦ AQ8
 ♣ 96

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| P | P | 1♣ | 1♥ |
| P | 1NT (!) | P | 3NT |
| P | P | DBL | All Pass (!) |

The enterprising Mike Roberts was North. East (who shall remain nameless) led the ♣K, Jack from West, then shifted to the ♠K, ♠4 from West. After a heart-pounding wait, East played... the ♥J! Roberts won, and was later able to cross to his hand in ♥s to lead the ♦J. East had discarded a ♦ on the ♥s and covered the ♦J, allowing Roberts to score plus 950. Roberts was really earning his nickname - Voodoo. As you can see, the only other game that makes is 4♠ - by the opponents. In retrospect, I'm sure East could see that if his defence were to work it would still work after cashing the AK of both black suits. Grist for Coach Kokish's mill.

The lead was under 20 IMPs when:

BD: 120 **NORTH**
 DLR: W ♠ A52
 VUL: None ♥ 654
 ♦ Q86
 ♣ AJ104

WEST
 ♠ KJ874
 ♥ QJ72
 ♦ 743
 ♣ 2

EAST
 ♠ 106
 ♥ K1093
 ♦ AKJ952
 ♣ K

SOUTH
 ♠ Q93
 ♥ A8
 ♦ 10
 ♣ Q987653

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| P | 1♠! | 1♦ | 3♦(1) |
| 3♠ | 3NT | All Pass | |

(1) Splinter Raise

Again Roberts was North, and again he and Willis reached 3NT. This time it merely required guessing ♠s, which Roberts duly did. Note that, once again, 4♥ is a viable contract for the opponents (although this one can be beaten). With eight boards to go, the once unassailable lead was down to single digits, and was to prove very vulnerable to assault. TRANS CANADA actually took the lead on board 124. However, a Blackwood mixup regained the lead for MONTREAL with three boards to go, and they hung on to win by 13 imps, 248-235. What an exciting finish. The bridge had been spotty, but both sides had had their moments of glory.

For most of these players, this was their first taste of serious bridge competition. Pre-duplicated boards, screens, and bidding boxes were used throughout the Trials, and the host Montreal Unit provided us with spacious, separate playing rooms at the site of their Regional tournament. Yet, despite the nature of the event, play was always conducted in good spirits and with excellent sportsmanship. Director calls were almost non-existent, and there were none at all during the two-day final.

JACKPOT COUP

Lest you think it was all work and no play though, consider that Eric Sutherland deliberately threw away an overtrick to execute the "Jackpot Coup" in a major suit game (he would not have risked the contract, however). The Jackpot Coup occurs when the last four cards in a player's hand are the same denomination. It became famous after an article in International Popular Bridge Monthly in the early 80s).

THE BEER CARD

Then there was the matter of the "Beer Card" and the four or five successful attempts to win that beer.

Basically two conditions must prevail:

- 1) you must win the last trick with the $\diamond 7$; and
- 2) if declaring you must make your contract; if defending, you must beat the contract.

The Beer Card need not be the fulfilling or setting trick, merely the winner of trick thirteen. The Beer Card has become a tradition among the world's Junior players (only among those who are of legal drinking age of course!).

The Montreal Unit put on some terrific hospitality for the Juniors while in Montreal, billeting them in their homes for the duration of the tournament, hosting a dinner for them and arranging discounts at local eateries. It will be difficult for future hosts to match their generosity.

For the successful players and the coach and captain, work has already begun. After intensive study of the hand records from the Trials, Mike Roberts and Eric Sutherland were added to the team to make a full complement of six. Practice, training and tune up matches are part of the program being devised for the team. The goal is to qualify for the medal round in Bali. After that, anything can happen.

FROM THE FINALS... by Mike Roberts

The round robin was desperately close - ROBERTS needed a blitz in the last round, coupled with the BLOND defeat of BART (22-8) to ensure qualification. These two teams would meet in a 128 board final, with outright qualification on the line.

The Montreal BLOND team played consistently better bridge. Here is a great example of card reading by Fred Pollack:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| \spadesuit AKxxxx | \spadesuit xx |
| \heartsuit x | \heartsuit AQJTx |
| \diamond KJx | \diamond 8xx |
| \clubsuit AQx | \clubsuit Txx |

Playing from the \spadesuit hand in 4 \spadesuit , Fred received a \spadesuit to the Q as the opening lead. He ducked, and received a \spadesuit shift, which rode to North's Jack. Winning the trump return, Fred cashed all but one of his trumps (N had 3, S had 2). North pitched a \heartsuit and a \clubsuit and South pitched a \heartsuit and 2 \diamond s, including the 9. On the last trump, North pitched the $\diamond 10$, and South pitched a \clubsuit . The end position was:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| \spadesuit - | \spadesuit - |
| \heartsuit x | \heartsuit AQ |
| \diamond KJx | \diamond 8xx |
| \clubsuit AQ | \clubsuit x |

Fred took the \heartsuit hook, winning, and then pitched the $\clubsuit Q$ on the $\heartsuit A$. On a \diamond , South played low, but Fred rose with the K, catching the $\diamond Q$. Due to South's moronic pitch of the $\diamond 9$ (mine), the $\diamond 8$ now set up as the 10th trick. Lots of help from the defence, but well played. The North hand was $\spadesuit 10xx \heartsuit Kxxx \diamond Q10 \clubsuit KJxx$, so the $\diamond 10$ pitch was forced.

