

CANADIAN

bridge

CANADIEN



Featuring

1995 CNTC REPORT
1995 WORLD JUNIOR TEAMS
1995 CWTC REPORT

With articles by

Eric Kokish
John Carruthers
Fred Gitelman
Eric Sutherland
Mike Dorn Wiss
Laval Du Breuil
and
Bernard Marcoux

*Merry Christmas
Joyeux Noël*

**CONGRATULATIONS CANADA! SILVER MEDALISTS
AT THE 1995 MARLBORO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BERMUDA BOWL
Kokish, Silver, Mittelman, Gitelman, Baran, Molson, Litvack (npc)**

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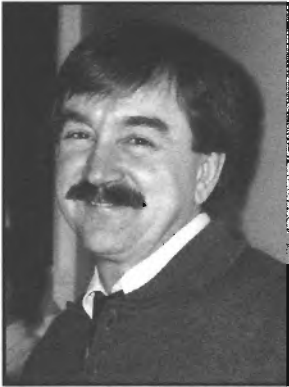
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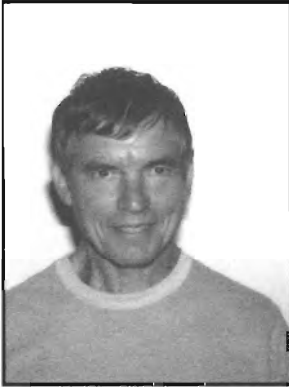
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See Back Cover





Rejean Mawn



Jacques François

Reporting error cites wrong pair as winners
**WILL THE REAL ROOKIE-MASTER
 CHAMPIONS PLEASE STAND UP!**

Hull, Quebec - Due to a reporting error at Tuxedo Bridge Club in Winnipeg, there is a change in winners of the Helen Shields Rookie Master Game held on April 25, 1995. New National Winners are Rejean Mawn and rookie Jacques François playing at the Club De Bridge Du Parc in Hull, Quebec. They had a score of 72.30% and were previously listed as 2nd. Club De Bridge Du Parc manager Raymond Lessard reports that he has received the Helen Shields trophies and would be making a presentation in early October.

The previously listed winners of the event did not, in fact, have a big game. The correct winning pair in Zone IV was Marney McPherson and Janis Matuszyk playing at the Lock City Duplicate Bridge Club in Saulte Ste. Marie ON with a score of 63.26%.

Helen Shields

1995

TROPHY WINNERS

Rejean Mawn and Jacques Francois

A look back

1995 Canadian Winners

1995 CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONS

Irving Litvack (npc) - Joseph Silver - Fred Gitelman -
 George Mittelman - Mark Molson - Eric Kokish -
 Boris Baran

1995 CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONS

Francine Cimon - Barbara Saltsman - Sharyn Reus -
 Dianna Gordon - Beverly Kokish - Rhoda Habert

1995 CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONS

Jim Riegler - Pierre Treuil

1995 HELEN SHIELDS TROPHY WINNERS

Rejean Mawn - Jacques Francois

1994 RICHMOND TROPHY

Martin Caley

ELECTION RESULTS

ZONE II

*Montreal, Quebec, Eastern Ontario,
 and Saguenay Units*

Doug Heron elected by
 acclamation.

ZONE V

*Northern Manitoba, Red Deer,
 Calgary, Northern Alberta,
 Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, South
 Saskatchewan, North Saskatchewan
 Units*

Gary Mitchell elected by
 acclamation.

BRIDGE IS RECOGNIZED AS AN OLYMPIC SPORT

In what might prove to be one of the most important developments in the history of the game, bridge was officially admitted into the Olympic movement on 15 June 1995. Earlier this year, José Damiani, WBF President, was happy to receive the following letter from the ICO President Juan Antonio Samaranch:

Dear Mr. President

Allow me to inform you that the 104th Session of the International Olympic Committee which met in Budapest has ratified the decision of the Executive Council of the Olympic Committee to grant recognition to the "World Bridge Federation" (W.B.F.) as a recognized organization in accordance with Article 4 of the Olympic Charter.

I take this opportunity to congratulate you on the efforts you have made to achieve this objective and we are pleased to welcome you to the Olympic Family.

Assuring you at all times of my consideration

*Juan Antonio Samaranch
Marqués de Samaranch*

“ This recognition is the culmination of fifteen years of effort on the part of the WBF, with Mazhar Jafri of Pakistan playing a particularly important role. While it does not yet mean that bridge will be part of the Olympic Games, the future of our game has brightened considerably.

NCBOs should apply as soon as possible to their own National Olympic Committees for recognition, which in accordance with Olympic Charter, should be fairly automatic. The image of bridge will be enhanced with greater opportunities for educational and financial assistance.

Inclusion in the Olympic Games will require that bridge become a "demonstration sport". For long I have stressed the importance of making the game attractive to the media (and the public). This historic decision will be only the first giant step for bridge.” ... José Damiani, from the *World Bridge News*, September 1995.

YOUNG CANADIAN WINS YOUTH CUP

*International Bridge Press
Association Bulletin, Sept. 1995*

David Halasi, 16, of Toronto was the clear winner of the Youth Cup at the 1st World Junior Bridge Camp in Ghent, Belgium. This cup, donated by Dirk Schroeder, is given for the best three performances with Junior partners of different nationalities during the five Pairs events of the Camp.

In the first World Junior Pairs Halasi and his partner Colin Lee finished 19th, the leading pair under the age of 20.

Halasi is the second youngest winner of the Youth Cup (Bjorn Mathisen in 1987 was 16 years and 1 month against Halasi's 16 years and 8 months). Halasi attends the Northern Secondary School in Toronto where he is planning to specialize in Science. He represents his school at hockey and plays the saxophone.

SCHROEDER CUP FINAL RESULTS

1.	Halasi, David	CND	298
2.	Carmichael, Tom	USA	290
3.	Brekke Vegard	NOR	289
4.	Sarten, Adam	AUS	286
5.	Amit, Asaf	ISR	285
6.	Want, Neng	USA	283
7.	Nasution, Taufik	IDN	281
8.	Pitt, Jason	AUS	280
9/10	Unger, Shelley	AUT	278
9/10	Kummel, Monika	AUT	278

Many of you might have tried to access the web site from the addresses printed in our last issue. Unfortunately, we were given an incorrect address. Please note the new addresses on this page and we will see you on the net!

query@cbf.ca

Now receiving your questions, complaints, letters, submissions for publication, requests for information and etc.

www.cbf.ca/query

Visit the CBF World Wide Web Homepage! You will be able to read items from our mag, look up info about the CBF and CBF events, including the latest conditions of contest, or visit other bridge sites through our Great Bridge Links feature.

Great Bridge Links

When you visit our "Great Bridge Links" web page, definitely take time to visit "Bridge on the Web". You will find results from current, recent, and past bridge events from around the world; personal web pages of well known bridge writers' links to bridge clubs on the web, bridge information and bridge entertainment. All this is made possible by the 'page maintainer' Hans van Stavern. He has done a huge amount of work putting together this excellent bridge site.

to the editor



To The Editor

Our team participated in the 1995 CNTC National Finals as a 4-bagger (Nick and I along with Peter Jones and Ray Grace). At the midpoint of the event, Ray was called home on a family emergency. So we three remaining were left with two options--withdraw or find a substitute. A young man from the Toronto area--Darren Wolpert--was recommended as a substitute. He agreed and away we went. Darren and I literally had 15 minutes to fill out a card.

What an enjoyable experience. Not only was Darren a well-mannered and enthusiastic partner but he virtually *dragged* us into a play-off spot. He is already a fine player and he's still in the Youth category!

The director-in-charge assured us that, under the circumstances, Darren would be credited as a full member of our team. So please be sure that his name is mentioned on the team roster.

Judy Gartaganis, Calgary

To The Editor

I enjoyed Doug's article on the Curse of Ottawa.

Unfortunately, he incorrectly identifies the Queen of Spades as the Curse of Scotland. In fact the battle order for Culloden Moor, thus sealing Scotland's fate was written by William, Duke of Cumberland on the Nine of Diamonds.

Even today, the flowers known as Sweet Williams are considered weeds in Scotland and are called Stinkin' Billy.

Does anyone know if this is the same Duke of Cumberland who created the whist hand containing 6HCP opposite 0HCP and yet makes all thirteen tricks?

Andy Monk, Orillia

Canadian National Team Championships



Left to right: Eric Kokish - Joe Silver - Irving Litvack - Boris Baran - Fred Gitelman - George Mittelman - Mark Molson



Left to right: Richard Lesage - Dave Willis - Jurek Czynowicz - Denis Lesage - Waldemar Frukacz - John Valliant

**1995
NATIONAL
CHAMPIONS**

**Joe Silver
Eric Kokish
George Mittelman
Fred Gitelman
Mark Molson
Boris Baran
Irving Litvack (npc)**

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 Streibinger - 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 Larochelle - Jean Bernier - Andre Laliberte - Jacques Laliberte - Raymond Fortin - Kamel Fergani
- 1987 Mark Molson - Boris Baran - John Guoba - John Carruthers - Eric Murray

- 2. **LESAGE**, Richard - Denis Lesage - Dave Willis - John Valliant - Jurek Czynowicz - Waldemar Frukacz
- 3/4. **FRASER**, Doug - Nader Hanna - Peter Schwartz - Martin Caley
- 3/4. **BALCOMBE**, Keith - Ken Warren - John Duquette - Eiji Kujirai - Paul Thurston - Rick Delogo
- 5/8. **GARTAGANIS**, Nick - Judy Gartaganis - Peter Jones - Ray Grace - Darren Wolpert
- 5/8. **PRESSE**, Don - John Stewart - Eric Balkam - Mike Betts - Kamel Fergani - Raymond Fortin
- 5/8. **ALTAY**, Andy - Ian McKinnon - Ed Bridson - David Lindop - Fred Lemer - Michael Schoenborn
- 5/8. **THORPE**, Katie (npc) - John Rayner - Eric Shepherd - Michael Roche - Jim Green - Gloria Silverman - Roisin O'Hara

The 1995 Canadian National Teams Championship finals were held at Toronto's Sheraton Parkway Hotel in Richmond Hill, June 6-11. Twenty teams from the six zones of the Canadian Bridge Federation engaged in a preliminary three-day round robin to qualify eight teams for the knock-out stage.

BOOKING EARLY FOR GREECE

by Eric Kokish, Montreal

Although they lost their first four matches, the defending champions, SILVER, stormed back to win the round robin with 941 VP, edging perennial contenders LESAGE by just 12 Victory Points. LESAGE had led most of the way and were the most consistent team in the round robin.

Round Robin Deals

BD: I-4
DLR: W
VUL: Both

♠ J
♥ J1094
♦ Q54
♣ AJ1052

♠ 10984
♥ A7
♦ KJ73
♣ KQ4



♠ KQ7652
♥ Q6
♦ 109
♣ 976

♠ A3
♥ K8532
♦ A862
♣ 83

Fraser		Hanna	
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
P	1NT	P	2♠
All Pass			

This deal was rarely played as low as 2♠ across the field, but here the normally aggressive Doug-Fraser-Nader Hanna sold out cheaply when the weak notrump and natural signoff seemed to handcuff them. You could make a case for both East and West to act over 2♠, but from my vantage point it looks much easier for West than for East, since this is a "pre-balancing" situation and West has the right spade for a teakout double.

Against South's 2♠, West led the ♥J, ducked to the King. East switched to the ♣3 and West correctly withheld his Ace, covering declarer's nine with the ten. Before starting trumps, declarer cashed the ♥A. East rose on the first spade and led his remaining club to West's Ace, and West gave East his club ruff. But now East was endplayed and

declarer was able to avoid the diamond guess. Cashing the ♥A had paid a nice dividend.

Perhaps it was difficult for West to judge that his partner held only two spades (although his jumping in with the Ace hinted at the truth), but had he done so, he would have deemed it necessary to lead a diamond before playing the third club. If declarer then guesses diamonds correctly, he makes an overtrick; if not, West wins the second diamond and can give partner his club ruff for one down.

You hold, vulnerable against nonvulnerable: (W) ♠Q ♥KQJ873 ♦K10 ♣A653
Partner opens 1♠ and you respond 2♥, forcing to 3♥. LHO jumps to 4♦, and partner volunteers 4♥. Before you decide what to do, ask yourself whether a pass by opener would have been forcing, what a double would have meant, and what the implications would have been of a "forcing" pass, then 4♥ over your reopening double.

At the table, Denis Lesage passed 4♥ while Markland Molson tried 5♣, following up with a jump to 6♥ over Boris Baran's return cue-bid of 5♦. Before reading on, decide which of these positions you prefer (full deal at top of next column).

Lesage made five without breathing hard, plus 650. Molson was doubled at 6♥, got a spade lead, ruffed an early spade low in an attempt to make it, and so lost two trumps

BD: III-22 ♠ 9
 DLR: E ♥ A10
 VUL: EW ♦ J8765432
 ♣ J102

♠ Q
 ♥ KQJ873
 ♦ K10
 ♣ A643



♠ A10832
 ♥ 942
 ♦ AQ
 ♣ K97

♠ KQ7652
 ♥ Q6
 ♦ 109
 ♣ 976

BD: IV-5 ♠ AK9
 DLR: N ♥ 9864
 VUL: N/S ♦ Q6543
 ♣ J

♠ 1063
 ♥ KQ1032
 ♦ AJ
 ♣ 874



♠ 872
 ♥ J5
 ♦ 10987
 ♣ Q653

♠ QJ54
 ♥ A7
 ♦ K2
 ♣ AK1092

and a club for minus 500. 15 imps to LESAGE, who won the match by 9.

