

WINTER 2006



bridge

Canada



THE WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS
TIANJIN, CHINA

Story page 7



A Very Happy New Year

from the CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION and BRIDGE CANADA

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WELCOME TO BRIDGE : ARTICLES *for* INTERMEDIATE & NOVICE **PLAYERS**

..... *pages 11-16*
BIENVENUE DANS LE MONDE DU *bridge* **: ARTICLES POUR DÉBUTANTS ET INTERMÉDIAIRES**

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DECEMBER 2006 • VOL. 36, NO. 3

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APRIL 2007

Deadline :: 01 MAR 07

AD RATES

Full page \$ 500

Half page \$ 300

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EDITORIAL

by Jude Goodwin



Warm wishes to all of you during these cold Canadian months. Isn't it great we have a wonderful way to keep cozy - sitting at tables with friends while holding small rectangles of cardboard which give us endless challenge and joy. Or not.

And we send thoughts and well-wishes to CBF President Mike Hartop who has been ill and was unable to write a President's Message this issue.

As editor, I will attempt to fill his shoes. If I give an opinion here, please understand that it does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the CBF Board of Directors.

Two big Canadian bridge events are coming up. First, our International Fund Regional, February 27 - March 4, at the Four Points Hotel in Montreal. The CBF hosts one IF Regional per year. Although ACBL Sanctioned, it is a CBF event and monies earned are deposited in CBF coffers. Traditionally the money is used to fund Canada in international competition. You can find a complete schedule of events on page 19, this issue.

The second event is our annual Bridge Week, May 26 - June 2 in Winnipeg, Manitoba - Bridge in the Heart of Canada. All national event finals will happen during this time including CNTC (Open Teams), CWTC (Women's Teams), COPC (Open Pairs), CSTC (Senior Teams) and CIPC (IMP Pairs). Our website at cbf.ca will

explain how to participate in these events and the website at cbf.ca/BWeek has information on the finals themselves. See page 20 for a special message from the organizers - the playing site sounds like a lot of fun! The next issue of Bridge Canada won't be out until April so do keep tabs on the website for updates.

I'd like to close with a special mention. On pages 7-11 this issue you'll find an article from the World University Championships. This article was submitted by the team's Non-playing Captain, Bryan Maksymetz. Bryan sent installments via email directly from the playing site and we posted them in 'blog' fashion on our website. As well, the page featured photos (thanks to Susan Korbelt) and daily bulletin downloads (thanks to the organizing committee). The result of all this good work was that you, the members of the CBF, were able to feel part of the event, follow the action and be informed. I believe this is as important as all the other aspects of our international program. A lot of money is invested in sending teams to represent Canada on the world stage. It's important that the people who help raise these funds are included in the action. So kudos to Bryan and well done everyone who helped make Canada proud through the 2006 World University Championships.

What's coming up on the world stage in 2007? The World Youth and World Schools Championships happen every even-numbered year, so NCBOS will have a free year to prepare their teams and raise funds. See page 11 if you are a young player interested in participating. The World Team Championships will be held 29 Sep - 13 Oct in Shanghai, China. The championships comprise the Bermuda Bowl (Open Series), the Venice Cup (Women's Series) and the Senior Bowl competitions, as well as an open competition for Transnational Teams. Canada will be represented in each of these.

BEST WISHES ALL FOR A HAPPY 2007



from the **cbf OFFICE**

Executive Assistant Jan Anderson

2006 CBF CHARITABLE FOUNDATION REPORT

2006 Charity Grants Given

Chairperson (\$ 2 400)

Daily Bread Food Bank	\$ 1 500
Growing Up Healthy - Downtown Toronto	300
Toronto Humane Society	300
Toronto Wildlife Centre	200
The Fauna Foundation	100

Zone One (\$ 2 400)

Red Bank Children's Fund	\$ 1 000
Moncton Headstart Inc.	1 000
Christmas Daddies	400

Zone Two (\$ 2 400)

La foundation Mira	\$ 1 200
The Salvation Army Kingston	600
La maison Matthieu Froment Savoie	300
Société Alzheimer de l'Outaouais Québécois	300

Zone Three (\$ 2 400)

YWCA Arise Shelter	\$ 800
Sick Kids Foundation	800
Make-a-Wish Foundation	800

Zone Four (\$ 2 400)

Winnipeg Harvest Inc.	\$ 500
George Jeffrey Children's Foundation	500
Boys & Girls Club of Winnipeg	300
Thunder Bay Boys & Girls Club	300
Thunder Bay Food Bank	200
North Bay Soup Kitchen Inc.	200
Banque d'aliments Sudbury Food Bank	200
Saulte Ste.-Marie Salvation Army Food Bank	200

Zone Five (\$ 2 400)

Boys & Girls Club of Calgary	\$ 600
Edmonton's School Lunch Program	600
Regina Breakfast for Learning	600
Saskatoon Breakfast for Learning	600

Zone Six (\$ 2 400)

Mustard Seed Food Bank	\$ 500
C-Fax Santa's Anonymous	500
Greater Vancouver Food Bank	500
Vancouver Native Health Society (Sheway)	500
Kelowna Community Food Bank Society	400

Total 2006 Donations

\$ 16 800



NATIONAL WINNERS

Glenda McGrath (left) and Lois Dalflyen

Glenda has played bridge for many years, and for the past 8 years has been a regular at our club. She is a well-liked player, and a junior master.

Lois learned the rudiments of bridge as a child filling in at her parent's games, and played for a few years as a young adult, before losing contact with bridge players for many years. About 15 years ago she again started playing bridge socially, but the Erin Berry game was her first experience with duplicate. She was absolutely thrilled to have placed first in Canada.

We have now found a regular partner for Lois, and she is looking forward to lessons with her partner to bring her system and playing style up to date. Lois is a welcome addition to our club, and we look forward to many enjoyable sessions with her.

by John Godfrey, Campbell River Bridge Club

CBF FALL ELECTIONS

No new candidates submitted their names for election so the incumbents were declared elected by acclamation in Zones I and IV. The CBF board welcomes Alex Fowlie, new Zone V Director. Go to page 11 to 'meet' Alex Fowlie.

Erin Berry ROOKIE-MASTER GAME

2006 • CANADA WIDE

Wednesday, October 25, 2006

18 clubs took part in the annual Erin Berry Rookie-Master Game, which is named in memory of Erin Berry. Erin was developing into one of Canada's best Junior players when she tragically died in an automobile accident in January 1998. The North Bay DBC had the largest turnout with 26 tables or 52 pairs, the Ottawa Bridge Centre second-largest with 24 tables or 48 pairs and Vancouver Bridge Centre had the third largest turnout with 41 pairs taking part. The CBF would like to express its appreciation to Danny Miles of Toronto for doing the analysis for this event.

NATIONAL WINNERS (473 PAIRS)

1. Lois Dalflyen & Glenda McGrath
Campbell River BC 71.13%
2. Maureen Donovan & Daniel Landry
Halifax Bridge World 69.18%
3. Ted McNeil & Reg Pitre
Simcoe DBC 68.59%
4. MaryLou Norman & Joyce Spence
Simcoe DBC 68.11%
5. Anne Hawkins & Joffre McCleary
Barrie Bridge Club 67.56%
6. Tom Finora & Jerome St. Amant
Belleville DBC 67.27%
7. Eloise Dewar & Marc Langevin
North Bay DBC 67.22%
8. Randy Manz & Larry Custead
Saskatoon DBC 66.86%
9. Anne Lynch & Marie Gonnella
North Bay DBC 65.56%
10. Pat Monaghan & Frances Dansereau
Red Deer DBC 65.45%

Visit our website for a detailed list of winners by zone and by club. www.cbf.ca

REMEMBERING DICK EDNEY

by Jim Priebe

Dick Edney passed away in Kingston 03 November 2006, at the age of 95. He was a talented musician, a keen curler, a wonderful gardener and an outstanding lawn bowler (inducted into the Kingston sports Hall of Fame in 2004 for his record). All long-time bridge enthusiasts in Eastern Ontario remember Dick was an outstanding bridge player as well, with a keen competitive spirit and a fine sense of sportsmanship.