Going into the last set of 16, the BLOND team had worked up a 58 imp lead. However, the TRANS CANADA team, freed from the restriction of playing disciplined, "normal" bridge, had a monstrous set, and picked up 64imps in the first 10 boards, to lead by 6! BLOND remained steady though and picked up enough to win in the end, 248-236. A close match.

The four members of the BLOND team are automatically selected to the Junior team. This is a fine reward for such a victory. Eric Sutherland and Mike Roberts were selected to be the third pair. This adds some experience to the team since both players have played in two Junior Championships before, the last time as a pair. We look forward to competing in Bali in 1995!

The 'NEC' World Bridge Championships were concluded on October 1, 1994. The USA won the Solomon Trophy for best overall performance. The tournament had minor problems, but overall it was well organized by Becky Rogers. Participation was below expectations in championship events, but exceeded projections in regional events. Special thanks are due to Bob Winegard and the army of District 17 volunteers led by Gloria Kriehauser. I personally wish to thank the CBF Directors present at the championships (D. Heron, J. Caruthers, D. Anderson) for their advice and support during some tiring times.

international bridge



Excerpts from a report regarding the WBF Meeting and NEC World Bridge Championships held in Albuquerque, 1994

by George Retek

Bobby Wolff officially completed his term as President of the WBF. He had successfully implemented his programs in the areas of active ethics and better disciplinary and appeal processes. In fact José Damiani, the highly respected new president of the WBF, has appointed Bobby to the WBF Management Committee and entrusted him with the continuation of his programs. As well, Bobby Wolff was unanimously elected to the Committee of Honour.

It was decided by a split vote to postpone, until next year, dealing with the ACBL request modifying the 1997 Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup qualification rules, whereby the US-Canada-Mexico-Bermuda teams would be required to finish in the top half (instead of top third) of the field at the 1996 Team Olympiad in order to maintain eligibility to send three teams.

The World Bridge Educational Foundation has been established and already has \$11,000 in the treasury.

Thanks mainly to the efforts of Mazhar Jafri the International Olympic Committee is very close to recognizing bridge (subject to ratification at their June 1995 meeting). It was suggested that a sample bridge competition be held in the 1996 Atlanta Olympic games.

Mr. Cumming's resignation as Editor of World Bridge News was regretfully accepted. A new format for this publication was suggested by José Damiani.

Newly elected president José Damiani has announced an ambitious program for the coming four years and offered the following ideas for consideration:

- a. Make bridge more convivial. Consider replacing one Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup competition in the four year cycle with a Mixed Pairs and Mixed Teams Championship.
- b. Recognize and promote more bridge champions and personalities.
- c. Establish a Ryder Cup of bridge that would include in a triangular form Europe, North America and the rest of the world. Each region would have two Open Teams and one each of Women's, Mixed, Junior and Senior Teams. This plan would have great media appeal and could attract substantial sponsorship.

Before completing this report we would be remiss if we did not express our heartfelt thanks to Bobby Wolff for his great leadership in the past two years at the helm of the World Bridge Federation.

WBF Officers for the coming four years: President - José Damiani; Vice Presidents - Jim Zimmerman, John Wignall, Mazhar Jafri, Jens Auken; Treasurer - George Retek; Secretary - Jean-Louis Derivery.

MIXED PAIRS

480 pairs were originally entered into this event. The field was 'cut' to 180 pairs who then played a three session final. Winners were Danuta Hochecker and Apolinare Kowalski of Poland. Canadians:

44. Dianna Gordon - George Mittelman, Toronto
 86. Evelyn Richards - Brian Alexander, Fredericton
 113. Joyce Phillips, Willowdale - Glen Holman, New York
 147. Katie Thorpe - John Caruthers, Toronto
 176. Barbara Stewart - Michael Roche, Don Mills

ROSENBLUM CUP

The original field was 168 teams. Six Canadian teams were entered in the event. Five of these teams (Pollack, Chan, Silver, Thorpe and Heron) made the first cut and advanced to the round of 64. The round of 32 was a single knock-out event with head to head matches. Canada's only team to advance to the round of 32 was the SILVER (Joseph Silver, Eric Kokish, Mark Molson, George Mittelman, Boris Baran and Fred Gitelman - our 1994 CNTC team). They were defeated 136-94 by a team from France. The eventual winners of the Rosenblum Cup were the USA team of Seymon Deutsch, Michael Rosenberg, Chip Martel, Gaylor Kasle, Lew Stansby and Roger Bates.

OPEN PAIRS

The Open Pairs began with 396 pairs competing. The only Canadian pair to make it to the finals was Michael Roche of Don Mills ON and David Turner of Pickering ON. The winners of the Open pairs were Marcin Lesniewski and Marek Szymanowski of Poland.

How did we do?

**CANADIAN RESULTS**

Canadian players comprised the third largest participating group next to the USA and France at the 1994 World Championships.

MCCONNELL CUP

(Women's Tams)
 The McConnell Cup began with 48 teams divided into four groups of twelve teams. The top four teams from each group advanced to the round of 16 and head to head knock-out matches. Of Canada's five teams (Harris, Reus, Culp, Colter, and Bullis) only the Reus team (Sharyn Reus, Dianna Gordon, Beverly Kraft, Rhoda Habert, Francine Cimon and Barbara Saltsman) survived the cut. In a heartbreaking match they lost to the Chambers team of the USA by only 2 IMPS. The eventual winners of the McConnell Cup were Marinisa Letizia, Sue Picus, Jillian Blanchard, Rozanne Pollack and Judi Radin of the USA.