If 2♥ is forcing only to 3♥, I believe that East's pass over 4♥ would not be forcing and that double would show a good hand with no clear bid to make. 4♥ would show only enough extra values to make 4♥ a reasonable venture - this East hand would qualify, in my opinion. Extra-value heart hands can pose some problems in this style since East has to choose between 4♥, double (dangerous, since West will not expect a third or fourth heart), 4NT, and a cue-bid of 5♦. Partnerships embroiled in this sort of 2♥ response would do well to spend some time on this sequence. If E/W agree to deem this pass forcing (suggesting doubt) notwithstanding the limited commitment of the 2♥ response, East's double would be a definite penalty opinion and West's a statement about defense versus offense on the basis of East's uncertainty.

A lead problem. You hold:
 (W) ♠ 1063 ♥ KQ1032 ♦ AJ ♣ 874

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	P	P	1♣
1♥	DBL*	P	1NT(15-18-)
P	3NT	All Pass	

*less than four spades, negative

Larry Crevier chose a low heart, which was essential (see top of next column). Had he led a high heart instead, declarer could win and play a diamond while the hearts were

blocked, falling back on the club finesse if necessary. At the other table in this match, North was declarer, and the lead of the ♥J defeated the contract easily.

The next deal (see below) was critical to the outcome of Match 6 in many encounters. In SILVER vs PRESSE, Donny Presse-John Stewart overbid to 7♣, a contract that might have made on a good day. With the bad heart break, Stewart couldn't quite get home.

BD: VII-4 ♠ QJ7
 DLR: N ♥ 7
 VUL: Both ♦ KJ9873
 ♣ 753

♠ -
 ♥ AJ8432
 ♦ Q654
 ♣ A92



♠ A932
 ♥ 5
 ♦ A10
 ♣ KQJ864

♠ K108654
 ♥ KQ1096
 ♦ 2
 ♣ 10

At the other table, Kamel Fergani led the ♦2 against 6♣ after his partner Raymond Fortin had made a lead-directing bid in that suit, implying a fit in spades. If declarer had been certain of the heart position, he would have ruffed three spades in dummy, but since he had to be concerned with the ten of trumps and since there was no reason why Fergani could not hold three diamonds rather than one, he adopted a different line that threatened to defeat the small slam. He took the ♥J with the Ace, ruffed a spade low and led a second diamond from

dummy. North decided to follow low to preserve a diamond tenace, so South ruffed declarer's $\diamond 10$ with the $\clubsuit 10$ and had no more trumps to lead. Declarer was able to ruff two more spades in comfort. Had North won the $\diamond K$ and led a third diamond, declarer would have had to ruff high, play one round of trumps, take a pitch on the $\diamond Q$, and score one more spade ruff in order to get home. That was 16 imps to SILVER, who needed them.

Post-mortem discussion centered on declarer's ability to make $6\clubsuit$ on a trump lead and the conclusions was that he could do so. Some variation on this team: $\clubsuit A$, diamond to the Jack and Ace, $\heartsuit A$, spade ruff, $\heartsuit A$, heart ruff, spade ruff, heart ruff, draw trumps, exit with the $\diamond 10$. North, down to nothing but diamonds, could duck to allow South to take a spade in the end, or win and concede a trick to the $\diamond Q$.

BD: VII-8
DLR: W
VUL: NONE

\heartsuit KJ6
 \heartsuit AJ972
 \diamond 1064
 \clubsuit K2

\heartsuit A10
 \heartsuit KQ
 \diamond K9732
 \clubsuit 7654

	N	
W		E
	S	

\heartsuit 987432
 \heartsuit -
 \diamond A8
 \clubsuit QJ983

Silver	Fortin	Kokish	Fergani
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1NT	P	2 \heartsuit	2 \heartsuit
P	4 \heartsuit	All Pass	

Had Joey Silver led the pedestrian $\heartsuit K$ against Fergani's $4\heartsuit$, there might well have been no story, but Silver found the remarkable lead of the $\diamond 2$, hoping to give a ruff or two with a possible entry in hearts. The layout was not quite what he had hoped for, but the payoff was equally rewarding. Fergani took the $\diamond J$ with his Ace and played a club, hoping to get a better feel for the layout of the spade honors. East took the $\clubsuit K$ with the Ace and returned the $\diamond 5$, West

playing King and another. Declarer ruffed and led a trump, perhaps about to go wrong on his own. Silver left nothing to chance, however, rising with the $\heartsuit A$ to play a fourth diamond, allowing East to score the $\heartsuit Q$ behind dummy. That was an 11-imp gain for SILVER since E/W had gone for 500 in hearts at the other table.

BD: XVIII-26
DLR: E
VUL: Both

\heartsuit Q94
 \heartsuit KQ54
 \diamond A874
 \clubsuit 94

\heartsuit A862
 \heartsuit 1032
 \diamond KJ106
 \clubsuit 103

	N	
W		E
	S	

\heartsuit K10753
 \heartsuit 7
 \diamond Q5
 \clubsuit KJ752

Caley	Altay	Schwartz	McKinnon
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1 \heartsuit	2 \heartsuit *

3 \heartsuit All Pass
* \heartsuit and a minor

Ian McKinnon elected to lead a spade against Peter Schwartz's touch- and-go 3 \heartsuit . Schwartz could not be certain about the identity of McKinnon's long minor, and it looked as if the deal would become a scramble of sorts. At trick two he ruffed a spade and continue with a diamond to the ten, which held. A second spade ruff followed, and Schwartz led a second diamond to the Queen, King, and Ace. Altay gave McKinnon a diamond ruff with the $\heartsuit 7$, and by now Schwartz had an accurate read on the distribution. McKinnon exited with a spade and Altay had to find a discard. He elected to throw a diamond to deprive Schwartz of his discard on the $\diamond J$, but a club would have been better this time. Schwartz scored the $\heartsuit 9$ and led a low club towards the ten. McKinnon, believing that Altay would have discarded a club on the fourth spade if he did not hold an honour, played low! Schwartz scored the $\clubsuit 10$, came to the $\clubsuit A$, and ruffed a club with the $\heartsuit 10$. Altay could overruff or underuff, but

Schwartz had to score two more heart tricks for plus 140 and a 7-imp gain.

The round robin winners earned the right to choose their quarterfinal opponents from the group finishing 5th through 8th; they selected THORPE, without much conviction. This match proved to be close all the way, with SILVER edging out a 135-121 victory.

LESAGE chose PRESSE and this match was even closer; LESAGE overcoming a 7-imp deficit at the three-quarter mark to prevail 141-134.

BALCOMBE chose ALTAY and justified their decision to bypass last year's runnersup FRASER by edging their co-zonalists 139-132.

The BALCOMBE choice left GARTAGANIS with its hands full against FRASER, who eliminated the western team, 191-133. There was no carryover into the knockout stage this year, for the first time. The four quarterfinal matches used different sets of shuffled boards and there were no hand records or recorders for the bidding and play. Bush league stuff.

The Quarterfinals

DLR: E	♠ J10		
VUL: N/S	♥ 1052		
	♦ Q109432		
	♣ A7		
♠ Q852		♠ A94	
♥ J74		♥ A63	
♦ AKJ6		♦ 7	
♣ J4		♣ K109653	
	♠ K763		
	♥ KQ98		
	♦ 85		
	♣ Q82		



Roche	Silver	Green	Kokish
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	P	P	P
1♣*	P	3♣**	P
3NT	All Pass		

* Polish Style

** Invitational opposite 10-12 Bal

On this early deal from the tight SILVER vs THORPE match in the Quarterfinals (64 boards), Michael Roche and Jim Green reached a close 3NT that was missed at the other table. Silver led an unfortunate diamond and Roche won the Jack, cashed the ♠A (heart from dummy), and ran the ♣J. I exited with the ♣2 (trying hopefully to convey interest in hearts) to Silver's Ace, and Joey duly switched to the ♥2. Roche put up the Ace to run the clubs, hoping for a favourable ending. On the lie of the cards, he was going to get one since I couldn't get

SILVER	36	60	95	135
THORPE	35	80	90	121
LESAGE	38	74	104	141
PRESSE	37	90	111	134
BALCOMBE	37	73	109	139
ALTAY	43	65	92	132
GARTAGANIS	47	67	114	133
FRASER	65	109	152	191

out of my own way legitimately in the majors, but we were still alive since declarer couldn't be sure of the distribution. I threw seven-six-three of spades (discouraging or an odd number) and kept all my hearts, so declarer had to guess whether the ♠K was blank. He decided that it wasn't and so exited with a heart, hoping for a position where we'd have to give him a diamond of the ♠Q in the ending. No luck. SILVER gained 4imps where ROCHE might have gained 6.

The Cinderella team in the quarterfinals was GARTAGANIS, with Darren Wolpert, one of Canada's promising juniors, stepping in to replace Ray Grace in midstream.

Board 17 in their match against the redoubtable FRASER can be found at the top of the next column.

diamonds, so he overtook the ten with the Jack and so went two down. 14 not so unfortunateimps to THORPE.

You have to lead from:
(S) ♠1092 ♥KQ ♦AQJ8653 ♣6,
after the following auction:

Roche	Silver	Green	Kokish
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♣*	1♦
3♣**	P	3NT	All Pass

* 10-12 BAL, or NAT or most 17+ HCP;
**invitational opposite 10-12 BAL

So, do you lead the diamond quack, the heart queen or the spade ten, or perhaps the ♦A, counting on a timely heart entry? This was the layout:

DLR: E	♠ Q764		♠ K53
VUL: NONE	♥ 98763		♥ A102
	♦ 2		♦ 10974
	♣ A82		♣ KJ4
♠ AJ8			
♥ J54			
♦ K			
♣ Q109753			
	♠ 1092		
	♥ KQ		
	♦ AQJ8653		
	♣ 6		

I confess that I had a bad moment after leading the ♥Q and seeing that bare ♦K in dummy, but it turned out all right when the heart lead established a fifth defensive trick and declarer had started with a genuine diamond stopper all the time. Our guys had stopped in a partscore at the other table, so for a second time in the match, we gained 4imps when we might well have lost 6. Tough to make a living here.

We were 5imps ahead going into the last stanza against THORPE and things did not go well at our table. We missed an excellent vulnerable 6} with these cards:

♠ A532	♠ 6
♥ KQ3	♥ A1075
♦ J6	♦ AKQ1075
♣ A1063	♣ J5

... and as we feared, Gloria Silverman-Roisin O'Hara bid it and made it at the other table. We doubled a cold 5♣ (550) when we might well have saved at 5♠, down 100 or 200, and we doubled 1NT and allowed two over-tricks when we might have beaten it, held it to one, or removed to 2♥ and scored plus 140. We had much the best of all the partscores, however, and we had one very good result on the last deal of the match: Joey elected to lead a low heart from King-Queen fifth against a vulnerable 4♠ and caught declarer with nine-and-one opposite Ace-Jack-fourth. As it happened, he needed a second heart trick for his contract, but when he made the natural play - low from dummy, my ten won and he could no longer get home. Yet again, our teammates had stayed out of game, so if this one had made we would have lost 10imps where we actually gained 6. We won the match by just 14, so the last board made the difference, if you're inclined to look at such things in this way.

PDI BRIDGE SUPPLIES

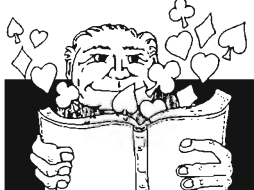
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DLR: N
VUL: None

♠ AQJ
♥ Q83
♦ AJ432
♣ J3

♠ 2
♥ A1096
♦ KQ6
♣ 98752



♠ 109763
♥ J742
♦ -
♣ KQ104

♠ K854
♥ K5
♦ 109875
♣ A6

Caley	Wolpert	Schwartz	Judy G.
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1NT	P	2♠

All Pass

Marty Caley started the ♠K against Judy Gartaganis' 2♠, a contract that looks like it should succeed. Declarer won the ♠A, shedding a heart, and continued with Ace and Queen of trumps, seemingly about to lose three hearts, the ♣A, and a trump. Peter Schwartz won the ♠K and resisted the temptation to switch to the ♥K. As you can see, the heart ruff shortens East's trumps and declarer will lose only the ♣A thereafter. Peter did play a heart, but he chose the five. Caley won the ♥A and returned the ♥6, and declarer put up dummy's Queen, hoping to create an entry to her hand with the Jack. Schwartz won the ♥K and returned a diamond, leaving declarer with a curious choice of plays. If she had ruffed the diamond, gone to the ♠J, and played a club or a heart, she would have been all right since the ♦Q was coming down tripleton, but it looked as if Schwartz had started life with more than two hearts and so the alternative line seemed quite safe. She could not discard the ♥J since Caley would then continue with the ♥10 (the master heart since the Queen was already gone) to force her, so she discarded a club. But Caley won the ♦Q and gave Schwartz an unexpected heart ruff. The ♣A set the contract.

This deal (next column) contributed heavily to THORPE's 20-imp lead at the half over SILVER. In 6♣, Jim Green played in somewhat Cavalier fashion: he won the ♠A and

played three rounds of hearts, ruffing low. When no one ruffed any of these, he drew trump and claimed, announcing that he would play the ♦AK in the end whether or not the ♥9 was high. Plus 940.