Playing with his then girl friend, soon to become his wife and favorite partner, Mary MacDonald, the couple won their first major bridge tournament in Toronto in 1938, the Percy Sheardown event for intermediate players. Thirty-one years later, Mary and Dick returned to Toronto to win the Canadian Open Pairs championship in a field of 592

pairs! Thirty-one years after that, they were still winning. They recorded 68 years as a bridge partnership.

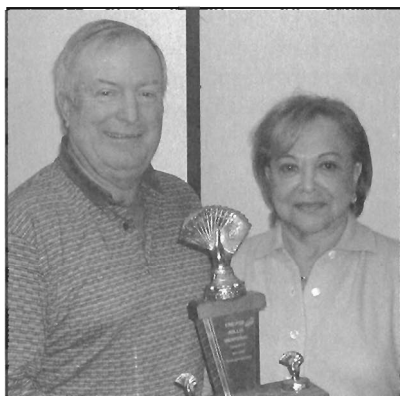
Dick became an expert bridge analyst at an early age. He wrote articles for *The Bridge World* back in the late 1930s. His knowledge of squeezes and endplays was impressive, coming in an era when regular players were learning when to draw trumps. I have had a chance to read Dick's articles, and I believe they were as good in quality as anything published since that time. For one article, he received a cheque from Ely Culbertson for fifteen dollars, and Dick says he wishes he had never cashed it! He did retain in his files letters of acceptance on behalf of *The Bridge World* from Alphonse Moyse and Alfred Sheinwold, dated 1938 and 1939.

Those of us who had the privilege of playing with and against Dick, and all of those who met him, will miss him.

DONALD "DON" F. AYLWARD

by Susan Aylward.

Don Aylward, a respected and successful Canadian bridge player, passed away 10 September 2006 at the age of 72. Don was a member of the sales team of Aron Valley Green houses Ltd from 1962 - 1998. Flowers Canada Atlantic Region honored Don with the Achievement Award for his contribution to the floral industry. After retirement he was able to spend more time with his passion - the game of bridge. He achieved the ACBL Life Master ranking in Halifax, NS in July 1998. He was a member of the Ken-Wo and Windsor Duplicate Bridge Clubs. Don always had a cheerful manner and a kind word to say to his partners and opponents alike. He was a keen player but always a gentleman. Don will leave a big void at the clubs where he played as well as on the tournament scene.



PRINCE OF WALES CHARITY GAME

John Valliant and Bev Chodikoff of Ottawa, pictured above with the Trevor Willis Memorial trophy, topped the 24 table field with a 65.77% game on 06 Nov 2006 at the Prince of Wales DBC. This charity event raised \$4 400 for Habitat for Humanity.

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIPS TIANJIN, CHINA 21-27 OCT 2006



DAILY BLOG BY NPC BRYAN MAKSYMETZ

This October, our Canadian University Team (shown in top photo left to right Susan Korbel, Charles Halasi, Dan Korbel, David Sabourin, Anton Blagov, Bryan Maksymetz, Brian Hardy) travelled to China to participate in the World Championship. NPC Bryan Maksymetz emailed daily blog entries to be posted on the cbf.ca website and Susan Korbel uploaded hundreds of photos to an online photo gallery.

DAY ONE

The first day of the tournament was amazing. We all travelled to the new university campus of Tianjin for the Opening Ceremonies. We were met with a colourful display of dragons and drums. After some speeches, we were treated to an amazing spectacle of entertainment for more than an hour. It was the best opening ceremony of any bridge event that I have attended.

Our first match was against Indonesia and we had a solid win thanks in large part to this hand where Charles and Anton bid to 6♦ with this excellent auction:

Dlr: N ♠ A 8 5
 ♡ A K 5
 ♦ Q J 9 8 2
 ♣ K J

 ♠ Q 10 6
 ♡ Q 8
 ♦ A K 7 5 4 3
 ♣ 8 6

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Anton		Charles	
1♦	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

* (Inverted Minors)

The ♣A and a club was the start for the defense. Anton cashed some diamonds and one of the defenders was pseudo-squeezed with 4 hearts and the ♠KJ so Anton made it while the same contract at the other table was beaten by Dan and Sue.

We had small losses to Denmark and the US, and Poland A scored a near blitz against us. We played 3 of the top 5 or 6 teams in the event (Poland A is the favourite I think) and held our own.

DAY TWO

Day 2 was a full day of bridge with seven matches. The team played much better and without three or four partscore blunders that led to big minuses, we'd be in the top ten.

The hand of the day was another Charles and Anton slam. They reached 6♥ on these cards (see next page):

NORTH

♠ J
♥ 5 4 3
♦ A K Q 9 7 4
♣ J 5 3

SOUTH

♠ A Q 10
♥ A K J 10 6
♦ 5
♣ A 8 6 2

Slam was also reached at the other table and both declarers received a helpful spade lead to the J, K and Ace. How would you play it?

It looks like all you need now is 3-2 hearts. Charles, however, made the excellent play of the ♥ J, which LHO took a long look at and ducked with ♥ Q972. Charles romped home with 12 tricks and a huge 17 IMPs.

The atmosphere is great, the Chinese people are extremely friendly and the event very well run. One of the more popular teams is from Botswana - it is great that they sent a team. The team is getting along well and I feel we will have a great Day 3!

DAY THREE

On the 3rd day we played a lot of solid European teams and China A, the deserved leaders. We held our own against the strong teams but struggled against the lower teams. For example, Serbia beat us 21 to 9, a team we should have blitzed 25 to 5.

The last (7th) match of the day was against a good Italy team on vugraph. BBO broadcasts two vugraph matches per round. I was assisting Jack Zhao as commentator. Zhao is half of the famous Fu-Zhao partnership, winners of the Vanderbilt and World Open Pairs. At one point I commented to Jack how good the Chinese girls on China A were and asked if he coached them. The answer was what you would expect of China. They approach all things with a quiet dedication, attention to detail and a lot of pride. The girls had gone through training

and practise for more than a year, but have much less experience than many of the teams trailing them. For 6 weeks or so before the tournament they focused their entire day, each and every day, on training for the event. Jack participated, but there were other trainers and team members did a lot of work on their own. For any serious partnership, this is a great way to jump start your bridge career.

On to the match. The first board was a difficult auction for Daniel and Susan Korbel. Dan opened 1♦ on ♠A742 ♥AK92 ♦A72 ♣A6, LHO overcalled 2♣ and Sue had ♠J53 ♥QJ85 ♦QJ43 ♣Q7 and chose a simple 2♦. Dan took a conservative view and passed, plus 110. The Italians started 1♣, had no interference and reached 3NT making – lose 8 IMPs. The 2♣ overcall was on ♠K109 ♥6 ♦1095 ♣KJ9853 - aggressive but effective.