**WOMEN'S PAIRS**

The Women's Pairs event began with 132 pairs. At the end of the semi-finals our Canadian pair of Dianna Gordon of Toronto and Sharyn Reus of St. Laurent were leading the field. They eventually placed 12th overall. Winners of the event were Carla Arnolds and Beep Vriend of the Netherlands.

SENIOR SWISS TEAMS

35 teams were entered in the start of the Senior Swiss Teams. The event was won by a team comprised of players from Austria, Netherlands and Israel.

Congratulations to Duncan Phillips and Bill Solomon of Willowdale ON for their Bronze Medal in this event. Canadians involved in the final placings were:

3. Duncan Phillips - Bill Solomon, Willowdale ON (playing with two Americans)
12. Colin Revil, Burlington (playing with three Americans)
13. George Shprinsten, Downsview - Akhar Vaiya, Unionville (with players from Kenya and Malaysia)
18. Gerald Soucy - John Currie, Halifax - Bryan Rapson, Dartmouth - Norma O'Brien, Moncton - Bram Schwartz, Sydney

**SENIOR PAIRS**

82 pairs entered the Senior Pairs. Duncan Phillips and Bill Solomon were right in the heat of things all the way through the event and emerged with their 2nd Bronze Medal. Other Canadians making the final were Jerry Aceti, Sudbury - John McAdam, Ottawa. The event was won by Hamish Bennett and Frederick Hamilton.

TEAM NORTH AMERICAN ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to the Kujirai Team (E. Kujirai, P. Grover, J. Gillespie, L. Atkinson, B. Fraser, G. Retek) who finished 2nd in the Team North American Zonal



Nanaimo Bars

Julie Smith
No bridge 'do' is complete without the presence of this classic Canadian dessert which originated in Nanaimo, BC. The creator of Nanaimo Bars is not known to this editor but we credit Julie for finding the recipe for us.

- Layer 1
- 1/2 C butter
 - 1/4 C sugar
 - 5 T cocoa (unsweetened)
 - 1 egg, beaten
 - 1 3/4 C graham cracker crumbs
 - 3/4 C coconut
 - 1/2 C finely chopped walnuts

Melt butter on stove and add sugar and cocoa, stirring until blended. Remove from heat and add the rest of Layer 1 ingredients. Mix well. Press into 9 x 9 pan. Set aside to cool.

- Layer 2
- 1/2 C butter
 - 3 T milk
 - 3 T Vanilla Custard Powder
 - 2 C icing sugar

Melt butter, and add remaining ingredients. Pour over Layer 1. Set aside to cool.

- Layer 3
- 2/3 C semi-sweet chocolate chips
 - 2 T butter

Melt together chocolate chips and butter and pour on top of layer 1 and 2 in pan. Chill.



Tastes of Christmas

Red Salsa

Jennifer Paynter

- 2 C diced fresh tomatoes
- 1/4 C coarsely chopped onions
- 1 1/2 t minced garlic
- 1 T coarsely chopped jalapeno pepper
- 1/8 t salt
- 1/4 t dried oregano
- 1 T chopped cilantro
- 3/4 t lime juice

Mix tomatoes and onion well. Add all other ingredients and mix thoroughly. Let stand 1 hour before serving. May be served at room temperature or chilled. Makes about 2 1/4 cups.

Hot Seafood Dip

Marcia Christie



- 1 8 oz pkg cream cheese at room temperature
- 1 6 1/2 oz tin crabmeat, tuna or Lobster
- 2 T chopped green onion
- 1 T horseradish
- 1 T milk
- 1/4 t salt
- 1 T lemon juice
- Chopped green pepper (optional)
- dash of pepper
- 1/3 C slivered almonds

Combine all ingredients except almonds. Mix well and spread in 7X5 baking dish. Garnish with almonds. Warm in oven at 350° for 20 minutes. Serve as a dip with crackers and chips.

What Christmas would be complete without the annual Club or Unit Christmas parties? Once again the bakers and cooks of the bridge world will be invited to bring along their favourite goodies for all to sample and savour.

The Vancouver Unit has long been famous for its pot luck pickings. Here is a very small taste as a "Merry Christmas" from BC.



Pita Crisps

Jennifer Paynter
You can make these the night before and store

in a paper bag at room temperature for 24 hours.

- 1/4 C finely chopped green onions
- 1/2 t pickling (coarse) salt
- 1/4 t finely ground black pepper
- 1/2 C finely chopped fresh parsley
- 2 t chopped fresh oregano OR 1/4 t dried
- 1 T chopped fresh basil OR 1/4 t dried
- 1 C unsalted butter, softened
- 9 (about 7-inch) pita bread, each pita cut into eights

Combine green onions, salt, pepper, parsley, oregano and basil; mix into butter. Taste for seasonings. Spread each pita piece with herb butter and place on baking sheets. Bake at 375 F for five to ten minutes or until golden and crisped. Cool on baking racks before serving. makes 72 pita crisps.

EDITORIAL

ANDRÉ AGASSI (BRAD GILBERT)
ET NOUS *par Bernard Marcoux*

Si vous avez vu la finale de tennis de l'US Open en septembre dernier, vous avez pu voir un André Agassi transformé, un joueur infiniment supérieur à celui qu'on avait connu auparavant, qui a tout simplement dominé tous ses adversaires.