DLR: S
VUL: None

♠ 875
♥ A8
♦ AKJ73
♣ Q84

♠ KQJ64
♥ J102
♦ 6542
♣ 10



♠ 10932
♥ Q765
♦ Q8
♣ J93

♠ A
♥ K943
♦ 109
♣ AK7652

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kokish	Roche	Silver	Green
-	-	-	1♣ (Pol)
1♠	3♦ (NF)	3♠	4♣
P	4NT	P	5♣(1/4)
P	5NT	P	6♣
Shepherd	Molson	Rayner	Baran
-	-	-	1♣
1♠	2♦	2♠	3♥
P	4♣	P	4♠
P	4NT	P	5♦ (0/3)
P	5NT	P	7♣

The stakes were much higher for Boris Baran at the other table. Rather than play for four diamond tricks by ruffing out the suit (a line that fails, more or less, if someone holds at least four diamonds to the Queen), Baran started on the line that Green had adopted. When West followed deuce-ten-Jack of hearts, he had to determine whether he could afford a second heart ruff, and whether he should play one high trump first. If the Restricted Choice considerations were to be considered, West was much more likely to have started with his actual heart holding than with QJ102, but even so, there were serious uppercut possibilities and playing a fourth heart (cashing the ♣Q or ♣A first) might well have been the only way to go down. Baran decided to run the trumps, cashing the ♠A along the way. In the end, he was sure that West held four

The Semifinals

In their semifinal (64 boards) match, LESAGE led all the way against BALCOMBE, but never by a significant margin. It ended 117-92 for LESAGE.

FRASER took an early 35-29 against SILVER, in no small measure due to an uncharacteristic flight of fancy by George Mittelman. He held, with both sides vulnerable:

(E) ♠J4 ♥--- ♦KJ10983 ♣QJ942.

Over a K/S-style 1♣ on his right, he jumped to 3♠. After a negative double, Fred Gitelman raised to 4♦. When opener continued with 4♠, George forged on with 5♦. This might have been right in certain circumstances, but captaincy was a definite issue in his partnership and he was really flying solo. The whole world doubled 5♦ and the price was 800. No big deal, perhaps, if 4♠ was making, but on the actual layout, 4♠ was doomed and duly failed at the other table. Gitelman's hand: (W) ♠K102 ♥Q107652 ♦Q6 ♣87. You might not care for his 4♦ bid, but I think it's fine, especially opposite a seven-card suit.

The second set was filled with interesting deals, perhaps none more so than:

BD: 27 ♠ Q642
DLR: S ♥ 93
VUL: None ♦ 7652
♣ Q107

♠ A107
♥ KQ104
♦ K3
♣ AK64



♠ K985
♥ J752
♦ J104
♣ 92

♠ J3
♥ A86
♦ AQ98
♣ J853

Caley	Silver	Schwartz	Kokish
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
2NT	P	3♦(stay)	P
3♥	P	6NT	All pass

The match was very close when this deal arose. Caley added a point for his tens and

SILVER	29	61	140	207
FRASER	35	58	83	103

LESAGE	38	72	95	117
BALCOMBE	25	44	69	92

two four-card suits and opened 2NT. Schwartz soon raised to 6NT with his moderate 12-count, and the four-four club fit remained on the shelf. In the other room, Molson-Baran stopped in game, so there was bound to be an 11-imp swing for one side or the other.

Silver selected a low diamond for his opening lead, eight, jack, king. Caley was under no immediate pressure now, so he cleared the clubs, and I discarded the ♠5 (reverse count and attitude signals) as Silver won the ♣Q. Although there seemed to be no hurry to play on spades, Silver duly switched to the ♠4. When Caley played low from dummy, it probably should have tipped me off that it was right to play the ♠K, but if Caley did not have the ♠Q, he would have only 19 HCP, and not a spectacular 19 either. Wrongly, I guess, I played the eight. Caley scooped in the ten, cashed his club (seemingly safe spade discards from North and South), and tried three high hearts. Silver wanted to keep his diamond holding intact to tempt Caley to take a losing finesse, so he threw another spade. Now Caley's ♠7 was worth a rather unlikely third trick in that suit, but he didn't realize it. He led a diamond and finessed the nine; two down. 11 imps to SILVER, who seemed to build on this results to take charge in the boards that followed.

In retrospect, I should have thrown a diamond and kept a second spade to let my partner keep all his worthless diamonds to reinforce the impression that he was trying to create - that of a man guarding the ten of diamonds. But once I had permitted the ♠10 to win a trick, the hand was cold on a double squeeze. Declarer could have cashed the

high hearts, the high diamonds, and his club winner. Even if North had been dealt the guarded $\diamond 10$, he would have had to blank the $\heartsuit Q$ to keep the $\diamond 10$. I would have been forced to blank the $\heartsuit K$ to keep the $\heartsuit J$ and declarer would have parted with the $\heartsuit 10$ and taken the last trick with the $\heartsuit 7$ in a variant of the position that we actually reached. Perhaps that spade switch was a stroke of genius after all, but in order to keep his diamonds, North might have taken it a step further and switched to the $\heartsuit Q$ rather than a low one. More than one of us has had a sleepless night or two over this dramatic deal.

Board 29 was either a good "push" or a bad one, depending on your sensibilities ...

BD: 29
DLR: N
VUL: Both

\heartsuit J74
 \heartsuit 10542
 \diamond 43
 \clubsuit Q632

\heartsuit AKQ952
 \heartsuit K
 \heartsuit K98
 \clubsuit K97

	N	
W		E
	S	

\heartsuit 863
 \heartsuit A873
 \diamond 105
 \clubsuit A1085

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Caley	Silver	Schwartz	Kokish
	P	1 \diamond	P
2 \heartsuit	P	3 \diamond	P
4 \diamond	P	5 \diamond	All pass
Baran	Hanna	Molson	Fraser
	P	1 \diamond	P
2 \heartsuit	P	3 \diamond	P
4 \diamond	P	5 \diamond	All pass

Not an easy hand for E/W, who would have chosen to finish in 3NT had they seen one another's cards. Still, 5 \diamond didn't have to fail, particularly with the $\clubsuit A$ onside. However, at both tables, South led the $\heartsuit A$ and switched to a low club, and both declarers got it wrong, playing low from dummy. No swing.

SILVER led by just 3 imps at the half, but took command of the match in the third segment with a 79-25 run.

FRASER gained heavily, however, on two deals. On one of them, Mittelman-Gitelman misjudged at the five-level, not unreasonably. The other SILVER loss was much less reasonable.

Silver himself was dealt:
(N) $\heartsuit 972$ $\heartsuit K1065$ $\diamond K763$ $\clubsuit Q8$
both vulnerable. The bidding developed:

Caley	Silver	Schwartz	Kokish
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		P	1 \heartsuit
2 \heartsuit ($\heartsuit+m$)	P	3 \heartsuit	DBL (takeout)
P	???		

He decided to pass, which proved to be disastrous, since this was the full deal:

BD: 42
DLR: E
VUL: BOTH

\heartsuit 972
 \heartsuit K1065
 \diamond K763
 \clubsuit Q8

\heartsuit 4
 \heartsuit AQJ84
 \diamond 5
 \clubsuit AK9764

	N	
W		E
	S	

\heartsuit KJ6
 \heartsuit 9732
 \heartsuit J10942
 \clubsuit 2

\heartsuit AQ10853
 \heartsuit -
 \diamond AQ8
 \clubsuit J1053

Schwartz had little difficulty making three on a club lead for plus 730. At the other table, Fraser-Hanna bid to 4 \heartsuit with the N/S cards (indeed, Silver might well have tried 3 \heartsuit over 2 \heartsuit) and Mittelman-Gitelman saved at 5 \heartsuit , down 500. 15 imps to FRASER.

Silver did well to reopen against 2 \heartsuit on board 46 (next column) and I took a shot at game since there was no way to tell how well the minors were going to mesh. As it happened, I bought a pretty good dummy. Caley led a spade to the King (perhaps the Jack would have been more useful for West on this lie) and Ace and I tried the $\diamond K$. Caley took the Ace and switched craftily to

the ♣5. That looked either very good for me or very ominous, and I thought it unlikely that Marty had started with a singleton club and not led it. I won the ♣A, crossed to the ♣K and ruffed a club, continuing with the ♥7. Schwartz could see no hope if he split his heart honours, so he played the four. The seven held and the hand was soon over. Since Mittelman-Gitelman had bought the auction at 2♠ at the other table, SILVER gained 11imps.

BD: 46
DLR: E
VUL: None

♠ 74
♥ J975
♦ Q10652
♣ A9

♠ Q10863
♥ 63
♦ AJ73
♣ 65



♠ KJ92
♥ KQ4
♦ 94
♣ QJ108

♠ A5
♥ A1082
♦ K8
♣ K7432

The fourth quarter began with SILVER winning 33imps on the first three deals, so the match was essentially over. SILVER tacked on 47imps in the last set to win going away by 104imps over the team they had beaten in a closer match in the 1994 final in Halifax.

Caley	Silver	Schwartz	Kokish
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♣	P
1♠	P	2♠	P
P	DBL	P	4♥

The Finals

BD: 2
DLR: E
VUL: N/S

♠ 107532
♥ J72
♦ J3
♣ AJ10

♠ Q986
♥ A109
♦ AK875
♣ 3



♠ J4
♥ K63
♦ 962
♣ KQ765

♠ AK
♥ Q854
♦ Q104
♣ 9842

Mittelman	Willis	Gitelman	Valliant
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♦	P	P	P
1♠	P	1♥	P
3♥	P	3♦	P
4♦	P	3♠	P
		5♦	All pass

SILVER made a strong statement in the first quarter, taking a 72-19 lead when both Baran-Molson and Mittelman-Gitelman emerged with a good card.

George and Fred, who are both weak notrumpers at hearts, have been playing strong ones since they started their partnership after Albuquerque. One of their concessions to their roots is that they rebid 1NT

SILVER	78	128	153	193
LESAGE	29	79	119	145

with all balanced minimum hands. Accordingly, suit rebids show shape. That worked well on Board 2. With everything lying nicely, 5♦ posed no problems. The Lesages missed this one. 6imps to SILVER.

A good Molson-Baran sacrifice brought in 8imps and a cheap partscore steal by Mittelman-Gitelman netted 5imps more. On the next deal, the alliterative pair stole another auction at 1♥x, down 300, while their teammates made an easy vulnerable game. Quickly, it was 28-love.

But then Mittelman-Gitelman went down in a slam that was odds-against on the auction and two boards later the same pair went down 600 in a freely-bid, severely flawed 6NT to turn over (only) 11 more. In between, however, SILVER picked up 11imps for a better level and strain decision by Mittelman-Gitelman. It was 39-24, SILVER halfway through the set.

The rest of the set was all SILVER.

Mittelman-Gitelman were able to stop at 4♥ with these cards:

WEST	EAST
♠KJ	♠5
♥KJ75	♥Q1064
♦KQ9764	♦T10
♣4	♣AKQ952

The Lesages finished a trick too high on this difficult combination. 10 imps. Two boards later, the same pair for SILVER bid these cards to 7♠

WEST	EAST
♠AKQJ64	♠103
♥3	♥AK854
♦3	♦A1072
♣K7652	♣A3

Not cold, but a contract with possibilities. Gitelman ruffed a club high and claimed with the suit broke three-three and trumps were civilized. 13 imps more when the Lesages stopped at 6♠.

The second set was dead even at 50-50. With 100 imps scored in 18 boards, you can imagine that there was some less-than-stellar bridge being played, but that was not entirely the case.

On the first deal of the second set, Jurek Czyzowicz-Waldemar Frukacz brought in 15 imps for LESAGE with a Polish two-suited 2♦ opening while their teammates were given a free run to a pretty good 7♠. These were the cards ...

BD: 19	♠ J7	♠ A1065
DLR: S	♥ Q8643	♥ A
VUL: E/W	♦ 6	♦ AKJ1087
	♣ K10975	♣ A2
♠ KQ94		
♥ J10		
♦ Q952		
♣ QJ8		
	♠ 832	
	♥ K9752	
	♦ 43	
	♣ 643	



Frukacz started with 2♦ after two passes, and over Silver's two-tier double (13-15 or 20+), Czyzowicz jumped to 4♦, suggesting he could play in four of either major. I doubled to show some cards and now Frukacz was able to introduce hearts. When Silver jumped to 6♦, Czyzowicz saved at 6♥ and my double ended the auction. Perhaps I should have passed, but I had a lot of junk and no aces. 6♥x went down 1100 but ...

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Willis	Molson	Valliant	Baran
P	PI	1♦	P
1♠	1NT(♥+♣)	5NT	P
7♣*	P	7♠	All pass

Plus 2210. 15 imps to LESAGE.

After that, however, the Polish Clubbers misjudged three consecutive strain/level/card play decisions and turned over 34 imps. They followed up by playing in a cue-bid at the five level, seven down into their own 450, but Molson-Baran had a mixup themselves and went minus, so the LESAGE loss was just 6 imps. A unilateral save by Czyzowicz cost a further 6 imps, and halfway through the set, SILVER was threatening to run away with the match with an 80-imp lead.

But then the tide turned a bit. A slopped 200-point undertrick cost Silver 5 imps and a silly competitive decision cost him 5 more. Then Silver himself misguessed a doubled vulnerable game that he probably should have made, going down 500 to turn over 9 imps instead of gaining 14, and near the end, a greedy penalty double of 2♠ and sloppy defense resulted in minus 870 and a loss of 13 imps. Not anyone's finest hour.

The third segment started well for SILVER, with a couple of great results for the Silver and his foil, netting 10 imps (a good game on a soft lead) and 12 imps (the Polish 2♦ led to the wrong game this time), but it slowed down considerably after that. LESAGE gained three major swings, the first

a 13-imp pickup on a randomly lucky choice of games and declarers, the second an 11-imp gift with Silver misjudged the play in a slightly inferior game contract and ran into a ruff he could have avoided, the third on this little number ...

