

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION • ORGANE OFFICIEL DE LA FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DE BRIDGE

May 2000

bridge Canada



Congratulations Winners

HAMEED SYED AND RON MIKULIN of Edmonton, Alberta, scored a 69.51% game to win the Erin Berry 1999 Rookie-Master Pairs. *Story and results on page 18.*

IN THIS ISSUE

the good, the bad and the ugly

REPORT FROM BERMUDA
by Fred Gitelman

THE '99 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - Part 2
by Eric Kokish and Beverly Kraft

A NEW CENTURY
A NEW GAME
and a new
Junior Bridge Manager

FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE

Halifax 2000

JUNE 23 - JULY 3, 2000

Join us in Halifax this June
BRIDGE WEEK 2000

Qualifications, Accommodations,
Hospitality and more ...
all the information
can be found on pages 4-5



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2000

- Zone I Vice-Prez** **Leo Weniger**
504-1333 South Park St., Halifax, NS B3J 2K9
902-425-3392 leow80@hotmail.com
- Zone II President** **Doug Heron**
1238 Willowdale Ave., Ottawa, ON K1H 7S3
613-731-6740 (h) 613-523-8785 (f)
eardoc@magi.com
- Zone III** **Ray Lee**
22 Lower Village Gate, Toronto, Ontario, M5P 3L7
416-932-9766(w) 416-932-2816(f)
masterpointpress@home.com
- Zone IV** **Bill Treble**
3 - 1050 Moncton Ave., Winnipeg, MB R2K 1Z1
204-669-1458 (h) btrebbe@escape.ca
- Zone V** **Nicholas Gartaganis**
1816 Braeside Place S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2W 0Z5
403-253-2767 (h) Nick.Gartaganis@gov.ab.ca
- Zone VI** **Aidan Ballantyne**
101 - 4590 Earles St., Vancouver, BC V5R 6A2
604-438-3095 (h) 604-431-7706 (f) tlr@istar.ca
- Ex-officio** **George Retek (ACBL D1 Director)**
514-937-9907 (w) 931-2205 (f) justkey@sympatico.ca
Jonathan Steinberg (ACBL D2 Director)
416-977-2050 (h & f) jonathan.st@sympatico.ca
Dick Anderson (ACBL D18 Director)
306-761-1311 (h) rgand@sk.sympatico.ca
- Charity** **Marilyn White**
182 Bowood Ave., Toronto, ON M4N 1Y6
(416) 322-5464 mpwhite@idirect.com
- Junior Manager** **Eric Sutherland**
324 Glen Park Avenue Toronto, ON M6B 2E5
suthee2@tdsecurities.com
- CBF Coordinator** **Jan Anderson**
2719 East Jolly Place Regina, SK S4V 0X8
Exec. Sec. 306-761-1677 (p) 306-789-4919 (f)
Treasurer can.bridge.fed@sk.sympatico.ca
- Editor** **Jude Goodwin-Hanson**
20284 121st Ave., Maple Ridge, BC V2X 9S4
604-465-2933 604-465-2979 (F)
jude@cbf.ca
- Archivist** **Madeline J. Conrad**
mpconrad@istar.ca
902-462-3112



TABLE OF CONTENTS

CBF ACTIVITIES
President's Corner ... 3
A Bit of History ... 9
by Madeline Conrad, CBF Archivist

CANADIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
BRIDGE WEEK 2000 ... 4
THE 1999 FINALS - PART II
by Eric Kokish and Beverly Kraft ... 21

CANADIAN MASTERPOINTS
Richmond Trophy 1999 ... 7
1999 Junior/Youth Races ... 17

JUNIOR BRIDGE
A New Century - A New Game
by Eric Sutherland ... 16
Grants for Bridge Camp ... 17

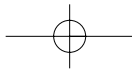
ROOKIE MASTER PAIRS
1999 Erin Berry Results ... 18
The Edmonton Bridge Centre ... 19

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE
REPORT FROM BERMUDA
by Fred Gitelman ... 10

AND OTHER ARTICLES BY
Doug Heron ... 7
Bill Lim ... 20

BRIDGE CALENDAR ... 36

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS!
Master Point Press ... 35
Vince Oddy Bridge Supplies ... 27
Les Distributions Gaf ... 9



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



YOUTH BRIDGE GETS A BIG BOOST!!

Erin Berry, the teenager who was killed two years ago in a tragic car accident and whose name is already associated with the Canadian Fall Rookie-Master game, is back in the news.

Erin's father, Larry Berry, has generously created a very substantial fund in Erin's name, which will be known as the "Erin Berry Youth Fund". This fund will be administered by the Canadian Bridge Federation, solely for the support of Youth (age 19 and under) bridge players.