Vous avez vu André Agassi, mais vous n'avez pas vu (ou si peu) Brad Gilbert, son entraîneur, son mentor, son gourou. Qui est Brad Gilbert? Un professionnel de tennis qui a fait une petite carrière avec son petit talent, qui n'a jamais fait les manchettes, mais qui a fait fortune. Comment? Voici la première leçon de Gilbert à Agassi, en avril dernier:

- Des joueurs comme moi ont fait carrière et fortune à vaincre des superdoués qui se préparent mal et jouent pour le public!

Brad Gilbert n'a jamais perdu un match contre plus faible que lui. Et lorsqu'il perdait contre un joueur plus fort, celui-ci devait travailler jusqu'à l'épuisement pour réussir. Brad Gilbert gagnait le plus souvent en 5 sets, en peinant, en suant, mais il gagnait. Ivan Lendl a connu beaucoup plus de succès que John McEnroe, avec moins de talent, mais beaucoup plus de travail, de sueur et de pratique.

Au bridge, c'est la même chose. Jouer est bien beau, mais il faut surtout se

préparer, lire, se bâtir un système avec un partenaire, prévoir le plus de situations possible afin de *savoir quoi faire* le plus souvent possible. Je dirais que, dans votre club local, 90 à 95% des bridgeurs se présentent à la table de bridge sans aucune préparation, sans partnership établi. Dans un tournoi sectionnel, ce pourcentage tombe probablement autour de 80%; et, dans un régional, je dirais que 65 à 75% des joueurs n'ont fait aucune préparation préalable.

Ce n'est pas difficile; la prochaine fois que vous jouerez dans un sectionnel, comptez le nombre de *paires réunissant toujours les mêmes deux joueurs*. Comme les amis, ces paires se comptent sur les doigts d'une seule main; vous aurez donc l'avantage sur toutes les autres paires, même si elles sont constituées de joueurs super-doués. Deux joueurs super-doués, sans partnership, perdront plus souvent qu'autrement contre deux joueurs inférieurs ayant un excellent partnership.

N'oubliez pas que le bridge se joue à deux, que les deux joueurs doivent être sur la même longueur d'ondes et qu'un système inférieur vaut mieux que pas de système du tout.

Sur ce, je souhaite à tous un Joyeux Noël, une Bonne Année et un bon partenaire avant la fin de vos jours.

OKBRIDGE UPDATE

OKBridge runs on Unix workstations. If you are on the Internet, your provider is probably such a computer. From a Unix prompt, you can get and compile the client source by entering the command: `telnet 199.33.217.1 5332| csh`

An OKbridge FTP site is `crash.cts.com/pub/okbridge`. There are two versions, the 1.8 which is free but limited and 2.0 which has an annual subscription of \$50 US year (\$30 for students). OKbridge 2 is a superior program which features team games as well as rubber, matchpints and imp pairs. For more information about OKbridge send e-mail to Matthew Clegg <matt@okbridge.com>.

Timeo Danaos et Dona Ferentes...

Si vous êtes comme moi, le collègue classique vous a laissé, contre votre gré, plein de souvenirs impérissables (i.e. don't on ne réussit pas se débarrasser, même si on

essaie): nourriture style «all you can eat» américain, cours ennuyeux, directeur spirituel (!), la messe tous les matins, la «strap» si on «skippait» la messe, etc. Latin, grec et humanités figuraient au programme et nous avons appris là des phrases qui restent, bien malgré nous, gravées dans nos mémoires:

«Delenda Quoque Cathago!» répétait Caton l'Ancien;

«Arma virumque cano ...» chantaient Virgile; à l'annonce du départ d'Énée, Didon s'arracha cheveux et vêtements (vite chez le directeur spirituel!);

«Quo usque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra ...» lançait Cicéron en plein Sénat.

L'arrivée des sciences au programme, vers 1962, a marqué le début de l'ère d'ignorance; vous souvenez-vous du calcul intégral? différentiel? de la trigonométrie? de la chimie? de la physique? Probablement pas.

Mais vous vous souvenez évidemment de la tempétueuse Didon, de la guerre de Troie, d'Ulysse, d'Achille, d'Éole (comme dans «étolienne»), de Polyphème L'Épais (pardon, le Cyclope), de la sexy Circé, de Cassandre, princesse oppose à l'entrée du cheval dans la ville de Troie, condamnée à prédire l'avenir et à ne pas être écoutée, etc.

Superflue, toute cette culture? Jamais de la vie. Il suffit de transposer ces phrases dans votre vie de bridgeur et toute votre culture grecque et latine y trouvera des résonances étonnantes. Rien ne se perd, rien ne se crée, dit-on. Lorsque vous bayez aux corneilles pendant le cours de grec ou de latin, rêvant à votre petite voisine Didon Poitras, vous ne pensiez pas avoir déjà entrepris votre formation de bridgeur, que ces phrases apparemment inutiles apprises par coeur reviendraient vous hanter un jour, que

(Je crains les Grecs,
même quand ils
font des cadeaux.)

par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

Caton l'Ancien, Cicéron, Achille, Ulysse et Cassandre regarderaient par-dessus votre épaule lorsque vous gagez et jouez une main de bridge.

Quel bridgeur n'a pas répété à son partenaire, qui n'écoute évidemment jamais: «Delendo Quoque Dummy!» (Il faut détruire le mort)? Lorsque le déclarant à sant-atout défile 7 levées à carreau, ne sentez-vous pas Cicéron frétiler derrière vous: «Jusques à quand abuseras-tu de notre patience avec tes maudits carreaux?»