On board 2, Sue had to decide what to do, Vul vs NV, over a 3♥ opening with ♠AKJ ♥953 ♦AKQJ106 ♣4. She chose 4♦ and played there while the Italian doubled and ended in 5♦. Partner had ♠Q8762 ♥K ♦974 ♣Q975, so 5♦ had 11 tricks – lose 10. 4♠ can be beaten, so pulling a 4♠ response to 5♦ was a winner (diamonds were 2-2 and spades 4-1).

Board 3 was a challenging 3♣ contract that may make on an unusual play. The auction is 1♥ - 1NT(F) - 2♦ - 3♣, the opponents silent. A spade is led and here are the hands:

♠	Q 4 3	♠	9 8 6 2
♥	K 8 2	♥	A J 7 6 4
♦	J 3	♦	A Q 5 2
♣	A Q 8 5 2	♣	-
		♠	K J 5
		♥	10 9 5 3
		♦	10 9 8 6 4
		♣	K
		♠	A 10 7
		♥	Q
		♦	K 7
		♣	J 10 9 7 6 4 3

Both declarers received the ♠3 lead and

ended up losing 5 trump tricks after discarding one spade on a heart, after the Q is covered and one on the ♦Q, which gets ruffed. However, if declarer ruffs a heart after leading the ♥Q, covered, winning with the Ace and cashing the Jack, he can give himself a great chance. Now play ♦K-A-Q, which LHO ruffs. Unless LHO exits with the ♣5, you can ruff the spade and exit a small club, which seems right as LHO has patterned out as 3325. RHO wins and plays a red card, you ruff with the ♣J as LHO pitches his spade and you lead the ♣10 (from ♣1097) and RHO has ♣AQ8 and no answer.

On board 4, Dan made a great bid and followed it up with even better play to win 10 IMPs back.

		♠ A 10 9	
		♥ Q 9 6 5 4 2	
		♦ 7 5	
		♣ J 3	
♠ Q 8 6			♠ 3 2
♥ J 10			♥ K 8 7
♦ A 8 6			♦ K 9 4 2
♣ K 10 8 4 2			♣ Q 7 6 5
		♠ K J 7 5 4	
		♥ A 3	
		♦ Q J 10 3	
		♣ A 6	

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Sue		Dan	
-	-	1♠	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♣**	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass

* Constructive

** Help Suit Game Try

The 3♣ trial bid talked LHO out of the club lead that would instantly doom the contract. Instead, LHO led the ♥J and Dan made no mistake. It was covered all around and Dan led back a heart. LHO led to the ♦K and a heart came back. Dan ruffed with the ♠K and finessed the Queen successfully to

score +620 - well done.

On board 6, Dan had to lead vs a pedestrian 1NT - 3NT auction. He held
♠ A43 ♥ A102 ♦ 1043 ♣ J943.

What's your choice?

Bd: 6	♠ A 4 3	
	♥ A 10 2	
	♦ 10 4 3	
	♣ J 9 4 3	
♠ 7 5		♠ K 10 6
♥ K 5 4		♥ 8 7 6 3
♦ A Q 5 2		♦ K 7 6
♣ A Q 8 5		♣ K 10 2
	♠ Q J 9 8 2	
	♥ Q J 9	
	♦ J 9 8	
	♣ 7 6	

Dan chose the ♠ 3. Declarer ducked the first spade, winning the third round, discarding a heart. After a couple of diamonds, he played a heart to the King, where maybe testing clubs would have been better, but this line led to down 1. The Italian at the other table chose the ♣ 3 lead and Charles Halasi took advantage, guessing the hand well to score +600. 14 IMPs to Canada - great lead Dan!

Both sides missed an opportunity playing 4♠. With ♣ K 7 5 4 opposite ♣ J 8 6 2, you need 2 tricks and, with no entry problems, you lead low toward the King. The 9 appears and you cover losing to the Ace. When you lead low toward the Jack, the 3 appears. When the 9 came up, the situation becomes restricted choice. If you put in the 8, you win. Both declarers played the Jack - down 1.

A nice finish for Canada. After spotting the Italians 18 IMPs on the first 2 boards, we came back to win.

DAYS FOUR AND FIVE

Day 4 was a day off for sightseeing. However, the Great Wall trip was cancelled due to bad weather. Our team spent most of the day shopping. The prices are great for good quality products. I bought a backpack with leather for less than \$ 3 Canadian. We

went to the best restaurant in Tianjin. It was the size of a small shopping mall and cost 300,000,000 Yuan to build. It was like a tropical forest, all glass, with streams and pools and a lot of sea life, including a pool with four seals. The waiters travelled the main floor on roller blades to get around. The food was fabulous.

Day 5 was Team Canada's best day. My goal for the team was to get 120 VP's from the 6 matches and we got 117 to move from 19th place to 11th. We also won our first two blitzes, getting 25 VP's against Belgium B and Botswana. Our goal was to make the top 10 so if we have a good final day tomorrow we can move up one notch.

One of our big pickups was in Match 19.

M 19. Bd 7	♥ 9		
Vul: Both	♥ 10 9 6		
	♦ J 10 7 5 2		
	♣ K Q 5 3		
♠ K Q 10 3		♠ A 8 7 6 4 2	
♥ J 7 2		♥ 3	
♦ A K Q 6 3		♦ 9 8 4	
♣ 6		♣ 10 9 4	
	♠ J 5		
	♥ A K Q 8 5 4		
	♦ -		
	♣ A J 8 7 2		

Open			
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	-	1♥	2♦
2♥	2♣	4♦	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Closed			
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	-	1♥	2♦
2♥	3♦	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	5♦
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the Open room, Dave Sabourin made an excellent 2♠ bid. Light on values, the hand has a 6 card suit headed by the Ace, shortness in the opponents suit and a partial fit for partner's suit. When South chose to show diamond shortness instead of bidding his long club suit, the NS pair sold out to 4♠.

After the ♠K lead, they could only get one diamond ruff and Dave and Brian Hardy were +620. In the Closed Room, Charles Halasi made a better bid of 4♣ and Anton Blagov, North had a chance to find an aggressive 4♠ cue-bid to reach the cold North/South slam. Still, North/South here were never going to sell out to 4♠ and ended up +800 against 5♦ doubled. 16 IMPS to the good guys.

In Match 22 the EW pairs had to judge a competitive slam hand:

M 22. Bd 6	♠ Q J 9 6 5 4		
Vul: E/W	♥ K 10 5		
	♦ -		
	♣ J 10 4 3		
♠ K 3 2		♠ A	
♥ A J 8 2		♥ Q 7 6 4 3	
♦ K Q 7 6		♦ A 8 2	
♣ K 7		♣ A Q 9 6	
	♠ 10 8 7		
	♥ 9		
	♦ J 10 9 5 4 3		
	♣ 8 5 2		

Open			
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	1♥	Pass	2NT
4♠	Dbl	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♥ (p/c)
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♥
Dbl*	Pass	Pass	Pass

*Lightner

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

* Extra values

In the Open room, Daniel Korbel made the aggressive 4♠ bid and then made a Lightner Double asking for an unusual lead. Susan Korbel had no trouble finding the diamond lead and the contract was down 1. West thought for some time and, on the auction, should have found the 6NT bid. In the closed room there was no Double, so the spade lead saw 1430 to EW and a big pickup to help Canada blitz Belgium B.

CHINA WRAP-UP

Well, the 10 days have flown by and a most memorable tournament is over. The hospitality of the Chinese was overwhelming. We completed our final three matches and slipped from 11th to 14th after three close results. China A, USA and Poland B took the medals - no surprise with USA or Poland, but it was nice to see hard work pay off for the Chinese.