The conditions attached to the donation are:

- The player(s) supported must be age 19 or younger
- The player(s) must be Canadian
- The player(s) must raise at least 25% of the funding required on their own.

The details of the selection process, level of appropriate financial support, and other details will be worked out later this year at the CBF annual meeting.

An announcement will be made in a future "Bridge Canada", when interest on the principal has been allowed to accumulate, and the selection process decided.

A huge vote of thanks to Larry Berry!!

BRIDGE RECOGNIZED AS A "SPORT"

Juan Antonio Samaranch, President of the International Olympic Committee has proclaimed that Bridge is a sport! By the way, so is Chess. Both might be spectator sports at the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics. Both have an outside chance at being full-fledged competition sports in Torino, Italy, in 2006.

This of course has significant ramifications for our game.

At the Bermuda Bowl held in Bermuda in January, mandatory drug testing was required. The list of banned substances for athletes is quite broad, and even caffeine could be a problem for bridge players. It seems clear that a special list of banned drugs will have to be drawn up for the "mental" sports, as there can be no benefit for bulking up on steroids for the bridge players!

The cost of drug testing has also not been discussed, and could be substantial. The World Bridge Federation has already anticipated raising the cost of WBF membership. Apparently the increase will take effect this coming year.

The overall effect of what we had hoped would be leverage to ask for support from provincial governments may backfire, as governments are not expected to volunteer new money for new sports. Instead we may just end up with more expenses, and no new revenue. Time will tell.

Continued on page 4

JUNIOR BRIDGE MANAGER SELECTED

The selection process for Junior Bridge Manager has been completed. *Eric Sutherland* of Toronto has been named to the post. This is a volunteer position, which is designed to have one person with overall control of our Junior Program, and involves making recommendations to the CBF Board of Directors on all facets of Junior Bridge.

Volunteers from all regions of Canada will be recruited to assist in the program (see page 16). Eric has plenty of experience under his belt, as a star Junior Player, NPC of some of our Junior teams, and as a former CBF board member.

ACBL RELATIONS

The relationship between the CBF and ACBL appears to be improving. Canada has been given full control over our National Teams, including conditions of contest and selection, and the ACBL appears to be trying to be responsive to our concerns. We will continue to monitor the situation, and reassess our position at our May annual meeting.

CONGRATULATIONS FORBO CUP WINNERS

The team of John Carruthers, Eric Kokish, Drew Cannell, and George Mittelman, won the prestigious Forbo Cup in Europe in February of this year against tough opposition in a large field.

Doug Heron (CBF Pres)

Congratulations to Doug on his April 29 marriage to Christine Gaugl. But does she play bridge, Doug? "She plays a little bridge at home but is not interested in competing. However, when I bring a problem that I failed to solve home to her, she usually gets it right." All the best to you both ...ed.

BRIDGE WEEK

Hospitality Notes

There will be a **HOSPITALITY SUITE** for Event Participants with food and a **TOONIE BAR**. If there is enough interest expressed, Tuesday, June 27th, will be a golf day and again, depending on interest, there will be a Cash Prize IMP Pairs that evening.

In the COPC, only club level qualification is necessary to play in the National Finals. Also, all players participating in the CNTC and CWTC are automatically qualified for the COPC National Finals. There will be a **LAST CHANCE COPC QUALIFIER**, Tuesday June 27 at 7:30 pm. The top 4 placings in the COPC National Final are awarded **CASH PRIZES**.

The winners of the CNTC and CWTC will each receive **ENGRAVED HAND BLOWN CRYSTAL PRIZES** courtesy of Nova Scotian Crystal Ltd. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded in the CNTC and CWTC.

There will be **INTERNET ACCESS** for those who want to check e-mail courtesy of MTT Sympatico, one of our sponsors

THE CANAT REGIONAL

June 28th - July 3rd, 2000

The World Trade and Convention Centre

10 min walk from the Bridge Week playing site
The Lord Nelson Hotel & Suites

Other conveniently located accommodations are available.

For info email: beryl@sprint.ca

Or see the full schedule at

www.cbf.ca/BWeek

Here are the latest details about our upcoming NATIONAL BRIDGE WEEK which comprises the National Finals for our 3 main CBF events - the COPC, CNTC, and CWTC. More information can be found on our website at www.cbf.ca/BWeek

BRIDGE WEEK AT THE The Lord Nelson Hotel

Special rate of \$99 Cdn per night. This recently renovated hotel is conveniently located in downtown Halifax. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-565-2020 and referencing "bridge". Airbus (\$12 or \$20 return) and Sunshine Share-A-Cab 1-800-565-8669 (special "bridge" rate for more than one person).