Nous n'avons plus de directeur spirituel (la pureté étant un problème, nous avons choisi l'impureté) et, au fil des années, nous avons appris que, dans toutes ces histoires «classiques» comme dans notre vie moderne, tout le monde couche avec tout le monde, et que, dans certaines situations, si l'on s'appuie assez fortement sur ses principes, ils finissent par céder et la vraie vie peut alors commencer.

En première position, vous ouvrez 1♠ avec:

- ♠ AV108
- ♥ AD
- ♦ A10954
- ♣ R2

| <u>Vous</u> | <u>Adg</u> | <u>Part.</u> | <u>Add</u> |
|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| 1♠ | 2♣ | 2♠ | 4♥ |
| ? | | | |

Au bridge, la vie commence à 4♣. Que se passe-t-il donc? Vous aviez prévu, sur la réponse de votre partenaire, faire un petit saut tout père à 2SA, et viola que ces Wisigoths, tout cliquetants dans leur armure Radio Shack, sont déjà au haut de la muraille; tous vos plans

envolés en fume, qu'allez-vous faire? Si vous croyez ces Vandales hyper-agressifs, Ouest devrait avoir au moins ADVxx(x) de trèfle et Est, au moins le Roi de coeur 7e ou 8e. Il reste donc à votre partenaire RD de pique et RD de carreau pour justifier son enchère de 2♠ (promettant 10 point). Plus vous réfléchissez et plus Achille, dans votre dos, piaffe d'impatience; Ulysse et lui se disputant toujours lorsque vient le temps d'établir un plan d'action. En fait, Achille propose toujours le même plan, très simple:

- Vous connaissez Yvon? dit-il; **y vont** n'en manger une tabarn ...!

Dans votre situation, l'approche Yvon semble en fin de compte la meilleure et vous sautez achillement (sic!) à 6SA. Votre audace surprend le Ostrogoths (à leur allure, vous voyez qu'ils ont reçu une «formation» scientifique; pleins de trigo, de logarithmes, de canapés et d'asking bids, ils n'ont évidemment jamais entendu parler d'Achille; l'air perplexe (synonyme pour eux de scientifique), ils se décrochent le nez, fixent leurs cartes à travers leurs lunettes-hublots et commentent dans leur patois (je crois bien que c'est de l'américain); pendant tout ce temps, votre adversaire de gauche, l'index droit bien enfoncé dans la narine droite, les yeux plissés de concentration ou de plaisir, ne se décide pas à entamer. Après plusieurs secondes, Américain jusqu'au bout des ongles, il sort son indez de sa narine et «garroche» enfin le 8 de carreau sur la table (des barbares, vous dis-je).

Mort

- ♠ R9764
- ♥ ---
- ♦ RV26
- ♣ 97654

Déclarant

- ♠ AV108
- ♥ AD
- ♦ A10955
- ♣ R2

Le mort vous surprend (la mort aussi, dit-on), cette pantalonnade n'étant pas dans les habitudes de votre partenaire. Pas d'impasse à coeur non plus, aïe! Toutefois, «ça pourrait être pire, dit toujours ma femme, tu pourrais être en train de travailler».

Vous comprenez subitement le problème d'Ouest: il avait beau se décrocher le nez à bouche que veux-tu, il se trouvait mis en main dès la première levée. L'entame est par conséquent favorable; le Valet de carreau force la Dame d'Est et vous prenez de l'As. Vous comptez vos levées: 5 à carreau, une à coeur, et 5 à pique si vous trouvez la Dame; 11 levées seulement. Que faire? Si vous jouez vos 10 levées gagnantes (après avoir découvert la Dame de pique), Ouest devra garder AD de trèfle et un coeur pour ne pas, en séchant son As de trèfle, se voir mis en main une deuxième fois de devoir rejouer coeur vers votre fourchette AD. À la onzième levée donc, si Ouest a bien joué et gardé coeur et AD de trèfle, vous serez force de jouer votre As de coeur et de concéder moins un, ... à moins que le dernier coeur d'Ouest ne soit le Roi!

- **Euréka!** vous exclamez-vous, dans votre for intérieur.

Votre silencieuse imitation d'Archimède n'a pas l'heur de plaire à Est qui vous demande, please, de ne pas commenter leur jeu. Vous êtes sur le point de lui expliquer qu'Archimède est un savant grec né à Syracuse, deux siècles avant J.C., mais la pensée que ce primitif va sûrement répondre «Syracuse, that's in New York State! We Americans have invented everything!» vous arête tout net.

Revenons à moutons, disait Panurge. Pourquoi Ouest n'a-t-il pas entamé coeur, la couleur de son partenaire? Parce qu'il a le Roi!!! Un squeeze est donc votre seule option.

Comme vous devez jouer les piques avant les carreaux afin d'être dans votre main à la dixième levée, vous jouez As de pique de votre main: petit d'Ouest, petit du mort, 2 de coeur d'Est!! Wow! Vous prenez un instant pour réfléchir; tout à coup, le Goth en Est expectore un «Sorry!» et régurgite un pique sur la table.