After a somber closing ceremonies (the WBF president Jose Damiani was in attendance), we enjoyed a closing banquet and then had each continent do an amateur performance. The USA/Canada contingent sang "Take Me Out to the Ball Game." The somber mood was due to a tragedy which happened on Monday. Four Organizing Committee members went to the Great Wall to see that conditions were ok for our Tuesday outing to go there. They were involved in a serious car accident and one of the members was killed.

In the second last match, Anton and Charles had an interesting auction to a slam.

♠ 8 6 4
♥ K J 9 8 4
♦ A Q 7 5
♣ 3

♠ A 2
♥ A Q
♦ K 10 9 3 2
♣ A K 7 6

ANTON

Pass
3♦ (xsfr)
3NT
5♣
6♥

CHARLES

2NT (20-21)
3H (fit showing)
4♦
5♠
All Pass

Although 7♦ is cold, getting to slam after their start was no small feat!

Bye from China, Bryan Maksymetz

CALLING ALL JUNIORS

Are you interested in representing Canada in International Play? Were you born in 1982 or later? If you answered YES to the above questions, please contact the CBF Executive Assistant, Jan Anderson by 01 May 2007 to register your name.

When registering, please provide your date of birth, email address, mailing address and phone number. The CBF Junior Manager will work with all registered juniors through various training/coaching programs. The 2008 World Youth and World Schools teams will be chosen from players who register and complete all training/coaching exercises. **There will not be a teams trial in 2007.** Failure to register may mean you are ineligible for consideration when the 2008 teams are selected.

Meet ALEX FOWLIE

New Zone V Director

Alex, who is 57, retired in 2005 after 33 years with the Saskatchewan Housing Corporation and Alberta Finance in various management and executive positions.

Alex has been involved in bridge administration for many years. He served several terms on the boards of the Regina Bridge Club, Edmonton Bridge Centre and Northern Alberta Unit, including several years with each board as Treasurer and President. He also directs club games and mentors up-and-coming players.

Alex is an active tournament player and has participated in the CNTC, COPC and Canadian Seniors, earning a bronze medal in the Seniors in 2005.



JUNIOR MATTERS from the CBF Board of Directors Meeting

WORLD YOUTH & WORLD SCHOOLS EVENT

The net cost to the CBF associated with sending the two teams to Bangkok was \$ 28 956.25 which came in \$ 2 043.75 under budget thanks to donations from: Jonathan Steinberg, District 2 GNT, CBF Regional rebates, the Kingston Regional and the Erin Berry Memorial Fund.

2007 CANADIAN JUNIOR TEAM TRIALS

A motion was passed by the CBF Board of Directors that the CBF will solicit the names of juniors who would be interested in representing Canada at the 2008 World Youth and Schools Championships. All names must be submitted to the CBF Executive Assistant by 01 May 2007. Failure to submit one's name may result in not being eligible for consideration when the teams are selected. Under the direction of the Junior Manager, these registered Juniors will take part in various training and coaching sessions. The Junior Manager will then make team recommendations to the CBF board.

WORLD UNIVERSITY TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

Donations to help with the costs associated with sending a team to China were received from. The World Bridge Federation, Canadian Interuniversity Sport, Units 192, 230, 430 and 431 and the Zone VI Olympiad fund. Donations have also been pledged from Unit 166, Unit 246 and Unit 151. The event will cost the CBF approx. \$ 1 500 which is \$ 4 500 under budget. The board agreed unanimously that Bryan Maksymetz did an excellent job as NPC.

WANTED: CBF JUNIOR MANAGER

The CBF is currently accepting applications for the Voluntary Position of CBF Junior Manager. Deadline for submitting applications is 15 May 2007. All applications will be reviewed by the CBF Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting 23-25 May 2007. Duties include:

- Provide input and proposals to the board on the specific activities encompassed in the junior program.
- Liaise with prominent members of the Canadian bridge community on options to be pursued in the junior program
- Provide input and proposals to the board on the fund raising activities in support of the junior program, with a long-term goal of making the program 100% self-financing.
- Set up training and coaching programs for Canadian Juniors. Evaluate the programs and juniors. Make a recommendation to the CBF Board on the composition of the Canadian Junior teams for International play.

For more information visit www.cbf.ca/JR

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Hand Evaluation Rules : 2

by *Medric Cousineau*

In our last issue we explored the concept of how increased "Chairtime" hopefully leads newer players to the experience necessary to allow them to develop the requisite skills to improve their game. This wonderfully complex game has so many facets begging for one's attention. Let's continue looking at more hand evaluation concepts.

One of the necessary elements to a good rule of thumb or guideline is its applicability and ease of use. If the concept is complex or unwieldy or has a low frequency of occurrence then you and your partner will have difficulty remembering it properly and the agreement is truly useless for your partnership and game. This issue's rule should be simple to remember and comes up all too frequently.

Rule of 16 for advancing 1NT to 3NT.

Most modern strong No Trumpers play a 15 to 17 point opening range. The newer player may play 16-18 point range, but suffice it to say a 16 point average is good mid-point.

As responders we get excited when we hear this bid since we can unleash a whole group of treatments including Stayman and Transfers. I won't digress into a discussion of which of the versions of Stayman is the best and whether or not transfers have merit. Those subjects have been reviewed at length by other more qualified bridge writers.

But what happens when you have the dreaded in-between hand? You know - the hand with 8 or 9 points, no 4-card major and no long minor? Now what? Some advocate bidding 2NT and putting the onus back onto your partner. But I think that this puts too much pressure on partner. I believe you can make the decision for your partnership.

The key to this hand lies in your intermediate cards - 8s, 9s and 10s.

The Rule of 16 - Assign a value of 1 to each card in your hand that is an 8 or higher. Then add the total to your High Card Point (HCPs) Count. If the total is 16 or greater you should have enough playing strength to advance 1NT to 3 NT. If you don't have a count of 16 or greater, then pass and let your partner play 1NT.

The hand that doesn't meet the Rule of 16 probably has a lot of weak low cards that cannot be developed into length tricks. As with any guideline, there will always be hands that don't fit or hands that play better as the cards lie, but for the most part this handy tool will help those decision-making processes and will advance your game.

Review hand records from tournaments and your own play and you will find that this gets you to more makeable 3NT contracts and keeps you out of the marginal ones when you have those tough in-between hands as responder.

Your partner opens 1NT and you hold.

♠ K 9 8
♥ Q J 9
♦ Q 10 4 3
♣ 9 8 2

This hand has 8 HCPs and 10 for the 8 intermediates count. The total of 18 exceeds 16 so raise 1NT to 3NT, Contrast it with this hand. After your partner opens 1NT you hold.

♠ K 4 3
♥ Q J 2
♦ Q 7 4 3
♣ 4 3 2

This hand has the same 8 HCP's but only 4 for the intermediate count. With a total of 12 your partner will be thankful you passed in 1NT. Next issue: we will explore advancing partner's weak 2 opening.

Medric Cousineau is a player and club Director at Halifax Bridge World

BRIDGE DETECTIVE

Or "Who's got the Queen?"

by Barbara Seagram

Here we are in 6NT. After the ♦K is led, declarer, with only one diamond stopper, is feeling somewhat nervous. She counts her sure winners and finds three spades, three hearts, one diamond and two sure club winners. She needs three more to make twelve tricks. She recognizes instantly that everything depends on locating the ♣Q and getting three extra tricks in the club suit.