ALERT: Book before May 22, 2000. After that, our "Block Booked" rooms will be released to the general public.

DECIDED NOT TO ATTEND?

Those who booked rooms but aren't going should contact Leo before May 22nd, so he can re-assign the rooms to others. If they call the Hotel to cancel we lose the rooms from our block - *especially if after May 22.*

EVENT ENTRY FEES

- CNTC:
- Round Robin \$624 per team (includes a \$200 IF surtax)
 - Quarter, Semi- & Final \$200 per team (includes a \$100 IF surtax)
- CWTC:
- Round Robin \$522 per team (includes a \$200 IF surtax)
 - Quarter, Semi- & Final \$200 per team (includes a \$100 IF surtax)
- COPC: \$15 per player per session

Deadline for submitting Round Robin entry fees for the CNTC and CWTC is: June 1, 2000.



JUNE 23 - JULY 29, 2000

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, June 22
CNTC Welcome Reception

Friday, June 23
CNTC Round Robin Day 1
CWTC Welcome Reception

Saturday, June 24
CNTC Round Robin Day 2
CWTC Round Robin Day 1

Sunday, June 25
CNTC Round Robin Day 3
CWTC Round Robin Day 2

Monday, June 26
CNTC Round Robin Day 4
CWTC Round Robin Day 3

Tuesday, June 27
CNTC Quarter Finals
CWTC Quarter Finals
COPC Last Chance Qualifier
7:30pm

Wednesday, June 28
CNTC Semi-Finals
CWTC Semi-Finals
COPC Finals Day 1

Thursday, June 29
CNTC Finals
CWTC Finals
COPC Finals Day 2

FORMER JUNIORS LARRY HICKS AND MIKE CAPPELLETTI PLUNDER OPEN PAIRS I FOR HUGE WIN AT SPRING NABC

CINCINNATI - After posting a 72% game in the first qualifying session, followed by a 55.5% effort, Larry Hicks and partner Mike Cappelletti were surprised to find themselves in second place going into the second day of Open Pairs I.

Taking no chances in the final, they put together a series of "smokin' results," as Cappelletti put it, to run away with the event. They followed a 68% game in the first final session with 61% in the second final. Their margin of victory over 2nd place was nearly three boards. Their game was so dominating they would have won even without their huge carryover from the first day.

Hicks, of Coquitlam BC (Vancouver), and Cappelletti (Red Bank TN) play only about once a year. They met in 1988 when Hicks was touring North America playing bridge, and they played together on a North American squad that competed in the World Junior Bridge Championships in Nottingham, England, in 1989.

Hicks, with a wife, two children and a job at a courier company, doesn't have time for a lot of bridge these days, but he and Dan Jacob, also of Vancouver, had qualified to play in the North American Pairs Flight A for District 19, so Hicks was in Cincinnati. The two didn't make it past the first day, and when Jacob made another date to play in Open Pairs I, Hicks was available.

As it happened, so was Cappelletti, now a full-time professional player. "I didn't even know Larry was going to be here," Cappelletti said.

As Cappelletti and Hicks were accepting congratulations for their win, Jacob walked by and joined the well wishers. Said Cappelletti to Jacob: "Thanks for letting him loose."

The win was the first North American title for Hicks.

SENIOR TEAMS AT THE WORLD'S -

The World Bridge Federation has decided to add a Senior Teams event at the World Team Olympiad which will be held in Maastricht, Holland from August 26 - September 9, 2000. This event will be called the International Senior Cup.

The Canadian Bridge Federation accepted applications from Senior Teams that were interested in representing Canada at this event. The application deadline was May 1st, 2000. No late applications will be accepted. See our web site for more details.

AN EVENING WITH AUDREY GRANT IN HALIFAX -

Canada's famous bridge teacher and author Audrey Grant will join the Halifax Festival of Bridge on Thursday, June 29th for a special 2-hour supper event followed by a session of bridge at the World Trade & Convention Centre. She will also host a Teacher's Accreditation Program (TAP) June 29-30th in Halifax. Audrey Grant and partner David Linlop edit the popular magazine Better Bridge (ACBL members are given the choice of receiving Better Bridge or the ACBL Bridge Bulletin as part of their membership). Also, watch for Audrey's new web site, coming soon!

IT'S TWO IN A ROW FOR KENNY GEE

from Regina SK.

Mr. Gee has won his 2nd Richmond Trophy. Kenny played his first game of bridge in 1982. He travels



to tournaments a lot with his wife Bernice, playing with a variety of partners whom he often credits for his bridge achievements.