Avec la carte exposée à cœur, l'impossible impasse redevient possible, 12 levées miroitent, Attila capitule, Achille sonne de l'olifant (anachronisme qui passera inaperçu aux yeux des «scientifiques») en se lamentant: «Quelles mommounes, non mais quelles lavettes, même pas de combat; un carte exposée, non mais faux-tu être tôteon (foglianisme de bon aloi), etc.» Cassandra frissonne dans sa robe diaphane et entonne le chant de tous les colonisés: «Timeo Gringos et donna ferentes» (Je crains les Américains, même quand ils font des cadeaux!). Ulysse (feuilletant la revue Voir où sa femme Pénélope, après avoir lu Denise Bombardier, comprend la futilité de sa vie et répudie tout de go son titre de championne universelle du macramé) se met à radoter une de ses nombreuses aventures où la prudence et la ruse l'ont bien servi.

Qu'auriez-vous fait? Profitez-vous de la carte exposée pour jouer la Dame et prendre ainsi l'impossible impasse? Ou restez-vous fidèle à votre plan de squeezer Ouest? Ignorez-vous ce «cadeau américains» afin de jouer la main comme on doit la jouer, «pour la beauté du jeu»?

Dans votre tête, toutes ces phrases apprises tout au long de votre jeunesse, qui chantent l'héroïsme, la noblesse de cœur et la beauté du squeeze se noient bientôt dans la mer des aphorismes amoraux que les Gringos, ces barbares, contemporains apôtres de la facilité, nous assènent depuis de trop nombreuses décennies:

- There is nothing behind first place;
- Show me a good loser, and I will show you a loser'
- Winning is not everything, it is the only thing;
- Take the money and run!

Un échec élégant et noble est-il préférable à une réussite vulgaire?

La morale opportuniste des épiciers d'aujourd'hui l'emporte bientôt sur celle des nobles héros d'hier; vous jouez la Dame de cœur; Ouest saute sur son Roi et joue l'As de trèfle, moins un.

Mort

♠ R9764

♥ —

◇ RV6

♣ 97654

Ouest

♠ D52

♥ RV

◇ 83

♣ ADV1083

Est

♠ 3

♥ 1098765432

◇ D72

♣ —

Déclarant

♠ AV108

♥ AD

◇ A10954

♣ R2

Quel est ce parfum qui vous enveloppe tout à coup? En levant la tête, vous avez à peine le temps d'apercevoir Cassandra, qui s'éloigne devant vous. Vous levez le bras, comme pour l'appeler; elle se retourne. De grosses larmes bordent ses immenses yeux mélancoliques et ses lèvres semblent murmurer:

- Et tu, Brute?

ALERT! FROM SUMMER 1994 ACBL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Effective immediately when bid boxes are in use (except when playing behind screens), a player must say ALERT out loud when tapping the alert strip of the bid box.

"In the beginning, we said 'Alert' out loud. Then we began using an Alert Card which, when waved in the middle of the table, seemed to work well as a non-verbal replacement. Then someone invented the Alert Strip which was supposed to be tapped in lieu of an Alert. This didn't work so well as many people do not have the peripheral vision needed to see this kind of alert and many just didn't notice the tap. Meanwhile the makers of bid boxes had rushed to embrace the strip technology and the tings were installed on all new boxes. Now we are told we must tap the strip and say 'Alert' out loud. I have a suggestion - why don't we remove the blue alert strip from the box and wave it in the middle of the table? ...ed"



LE CONTRE DE SOUTIEN

par
Bernard
Marcoux,
Montréal

L'époque est au recyclage et le bridge n'y échappe pas. Au tout début du bridge, le contre était toujours pénalité. Aujourd'hui, ce contre exclusivement pénalité a fait l'objet d'un recyclage intensif et on ne compte plus les sous-produits: contre négatif, contre en réponse, contre d'appel, contre Lightner, Rosenkranz, Snap Dragon (?!?!), d'action, d'information, de réveil, etc. L'un des plus intéressants, par son utilité et sa fréquence, s'appelle le contre de soutien, inventé par Eric Rodwell, expert américain et plusieurs fois champion du monde.

Si vous ne jouez pas déjà le contre de soutien, il est temps de l'adopter. C'est l'une des conventions les plus pratiques et efficaces, et ce n'est pas une question de mode: le contre de soutien est là pour rester, comme le contre négative. Facile à jouer, amusant, le contre de soutien améliorera votre bridge. Voici comment il fonctionne.

Première contrainte: seul l'ouvreur peut employer le contre de soutien.

Deuxième contrainte: l'ouvreur utilise le contre de soutien seulement si son adversaire de droite se manifeste (en annonçant une couleur ou en contrant).

Troisième contrainte: l'ouvreur n'utilise (généralement) le contre de soutien que pour donner le fit en majeure, après une réponse en majeure de son partenaire au niveau de 1.

Quatrième contrainte: l'ouvreur utilise généralement le contre de soutien jusqu'à 2♠ inclusivement.

ATTENTION: le contre de soutien ne limite pas votre main quant au nombre de points, il indique seulement un nombre précis d'atout.

Expliquons la séquence.

Le contre de soutien ne tient pas compte des actions de votre adversaire de gauche (vous êtes l'ouvreur, seules comptent les actions de votre adversaire de droite).

Vous avez:

♠xxx ♥Rxxx ♦AVxx ♣Ax

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| <u>Vous</u> | <u>Adg</u> | <u>Part.</u> | <u>Add</u> |
| 1♦ | p | 1♥ | 1♠ |
| 2♥ | | | |

Lorsque Add intervient à 1♠, votre soutien immédiat confirme 4 atouts, 12-15 points.