BD: 53	♠ J2		
DLR: N	♥ AK982		
VUL: None	♦ 972		
	♣ K103		
♠ Q10943		♠ K85	
♥ 1043		♥ 7	
♦ AK1084		♦ Q653	
♣ -		♣ Q9864	

	♠ A76		
	♥ QJ65		
	♦ J		
	♣ AJ752		



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Frukacz	Silver	Czyz.	Kokish
	P	P	1♣
1♠	2♥	2♠	4♥
4♠	Dbl	All pass	
Mitt	Lesage	Git	Lesage
	1♥	P	2♣
Dbl	3♣	3♦	4♦
P	4♥	4♠	P
P	Dbl	P	5♥

I may be wrong about the Closed Room auction, but the result was plus 450 at 5♥. I am sure, though, about everything in the Open Room. Silver thought that a pass to 4♠ would not be forcing, so he doubled to show extras. The pass would have been forcing, however (mathematics of the game), so what the double really meant was that he wanted to defend. A trump lead would have beaten 4♠ easily enough, but Joey led a high heart, then switched to the ♠J. Too late. Declarer got one heart ruff for plus 590. The double game swing cost SILVER 14imps. LESAGE won the set 40-15 and were within 34imps with plenty of boards remaining.

The fourth set was a nightmare for Mittelman-Gitelman, who reached a terrible slam on a misunderstanding, misguessed a

vulnerable game on a sensible line, and watched Czyzowicz-Frukacz roll home two unlikely odds-against games (mercifully, both nonvulnerable).

However, Molson-Baran came out with a card they considered nearly perfect, and they were right (although the three clear losses at the other table were beyond redemption). Among their triumphs were 3NT and not 4♠ or 5♠ with these cards which brought in 13 against the Poles' 4♠, down:

♠5	♠AQJ1062
♥QJ9	♥863
♦83	♦A62
♣AKQJ765	♣10

And this combination, which didn't look as if it should swing anyimps

WEST	EAST
♠AK9	♠105
♥A983	♥---
♦K	♦AQJ1098642
♣A10863	♣95

At both tables, the bidding began: (E) P-5♦-P-5NT. Frukacz thought he needed solid trumps to bid seven, Baran did not. Plus 2140 vs minus 1390 gave SILVER 13 more. SILVER also gained 3, 4, and 6imps (the last on a hair-raising double of 4♦) on three less visible boards, and won the final set 40-26.

SILVER (with Baran added) successfully defended their CNTC title with a 193-145 victory. Their win has earned the SILVER team the right to represent Canada in the 1996 World Bridge Team Olympiad in Greece next autumn. If they can keep their noses clean between now and then (hardly a cinch), they will be endorsed by the CBF to bear the nation's colours.

DONT FORGET! All players in the 1996 CNTC National Final will also be eligible to play in the COPC Final - and try for the \$2000 cash prize!

It seems to matter little to a vast majority of Canada's female bridge players that the team winning the annual Canadian Women's Team Championship earns a (more or less) funded trip to the World Women's Bridge Team Championships the following year. Is it simply apathy, or is it a wide-spread feeling that it's not worth the time and expense when one (or occasionally two or three) team(s) inevitably starts as a prohibitive favourite? It is true that competing in the national final can indeed be an expensive proposition (there is very little grass-roots level support for the CWTC, making it unlikely that the zones can raise enough funding to subsidize the teams interested in going further). However, is it really more fun or more constructive to play in a few regionals or sectionals instead? What can be better for a moderately serious pair (gender irrelevant) than competing against the best players available (gender relevant, perhaps) with the possibility of playing for your country in a World Championship if you win the national title?

All this is by way of introduction to the 1995 CWTC National Final, which was held in Thunder Bay, Ontario July 5-9. Only sixteen teams made the trek, with the event taking on a distinctly middle-Canadian flavour (there's that expense item again). These teams engaged in a three-day round robin of 11-board matches to qualify four teams for the semifinals. Leading the pack were the favourites: Francine Cimon-Barbara Saltsman, Rhoda Habert-Beverly Kraft, Dianna Gordon and Sharon Reus (all Montreal, except Gordon, Toronto), with 796 VP (80 possible per match). Second, just inches behind with 789, was NORMAN, third POCOCK, and fourth WALDER.

CIMON elected to face WALDER in one semifinal (64 boards), leaving NORMAN ver-



**MONTREAL TEAM WINS
1995 CANADIAN
WOMEN'S TEAMS, TRIP
TO 1996 OLYMPIAD**

by Eric Kokisb

sus POCOCK in the other. There was some carryover into the knockout phase but that didn't prove relevant. CIMON defeated WALDER by 27 imps in a tight match, but POCOCK romped over NORMAN in the other semifinal ("just call it a 1-imp heartbreaker, please," requested a member of the NORMAN team). In the 72-board final, the match was close for a while, but CIMON

broke it open in the third set and coasted home plus 84. The winners earn the right to represent Canada in the Women's Series at the 1996 World Bridge Team Olympiad in Rhodes, Greece in late autumn.

I would be the last person to speak disparagingly of women's bridge, but with the CBF so tight for funds to support our international teams, I believe that the women ought to show more interest in their only important national event. Their assistance is essential to generate enough revenue to justify the financial support (the same as that for the open team) provided annually by the CBF.

For the record, the Thunder Bay organizers put on a wonderful show, with great hospitality and sociability. The venue, however, was positively dreadful and the CBF made no arrangements to record the bidding and play of the late stages.

THE '95 VENICE CUP

Our Canadian Women's Team (last year's CWTC winners, Gloria Silverman, Barbara Clinton, Joan Eaton, Roisin O'Hara, with augmentees Mary Paul and Katie Thorpe) had a disappointing finish at the 1995 Venice Cup in Beijing, China this past October. Seven wins and seven losses in the 14 match round robin, but not enough victory points to do better than 7th in their group. They would have had to place in the op 4 to qualify for the Quarter Finals. The Venice Cup was eventually won by Germany after a 128 board final against the USA I team. The final scores in that match were 312 Germany to 248 USA.

1995 CHAMPIONS

Francine Cimon, Montreal
 Barbara Saltsman, Montreal
 Sharyn Reus, St. Laurent
 Dianna Gordon, Toronto
 Beverly Kokish, Westmount
 Rhoda Habert, Montreal

CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS



RUNNERS UP

2. June Pocock, Coquitlam - Ina Andersen, Surrey - Sheila Giroto - Kathy Adachi, Delta, all BC
- 3/4. Audrey Norman, Regina SK - Sallie Caty Oakville - Patti Lee, Toronto - Bev Ross, Brampton - Barbara Sims, Mississauga - Mary Bryce, Scarborough
- 3/4. Marilyn Walder - Lana Blackett - Maureen Marsch - Lorraine Serlin - Naomi Silver - Caroline Levi, all Winnipeg MB

Winners of the 1995 CWTC are no strangers to women's bridge in Canada. Francine Cimon has won this event 7 time (84, 86, 87, 88, 90, 91, 95) Barbara won once before in 1985, Sharyn and Dianna were members of 8 winning teams beginning with the first official CWTC in 1984 (84, 86, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 95) and Beverly and Rhoda have won three championships (85, 92, 95).

Our runner ups too are no Cinderellas. June Pocock has been a 'bridesmaid' twice (92, 95) and in the top 4 at least 3 or 4 times. Kathy and Ina won the title in 1989, have placed 2nd twice (92, 95) and 3/4th at least once. Sheila partnered June in their 1994 3/4 placing.

ROUND ROBIN RESULTS

- | | | | |
|--|-----|---|-----|
| 1. CIMON | 796 | 10. JONES , Lloyd, Edmonton - Lorna McDonald, St. Albert - Anita Lambert, Leduc - Caroleigh Houghton, Calgary, all AB | 569 |
| 2. NORMAN | 789 | 11. HARPER , Anna - Susan Cressman - Sherrill Sly - Carol Anderson - Judith Carroll - Deanna Black, all Thunder Bay, ON | |
| 3. POCOCK | 752 | 12. BRAWN , Elizabeth - Eva Good - Arlene Lundgren - Marie Wiley - Judi Waters, all London ON - Janette Thwaites, St. Thomas ON | |
| 4. WALDER | 691 | 13. WOODS , Gwenfil - Marney McPherson - Loyis Glassford - Pat Buerkle - Norma Elaine Davey - Anne Marie Crabbe, all Sault Ste Marie | |
| 5. CALTER , Helen, Fredericton - Louise Fisher, New Glasgow - Sandra Fox, Sackville NB - Rhonda Betts, Burnaby BC - Elizabeth Legacy, NS - Gwen Lynn, Parry Sound | 769 | 14. RIOUX , Diane - Nicole Brisebois - Louise Meilleur - Barbara Corcoran, all St. Lambert PQ | |
| 6. HODGE , Evelyn, Burnaby - Mary Fines, N. Vancouver - Monica Angus, Pt. Coquitlam - Flora Tereposky, Maple Ridge, all BC | 631 | 15. DUNN , Betty - Mary Theresa Henderson - Wendy Jones - Mary McRae - Janet Martyn - Marjorie Enstrom, all Thunder Bay ON | |
| 7. NEATE , Marge, W. Vancouver - Stella Alliston, N. Vancouver - Joyce Peters W. Vancouver - Donna Morrison, N. Burnaby - Pat Landau, N. Vancouver, all BC | 606 | 16. EISENHAUER , Carla - Linda Connell - Peggy McGregor - Deborah Harper, all Saskatoon SK | |
| 8. ANDERSON , Bonnie, Vancouver - Olive Macdonald, N. Delta - Pearl Minkoff, Vancouver - Olive Perdue, Vancouver, all BC | 604 | | |
| 9. DEMME , Ina - Janet Dunbar - Shelagh Paulsson - Kathy Redelaar - Elizabeth Redrupp - Chrystyna Schock, all Toronto ON | 590 | | |

It has been an exciting summer for the Canadian Youth Bridge Organization.

In May, CYBOrg was officially ratified at a meeting of the CBF executive. Once the word reached me, the wheels set in motion. The first edition of **CYBONews** was produced,, full of articles about bidding theory, upcoming events, problems, and more!

July brought the **5th World Junior Bridge Team Championship** in Bali, Indonesia, on which there is another article in this issue. Suffice it to say that Canada's representatives fared admirable, placing 4th in a strong field.

The summer nationals in New Orleans brought another triumph for Canadian juniors, as **Fred Pollack** won the GNT flight B for the second year running, defeating **Darren Wolpert** in the final. **David and Charles Halasi**, along with **Gavin Wolpert** also did very well, winning their bracket of one of the many knockout events.

After New Orleans, 10 young Canadians traveled to Ghent, Belgium for the **1st World Junior Pairs Championship**, and the **World Junior Camp**. It is notable that of the 10 participants, only one had been a member of the junior team that had competed in Bali. Once again a measure of success was

achieved, when **Fred Pollack** and **Darren Wolpert** (this time playing together) placed 14th in the pair event out of 154 pairs. **David Halasi** and **Colin Lee** finished 19th, and were the top under-20 pair in the entire event.

To round things out, David (who had an incredible summer, it seems) won the individual tournament at the World Junior Camp, garnering him the coveted Schroeder Cup.

Further, CYBOrg now has its own place on the **World Wide Web**, with its home page residing at

<http://barrow.uwaterloo.ca/~esutherland/cyborg/cyborg.html>

This page includes the latest edition of CYBONews, information on upcoming events, and some junior trivia.

At the time of this article, fall is on its way, and many events are still being planned. The **2nd Annual Canadian Universities Bridge Championship** will be taking place in Waterloo, Ontario the weekend of November 25th and 26th. the next edition of CYBONews should be hitting mailboxes by mid-October. Finally, plans are on the way to start up a



way of networking juniors to get more of them to meet each other.

It is an exciting time for all Canadians. Bridge is on the rise in Canada. Not only is membership growing, but the calibre of players is also increasing. It is just a matter of time before Canada claims its place among the upper echelon of bridge nations in the world.

JUNIOR BRIDGE MONTH

February 1996 has officially been designated as Junior Month in the ACBL. During this month each club is authorized to hold **SECTIONALLY RATED BLACK POINT JUNIOR FUND GAMES**.

Clubs may run as many fund games as they have sanctioned sessions. An additional fee of \$1 (Canadian Funds in Canada) per player per session above regular fees is charged. The money will go to the Canadian Bridge Federation Junior development Fund in Canada (ACBL Junior Fund in the US and equivalent fund in Bermuda or Mexico).



ISLAND OF THE GODS

The World Junior Team
Championships in
Bali, Indonesia

by John Carruthers



Opening ceremonies - left to right - Mike Roberts, Jeff Blond, John Carruthers (npc), Eric Sutherland, David Levy, Fred Pollack, Darrell Kovacz

Those of us fortunate enough to have gone to the 1985 Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup in Sao Paulo remember it as the best tournament we have ever attended. The hospitality, organization and venue were superb. I believed I'd never see it done better, and until this year I hadn't. However, I can tell you that the 1995 World Junior Bridge Team Championship in Bali, Indonesia has surpassed even Brazil. Amran Zamzami and his Organizing Committee are to be commended for producing, not only the best World Junior Championship to date, but the best World Championship of any kind. Let me give you a few examples.