Winning twice in a row is not a record on the Richmond Trophy history – Bruce Ferguson won 3 in a row, Mark Molson won 2 in a row and then 3 in a row and Cliff Campbell won 2 in a row. However, it is a remarkable achievement and we congratulate Kenny on another successful year. A list of all Richmond Trophy Winners can be found at the bottom of page 8.

1999 RICHMOND TROPHY FINAL STANDINGS

1. Ken Gee, Regina SK	1028
2. Andy Stark, Mississauga ON	678
3. Jeff Smith, Gloucester ON	610
4. John Zaluski, Nepean ON	564
5. Doug Fraser, Mount Royal PQ	531
6. Darren Wolpert, Thornhill ON	521
7. William Koski, King City ON	501
8. Martin Caley, Montreal PQ	499
9. Dan Jacob, Burnaby BC	458
10. Debbie Bennett, Scarborough ON	438
11. Claude Laberge, Longueuil PQ	431
12. Fred Gitelman, Toronto ON	427
13. Don Brock, Brampton ON	421
14. Hans Jacobs, Aurora ON	417
15. Heather Peckett, Nepean ON	408
16. Patrice Roy, Sherbrooke PQ	400
17. Jonathan Ferguson, Vanier ON	396
18. Allan Graves, Vancouver BC	396
19. Barry Pritchard, Edmonton AB	395
20. Helene Beaulieu, Sherbrooke PQ	390

Number two tries harder

by Doug Heron

Andy Stark, a 36 year old single English/Drama teacher from Mississauga, Ontario, has finished second in the Richmond Trophy race, given to the player in Canada who wins the most master points in the calendar year.

Andy is an extremely personable bridge player with a commanding presence at the table. He has been playing for only ten years and is also a nice guy, an unusual combination.

Andy recently returned from a teaching stint in Ecuador (he speaks passable Spanish) to pursue the tournament trail. He traces his success at bridge to being a fourth for his parents and grandmother at age eleven.

His bridge accomplishments in 1999 include: second place in the Red Ribbon Pairs with partner Martin Hunter by a tantalizing half matchpoint; advancing to the third round of the Vanderbilt to play against the reigning world champions in Vancouver at the NABC.

And so far in 2000: playing against the number one seed at the Vanderbilt in Cincinnati and beating them as well as another international squad from Venezuela in a three-way all-day match; playing in the Vanderbilt in the second round against the two seed, and current World Champions Hamman-Soloway, Freeman-Nickell, and Meckstroth-Rodwell.

In the match against the world champions, Andy Stark's team of John Zaluski (captain), Jeff Smith, and Doug Heron, all of Ottawa,

☞ (Continued on page 20)