Short of peeking at the opponents' hands, what are her options? Does she simply finesse, praying and guessing all the while? Does she recite the nursery rhyme "Eight ever, nine never!" in the hope that the ♣Q will drop? Nursery rhymes work for children, but not always at the bridge table! Alternatively, since West preempted 3♦, he probably has a shortage in clubs. Should declarer therefore expect East to have ♣Qxx?

Perhaps there is something we can do to make guessing unnecessary. When faced with the possibility of a finesse, try to postpone that action until you have more information about the deal. After all, finesses work only 50% of the time... unless you have the ear of the Big Guy, of course!

You should plan to play the problem suit, clubs, last, and extract as much information as possible along the way.

After the lead of the ♦K, declarer should not win the first trick. There is absolutely no hope of scoring thirteen tricks on this hand (if you don't believe me, count again!). So South ducks Trick one and West continues with the ♦Q. East shows out and South wins the second trick.

Counting is arduous at any level. When counting out a hand, it is much easier to

Vul: N-S			
		NORTH	
		♠ A 4 2	
		♥ A K Q	
		♦ 7 6 5	
		♣ A J 4 2	
		SOUTH	
		♠ K Q J	
		♥ J 4 2	
		♦ A J	
		♣ K 10 7 5 3	
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1NT	3♦	6NT	P
P	P		
Opening Lead: ♦K			

focus on one opponent, generally the one that has the known long suit. When East shows out in diamonds, declarer knows that West started life with seven diamonds. Declarer can focus all her attention on West from now on.

Declarer continues by playing three rounds of spades, a non-problem suit, noting that West shows out on the third round. Next she plays three rounds of hearts. West shows out yet again on the third round. Let's tally up the known cards to date: West started with seven diamonds, two spades and two hearts; ergo, he is marked with only two clubs. Since declarer and dummy have a total of nine clubs, we now know that clubs are breaking 2-2. We can play the club suit with impunity, certain that the ♣Q will fall under the ace-king. That ensures twelve tricks and the contract! The whole deal

		NORTH	
		♠ A 4 2	
		♥ A K Q	
		♦ 7 6 5	
		♣ A J 4 2	
WEST			EAST
♠ 10 9			♠ 8 7 6 5 3
♥ 10 8			♥ 9 7 6 5 3
♦ K Q 10 9 8 4 2			♦ 3
♣ Q 6			♣ 9 8
		SOUTH	
		♠ K Q J	
		♥ J 4 2	
		♦ A J	
		♣ K 10 7 5 3	

Améliorez l'évaluation de votre jeu 2

Par Medric Cousineau

Dans le dernier numéro, nous avons vu comment une règle simple permet aux joueurs moins expérimentés de développer les habiletés nécessaires pour améliorer leur jeu. De multiples facettes de ce jeu merveilleux requièrent toute notre attention. Continuons avec d'autres concepts reliés à l'évaluation d'une main.

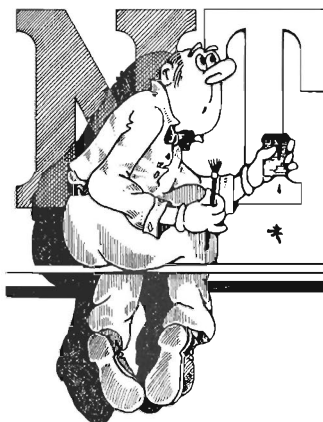
Un des éléments nécessaires pour élaborer une règle est la simplicité. Si le concept est à ce point compliqué que vous ne pouvez jamais vous en rappeler quand c'est le temps de l'utiliser ou qu'il arrive si peu souvent que ni votre partenaire, ni vous, n'arrivez à vous en souvenir, alors il n'est pas utile et vous devriez l'abandonner. Une bonne règle doit être facile à retenir et les occasions de l'appliquer doivent être relativement fréquentes.

La règle de 16 pour demander 3SA sur 1SA

L'ouverture moderne d'un sans-atout fort se fait entre 15 et 17 points alors que les débutants jouent souvent 16-18. Prenons 16 comme moyenne, d'où le nom de la règle.

C'est toujours agréable d'entendre son partenaire ouvrir les enchères d'un sans-atout. Cela permet de sortir toute une batterie de conventions : Stayman, Jacoby transferts, etc. Mon propos n'est pas de me lancer dans une discussion sur les mérites des différentes versions du Stayman ou d'établir les vertus des transferts. Ces sujets ont été traités en long et en large par des auteurs plus qualifiés que moi.

Que faites-vous quand vous avez la main fatidique de 8-9 points, sans couleur quatrième en majeure, ni couleur cinquième



en mineure ? Certains préconisent d'inviter à 2SA relançant ainsi la balle à votre partenaire. Pour ma part, je pense que c'est mettre trop de pression sur les épaules du partenaire. Je crois fermement que vous pouvez prendre la décision pour votre camp.

La clé réside dans les cartes intermédiaires : les 8, 9 et 10.

La règle de 16. Attribuez une valeur de 1 à toutes les cartes de votre jeu qui vont de 8 en montant. Ajoutez ce nombre au total de vos points d'honneur. Si le grand total est de 16 ou plus, demandez 3SA. Si vous ne totalisez pas 16, passez et laissez votre partenaire jouer un sans-atout.

La main qui ne rencontre pas la règle de 16 a probablement un tas de petites cartes qui ne pourront pas réaliser de levées. Attention, comme n'importe quelle règle, celle-là n'est pas infaillible. Il y aura toujours des mains qui demanderont 3SA et qui seront incapables de le réaliser. Mais, la plupart du temps, cette petite règle vous aidera à prendre la bonne décision.

Analysez les diagrammes des donnes de tournois et vous réaliserez vite que vous atteindrez plus souvent des contrats de 3SA réalisables alors que

Suite à la page 16

vous éviterez ceux qui sont marginaux avec les mains ambigües de 8-9 points.

Votre partenaire ouvre d'un sans-atout et vous avez :

♠ R 9 8
♥ D V 9
♦ D 10 4 3
♣ 9 8 2

Vous avez 8 points en hautes cartes et 10 pour les cartes intermédiaires qui contiennent un 8 ou mieux. Cela fait un total de 18, beaucoup plus qu'il n'en faut. Demandez 3SA.

Comparez avec cette main :

♠ R 4 3
♥ D V 2
♦ D 7 4 3
♣ 4 3 2

Ici aussi vous avez 8 points, mais seulement 4 pour vos cartes intermédiaires. Soit un total de 12. Votre partenaire sera très heureux de rester sagement à un sans-atout.

Dans le prochain article, nous verrons comment répondre au deux faible du partenaire.

Medric Cousineau est un joueur de bridge et directeur de club au Halifax Bridge World.



Cherchez la Dame

Par Barbara Seagram

Vul: N-S

NORD

♠ A 4 2
♥ A R D
♦ 7 6 5
♣ A V 4 2

SUD

♠ R D V
♥ V 4 2
♦ A V
♣ R 10 7 5 3

SUD

1SA

P

Entame: ♦R

OUEST

3♦

Passe

NORD

6SA

EST

P

Vous avez atteint le contrat de 6 sans-atout. Votre unique arrêt à carreau vous rend un peu nerveux. Un rapide décompte de vos gagnantes, trois piques, trois coeurs, un carreau et deux trèfles, vous apprend immédiatement que vous devez absolument capturer la Dame de trèfle pour réaliser votre contrat.