We were picked up at the airport by members of the Organizing Committee and some of the tournament hostesses, students in the English Department at Udayana University. We were literally whisked through customs by officials of the Indonesian Department of Customs and Immigration while our less-fortunate planemates looked on enviously. A ten minute drive in our van (each team had its own hostess, van, and driver for the duration of their stay in Bali) to Kuta and we arrived at the Kartika Plaza Beach Hotel, which ranks as one of the most magnificent venues ever to host a World Championship. Beginning at the airport, and continuing through the streets of Kuta to our hotel, there were signs, posters, and banners welcoming us to Bali and advertising the tournament. We were met at the hotel with a

cold drink and checked in with a few formalities. We received reduced rates at the hotel and all meals courtesy of our Indonesian hosts. Was this a big deal in Bali? You bet it was!

We had a few days before the tournament began to swim in the Indian Ocean, lounge around the pool, and see the sights with our hostess, Debbie Jestari. The hostesses all dressed in traditional Balinese dress for the Opening Ceremonies, which were beautifully orchestrated and very lavish. The teams were all introduced, we were fed a gourmet meal, and Balinese music and dance followed. It was a feast for the eyes as well as for the stomach. These ceremonies were held in the Kharisma Ballroom, and to give you an idea of its size, there were forty tables of ten settings each; and this was also the playing area - for twelve teams! Halfway through the round robin portion of the event our hosts took us on a day trip to Kintamani, on the edge of Mt. Batur, an active volcano, and to Tampaksiring, the Presidential Palace on Bali. Astonishingly to us hayseeds from the sticks, for this journey we were provided a police escort! Try to imagine that level of hospitality in North America or Europe. You can't? Nor can I.

Whichever country follows Indonesia in hosting the next World Juniors in 1997, and it may be Canada, has a daunting task ahead of it. It cannot hope to match the hospitali-

ty lavished on us for our two-week stay. Indonesia and the people of Bali have set an impossibly high standard. But what about the bridge?

Since we had arrived on July 5, four days before play began, the team was really primed for our first-round match against Italy on Vugraph. Practice matches against Indonesia and Argentina had merely served to whet our appetite for the main course. The tournament would consist of a complete round robin of 11 32-board matches, followed by 64-board semifinals and a 96-board final. There would be a 64-board playoff for the bronze medal.

Against Italy, I decided to play Frederic Pollack and Darrell Kovacz on Vugraph against Versace-Albamonte, while David Levy and Jeff Blond were sent in to the Closed Room to battle Intonti-Primavera. My thinking was that Eric Sutherland and Mike Roberts, as my most experienced players at this level (they had both played in Ann Arbor in 1991, and together in Aarhus in 1993), would be able to handle a first-half, first-match sit out with aplomb. Italy were expected to do well here, especially as Italy's Open Team, with Versace, had just won the European Championship, qualifying them for the Bermuda Bowl in Beijing. All three of my pairs were very keen to play, in this and every other match throughout the tournament. A Captain's dream.

Board 9 in the first match produced an oddity at this, or any other level: a four-round auction that was duplicated at both tables.

Board 9	♠ KJ2	
Vul: EW	♥ Q74	
Dealer: N	♦ 109865	
	♣ 83	
♠ A864		♠ 753
♥ J3		♥ 986
♦ AK742		♦ Q
♣ Q9		♣ AKJ1065
	♠ Q109	
	♥ AK1052	
	♦ J3	
	♣ 742	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kovacz	Versace	Pollack	Albamonte
Intonti	Levy	Primavera	Blond
--	Pass	Pass	1♥
Double	2♥	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♣	All Pass

Both Souths led a high heart against 5♣. Albamonte got an encouraging 7 (odd encourages) from Versace, then the 4 under the second high heart. He duly shifted to a diamond and Pollack scored up +600. An embarrassing defense to perpetrate on Vugraph. Levy did much better for us - he played the ♥Q under the second high heart, and Blond thus shifted to a spade: down two, and 13 IMPs to Canada.

Nevertheless, Italy prevailed in what was to be our lowest scoring match of the championship, 64-52, which translated to a 17-13 loss in Victory Points. We rebounded in our second match to beat a fancied Chinese Team (they had won the Far East Championship) 97-70, 19-11 VPs. At the end of the first day, we lay sixth, 12 VPs behind Great Britain on 44, but only 3 out of the crucial fourth spot.

One of the problems with Canada's international teams through the years has been a propensity for a slow start. First-round losses to lesser bridge lights litter the scene. Thus, I was quite pleased that we'd had a decent start against two of the favoured teams. Day 2 would be a test to see if we could overcome another Canadian deficiency in the past - letting up against the poorer teams. In my view, this was a good time to play USA II. They had arrived at the tournament three days later than we did, and would still be suffering from jet lag and travel fatigue. In the match, both teams looked to be weary, but we had much the better of it, winning 132-78, our highest-scoring match of the tournament. 24-6 in VPs. It was more of the same offensively against Indonesia as we skated to a 128-43 win, 25-2 VPs. More importantly, we'd climbed into third place with 81 VP, just 10 out of first and 16 ahead of fifth. The Brits

brother Andrew. Fourth and last, I was told by some Americans, although it must be admitted, not by the players, that they were overconfident.

Only one match was to be played on Day 4, with the trip to Mt. Batur and Tampaksiring planned. Ours was with USA I, still labouring under the illusion that they could qualify. We were a little unlucky in this match, losing several swings when one or another of the Americans took unilateral actions that worked out exceptionally well. I thought we'd played at least as well as they had, but we were on the short end of a 101-55 score, 22-8 VPs. Nevertheless, we managed to hold on to second place, with 136 VP. Britain (152) had opened up some distance between themselves and the rest of the pack, however. We were trailed closely by Italy (131) and Denmark (127), with New Zealand (109) and China (100) further back. There were 4 matches to go, and as usual in this type of event, the excitement and tension were starting to build.

We had Argentina, Great Britain, Australia, and Denmark left to play. On paper at least, two tough matches and two easy ones. However, sometimes those easy ones prove to be tougher than expected, as we shall see (although not for us). Great Britain looked like an easy qualifier - they would have to lose all four remaining matches by 100 IMPs to fail. Denmark, Italy and New Zealand all had an easier schedule than us, having to face, respectively, one, one and no contenders.

On Day 5, the team did what it had to do against Argentina, winning 112-68 after being virtually even at halftime. This 22-8 win kept us in a solid second place. The evening match against Great Britain was a walkover for the Brits 108-29, 25-3 in Victory Points. With Britain sure to qualify on 202, Denmark (163) had passed us (161), and New Zealand (154), Italy (153), and China (145) were nipping at our heels. Tomorrow would be a "character-builder" kind of a day.

We started Day 6 against Australia, and again had a magnificent second half to win a blitz 111-45, 25-4 in VPs. We regained second place after this result, and started our match against Denmark full of confidence. We were 14 VP clear of Italy in fifth place. The only sour note was that Italy were playing against Indonesia, which had won only a single match, and were expecting to take the maximum 25. If that eventuated, we would need 12 VP to finish ahead of them. Both our match against Denmark and Italy's against Indonesia were very close all the way, with Denmark and Indonesia (!) leading narrowly at the half. There was no good news in our match against Denmark in the second half, as they pulled away to an 86-42 Imp win, 22-8 in VP. All would depend on how the Indonesians stood up against Italy. And stand up they did, narrowly losing 80-77 for a 15-15 draw. We were through to the semis. I bought drinks for every Indonesian player I could find. Suddenly their team seemed to consist of about fifteen players, some of them suspiciously old looking! The final round robin standings:

1. Great Britain	231	7. USA II	155
2. Denmark	205	8. USA I	134
3. New Zealand	200	9. Argentina	131
4. Canada	194	10. Japan	128
5. Italy	187	11. Australia	116
6. China	178	12. Indonesia	70

Our team had done what it had to do - beat the teams below it in the standings, and hold its own against the stronger teams. In hindsight, there wasn't much to choose, talent-wise, among the teams finishing second through eighth (again, from our current vantage point, it is clear that Great Britain was the best team in the event, but it was not so clear then). The deciding factors were preparation and match-performance. In that regard we compared favourably. As first-place finisher, Great Britain had the right to choose its semifinal opponent, and chose to play us. Despite the last round loss to Denmark, our team was optimistic and feeling confident about their chances in the

semifinal. The Brits would carry a 16 IMP carryover (the maximum allowed) into the match, based on the result of our round robin match.

That left Denmark to do what it could to retrieve a 15 1/3 IMP deficit against New Zealand. Denmark would have the unwanted opportunity to break its own record of losing a match by the smallest margin ever in World Championship play - in 1993, in Aarhus, the Danes were beaten by 1/2 IMP by Germany in the semifinals. One of their players had carelessly thrown away an extra overtrick ("Only 1 IMP, Partner.") on the last hand on Vugraph. You can easily imagine how that turn of events was greeted by the rabidly partisan Danish audience in the Vugraph theatre. If they could better the Kiwis by 15 IMPs over their 64 boards, the groans in Kuta would be heard as far away as Aarhus. Not that anyone wished that upon them, you understand. It was merely an oddity produced by the carryover formula. Rumour had it that the Danish Captain had threatened to make his players swim home if that happened.

THE SEMIFINALS.

Before the tournament began, I'd set a goal for the team of reaching the semifinals. We had achieved that aim, and now it was time to set our sights higher. The Brits had come in as pre-tournament favourites and except for minor blips against Japan and USA I, they had performed creditably under the pressure. They had been to Indonesia already in 1995 and had won an international invitational team tournament much like the one which our Bermuda Bowl team was playing in just down the road from us. There was no doubt - to beat them we'd have to play well.

And play well we did - especially in the first quarter. We'd recovered the carryover deficit by Board 9, in a series of partscore decisions and defenses. I was extremely optimistic. This quarter was the best played I'd seen by any two teams in the whole tournament so far.

How about an opening lead problem?

♠ A643 ♥ Q4 ♦ 72 ♣ J7653

No one is vulnerable. Your partner deals and passes and your side remains silent throughout the auction. On your right Justin Hackett opens 1♥. Jason Hackett (fraternal twins, but I don't think they're psychic) on your left bids 4♣, a balanced forcing heart raise. The auction continues 4♦ by Justin, 4♥ by Jason, 5♣ by Justin, 6♥ by Jason. Your serve.

It certainly sounds as though Justin on your right has no spade control and that Jason on your left has at least the King. Perhaps a spade? The Ace seems a little naive, with that Queen of trumps. Perhaps a low spade would increase your chances of scoring the ♥Q. Yes, but maybe the ♠A would go away. It would be too embarrassing for words to score the trump Queen but go to bed with the ♠A. What about one of the minors? Partner had a chance to double 4♣ and didn't so that seems hopeless. That leaves us with a diamond. So you flip out the ♦7. This was roughly the mental process that David Levy went through before his opening lead. The whole hand:

Board 11	♠ A642	
Vul: 0	♥ Q4	
Dealer: S	♦ 72	
	♣ J7653	
	♠ 85	♠ KQ9
	♥ KJ865	♥ A1032
	♦ AKQ	♦ 1083
	♣ KQ10	♣ A92
	♠ J1072	
	♥ 97	
	♦ J9654	
	♣ 84	

The slam was not bid at the other table, so Justin's play of the hand would swing 22 IMPs. He won the diamond and led a spade. Levy ducking (good). When the King won he crossed back to hand with a club and led another spade. This time Levy rose with the Ace and led a second diamond. Justin won and played ... the ♥K!

Making six - 11 IMPs away. He reasoned that Levy had short diamonds, thus may have heart length. He paid Levy a compliment by crediting him with the intelligence not to lead the ♠A if he held the Queen of trumps.

So what about that low spade lead. Well, on this hand it probably would have led to a set, but on a different layout, who knows. The killer is the ♠2. Now declarer will place you with length, and once you show up with the ♠A, most declarers would fall into your trap. By the way, as Declarer, faced with the ♠7 lead in this contract, you should play the 8 or 10 from Dummy to try to discover if the opening leader has led from J97(x) or from 7(x). A not-fully-alert defender may cover and give away the layout of the suit to you. That would help you determine how to play trumps.

Great Britain had regained the lead on the slam hand, and had added to it on an unlucky hand for Roberts-Sutherland, who had reached an excellent 4♥ missed by the Brits. In attempting a crossruff, Roberts had run into some bad breaks (by opponents who had been silent in the bidding) and had an opponent overruff with the trump 9, then promote his partner's Queen for down one (the side suits were 6-2 and 5-2). Roberts lost three trump tricks missing AQ98 with trumps 2-2 and the Queen under the King. At the end of the first quarter, Britain led by 52-32, 4 more than their carryover margin.

The bridge was again pretty good in the second quarter, with the Brits outscoring us 33-23 for an 85-55 lead. The third quarter was our Waterloo - we were outscored 75-10 to be stuck 95 with 16 boards to go. The following hand was some of what the team and its supporters (we had a fair number of these since there was a Canadian team in the invitational tournament, and most of the teams no longer playing were rooting for us) had to contend with:

Board: 37	♠ J652	♠ K8
Vul: NS	♥ AKQJ8	♥ 103
Dealer: N	♦ 96	♦ J542
	♣ A8	♣ 96542
	♠ 10943	
	♥ 9754	
	♦ 3	
	♣ KJ73	
	♠ AQ7	
	♥ 62	
	♦ AKQ1087	
	♣ Q10	

Imagine Frederic Pollack's shifting emotions on this hand. After one of those delicate auctions in which either partner could have bid a little more. Kovacz-Pollack had reached 6♠ on the North-South cards. Justin Hackett led a low club. When his dummy arrived, Pollack was disappointed to be in only six. Now you and I can see that Pollack can safely duck the opening club lead - however, Pollack could also see that if diamonds provided six tricks (about 70%), he could simply run trumps, take however many hearts were available, and if it weren't five, finesse the spade or squeeze someone for the overtrick. Easy. So Pollack rose with the ♠A and played two high diamonds. Now he was feeling a little better - seven diamonds was going down and he still had a chance to make six. When Hackett discarded on the second trump, however, he played three rounds of hearts. Curtains! East ruffed and now there were two black suit losers. Pollack was hurtled back to the depths of despair. However, the hand would still probably be a push, or a small loss on a non-club lead. Unless...no, a singleton trump lead was unthinkable. Pollack may have been distracted by the diamond situation, or by not being in seven. Whatever East's heart holding is, when the trumps fail to break Declarer now needs the spade finesse as East can stop Declarer from acquiring the three discards needed to avoid the finesse. Thus it must be better, after finding out about the trumps, to cross on a heart then take the spade finesse, then try to run the hearts. When East trumps the third heart, you overruff, draw trumps, and lucki-

ly the ♠K falls doubleton under the Ace. Unless...an attractive alternative would be to play East for both black kings, and to achieve this ending, South to play.