1999 RICHMOND TROPHY FINAL STANDINGS CONTINUED

21. William Treble, Winnipeg MB	385	61. Jean Castonguay, Lery PQ	290
22. Faith Pritchard, Edmonton AB	383	62. Michael Efrain, Cote St Luc PQ	289
23. Rene Pelletier, Quebec PQ	375	63. Andrew Speers, Edmonton AB	289
24. Gordon McOrmond, Delta BC	375	64. Danny Schamehorn, Orillia ON	288
25. George Mittelman, Toronto ON	371	65. Fran Chivers, Kitchener ON	288
26. Louise Zicat, Gatineau PQ	369	66. Thomas Gandolfo, Edmonton AB	285
27. John McAdam, Ottawa ON	367	67. Leo Weniger, Halifax NS	284
28. Jurek Czynowicz, Aylmer PQ	367	68. John Currie, Halifax NS	283
29. R. F. Smith, Don Mills ON	364	69. Jackie Boisseau, Etobicoke ON	281
30. Richard Anderson, Regina SK	364	70. Adrien Boisclair, Montreal PQ	281
31. Martin Hunter, Mississauga ON	361	71. Erin Anderson, Regina SK	280
32. Bernard Turenne, Charlesbourg PQ	361	72. Andre Hebert, Laval PQ	280
33. Bryan Maksymetz, Coquitlam BC	360	73. William Woodfine, Toronto ON	279
34. Francesca Walton, Calgary AB	353	74. Michael Hargreaves, Victoria BC	279
35. Andre Chartrand, Chateauguay PQ	351	75. Terry Tack, London ON	274
36. Mark Liberman, Don Mills ON	342	76. Joan Priebe, Mississauga ON	272
37. Jeffrey Blond, Cote St Luc PQ	339	77. Jennifer Swimmer, Toronto ON	272
38. Roland Brunet, Laval PQ	338	78. Henry Caspar, Toronto ON	272
39. Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON	338	79. Mrs. D. M. Cole, Brockville ON	272
40. Denis Lesage, Longueuil PQ	333	80. Kevin Conway, Kirkland Lake ON	272
41. Paul Graham, Calgary AB	329	81. Henry Unglik, Ottawa ON	269
42. Despina Georgas, Willowdale ON	328	82. Janine Rivard, St Augustin PQ	269
43. Marc-Andre Fourcaudot, Montreal	328	83. Roger Dunn, Brossard PQ	266
44. Normand Houle, Montreal PQ	327	84. Cameron Doner, Richmond BC	265
45. Colin Revill, Burlington ON	326	85. Nicolle Beauregard, St Lazare PQ	264
46. Boris Baran, Cote-Saint-Luc PQ	325	86. John Arblaster, Richmond Hill ON	262
47. Gavin Walpert, Thornhill ON	323	87. Pushpa Jain, Ottawa ON	262
48. Jacques Fradette, Gatineau PQ	319	88. Joseph Silver, Hampstead PQ	260
49. Ian Boyd, Calgary AB	317	89. Robert Lebi, Toronto ON	260
50. Nader Hanna, Willowdale ON	317	90. Luc Perras, Laval PQ	259
51. Pierre Beauregard, St Lazare PQ	314	91. Roland Althoff, Don Mills ON	258
52. David Baker, Kitchener ON	307	92. Dann Kramer, Calgary AB	258
53. Paul Kilger, Dunrobin ON	303	93. Robert McPhee, Belleville ON	257
54. Lionel Venditti, Quebec PQ	302	94. Barbara Saltsman, Montreal PQ	254
55. Anna Boivin, Victoria BC	299	95. Wayne Perrin, Gloucester ON	253
56. Dudley Camacho, Toronto ON	299	96. Douglas Heron, Ottawa ON	253
57. Craig Barkhouse, Barrie ON	298	97. Dan McCaw, Toronto ON	253
58. Martin McDonald, Calgary AB	296	98. Moe Gross, Cote-Saint-Luc PQ	252
59. Ronald Corbeil, Almonte ON	295	99. Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver BC	251
60. Yvan Drolet, Saint-Eustache PQ	291	100. Bob Todd, Winnipeg MB	250

WINNERS OF

THE RICHMOND TROPHY

1974 John Carruthers	1981 George Mittelman	1991 Cam Doner
1975 Mike Schoenborn	1982 Mark Molson	1992 Cliff Campbell
1976 Bruce Ferguson	1983 Mark Molson	1993 Cliff Campbell
1977 Bruce Ferguson	1984 Mark Molson	1994 Martin Caley
1978 Bruce Ferguson	1985 Cliff Campbell	1995 Ken Warren
1979 Mark Molson	1986 Cliff Campbell	1996 Martin Caley
1980 Mark Molson	1987 Gary Tomczyk	1997 Hans Jacobs
	1988 Robert Crawford	1998 Ken Gee
	1989 Gary Tomczyk	1999 Ken Gee
	1990 Robert Crawford	

Many people have asked me over the past few months: Do you really like doing that archive stuff?



A BIT OF HISTORY

by Madeline J. Conrad • CBF Archivist

While perusing the August 1976 issue of the *Bridge Digest*, I

came upon three articles written by two Prince Edward Islanders. Why this sudden literary outpouring from this province described as "an Island that keeps Canada from falling into the Atlantic Ocean" by one of the authors? Who were these people? Al The Man from Summerside, PEI and Jack King from Prince Edward Island. I decided to do a little research and called one of Halifax's resident PEI Islanders, Gerry Callaghan. No, he did not know either of them. Even more curious, I thought, given the size of PEI.

Now we in the Maritimes are geographically handicapped for sure and PEI is more so than the rest of the three provinces. The author of one of the articles, "Bridge to P.E.I.", noted that in 1976 "there had been a lot of talk lately about a bridge to P.E.I." That bridge only became a reality in 1997. Gerry gave me the rundown on what Islanders endured before the link to get to a bridge tournament on the mainland. They had to give themselves one hour from

Charlottetown to the ferry, one hour to miss the boat, one hour across the strait and then a three hour drive to Halifax for game time. The return trip could become more complicated if you

missed the last boat Sunday evening which left at 11:00 pm, as you then found yourself sitting on the wharf til morning.

As we were laughing and saying our good-byes, I said to Gerry that this name Jack King was very suspicious given this was a bridge article and very odd that he would not remember someone from PEI. "Ah Ha" he said, "I know now who Al The Man is Al The Man and Jack King are one person: It's Al Hackett - former Islander - who is now in Miramichi, New Brunswick." Is Gerry right, Al?

And people ask if I like doing this archive stuff?