Supposons maintenant:

♠xxx ♥Rxx ♦AVxxx ♣Ax

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| <u>Vous</u> | <u>Adg</u> | <u>Part.</u> | <u>Add</u> |
| 1♦ | p | 1♥ | 1♠ |

contre!

Votre contre annonce trois cartes de coeur, sans limiter la force de votre main. Avec

♠Vxx ♥RDx ♦ARVxx ♣Ax

la séquence serait la même. Au tour suivant, vous indiquerez votre force, en cue-bidant par exemple.

Autre séquence avec la première main.

♠xxx ♥Rxxx ♦AVxx ♣Ax

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| <u>Vous</u> | <u>Adg</u> | <u>Part.</u> | <u>Add</u> |
| 1♦ | p | 1♥ | contre |
| 2♥ (4 cartes, 12-15 points) | | | |

Avec la deuxième main:

♠xxx ♥Rxx ♦AVxxx ♣Ax

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| <u>Vous</u> | <u>Adg</u> | <u>Part.</u> | <u>Add</u> |
| 1♦ | p | 1♥ | contre |

surcontre!

Votre surcontre annonce 3 cartes de coeur.

Le contre de soutien ne promet pas un nombre

particulier de points, sauf lorsque l'adversaire de droite met 2♠. Exemple:

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| <u>Vous</u> | <u>Adg</u> | <u>Part.</u> | <u>Add</u> |
| 1♦ | p | 1♥ | 2♠ |

contre!

3♥ par vous montrerait 4 cartes de coeur et 16-18 points, comme si votre Add avait passé. Votre contre annonce 3 cartes de coeur et une main de 16 + points. Est-ce tout? Presque. Le contre de soutien permet aussi cette petite merveille. Vous avez:

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| ♠Vxxx | ♥R10xx | ♦- | ♣R10xxx |
| <u>Part.</u> | <u>Add</u> | <u>Vous</u> | <u>Adg</u> |
| 1♦ | passé | 1♥ | 2♠! |
| contre | passé | passé!!! | |

J'ai eu cette main lors d'une partie du lundi soir à Hydro-Québec et le pauvre déclarant s'est fait pincer pour 1100!! Sur l'entame carreau de mon partenaire, j'ai coupé et rejoué coeur. Deuxième coupe à carreau, puis deux autres levées de coeur et troisième coupe à carreau. J'ai joué mon quatrième coeur et mon partenaire a pu couper lui aussi. Le pauvre adversaire n'a

pu que dire à la fin de la main:

- J'avais 14 points.

Peut-être trouvez-vous toutes ces nuances inutiles; 3 ou 4 atouts, qu'est-ce que ça peut faire? Disons simplement que le bridge modern ne vous permet plus de rester assis et d'attendre. Le bridge de compétition (duplicate, et équipes encore plus: en Imps, deux «swings» de partielles valent une manche vulnérable) a compris depuis longtemps l'importance des partielles; les joueurs interviennent donc plus souvent, soutiennent plus souvent, ne passent plus.

Si vous voulez vous battre pour une partielle, il vous faut un fit. Le contre de soutien vous permet de distinguer les mains permettant de compétitionner de celles où vous devez passer.

Dernier point: vous devez alerter toutes ces enchères:

- le contre ou surcontre de soutien montrant 3 atouts;
- le soutien direct montrant 4 atouts;
- et même le passe ou tout autre enchère de votre partenaire qui nie donc avoir au moins 3 atouts avec vous. Compliqué? Pas vraiment. Il suffit de pratiquer un peu avec votre partenaire favori et vous apprécierez bientôt toute l'utilité de ce contre de soutien.

MASTERPOINT RACES MASTERPOINT RACES



CANADIAN IN THE RACE

Frederic Pollack, of Brossard PQ ranks in the top 15 of more than one

Masterpoint race this year at the September closing. He was sitting 3rd in the Youth race, 8th in the Junior race and 15th in the Richmond Trophy Race (Canadian Open) with a total of 251 Masterpoints. Keep up the good work Frederic!

TOP 200

Canadians ranking in the ACBL's top 200 Life Masters are:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Cliff Campbell, Thunder Bay ON (156) | 9368 |
| Eric Murray, Toronto (169) | 9062 |
| Boris Baran, Montreal (187) | 8719 |

RICHMOND TROPHY

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Rob Crawford, Vancouver BC | 585 |
| 2. Cliff Campbell, Thunder Bay ON | 494 |
| 3. Ken Warren, Pickering ON | 423 |
| 4. Hans Jacobs, Aurora ON | 381 |
| 5. Martin Caley, Montreal | 377 |
| 6. Cam Doner, Richmond BC | 355 |
| 7. Darren Wolpert, Thornhill ON | 325 |
| 8. Haig Tchamitch, Don Mills ON | 324 |
| 9. Boris Baran, Montreal | 316 |
| 10. Colin Revill, Burlington ON | 310 |
| 11. Leo Steil, Vancouver BC | 309 |
| 12. Dudley Camacho, Toronto | 261 |
| 13. Marc-André Fourcaudot, Montreal | 260 |
| 14. Doug Heron, Ottawa | 253 |
| 15. Frederic Pollack, Brossard PQ | 251 |

The Viceroy's Gambit

by Ian Trawets

“The Metro World of Bridge was buzzing - rumour and gossip were flying in all directions. Apparently, Georgio Bellaholland had filed a formal complaint against Viceroy J. Gumbolle, alleging unethical conduct, abusive of opponents, physical encroachment and various other nefarious activities.