	♠ J6	
	♥ J	
	♦ –	
	♣ 8	
♠ 10		♠ K8
♥ 9		♥ –
♦ –		♦ –
♣ J7		♣ K9
	♠ A7	
	♥	
	♦ 7	
	♣ Q	

On the last trump, East is squeezed in the black suits. A spade discard lets the King fall harmlessly under the Ace, while a club discard leads to a throwin. Now, that would be unfortunate!

This hand was just as agony-inducing for Canadian hopes at the other table. Allerton-Townsend reached 7 Diamonds. Levy led...a trump. That was 20 IMPs away instead of the 17 to us a safe heart lead and a different line of play at the other table could have produced. Remember that the next time you think a trump is a safe lead against a grand slam. Pollack was rendered speechless when the results of this board were made known! He could only shake his head.

The fourth quarter provided some excitement, but, as usual, more was lost than was gained in trying to create positive swings. The final score was 243-95. There was no doubt that Great Britain had been the better team in the match. Meanwhile New Zealand had also clobbered Denmark to advance to the final against Britain, while two somewhat chagrined teams of Canucks and Danes prepared to battle for the bronze medal.

THE MEDAL MATCHES

The final proved to be a piece of cake for Great Britain - they went in with the

maximum 24 IMP carryover and increased their lead to 47 after 16 boards. Thereafter, the Kiwis never got closer, and conceded with 16 boards remaining of a scheduled 96, with the score 276-152. Great Britain had been in a class by itself the whole tournament, leading the round robin at the close of play every single day, and trouncing both opponents in their playoff matches. They were full value for their win. New Zealand had had a rockier ride, losing a couple of round robin matches they should have won, but coming through with a top performance when needed in the round robin, and again versus Denmark in their semifinal.

The first quarter of our bronze-medal match against Denmark looked like a replay of the third quarter against the Brits. We were outscored 83-27 in that set of 16 boards. We gained a few over the next 32 boards, essentially eliminating the carryover margin, to be down 56 with a quarter to go. Since Great Britain was in the process of annihilating New Zealand, our last quarter was on Vugraph. For a few delicious moments it looked as though a miracle comeback was in the offing, our guys closing to less than 20 IMPs with five or six boards to play. But then Denmark recovered their composure and went on to win by 47, 192-145. It had been a good effort, and no one had anything to be ashamed of.

POST MORTEM

The team was a pleasure to captain (most of the time), and the comparisons they made of me to Mike Keenan, Genghis Khan, and Napoleon in their training and preparation were taken as compliments (although perhaps not always intended to be!). At tournament's close, the team felt confident enough of my equanimity to toss me fully-clothed into the pool. Mind you, fully-clothed in Bali is shorts and a t-shirt. The worst moment for me was seeing the other teams collect their medals while we stood by, politely applauding. I felt our guys deserved one.

VOYAGE AU BOUT DE L'ENFER: BIARRITZ JUILLET 1995

par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

Biarritz se trouve au sud-ouest de la France, sur la côte basque, près de l'Espagne. Très jolie ville. Biarritz offre de belles plages sablonneuses sur l'Atlantique. Au sortir de l'eau, lorsqu'on se dirige vers la plage, on a devant les yeux le spectacle magnifique des innombrables hortensias bleus, bourgogne ou violets qui déboulent la colline. À droite de cette colline, toujours lorsqu'on se trouve face à la plage, se dresse le Casino Bellevue, où se déroulait, du 30 juin au 12 juillet 1995, le Festival international de bridge de Biarritz. La beauté du paysage est telle, et la mer est si agréable, qu'on se demande bien pourquoi on irait s'enfermer pour jouer au bridge au lieu de profiter du beau temps et de la plage. Mais le bridge reste le bridge, c'est-à-dire irrésistible pour les vrais mordus. Le bridge est comme les échecs; lorsque surviendra la fin du monde, il y aura toujours des joueurs quelque part qui diront: «Oui, oui, après ce coup!»

Nos amis Christiane et Pierre, France et moi avions décidé de joindre l'utile à l'agréable, c'est-à-dire de jouer au bridge à Biarritz (utile ou agréable?) avant de longer la côte atlantique vers le nord, jusqu'en Bretagne. Nous avions choisi de jouer d'abord dans le Patton (3 sessions, une par jour, 4 au 6 juillet), puis dans les paires (3 sessions, un par jour, 7 au 9 juillet). Avec ce que nous savons maintenant, nous aurions dû rester sur la plage ou continuer à explorer l'arrière-pays basque, mais non pas pour la raison que vous imaginez (nous ne sommes pas si mauvais que ça).

À notre arrivée donc, nous allons faire un tour au site du tournoi. Nous jouons dans une belle grande rotonde, avec deux ailes, le tout donnant sur la mer. Magnifique. Mais, nous l'apprendrons bientôt, rien n'est parfait. Nous nous approchons de l'arbitre (qui fume, évidemment) pour nous enquérir des conditions de jeu, c'est-à-dire de la cigarette.

- Dans le Patton, c'est libre, nous dit-il.

Traduction libre: les fumeurs ont le droit de fumer, et les non-fumeurs ont le droit de ne pas jouer.

- Pour les paires toutefois, il y aura des sections non-fumeurs.

- Ah bon, merci.

Un Patton n'est pas un suisse. D'abord, on attribue à votre équipe un certain nombre de points de handicap, basé sur votre classement.

Le tableau des handicaps est le suivant:

Hors série =	0 point
(joueurs internationaux)	
1ère série majeure =	2
1ère série mineure =	6
(Life Master nord-américain)	
2ème série promotion =	10
2ème série majeure =	12
2ème série mineure =	16
3ème série promotion =	18
3ème série =	20
4ème série, non classés =	22 (débutants)

De plus, votre équipe «jouit» d'un handicap de 6 points par femme dans l'équipe!!! J'entends d'ici les fulminations de la gent féminine du Québec. Nous avons donc profité d'un handicap total de 60 points; comme nous ne sommes pas inscrits à la Fédération française de bridge, on a probablement décidé de nous évaluer comme ceci:

- 6 points de handicap par femme = 12 points
- deux femmes considérées 3e série promotion (sic!!) = 36 points
- deux homes considérées 1ère série mineure = 12 points

Le machisme est bien vivant, n'est-ce pas? 48 points de handicap pour les femmes. Quel chic! L'équipe de Zia Mahmood avait un handicap de 2, celle Adad-Aujaleu, membres de l'équipe française championne du monde, avait un handicap 0, ce qui ne nous a pas empêchés de les battre. Un Patton se déroule comme suit: on joue 4 étuis contre chaque équipe, dans un mouvement prédéfini (type duplicate), et l'on reconte ainsi, en trois jours, 21 équipes. Pour chaque ronde, il y a 16 points en jeu, 8 points de donne (2 par donne gagnée; 1 pour une égalité ou un écart de 10 pts; 0 par donne perdue); et 8 points de longueur: si vous gagnez par 3 Imps et moins, cela fait 4-4; il faut gagner par 19 Imps et plus pour obtenir 8-0.

En Europe, en France à tout le moins, il n'y a pas de «caddie». Ce sont donc les joueurs qui doivent eux-mêmes s'échanger les étuis. On en joue deux, puis l'un des joueurs se lève et s'en va à l'autre table afin chercher les autres étuis.

Pour des Français toujours à cheval sur la règle, cette façon de faire n'est pas vraiment «réglementaire». On peut imaginer des milliers de façons de tricher ainsi, selon lequel des partenaires se lève, comment il remet les étuis, les commentaires faits, etc. Ce n'est vraiment pas très sérieux. Par contre, le calibre de jeu est assez élevé. Les équipes faibles sont rares; même lorsque vous jouez contre «papa et maman», soyez sur vos gardes: ils gagent et n'ont peur rien.

Nous avons donc joué dans ce Patton, dans la fumée, pendant 3 jours, une session par jour. 28 donnes par jour, début de session à 17h. Lavazza, compagnie italienne de café, «sponsor» de l'événement, l'offrait gratuitement pendant toute la durée de la compétition. Grazie.

Ceux qui ont encore en mémoire mon article sur Juan-les-Pins se souviendront peut-être de l'obsession des Français pour la règle; tout doit se faire selon la règle. Mon ami Pierre, qui aime bien créer de l'action lorsqu'il trouve que ça traîne un peu, joue alors contre un couple accompagné de leur fils kibitzeur; Pierre se met à donner les cartes en 5 paquets (à la fin, on joint les parquets des extrémités et on a 4 paquets de 13 cartes). Le mari réagit immédiatement: Français, à cheval: Mais que faites-vous là? Pierre, bien en selle: Je fais un paquet pour le gamin, afin qu'il puisse jouer lui aussi. Français, cabré: C'est tout à fait irrégulier, c'est contre la règle.

Pierre termine tranquillement de donner, prend le paquet de droite, le met avec celui de gauche et glisse les 4 paquets dans l'étui. Français ébahi: Mais comment faites-vous cela? Montrez-moi, montrez-moi!! C'est tout à fait extraordinaire!!

Un autre, pas très à cheval sur la règle: je mets la carte Stop sur la table et je mets mon carton d'enchère. Il enchérit immédiatement. Je lui montre le carton Stop et il réplique:

- On gagne du temps!!

«C'est la règle.»

Les joueurs en general sont gentils, charmés par notre accent (!), mais, si la majorité est à cheval sur la «règle» (on comprend très vite que la règle, c'est pour les étrangers, pas pour eux), plusieurs sont un peu moins à cheval sur l'éthique. Je ne parle pas des joueurs de haut

niveau qui sont évidemment irréprochable. Ici, en Amérique, c'est devenu un réflexe; en arrivant à la table, on annonce immédiatement notre méthode de signalisation: parité (compte) et attitude inversées, entame pair-impair (3e/5e). Là-bas, même si le règlement dit clairement que l'on doit prévenir les adversaires de toute signalisation inhabituelle, personne ne dit rien; plusieurs jouent Levinthal (sic) et ne le dissent pas; souvent, lorsqu'on leur demand, ils haussent les épaules, les sourcils, font des bulles, bafouillent des borborygmes incompréhensibles et à la fin, frustré devant leur mauvaise foi évidente, on abandonne les questions; s'ils répondent, ils ne disent pas tout (cela nous est arrivé plus d'une fois déjà à Juan-les-Pins, et encore à Biarritz). Ils répondront:

- Mon partenaire n'aime pas le trèfle.
- C'est tout?
- Oui, oui, c'est classique.

(Le suit-préférence est ainsi passé sous silence)

De plus, les alertes, c'est pour nous, pas pour eux. Ils n'alertent rien, toujours sous prétexte que «c'est classique». Le défaut d'alerte est toujours excusé pour les joueurs français, mais pas pour vous, vous devez alerter, «c'est la règle».

Enfin, l'arbitrage laisse souvent beaucoup à désirer. Deux exemples: dans le Patton, on est témoin de la séquence suivante, avec des boîtes d'enchères:

Add	Moi	Adg	Part.
1♠	p	2♣	p
3♠	p	3♥	p
3♠	p	4♠	p
4♥	p	5♣	p
5♠	p	6♣	p
??			

À ce moment-là, la dame à ma droite tape sur la table, pour signifier qu'elle passe. Je l'interroge du regard, elle ne bouge pas; je mets donc mon carton Passe sur la table. C'est à ma partenaire d'entamer; la dame tout à coup se réveille et met 6♦ sur la table.

- Arbitre!!

L'arbitre, qui n'était pas à la table lors de l'incident, décide que le tape était une alerte (!!!), alors qu'il n'y en avait eu aucune précédemment, et que le contrat est 6♦. Nous protestons encore et il nous coupe:

- Faites ce que je dis! tanche-t-il et il tourne les talons.

La dame, Française jusqu'au bout des doigts, susurre:

- Je n'ai peut-être pas raison, mais je joue quand même 6♦!!

Et vian!!

♣♠ ou 6♠ était sur table, mais un peu macho quand même l'arbitre. Boyez maintenant ceci.

La déclarante joue 4♥, il lui reste un atout en main et RD10xx à pique devant le Valet de pique singleton. Elle dit:

- Je concède l'As de pique, plu-z-un.

Après un certain temps, ma partenaire dit:

- Je ne prendrai pas le Valet de mon As, vous devrez couper pour rentrer en main et nous ferons 2 levées, non pas une, 4 coeurs égal.

Oui, non, oui, non, bla, bla, bla, 420, 450, 420. À la fin, le match se décide par cette seule levée. Rencontre devant l'arbitre qui demande à ma partenaire d'attendre son tour pour parler; elle attend et, quand l'autre femme a terminé son explication, l'arbitre déclare:

-Plu-z-un! Décision finale.

- Oui, mais ...

- Terminé, madame vous concède l'As de pique, terminé!!