**FOURNITURES COMPLETES DE BRIDGE
FOR ALL YOUR BRIDGE NEEDS**

les Distributions



Nicole Brisebois
Kevin Grégoire

Tel: (450) 466-2983
gregoirekp@videotron.ca

Téléphone de Banlieues
(514) 767-9722
Fax: (450) 466-4914



REPORT FROM BERMUDA

the good, the bad & the ugly *By Fred Gitelman*

CANADA'S TEAMS AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP JANUARY 2000

BERMUDA BOWL

Mike Hargreaves,
Gord McOrmond,
Allan Graves,
Bryan Maksymetz,
Joey Silver,
Fred Gitelman
NPC: Irving Litvack

VENICE CUP

Dianna Gordon,
Sheri Winestock,
Beverly Kraft,
Rhoda Habert,
Francine Cimon,
Barbara Saltsman
Sharyn Reus
NPC: George Mittelman

TRANSNATIONAL TEAM MEMBERS

- Colin Revill
(with 3 U.S. players)
- George Mittelman
(with 3 U.S. players)
- Elizabeth Redrupp, Shelagh Paulson, Chrystina & Vern Schock
 - Pierre & Nicole Beauregard,
David & Evelyn Kirsh
- Fred Gitelman (with 4 U.S. players)
- Karl Hicks, Bernie Britten, John Carruthers, David Deaves
- George & Mari Retek (with 2 U.S. players)

Canadian results were mixed at the recent The Orbis World Bridge Championships. This was an historic tournament as it marked the 50th anniversary of the oldest and most revered of all World Championship Events, the Bermuda Bowl. The first Bermuda Bowl was held in 1950 in Bermuda and the World Bridge Federation wisely decided that it would only be appropriate for the event to return to that beautiful island for its Gold Anniversary (Bermuda had also hosted the 25th anniversary of the Bermuda Bowl in 1975).

This proved to be a smart move. The team of local organizers and volunteers, led by Bermuda Bridge Federation President Sheena Rayner, put on a fantastic show. The magnificent Southampton Princess Hotel made a perfect venue for this tournament and every possible detail was given attention. The generous sponsorship and assistance of Orbis Investment Management Limited and the Bermuda Department of Tourism also contributed greatly to the success of this tournament. Many players far more experienced than myself stated that this was the best run World Championship they had ever attended. Congratulations to everyone involved!

This article is more of an "inside account" of Canada's performance in Bermuda rather than a collection of hands. If you are looking for hands from Bermuda I suggest you try the tournament web site: www.bermudabowl.com.

BERMUDA BOWL

All the Daily Bulletins as well as online vugraph of all of the deals played during the World Championships are available through the above web site.

Team Canada for the Bermuda Bowl (Irving Litvack NPC, myself, Allan Graves, Mike Hargreaves, Bryan Maksymetz, Gord McOrmond, Joey Silver) had high hopes of qualifying for the knockout stages of the 20-team event (a complete round robin of 20-board matches with the top 8 teams qualifying). We never



seemed to get out of the starting gate, however, and finished a dismal 19th out of the 20 teams.

A lot of people have asked me, "What happened to Canada?" There is no easy answer. Certainly none of us played the best bridge of our careers, but it doesn't feel like we played the worst bridge of our careers either. Things just didn't go our way. We had some really bad luck early on and we were never able to recover. There was the nice McOrmand-Hargreaves relay auction to a good 7 Clubs that went down on a 4-0 trump break. Maks and I bid to 2 slams not bid at the other table that failed when a suit broke 3-0.

Don't get me wrong, there was plenty of bad bridge on our part. What really hurt our score was that we were losing lots of IMPs for some of our good bridge as well (such as the 3 slams mentioned above). It was just not our tournament, right from the first match.

The following hand typified things pretty well for Team Canada in the Bermuda Bowl. The round robin was about half over and Canada was in trouble. We faced the host Bermuda team and desperately needed a big win. Allan Graves was dealt:

♠ xx
♥ Jxxx
♦ Ax
♣ KQJ10x

Nobody was vulnerable and he heard the opponents bid::

RHO	LHO
1♣	1♦
1♥	1♠ (4th suit forcing)
1NT	3NT
Pass	

Allan was on lead and liked his chances of defeating 3NT, so he made what appeared to be an obvious penalty double. Now, I have seen doubles like these backfire before, but I have never seen a player get punished to the extent that Allan did here. The auction continued:

5♦! 6♦!

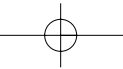
The opponents' hands were:

RHO	LHO
♠ KQx	♠ AJ10x
♥ AQ9x	♥ Kx
♦ Qxx	♦ K98xxx
♣ xxx	♣ A

When declarer was able to play diamonds for 1 loser the slam became laydown!