À part regarder dans le jeu de vos adversaires, quelles sont vos options ? Devez-vous prendre l'impasse au hasard d'un côté ou de l'autre en espérant que vous ferez le bon choix ou appliquer la règle « huit toujours, neuf jamais ! » dans l'espoir que la Dame tombe ? Laissez tomber les comptines, elles sont bonnes pour les enfants, pas pour le bridge. D'autre part, le barrage d'Ouest indique qu'il a peut-être une courte à trèfle. Dans ce cas, devez-vous placer la Dame troisième en Est ?

Peut-être pouvez-vous faire quelque chose pour vous éviter de jouer aux devinettes. Quand vous avez le choix de prendre une impasse ou de tirer en tête, essayez de différer votre décision jusqu'à ce que vous ayez obtenu le maximum d'indices sur la donne. Après tout, les impasses ne réussissent que dans 50 % des cas... sauf si vous avez le flair d'un Sherlock Holmes.

Votre plan consiste donc à vous attaquer aux trèfles en dernier en essayant de soutirer le maximum d'informations avant.

Suite à la page 17

Vous ne devez pas gagner le Roi de carreau immédiatement. Vous n'avez absolument aucune chance de faire treize levées (si vous ne me croyez pas, comptez encore !) Aussi laissez-vous passer le premier carreau. Ouest persiste à carreau avec la Dame, Est se défait d'un coeur et vous gagnez de l'As.

Compter est un processus ardu quel que soit votre niveau. Concentrez-vous sur le jeu d'un seul adversaire, en général celui qui détient une longue couleur. Ainsi la défausse d'Est sur le deuxième carreau révèle une couleur septième en Ouest. À partir de maintenant, ne vous occupez plus que du jeu d'Ouest.

Jouez trois tours de pique en prenant bien soin de noter qu'Ouest jette un carreau sur le troisième. Continuez avec les trois coeurs maîtres. Encore une fois, Ouest jette un carreau sur le dernier coeur. Le moment est venu de faire le point. Vous savez qu'Ouest a sept carreaux, deux piques et deux coeurs, il a donc forcément deux trèfles. Puisque votre camp possède neuf cartes de trèfle, vous savez avec certitude que la Dame tombera sous l'As et le Roi. Vos douze levées sont assurées. La donne complète :

NORD			
♠	A 4 2		
♥	A R D		
♦	7 6 5		
♣	A V 4 2		
OUEST		EST	
♠	10 8	♠	9 7 6 5 3
♥	10 8	♥	9 7 6 5 3
♦	R D 10 9 8 4 2	♦	3
♣	D 6	♣	9 8
SUD			
♠	R D V		
♥	V 4 2		
♦	A V		
♣	R 10 7 5 3		

Appel à tous les joueurs juniors

Êtes-vous intéressé à la compétition internationale ? Êtes-vous né en 1982 ou après ?

Si vous répondez dans l'affirmative à ces deux questions, s'il vous plaît contactez Jan Anderson, adjointe à la direction de la FCB, au plus tard le premier mai 2007. Pour vous inscrire, indiquez votre date de naissance, votre adresse courriel et votre adresse postale, ainsi que votre numéro de téléphone.

Sous l'égide du directeur du programme junior, tous les jeunes enregistrés auront la chance de participer à un programme varié d'entraînement.

Les équipes, juniors et « d'âge scolaire » qui représenteront le Canada au **2008 World Youth and World Schools**, seront formées à partir des joueurs qui se seront enregistrés et qui auront complété tous les exercices d'entraînement proposés. Il n'y aura pas de qualifications en 2007.

À défaut de vous enregistrer, votre candidature ne pourra être retenue.



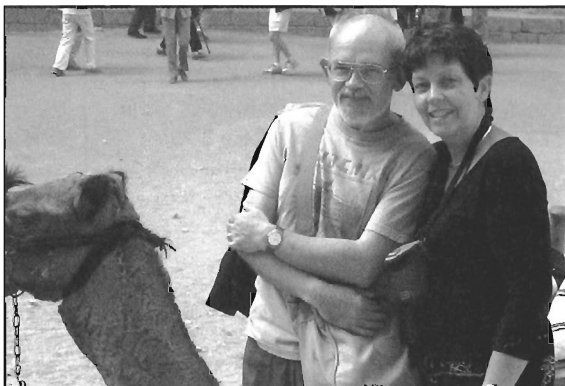
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New Bridge Ventures

The **Barbara Seagram School of Bridge**



On 09 Sep 2006, Barbara Seagram and her husband, Alex Kornel, opened a new venture, The Barbara Seagram School of Bridge. Located at 694 Mount Pleasant Rd, one block south of Eglinton in the heart of North Toronto, the school offers classes at all levels in the spring, fall and winter.

This fall, there were over 200 students, 60 of whom were total beginners. A number of these beginners are now playing duplicate bridge and earning their first master points. It is exciting to watch their progress.

Seminars are held at the School once a month on Thursday mornings for those unable to commit to a course of lessons.

On January 9th. Barbara and Alex will start duplicate games twice a week at a

different venue (the Regal Bridge Club at 526A Lawrence Ave. West) but classes will remain at the Mount Pleasant venue. Alex will lecture prior to the games held on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. All levels of players will be welcome but the games are really Easy-Going games. Only happy bridge players are encouraged to attend!

Barbara is also a licensed travel agent and she and Alex escort bridge tours all over the world – Orient, Australia, New Zealand, East Africa. Next spring, they are taking 50 people on safari to South Africa, followed by a cruise to the Eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

More information on their new adventures can be found at www.barbaraseagram.com

GO AHEAD, LAUGH!

Master Point Press has just published a collection of Jude Goodwin's Bridge Cartoons. Visit bridgehands.com to hear an interview with Jude and see the back page of this magazine for more book info.

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9:00 13:00 KO-I (1-4) Side Game Series (1-6) Strat. Open Pairs (1-2) Pairs 0-50	9:00 Morning KO (1-4) 13:00 KO-I (3-4) Side Game Series (3-6) Strat. Open Swiss (1-2) Strat. Ladies Swiss (1-2) Pairs 0-50 Strat. Open Pairs (1-2)	9:00 Morning KO (2-4) 13:00 KO II (1-4) Side Game Series (5-6) Strat. Open pairs (1-2) Pairs 0-50	9:00 Morning KO (3-4) 13:00 KO II (3-4) Side Game Series (1-5) Strat. Open Swiss (1-2) Strat. Open Pairs (1-2) Pairs 0-50	9:00 KO III (1-3) Morning KO (4-4) 13:00 Side Game Series (3-5) KO III (2-3) Sam Gold Pairs (1-2) Pairs 0-50	10:00 Side Game Series (5-5) Stratified Swiss (1-2) Pairs 0-50
19:00 KO I (2-4) Side Game series (2-6) Strat. Open Pairs (2-2) Pairs 0-50	19:00 KO I (4-4) Side Game series (4-6) Strat. Open Swiss (2-2) Strat. Ladies Swiss (2-2) Strat. Open Pairs (2-2) Pairs 0-50	19:00 KO II (2-4) Side game series (6-6) Strat. Open Pairs (2-2) Horizontal strat. Swiss (1) Pairs 0-50	19:00 KO II (4-4) Side game series (2-5) Strat. Open Swiss (2-2) Horizontal strat. Swiss (2) Strat. Open Pairs (2-2) Pairs 0-50	19:00 KO III (3-3) Side game series (4-5) Sam Gold Pairs (2-2) Pairs 0-50	Stratified Swiss (2-2)
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Zone II

1. 65.88% Victor Giaccone & Clifford Hargrove, Nepean, ON
2. 63.38% Brian Lamarre & Irene Simm, Ottawa, ON

Zone III

- 1/2. 63.19% Linda Lehoux, Welland, ON & Robert Starfield, St. Catharines, ON
- 1/2. 63.19% Gordon Brown, Toronto, ON & Shashi Taylor, Markham, ON

Zone IV

1. 63.75% Tracey Fuhr & Sharon Merits, Thunder Bay, ON
2. 62.92% Ross Cody & Tim McCormack, Thunder Bay, ON

Zone V

1. 66.67% Robert Loewen & Bev Skulmoski, Regina, SK
2. 62.50% Doug Rankin & Nelson Sunshine, Regina, SK

Zone VI

1. 64.17% Gail Fennell & Terrance Stokes, Powell River, BC
2. 63.00% Donna Sakawsky & Marie Sinnott, Prince George, BC



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See you in Winnipeg.