- Oui, mais ce n'est pas si simple, elle a «claimé» (oups) sans donner sa ligne de jeu ... Elle concède l'As de pique, décision finale.

Ma partenaire, qui n'a pas la langue dans sa poche, et qui a aussi un tempérament, explose; je place un protêt sur cette donne, vous n'êtes qu'une «gang» de tricheurs!!

De retour à la table, nous recevons bientôt la visite d'un autre arbitre, très calme, très gentil:

- Madame, deux choses: premièrement, vous avez tout à fait raison, le règlement est très clair, c'est donc 4 coeurs égal; deuxièmement, il ne faut pas s'énerver comme ça.

Voilà! Et personne ne nous a demandé ce qu'était une «gang»!!

L'enfer toutefois nous attendit. Les paires prévoient des sections non-fumeurs et la première session commençait à 20h45 (exceptionnellement), le vendredi soir. Nous nous présentons à 20h35 et l'on nous annonce qu'il n'y a plus de place dans les non-fumeurs,

sections complètes, terminé. Nous devons donc jouer avec les fumeurs. Ce fut tout simplement affreux. Imaginez plus de 200 tables, donc plus de 800 personnes, et tous et toutes fument, sans exception et sans arrêt. Et comme elles jouent au bridge, ces personnes fument encore plus. C'est tout simplement inimaginable de voir tant de «boucane»: vous sortez dans le corridor, c'est plein de boucane, vous allez aux toilettes, c'est plein de boucane, l'enfer, je vous dis, l'enfer. Même les fumeurs d'ici ne pourraient pas supporter une session dans de telles conditions. Après 15 donnes, au milieu de la session donc (on en joue 30 par session), on ne voit plus rien, le coeur nous lève, nos yeux brûlent, et il n'y a aucun répit en vue, il reste encore 15 donnes. On joue un peu n'importe comment, on n'espère que la fin, vite, on s'en fout. Après la session, on marche vers l'hôtel après avoir surmonté l'envie de sauter dans l'océan; rendus à l'hôtel, douche, savon, douche, shampooing, redouche, reshampooing, etc., et on met tout simplement notre linge dehors tellement on «pue».

Le lendemain, on a exigé de jouer avec les non-fumeurs, sinon on se retirait et on demandait un remboursement. À la toute dernière minute, M. Hervé Pacault, directeur du tournoi, a été assez gentil pour nous trouver une paire acceptant de changer; nous avons donc pu terminer le tournoi à «l'air libre» et avons réussi à rattraper notre session-boucane et à terminer en haut de la moyenne.

Vers la fin de notre voyage, nous sommes passés Deauville où se déroulait le 32e Festival mondial de bridge de Deauville. Et ici, même pas de section non-fumeurs. Cigarette partout, non stop comme ils disent. Phillipe Brunelle, journaliste et pro de bridge, me disait que c'était tout à fait révoltant. Il est évident que je ne peux recommander aux brigueurs d'ici d'aller jouer au bridge en France pendant l'été, ce serait mal les conseiller. La cigarette constitue un empêchement majeur et nous ne retournerons probablement plus en Europe pour jouer au bridge tant que cette situation prévaudra. C'est dommage, car la formule européenne est idéale: on a la journée libre pour se baigner, se promener, fouiner et on joue au bridge vers 16h ou 17h. À 21h, on va souper tranquillement dans un bon petit restaurant, tout en discutant des mains, et on se couche à une

heure raisonnable. C'est vraiment un horaire civilisé. Mais, rien n'est parfait: la cigarette merdique vient flanquer un œil au beurre noir magistral à ce tableau idyllique. Je vous le dis tout net: n'allez pas, vous avez oublié ce qu'était la fumée pendant une session de bridge, vous allez souffrir le martyr, vous ne pouvez même pas imaginer la longue descente au enfers qui vous attend.

Finalement, comme le bridge en Europe offre des prix en argent, les droits d'engagement (l'entrée) coûtent très cher; le Patton coûtait 1600 FF par équipe, et les paires 800 FF par paire, ce qui revient à environ 40\$ par joueur par jour, pour avoir droit à toute la fumée «dont vous avez toujours rêvé et que vous n'avez jamais osé demander». C'est cher, très cher, à 40\$ par jour pour vivre le syndrome Jeanne d'Arc («Vous ne m'aurez pas crue», aurait-elle dit vers la fin). Il vaut mieux aller se promener dans les boutiques ou se prélasser sur la plage. Voilà ce que nous savons aujourd'hui.

Joyeux Noël quand même et Bonne Année à tous!!

RICHMOND TROPHY

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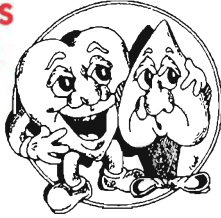
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Pourquoi pas les majeures inversées?



Les bridgeurs modernes savent qu'il y a davantage à économiser l'espace dans les enchères avec une bonne main, de façon à permettre à chaque membre de l'équipe de bien décrire sa force et sa distribution, sans dépasser le niveau souhaitable. Pour disposer de cet espace vital, ils ont transformé plusieurs enchères, autrefois dite de faiblesses, en séquence forcing pour un tour. En contrepartie, ils ont tendance à occuper le plus d'espace possible avec des mains faibles de façon à priver les adversaires d'oxygène.

Le traitement très populaire des «mineures inversées» illustre bien cette tendance. Le simple soutien de la couleur d'ouverture à 1 en mineure devient forcing, laissant ainsi tout l'espace disponible dans la recherche d'une manche à 3SA, tandis que le saut-soutien n'a pour but que d'embêter l'adversaire.

Les **majeures inversées** présentent les mêmes avantages dans l'exploration des manches et surtout des chelems en majeure. Pour les adeptes du 1SA forcing, il suffit de modifier son système de réponses à l'ouverture en majeure de la façon suivante:

- soutien de la couleur d'ouverture avec 9 PHD et plus, et un bon fit (4 cartes ou honneur troisième), forcing;

- 1SA suivi de 2 dans la couleur de l'ouvreur avec 5-8 PHD;

- 1SA suivi de 3 dans la couleur de l'ouvreur avec 9-11 PHD et un mauvais fit, invitation;

- 2SA avec 12-14 PHD, un mauvais fit et un main régulière (2SA Jacoby n'a plus d'utilité);

- 3 dans la couleur de l'ouvreur avec 4+ cartes et un main très faible (barrage).

(On peut aussi utiliser le splinter avec un bon fit et une bonne main).

Après le soutien simple forcing, il vous appartient de déterminer avec votre partenaire la signification des autres enchères (naturel, essai par courte, demande d'aide, etc.). Pour

ma part, je préfère gager la courte et utiliser 2SA comme enchère forcing pour les autres mains. Une redemande de l'ouvreur à 3 dans la couleur d'ouverture montre une main faible offensive et ne vise qu'à empêcher les adversaires de se manifester. Avec un minimum et un manqué d'intérêt pour la seconde enchère du partenaire, on peut revenir à 3 dans la couleur d'atout et les enchères peuvent s'arrêter à ce niveau.

Les mains suivantes illustrent l'avantage des majeures inversées, combinées à l'essai par courte:

♠ RV972	♠ AD63
♥ AVJ03	♥ 98
♦ AD72	♦ RV64
♣ ---	♣ 1054

1♠	2♠ (forcing)
3♣ (courte)	3♦ (cue)
3♥ (cue)	4♠
4SA	5♦
6♦	

5♦ confirme l'As d'atout puisque Est n'a pas montré l'As de trèfle. Autre exemple:

♠ RV972	♠ AD63
♥ AV103	♥ 95
♦ AD6	♦ 1054
♣ 3	♣ RV64

1♠	2♠ (forcing)
3♣ (courte)	3♠
p (4♠ pour les optimistes)	

3♠ montre un minimum et des honneurs inutiles à trèfle, 4♠ devient risqué.

L'espace disponible permet d'évaluer correctement la puissance combinée des deux mains. Une telle exploration deviendrait impossible avec une réponse standard à 3♠, limite, par Est.

Note: dans ce système, le soutien à 2 en majeur (forcing) mérite une alerte spéciale, puisque l'alerte standard annonce un constructif, 8-10.

UN HOMME D'UNIVERS



Bernard Marcoux

A MAN ABOUT UNIVERSE

Il n'y a pas d'enfant-prodige au bridge. Pourquoi? Parce que ce jeu requiert certaines qualités caractéristiques de l'adulte, à tout le moins une qualité: celle de penser globalement, de colliger toutes les informations pertinentes et de les traiter de façon exhaustive afin d'obtenir une réponse qui prévoit toutes les possibilités, *absolument toutes* les possibilités.

On raconte que le grand John Crawford s'est retrouvé un jour au volant d'un grand chelem avec une couleur d'atout ARD10xxx devant un singleton et aucune perdante dans les autres couleurs. Pendant qu'il faisait son plan de jeu (eh! oui; même avec 18 levées apparentes, les grands joueurs font un plan de jeu; et vous?), il remarqua que les kibitzers ne bougeaient pas: personne ne semblait vouloir partir. Crawford en déduisit que, si personne ne quittait, ce contrat contenait un piège; en effet, si les gens avaient pu compter 13 levées de tête, ils auraient manifesté d'une façon ou d'une autre leur désintérêt. Crawford, notant leur attention soutenue, et constatant aussi qu'il n'avait aucune perdante dans les autres couleurs, conclut qu'il y avait sans doute un problème à l'atout. Il présuma donc le Valet quatrième à sa droite et joua atout vers son 10 pour la réussite du grand chelem, Est ayant effectivement Vxxx. Voilà ce qui s'appelle colliger et traiter *toutes les informations*.

Vous connaissez l'expression «homme du monde», qui signifie «personne sachant se comporter en société, courtoise et polie jusqu'au bout des ongles». Paul Valéry, poète et écrivain français, aimait justement distinguer les hommes du monde, superficiels et fats, des «hommes d'univers», sagaces, perspicaces, intelligents, visionnaires et humbles. Valéry disait aussi que les événements quotidiens (dont s'occupent les gens du monde) ne sont que l'écume à la surface de l'océan; les vrais événements se passent en profondeur et il faut un visionnaire, un poète, un homme d'univers, pour les déceler.

Vous ouvrez 1♥ en quatrième position et vous déclarez éventuellement 4♥, sans intervention adverse. Ouest entame de l'As de trèfle.

Mort

♠ 876
♥ D4
♦ ARV7
♣ 10863

Vous

♠ A43
♥ AR10865
♦ 1082
♣ D

clues and to process them in order to obtain an answer covering all bases, *all of them*.

The great John Crawford once found himself playing a grand slam, with trumps AKQ10xxx facing a singleton, and no losers anywhere else. While he was pondering (yes, even with 18 tricks, great players make a plan; do you?), he noticed that no kibitzer was moving away. Crawford reasoned that if nobody was leaving, there was a reason. Looking at his cards, he found out the only suit with a possible loser was trumps. That was the reason the kibitzers were not leaving, there might be a problem in trumps. Otherwise people would have left. So he played a trump to his 10 for 13 tricks, East having started with Jxxx. That's really collecting and using *all* the evidence.

You know the French expression "homme du monde"? In English, we say "man about town" or "socialite". "Homme du monde" means someone who knows his way in society, exquisitely polite and well-mannered. Paul Valéry, French author and poet, liked to distinguish "homme du monde" from "homme d'univers", the former being superficial and shallow, but the latter being sagacious, penetrating, intelligent, visionary. Valéry also said that daily events (which attract the socialite) are like the surf on the sea; the really important events run deep and only a visionary, a poet, "a man about universe", can see them.

You open 1♥ in fourth seat and find yourself eventually in 4♥ without interference. West leads the ♣A.

Dummy

♠ 876
♥ Q4
♦ AKJ7
♣ 10863

You

♠ A43
♥ AK10865
♦ 1082
♣ Q

Fred Gitelman of Toronto shows us here all the qualities of a "man about universe". After the ♣A, West shifted to the ♠Q. Fred ducked and West continued spades for East's King and Fred's Ace. Ace of hearts, heart to the Queen, everyone following. Club ruff to see what's

Fred Gitelman, de Toronto, démontre ici toutes les qualités d'un «homme d'univers», d'un vrai joueur de bridge. Après l'As de trèfle, Ouest est revenue Dame de pique. Fred a esquivé; petit pique vers le Roi d'Est que Fred a pris de l'As. As de coeur et coeur vers la Dame; trèfle coupé pour voir si quelque chose d'intéressant se produit. Rien. Ou plutôt beaucoup, pour un homme d'univers.

Suivons la pensée d'un vrai joueur de bridge et, si la beauté saisissante de ce voyage ne vous grise pas jusqu'au fond de l'âme, vous passez à côté de la vie.

Ouest a passé d'entrée (premier facteur technique) et on lui connaît 10 points: AR de trèfle et DV de pique (deuxième facteur). Il n'a donc vraisemblablement pas la Dame de carreau, car il aurait ouvert (troisième facteur). Si la Dame de carreau se trouve in Est, la chute est assurée (quatrième facteur). Pourtant, pour faire 10 levées, il faut réussir trois levées à carreau, sans perdre à la Dame (cinquième facteur).

Fred conclut donc avec raison que, pour faire 10 levées, la Dame de carreau devait être deuxième. Tout bon technicien aurait fait le même raisonnement. Mais Fred, homme d'univers, poète profond, vit plus loin, beaucoup plus loin, et le bridge touché ici à la poésie.