I am not sure I like the early part of Bermuda's auction, but their bidding after Allan's double was brilliant. RHO knew that Allan's double was based on clubs. All of a sudden his hand looked very good for diamonds and very bad for notrump. He expressed this with his 5♦ jump. His partner took this reasoning 1 step further when he took the push to 6♦. He could also tell that the double was based on clubs so he suspected his partner had 3 small clubs, obviously 3-card diamond support, and a "good looking hand" (for the jump). LHO was able to infer the perfect fit and bid the good slam!

I am pretty sure that if Allan faced this problem and our team was doing better he would not have doubled 3NT. He would be well aware of the dangers of pushing the opponents to a better contract (though he would never expect them to bid to slam!). He would also realize that doubling might tip off his hand and allow an otherwise unsuspecting declarer to make 3NT. Allan also knows the



IMP scale, which doesn't give you much for doubling the opponents when they are not vulnerable and a big set is out of the question.



Allan did not have the luxury of being careful, however. Our team needed a big win and that was all there was to it. He saw a chance to win some IMPs and he went for it. The extent to which this blew up in his face was more than he ever could have imagined. That's they way it went for Team Canada in the Bermuda Bowl.

It is interesting to note that 3NT is unbeatable. After winning the Ace of clubs declarer plays 4 rounds of spades, squeezing Allan in 3 suits. Allan would pitch his small diamond on the third spade, but he must pitch a club on the fourth round. The declarer can now afford to knock out the Ace of diamonds for his ninth trick as the defense has only 3 club tricks to cash. Eric Rodwell found this 3-suit squeeze (very much without the count) to make 3NT on vugraph (he was not doubled).

To the credit of our team, I cannot say how impressed I am at how well my teammates handled the devastation of our results. All were supportive, through thick and thin, and kept giving 100% effort even after it was clear that our team was not going to qualify. Having done poorly in other important events in the past, I can tell you how difficult it is to remain a human being under these circumstances. The natural reaction for many players is to criticize and blame their teammates or to simply give up. Not this team. We really behaved like a team (our NPC Irving Litvack deserves much credit). I personally enjoyed playing in this event even though our score was so bad. Thanks to all of my teammates

for making this possible. Sorry to everyone that we did not do better.

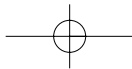
USA I (Sidney Lazard NPC, Meckstroth-Rodwell, Hamman-Soloway, Nickell-Freeman) beat Brazil in the final to win the Bermuda Bowl 506-288 (a record winning score and winning margin).

OK, so that's what happened to our Bermuda Bowl Team, but it was not all doom and gloom for Canada at the Orbis World Bridge Championships.

VENICE CUP

Our Women's Team had a last minute lineup change when Rhoda Habert was injured in Paris a week before the tournament. Her doctor would not let her travel so a substitute had to be found to play in the Venice Cup. NPC George Mittelman looked to Sharyn Reus who was not playing on the Canadian Team for the first time in many years. George planned to reunite Sharyn with her longtime partner, Dianna Gordon, and have Dianna's planned partner for Bermuda, Sheri Winestock, play with Beverly Kraft (who had been planning on playing with Rhoda). Got that? The partnership of Francine Cimon-Barbara Saltsman remained intact.

The plan worked. It was great to have Sharyn on the team and she was playing like she had never retired from tournament play. Sheri and Beverly were a new partnership and they saw limited action in the round robin, but they scored well in most of the matches that they played. The other four women on the team put on a heroic performance in the round robin, winning match after match against some of the best teams in the world. The





Canadian Women were in the thick of things throughout the event. They were always either in the top 8 or just a few victory points behind.

Going into the last match of the round robin Canada was fighting for the last qualifying spot with USA II (as with the Bermuda Bowl, the top 8 of 20 teams qualified for the knock-out stage in the Venice Cup). Canada faced Australia, a dangerous team that was not doing well, while the Americans played the powerful Austrian Team that was already assured of a qualifying spot. Canada was a few victory points ahead of USA II in the standings so even a small loss against Australia would leave our team with a good chance to qualify.

Disaster! The Canadian contingent in the vugraph theatre saw bad result after bad result appear for Canada at both tables. We couldn't bear to watch and had to leave the room. When the smoke had cleared our team had lost by 68 IMPs – a 25-2 drubbing in victory points!

The players went through an emotional roller coaster in the next 15 minutes. Both partnerships came out of the playing room looking as white as ghosts. Irving Litvack who had watched every board at one table looked even whiter. Neither partnership could remember ever having had a set of results like they had just experienced. There was absolutely no joy in Mudville. Our team and their supporters sat in silence for several minutes, awaiting the result of the USA-Austria match without much hope.