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CHECK YOUR SCORES

by John Armstrong

At the 2006 Stratford ON tournament my partner and I checked our scores for the afternoon session.

The first board had our score as -460. We knew it should have been -400. Partner checked with a director who found that we had initialed the score slip, and that the result was 3NT making only 3. However, the director pointed to the score at the top and it looked like this:

460

The director who had entered the score as -460 mentioned that there was not time to check the middle of the score slip.

She corrected our score.

So please make circles which touch at each end when recording a zero. Please make elegant sixes with strong stems.

Note: it didn't help our score. We were still second.

Les manchettes

Par Gérard Côté
et Martine Lacroix

Nouveau directeur Zone V

Nous avons finalement trouvé un directeur pour la Zone V en la personne de monsieur Alex Fowlie d'Edmonton, que nous sommes heureux d'accueillir.

Régional de la FCB

Le régional de la Fédération canadienne aura lieu à Montréal en 2007, du 27 février au 4 mars, à l'hôtel Four Points. Le programme est disponible sur notre site internet francais.cbf.ca.

Championnats canadiens

Les championnats canadiens qui se tiennent pendant la semaine de bridge canadienne auront lieu à Winnipeg, Manitoba du 26 mai au 2 juin 2007 à l'hôtel Clarion. Tous les détails sur www.cbf.ca/BWeek.

National de Chicago

Une paire canadienne gagne le tournoi par paires « Fast Open » de Chicago

Nicolas L'Écuyer et Robert Lebi, qui n'avaient jamais joué ensemble avant le National d'été de Chicago en juillet dernier, ont connu une magnifique ronde finale pour remporter le tournoi par 11 points de match (1 top). L'Écuyer, de Montréal, et Lebi, de Toronto, souvent adversaires dans des compétitions importantes par le passé, jouaient le système 2/1 et le SA 12-14. L'Écuyer est directeur de marketing pour Giverny Capital, une firme de gestion de portefeuilles, et Lebi est nouvellement retraité, comme analyste au département des technologies de l'information, pour la plus importante compagnie de courtage au Canada.

Aucun ne se déclare particulièrement rapide au jeu. Dans un tournoi national américain, où le règlement imposant seulement 11 minutes par ronde est sévèrement appliqué,

ils ont dû s'adapter. « Nous avons survécu, de dire Nicolas », vainqueur de son premier championnat nord-américain. « En fait, nous n'avons subi qu'une seule pénalité pour avoir dépassé le temps imparti », d'ajouter Lebi, titulaire d'un deuxième titre majeur, (feu Mark Molson et lui ayant déjà gagné les paires Blue Ribbon à Lancaster en Pennsylvannie en 1989).

Finale nord-américaine du GNT

Classe A

Une équipe de Toronto gagne le GNT (tournoi par équipes du grand national), classe A. L'équipe torontoise, dirigée par Andy Stark, suivait celles du District 16 à la fin de la première demie du GNT de Chicago. En dépit d'une solide performance au dernier segment, Charles Price et son équipe texane n'ont pu empêcher Stark et ses joueurs de l'emporter grâce à une victoire de 114-107. C'est la première victoire des cinq coéquipiers au GNT, que sont, en plus de Stark, Daniel Korbel, Danny Miles, Doug Baxter et David Grainger. Andy Stark est professeur de littérature anglaise et d'anglais langue seconde. Baxter travaille comme gestionnaire des stocks pour la compagnie Jaguar/Landrover Canada. Korbel est diplômé en littérature anglaise de l'université de Waterloo et Miles est analyste financier certifié.

Classe C

Les médaillés de bronze canadiens du CNTC-B 2006 gagnent la finale nord-américaine du GNT, classe C. Un quatuor de Colombie-Britannique, composé du capitaine Tao Feng et des coéquipiers Kam Tang, Samuel Lai et Jack Lee, l'a emporté sur des représentants du District 10 par 133-97.

THANK YOU: On behalf of the Bridge Canada editorial staff, I'd like to thank our proof readers Nicholas and Judith Gartaganis and John Armstrong.



L'empire du Milieu

par Martine Lacroix

L'empire du Milieu est le nom que les anciens Chinois ont longtemps donné à leur pays, mais il aurait tout aussi bien pu faire

partie de l'univers de Tolkien puisque la cérémonie d'ouverture des Championnats universitaires mondiaux était à ce point spectaculaire qu'elle n'aurait pas détonné dans la fabuleuse fresque du Seigneur des anneaux. Si je vous entretiens ainsi de la Chine, c'est que le Canada a participé aux championnats universitaires mondiaux qui se sont déroulés à Tianjin en Chine du 21 au 27 octobre. L'équipe canadienne était composée de Charles Halasi, Anton Blagov, Daniel et Susan Korbel, David Sabourin et Brian Hardy. La donne qui suit est tirée de l'article que le capitaine de l'équipe, Bryan Maksymetz, a publié sur notre site internet.

Donneur : Est	Nord		
Vul. : Tous	♠ A 10 9		
	♥ D 9 6 5 4 2		
	♦ 7 5		
	♣ V 3		
Ouest		Est	
♠ D 8 6		♠ 3 2	
♥ V 10		♥ R 8 7	
♦ A 8 6		♦ R 9 4 2	
♣ R 10 8 4 2		♣ D 7 6 5	
	Sud		
	♠ R V 7 5 4		
	♥ A 3		
	♦ D V 10 3		
	♣ A 9		

Ouest	Nord	Est	Sud
Sangiorgio	S. Korbel	Ferrari	D. Korbel
-	-	Passe	1♠
Passe	2♠1	Passe	3♣2
Passe	3♥	Passe	4♠
Passe	Passe	Passe	

L'enchère 3♣ de Daniel Korbel a eu l'heureux effet d'inhiber l'entame à trèfle, entame qui aurait voué le contrat à l'échec. Le Valet de cœur est couvert par la Dame, le Roi et l'As. Korbel rejoue cœur pour le 10 d'Ouest. Celui-ci réussit à donner la main au Roi de carreau de son partenaire, qui s'empresse de rejouer cœur. Daniel doit couper avec le Roi de pique pour éviter la surcoupe. Quelques minutes plus tard, la capture de la Dame de pique lui permet de réaliser son contrat. À l'autre table, les adversaires ont stoppé à 2♠, marquant +140. La manche vulnérable a rapporté 10 imps aux jeunes Canadiens.