Of course, Georgio had great experience with the Ethics Committee, but this was his first time as a complainant. Upon discovering that Jon Beesett was the chairman of the committee, he immediately undertook some heavy lobbying.

“Jon, I have never been so wounded in all my days at the bridge table,” he lamented.

“Save it for the jury,” snarled Jon, obviously relishing his role as referee between his two biggest tormentors. “Besides,” he continued, “From what I can see, your complaint is rather frivolous.”

“Say what?” said Georgio in a shocked tone. “Who do you think you’re talking to? I can see that I’m going to have to have you removed from the committee - you’ve obviously prejudged the matter and are completely biased.”

“Not so,” replied Jon. “I regard each of you with equal disdain. But you realize that there are sanctions against groundless complaints.”

This conversation made Georgio rather nervous and, after reviewing his options, he decided that some discretion would be called for. Waddling up to VJG, he began in a mollifying tone

“Well, you fat head, are you ready to apologize? If so, I will consider dropping the matter.”

“Save your charm,” said VJ, waving a soggy and chewed cigar butt imperiously. “Your complaints are without merit and if you go running off to the committee every time I give you a bad result, you must be a busy boy indeed. What exactly did I do wrong?”

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|--|------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| ♠ 2 | ♠ A43 | ♠ KQJ10987 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ 543 | ♥ KJ98 | ♥ Q2 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ AKJ987 | ♦ 32 | ♦ Q106 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ 543 | ♣ Q1076 | ♣ 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> | | N | | W | | E | | S | | |
| | N | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | | E | | | | | | | | | |
| | S | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♠ 65 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♥ A1076 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♦ 54 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ AKJ98 | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| B. Blaster | Georgio | VJ | Byron |
| North | East | South | West |
| P | 3♠ | Dbf | P |
| 4♥ | P | P | P |

“Well,” replied Georgio, “I’m used to your gloating and the ceremonial lighting of your cigar after victory, and I could even put up with your blowing smoke in my face and dousing your match in my wine. However, I will not have you leaning on my side of the table and your slimy tactics on the last hand were inexcusable.”

“This is great coming from one known as Mr. Unauthorized Information - it’s really the pot calling the kettle black,” said VJ. “Besides, although the effect was somewhat fortuitous, my play was completely unintentional - I pulled the wrong card. You know of my occasional spasticity.”

“Yeah,” snarled Georgio, “You’re spastic like a fox.”

VJ was playing four hearts (see box). Obviously, with two diamonds and a spade to lose, success required his finding the queen of trumps. After the defense cashed two diamonds and shifted to a spade (an obvious singleton), VJ won the ace and immediately ruffed a spade with the ten of trumps! When Byron couldn’t overruff VJ corrected his revoke but now knew which way to finesse for the queen of trumps. If Byron had overruffed with the queen, VJ would have again corrected his revoke and later finessed through Byron.

Of course, if all this was intentional, it was quite illegal and deserving of penalty. This was what the committee had to decide. Stay tuned.

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FEBRUARY 1, 1995

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A CALENDAR

★ CWTC ★

Zones must select their teams
no later than May 1, 1995
National Final
July 5-9, 1995
Thunder Bay, Ontario

★ COPC ★

Club Qualifying Round
Sept 1, 1994 - Oct 31, 1994
Unit Final Round
Nov 1, 1994 - Jan 31, 1995
National Final
April 12-13, 1995
Canadian Nationals Regional
Toronto, ON (See page 16)

★ CNTC ★

Club Qualifying Round
Sept 1, 1994 - Jan 15, 1995
Unit Final Rounds
Completed no later than
Mar 1, 1995
Zone Final Rounds
Completed no later than
April 17, 1995
National Final
June 6 - 11, 1995.
Toronto, ON

★ 1995 HELEN SHIELDS ★ ROOKIE-MASTER GAME Tuesday April 25, 1995

Be sure to enter this Canada-wide event, complete with hand records and hand analyses. One member of each partnership must have less than 20 mps. Club managers or directors of a Rookie-Master game will be allowed to disqualify pairs that do not include a Rookie as set out in the Guidelines for Rookies written by the CBF or who do not, in their opinion, fit with the spirit of the game. Only conventions and approaches found on the Standard American - Yellow Convention Card will be allowed. A copy of this will be provided to each club applying to hold the game.

★ CANADA CUP ★

September 1, 1994 through
August 31, 1995

Don't forget the CBF's first Canada Cup point race. Points won in all events marked with a ★ will be applied to the 1994-1995 cup.

INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

Oct 19, 94 Canada Wide
Jan 28, 95 ★ ACBL Wide (aft)
Mar 7, 95 ★ Canada Wide
Jul 28, 95 ★ ACBL Wide
Oct 19, 95 Canada Wide
Jan 27, 96 ACBL Wide
Mar 25, 96 Canada Wide
May 9, 96 ACBL Wide
Aug 2, 96 ACBL Wide
Oct 22, 96 Canada Wide

CHARITY FUND GAMES

Nov 20, 95 ACBL Wide

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Tri-Country Play-off

Jan 19-21, 1995 Bermuda

World Bridge Contest

June 9-10, 1995

Junior Team

Championships

July 8 - 17, 1995 Bali, Indonesia

Junior Pairs

Championships

Aug 11-13, 1995, Ghent, Belgium

Junior Camp

Aug 14-22 1995, Ghent

Bermuda Bowl &

Venice Cup

Oct 8-21, 1995 Beijing, China