Voyez-vous une impasse possible à carreau (sixième facteur)? Vous avez bien lu; voyez-vous une impasse possible à carreau alors que vous savez que la Dame est derrière ARV?? Comment peut-on prendre une impasse que l'on sait perdante et penser gagner quand même? La majorité des brigueurs, hommes du monde, n'auraient pas vu plus loin que leur nez, auraient pris l'impasse quand même et se seraient ensuite plaints de leur malchance; ils n'auraient jamais vu que ce contrat est sur table.

Fred cueillit le dernier atout et joua AR de carreau (septième facteur), la Dame tomba deuxième à droite, comme il le fallait, mais sur AR, Fred débloqua le 10 et le 8 (huitième facteur, niveau supérieur réservé aux hommes d'univers, aux poètes, aux vrais joueurs de bridge). Fred coupa trèfle pour revenir in main et joua le précieux 2 de carreau vers le très précieux 7 (neuvième facteur) pour +450.

Rejoindre 4♥ méritait déjà une note supérieure; plus un se traduit par 99% des matchpoints. Pourquoi n'obtient-on pas 100% lorsqu'on joue à la perfection? Même Fred vous dira que 99% est bien suffisant, car, comme tous les hommes d'univers le savent, le 1% restant nous rappelle simplement que le bridge est toujours plus grand que les joueurs.

Connaissez-vous un plus beau jeu, un jeu qui démontre aussi clairement l'incommensurable puissance de l'esprit humain?

happening. Nothing. Then again, was it really nothing?

Let's follow the thoughts of a real bridge player, and if this trip doesn't leave you in awe, you're missing life itself.

West has passed in first seat (first technical step) and you know he should have 10 points; ♣AK and ♠QJ (second step). So he should not have the ♦Q for he would have opened (third step). If East has the ♦Q, you are going down (fourth step). But to make 10 tricks, you need 3 diamond tricks, without losing to the Queen (fifth step).

Fred concluded that, in order to make 10 tricks, the ♦Q had to be doubleton. Every good technician would have thought along the same lines. But Fred, man about universe, a poet indeed, saw much farther, much much farther, and bridge here becomes poetry.

Do you see a finesse in diamonds (sixth step)? Read again: do you see a finesse in diamonds when you know that the Queen is sitting behind AKJ7? How can you take a losing finesse and still win? The majority of bridge players, "hommes du monde" who live at the surface of things, would have taken the finesse anyway and complained afterwards of their bad luck.

Fred pulled the last trump, pitching a spade, and played AK of diamonds (seventh step), East's Queen fell, as it had to, but Fred unblocked the 10 and 8 (first step of superior order, exclusive to men about universe, poets, real bridge players)!! Fred ruffed a club back to his hand and played the precious 2 of diamonds to the 7 (ninth step) for +450.

You see, you needed a diamond finesse all right and every socialite can finesse a Jack; that's a daily event, obvious on the surface. But only an "homme d'univers", a poet, can see so deep as to envision finessing the 7, just for the beauty of it.

Just bidding 4♥ would have given Fred an above average; +450 translated into 99% of the matchpoints.

Why can't we obtain 100% when we play perfectly? Even Fred will tell you that 99% is quite all right, because, as every man about universe will tell you, the 1% left is a reminder that the game is always greater than the players.

Do you know of a more beautiful game, of a game that shows us so clearly the fathomless power of the human brain?

A PHREAK IN THEIR SUITS

by Mike Dorn Wiss, Victoria BC

Readers who have read me over the years will know my delight for those rare hands with either gang-splinters (two singletons) or gang-sploids (two voids).

Fred Gitelman (who along with George Mittelman now comprise Canada's number one pair) is my good friend and former partner. He too knows my affinity for freaks, and accordingly emailed me his favourite hand from New Orleans, one which split the difference between stiffs and voids, having one of each.

You pick up, with none vulnerable:

♠ AKJ98x
♥ x
♦ AKQ10xx
♣ -

Left hand opponent opens 1♦(!), partner passes, and right hand opponents responds 1♠!! Now what the heck do you do?

When Fred gave this as a bidding problem to a significant number of experts the consensus opinion was PASS. To these experts both Fred and I

concur: PASS is moronic. If however, you still choose to do so, perhaps feeling anything else is moronic (the opponents, after all, have bid both your suits), LHO bids 2♣, partner passes, and RHO raises to 3♣. NOW what do you do? (Even tougher, since we all realize your opposite hand opponent -partner- has a slew of hearts in a hand not worth a preemptive jump overcall of the opening bid.)

Thought about it long enough? Fred found a jump cue bid at his first turn - he jumped all the way to 6♦! LHO doubled with indignation and led the ♠Q! Sheri Winestock, Fred's partner in life as well as business, tabled:

♠ 10x(!)
♥ Kxxxx
♦ xx
♣ xxx

LHO managed to keep the right ace in the endgame and the one-suit squeeze failed to produce an overtrick. *Drat.*

No doubt some of you are curious what yours truly bid over 1♠, since you already know PASS was little more than a fleeting consideration. Well, in fairness to your curiosity, and in the jovial spirit of the time of year in which this article will be published, let's just say that my auction WOULD have resulted in an overtrick!

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A full World Championships Report will be published in our next issue of Canadian Bridge Canadien (April-May).

Canada's Round Robin Results (Group E)

Rnd.VS	W/L	VPs(30)	IMPS
1. China	W	19	46-29
2. Brazil	L	10	18-42
3. S. Africa	L	10	24-49
4. Italy	W	22	72-39
5. China	Tie	15	25-26
6. Brazil	L	11	24-43
7. USA 11	L	10	18-44
8. Sweden	W	16	53-48
9. China	L	12	43-56
10. Italy	W	25	77-23
11. USA 2	L	14	41-44
12. Egypt	W	19	49-28
13. Colombia	W	25	71-14
14. Brazil	W	21	30-3

Quarter Finals

Canada	272	VS	South Africa	187
Sweden	227	VS	Netherland	182
France	196	VS	China	193
USA 2	227	VS	Indonesia	177

Semi Finals

Canada	218	VS	France	157 (Bronze)
USA II	221	VS	Sweden	153

Finals

Canada	295	VS	USA II	338
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USA II Team Roster: Edgar Kaplan (npc) - Nick Nickell - Richard Freeman - Bob Hamman - Bobby Wolff - Jeff Meckstroth - Eric Rodwell

Every bridge hand contains 13 cards. Most declarers make the mistake of only paying attention to the big cards. Proper handling of the small cards can be worth many tricks to a careful player. Good management of small cards in the trump suit is particularly important. Here are two deals I played recently to illustrate this point. The first is a play problem:

North
 ♠ 87
 ♥ 64
 ♦ AQ10743
 ♣ Q86

South
 ♠ AKQ62
 ♥ AKJ73
 ♦ -
 ♣ A73

You overbid to 6♣ and West leads the ♠9. You win and cash the top hearts. Everybody follows when you ruff the third heart in dummy. So far, so good, but your table presence tells you that East started with 4 spades. What now?

The ♦A can provide a discard for one of your club losers but you still would lose a club and a trump. How about this? Do not cash the ♦A. Ruff a diamond, cash the high trumps and exit with your last trump to East. If East has the ♣K, you are home. East only has minor suit cards left and any return will take care of your two club losers.

Do not play both of your hearts after ruffing the diamond (it is OK to play one). East might refuse to ruff and dummy would be squeezed when you exit in trump. Your hand would be down to just three clubs. In order for the endplay to work, dummy needs the ♦AQ as well as the ♣Qx - four cards.

So which trump did you ruff a diamond with? It better have been the ♠6 (not the ♠2). The full deal:



SMALL MATTERS

By Fred Gitelman, Toronto ON

North
 ♠ 87
 ♥ 64
 ♦ AQ10743
 ♣ Q86

West
 ♠ 95
 ♥ Q109
 ♦ KJ98
 ♣ J952

East
 ♠ J1043
 ♥ 852
 ♦ 652
 ♣ K104

South
 ♠ AKQ62
 ♥ AKJ73
 ♦ -
 ♣ A73

If you "carelessly" ruff with the ♠2, East can play his ♠J and ♠10 under your high spades. The ♠6 will be high but you will have no way to avoid 2 club losers. If you draw the last trump and lead a low club, West must be careful to play the ♣9 (or ♣J) to prevent you from ducking dummy and ending play in East.

If you take the precaution of ruffing the first diamond with the ♠6, however, East is dead. Now it won't help East to play his high spades under your top honours. You would exit the ♠2 and East's ♠3 would not be low enough to lose the trick and prevent him from being endplayed.

I admit that there are few deals like the above one where both sides must try so hard to lose a trump trick. More often small trump spots come into play in trying to win tricks.

The following hand contains my favourite single trick of 1995. Please bear with me through some poor bidding and defense until we get to trick 13. I think you will find it worth waiting for.

N Deals
None Vul

North
♠ A9
♥ KJ76
♦ AK3
♣ 10932

West
♠ J4
♥ 854
♦ QJ72
♣ J654

East
♠ KQ653
♥ Q92
♦ 9
♣ AKQ8

South
♠ 10872
♥ A103
♦ 108654
♣ 7

North	East	South	West
1♣	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dbf	Rdbl?	3♦	Dbf?
Pass	Pass	Pass	

North/South were playing 11-14 1NT which explains North's opening bid and South's aggressive jump. Perhaps the only justification for the East/West bidding is that the game was matchpoints.

West led the ♠J to dummy's ♠A. This clearly looked like a deal for scoring tricks by ruffing clubs in the closed hand. I thus conceded a club at trick 2, won by East with the ♣Q. East returned the ♦9, covered by the ♦10, ♦J, and ♦A. I ruffed a club in the closed hand and exited a spade, won by East with the ♠Q. East now erred by returning a heart. If it became necessary to guess

hearts I would play East for the ♥Q. Thus, East was never going to score a trick with the ♥Q. By returning a heart, however, he gave me a safe chance to make an overtrick. I won in dummy with the ♥J and ruffed another club. I cashed the ♥A and played another heart to dummy's ♥K. When everybody followed I ruffed dummy's last club, leaving:

North
♠
♥ 6
♦ K3
♣

West
♠
♥
♦ Q72
♣

East

Immaterial

South
♠ 108
♥
♦ 8
♣

I already had 8 tricks in and dummy's ♦K was a certain ninth. The lead of a spade, however, ensured an overtrick. If West ruffs with the ♦7, he is allowed to hold the trick. If he then leads the ♦2, you can ride it around to your ♦8. If, instead, West leads the ♦Q, smothering your ♦8, you win the ♦K. At trick 13, you get to draw West's last trump, the deuce, with dummy's three of trump!

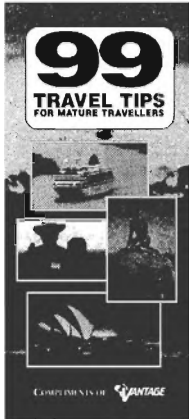
It is just as good to overruff West's ♦7 with the ♦K. Now ruff a heart with the ♦8. West overruffs with the ♦Q and is down to just the ♦2. Once again dummy's ♦3 wins at trick 13.

BOOK REVIEW: --If you know someone who likes to read bridge columns in the paper the **Daily Bridge Calendar (Ashlar House Inc./Copp Clark Ltd.)** will make a great gift. The desktop, peel each day away type calendar offers a daily bridge hand, challenge and solution. The authors are all well known bridge writers and players. Most of the puzzles feature standard play or defense lessons rather than complicated or conventional bidding sequenced - a plus for those with non-duplicate or tournament bridge playing relatives and friends. The layout and packaging is professional and attractive - a nice representation of our favourite sport! As an added plus, you will find both ACBL and international tournament dates listed on each page. How does the 1996 Calendar compare with 1995? The paper is not quite as white (most likely due to extreme hikes in paper prices this year), the authors are the same, the box is black instead of red, the plastic holder is red instead of green, there's one more hand (February 29), there are year-at-a-glance calendars (1996 & 1997) in the back, it costs \$1 more and there are 3 fewer Table Talk cartoons ... *Jude Goodwin-Hanson*

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Merry Christmas

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A CALENDAR

★ CWTC ★

Zones must select their teams no later than May 20, 1996
National Final - Fredericton, NS
Tues. July 2 - Sat. July 6, 1996

★ COPC ★

Club Qualifying Round
Sept 1, 1995 - Nov 30, 1995
Unit Final Round
Nov 1, 1995 - Mar 31, 1996
National Final
June 6-8, 1996
Saskatoon, SK

★ CNTC ★

Club Qualifying Round
Sept 1, 1995 - Jan 7, 1996
Unit Final Round
Must be completed by
Feb 25, 1996
Zone Final Round
Must be completed by
April 21, 1996
National Final
June 3-8, 1996
Saskatoon, SK

★ ROOKIE-MASTER ★

Mar 27, 1996 Wednesday

INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

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

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Jan 20-26 Canberra

ACBL Spring NABC
Mar 1-10 Philadelphia

**Philip Morris European
Mixed Pairs**
Mar 19-24 Monte Carlo

**European Youth
Championships**
July 19-28 Cardiff

ACBL Summer NABC
Aug 2-11 Miami Beach

**World Team Olympiad
Open, Women's and Mixed***
Oct 19-Nov 2 Rhodes, Greece
*(New event without quota)

**FEBRUARY 1996
JUNIOR
BRIDGE MONTH!**
See page 20 for details

The Canadian Bridge Canadian is published three times a year as a supplement to the ACBL Bulletin. It is distributed to approximately 15,000 readers. Submissions are welcomed. Feel free to send e-mail! Or call ahead and send your article via modem. These electronic methods allow us to avoid retyping and the possible typos involved. If you have no modem, FAX or "snail mail" your item to the address at top left. We will make every effort to print submissions, but available space will always be a determining factor.

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