Une semaine fertile en rebondissements, une victoire pour la Chine qui a remporté la médaille d'or avec une équipe beaucoup moins expérimentée que les Etats-Unis et la Pologne (respectivement médaillées d'argent et de bronze). Comme dans tout ce qu'elle entreprend, la Chine avait soigneusement préparé et entraîné les membres de son équipe plus d'un an avant la tenue du tournoi. Pour les Canadiens, même si leur performance ne passera pas à l'histoire, leur expérience dans la mégapole chinoise sera sûrement inoubliable.

Directeur du programme junior de la FCB

La FCB recherche un candidat pour le poste de directeur du programme junior. Il s'agit d'un poste bénévole. Les candidatures doivent parvenir à Janice Anderson, adjointe à la direction. La date limite pour soumettre votre candidature est le 15 mai 2007. Toutes les candidatures seront étudiées à l'assemblée annuelle du conseil d'administration de la FCB, qui aura lieu du 23 au 25 mai 2007. Tous les détails et la description du poste sont disponibles à francais.cbf.ca/JR.

1 Constructif.

2 Essai de manche : demande d'aide à trèfle.

Entame : Le Valet de cœur.

CHAMPIONNATS MONDIAUX pour la jeunesse

Les onzièmes championnats mondiaux par équipes pour la jeunesse se sont tenus à Bangkok, légendaire capitale de la Thaïlande et l'une des villes les plus peuplées du monde, du 29 juillet au 8 août 2006. Cette année, la Fédération mondiale décidait d'inclure une nouvelle compétition, distincte de la compétition junior normale et réservée aux Écoliers.

L'équipe junior canadienne était composée de Erin Anderson, Charles Halasi, Daniel Korbel, Susan Korbel, Matthew Mason, Samantha Nystrom et du capitaine non-joueur John Carruthers. L'équipe représentant les écoliers canadiens comprenaient Hershel Macaulay, Ethan Macaulay, Aled Iaboni, Anton Blagov, Malcolm McColl, le capitaine non-joueur John Carruthers et l'instructeur Rob Macaulay

Voici une donne tirée du bulletin quotidien de ces championnats où les écoliers canadiens affrontaient la Chine dans la première ronde du tournoi. J'ai placé le déclarant en Sud pour faciliter la lecture.

Après avoir subi un lent départ en début de ronde, les Canadiens ont eu la main heureuse pendant quelques donnes.

Donneur : Est
Vul. : Nord/Sud

Nord
♠ 4 2
♥ 9 6 5 4 3 2
♦ D V 8 3
♣ R

Ouest
♠ 10 6 3
♥ A D 8
♦ 4 2
♣ V 9 5 4 2

Est
♠ A
♥ R 10 7
♦ A R 10 6 5
♣ 10 8 7 6

Sud
♠ R D V 9 8 7 5
♥ V
♦ 9 7
♣ A D 3

Ouest	Nord	Est	Sud
Lee	McColl	Lai	Blagov
—	—	1♦	1♠
—	—	2♣	2♠
Passe	Passe	Passe	3♠
3♣	Passe	Passe	Passe
Contre	Passe	Passe	Passe

Entame : 4 de carreau.

Ouest entame du 4 de carreau. Est couvre le Valet du Roi, encaisse l'As de pique et change au 7 de cœur, pour le Valet et la Dame. Ouest poursuit avec l'As de cœur, mais il est trop tard et le déclarant peut revendiquer 9 levées, +730. À l'autre table le camp Est/Ouest chute de 3 levées à 2SA, -150, un gain net de 11 imps.

Ce contrat pouvait-il chuter ? Oui, mais la défense n'est pas aisée. Est doit jouer trois tours de carreau pour tenter de promouvoir une levée d'atout chez son partenaire, mais, attention, ce n'est pas suffisant pour assurer la chute. En effet, au troisième tour de carreau, Sud n'a qu'à se défaire du Valet de cœur et le tour est joué. Est doit prendre bien soin d'encaisser le Roi de cœur avant de rejouer carreau et, quand il reprendra la main à l'As de pique, le jeu d'un quatrième carreau assurera la promotion du 10 de pique. Le déclarant ne pourra éviter de perdre 2 carreaux, 1 cœur et 2 piques.

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Réinventer le monde

par Martine Lacroix

Une autre chronique quotidienne s'éteindra bientôt. Il s'agit du Daily Bridge Calendar dont 2007 verra la dernière édition. Selon *The Bridge Bulletin* de l'ACBL, deux facteurs ont forcé l'éditeur canadien, Lee Daugharty, à prendre cette difficile décision : la baisse des ventes et l'accroissement des coûts de production. Est-il possible que les bridgeurs d'aujourd'hui lisent moins que ceux d'autrefois ? Je ne saurais le dire, mais rares sont les livres de bridge qui font des succès de librairie.

Il y a pourtant une mine d'enseignements à retirer de la lecture. Enseignements que vous pouvez absorber et digérer à votre rythme et qui contribueront à améliorer votre jeu. Il est extrêmement difficile, voire impossible, d'exécuter un coup qui requiert une technique complexe sans avoir étudié au préalable les mécanismes qui le régissent, à moins d'être un surdoué ou un génie des cartes. Pourquoi réinventer la roue quand elle existe déjà ?

Prenez les squeezes par exemple. Bien des joueurs avouent ne pas être capable d'en exécuter un sciemment. Ils sont émerveillés par ceux qui sont capables de matérialiser des levées là où il n'y en avait pas, comme des enfants devant un tour de passe-passe. Les squeezes ne relèvent pas de la magie, mais d'une simple technique. Si ces mêmes joueurs se donnaient la peine d'étudier un tant soit peu, ils seraient eux aussi en mesure d'éblouir la galerie.

Mais peut-être faites-vous partie de ceux qui n'aiment pas résoudre un problème de bridge sur papier. Qu'à cela ne tienne. Lorne Russel, le nouveau directeur du club en ligne OkBridge, a converti le classique *Bridge Squeezes Complete or Winning Endplay Strategy* de Clyde E. Love en version interactive. Vous pouvez le télécharger à l'adresse suivante www.bridgesqueezescomplete.com et vous

amuser à tenter de résoudre les quelques 129 exercices et 59 problèmes avant de lire l'analyse et la solution. Vous y découvrirez les conditions requises pour exécuter un squeeze ou une mise en main. Voici une donne tirée de ce livre.

Donneur : Ouest		Nord	
Vul. : Nord/Sud		♠ R 7 2	
		♥ 9 6	
		♦ D 7 5 4	
		♣ A R 7 6	
Ouest		Est	
♠ 8 3		♠ 6 5 4	
♥ A R 7		♥ V 10 8 5 4 3 2	
♦ V 9 8 2		♦ 10	
♣ V 10 5 4		♣ 9 2	
		Sud	
		♠ A D V 10 9	
		♥ D	
		♦ A R 6 3	
		♣ D 8 3	
Ouest	Nord	Est	Sud
Passe	1♣	Passe	1♠
Passe	2♣	Passe	4SA
Passe	5♦	Passe	6♠
Passe	Passe	Passe	

Entame : Le Roi de cœur

Le flanc encaisse le Roi de cœur, suivi de l'As de cœur, que vous coupez. Votre contrat est facile si l'une des deux mineures est partagée favorablement. Vous retirez les atouts en trois tours, puis vous jouez la Dame et l'As de carreau sur lequel Est se défait d'un cœur. Avant de tout miser sur le partage 3-3 des trèfles, considérez la situation. Si vous encaissez tous vos atouts avant de tester les trèfles, vous réduisez le coup à 5 cartes. En supposant que le même adversaire détienne la garde des mineures, il sera soumis à une intolérable pression – le squeeze – puisqu'il ne peut pas conserver 6 cartes.