But then word came in that the Austrians had defeated the Americans 48-14! Canada had qualified for the quarter-finals of perhaps the

toughest Venice Cup in history! Lots of cheers, hugs, and tears. It was a great moment to be a Canadian bridge player. All of the Canadians in Bermuda were very proud of our Women's Team and we knew that people would be cheering at home too when they saw the final round robin standings posted on the Internet.

Team Canada had survived to live another day, but they all knew that it was going to be a very tough day. Their opponents in the 96-board quarter-final would be USA I, a team filled with multiple World Champions. George's front 4 needed some rest so he decided to play Sheri and Beverly early in the hope that they could keep the match close. They did much more than that. They had 2 very strong segments to help give Canada a 43 IMP halftime lead. It was time for them to pass the torch on to their more experienced teammates to hold the lead. It was starting to look like an upset in the making.

It was not to be. Perhaps Sharyn-Dianna and Francine-Barbara had run out of gas after playing so many great matches in a row at the end of the round robin (10 or so, mostly against strong teams). Whatever the reason, our team did not play its best and the Americans took full advantage. By the time the match was over the highly favored Americans had won by 55 IMPs (239-184).

It was disappointing that our women did not go further after playing so well in the round robin, but their result was still very good. George Mittelman should be commended for how well he steered his ship, especially in the wake of Rhoda Habert's accident just before the event. All Canadian bridge players should take pride in the fact that our Women's Team

is one of the best in the World.

USA I went on to lose to The Netherlands in the closest Venice Cup Final in history. The Netherlands won the 128-board match by less than 1 IMP (fractional IMPs are possible due to time penalties).



and very good. We ended up winning on the last board in a match that was close all the way. We were in the finals!

TRANSNATIONAL TEAMS

The World Transnational Open Teams is a relatively new World Championship Event that was held for the first time in Tunisia in 1997. With the Bermuda edition, this event clearly established itself as the "real thing". There were several world class American teams playing in the Transnational Teams in Bermuda, as well as many of the best British, French, Italian, and Polish players.

76 teams fought through 4 days of Swiss Teams with only the top 4 qualifying for the semi-finals. George Mittelman's Team (Americans Ralph Katz, Howard Weinstein, and Steve Garner) was among the leaders for much of the event, but faltered towards the end. The good news for Canada was that there was one Canadian who made it to the semi-finals (me). I was playing on a team with 4 Americans (my partner Brad Moss and I played throughout as did Marc Jacobus who alternated with Bobby Levin and our Captain, Reese Milner).

The Milner team ended up tied for fourth place after the Swiss Teams, but fortunately the tiebreaker went to us. Yahoo!

We met the Bulgarian National Team in the semi-finals. This team had narrowly missed qualifying for the Bermuda Bowl knockout phase. They were very young, very hungry,

The team we faced included 2 great partnerships, Americans Peter Weischel and Alan Sontag, and Poland's finest pair, Cesare Balicki and Adam Zmudzinski. The teams' sponsor, Rose Meltzer (she played with Peter some of the time) was also an integral member of the team and she played very well in our match.

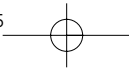
In fact, everyone played very well. It was a terrific match that was filled with exciting boards and mostly good bridge. The Bermuda Bowl final was running at the same time as the Transnational final, but it was our match that they put on vugraph. The Bermuda Bowl final was a blowout, but our match was a dogfight and the audience seemed to be enjoying the show we were putting on. You can still watch the entire match using online vugraph through: www.bermudabowl.com.

I would like to be able to tell you that a Canadian won a Gold Medal in Bermuda, but I am sorry to say it did not happen. We ended up losing by 10 IMPs and I could have won the match on the third last board that we played. I held with both side vulnerable:

- ♠ AQ10x
- ♥ K
- ♦ AJ9xxx
- ♣ Qx

Weischel, on my left opened 1♥ and Brad overcalled 1♠. Sontag passed. What do you think?

I decided to bid 4♠. Mistake. Partner's hand



was (we do not play Michaels):

- ♠ Kxxxx
- ♥ Ax
- ♦ x
- ♣ K109xx



match to an excellent team. If someone had asked me a few days earlier if I would have been satisfied with second place in the Transnational Teams, my answer would have been an unqualified "Yes!".

Brad had little trouble winning 12 tricks. The Poles also missed this slam at the other table. We would have won the match and the Gold Medal had Brad and I bid the slam!

At the table I realized that slam was possible, but considered it somewhat unlikely. Furthermore, I knew it would be hard to bid a slam with any real confidence. I was not going to be able to describe my complex hand or get the information I needed from Brad.

My main concern was the 5-level, not the 6-level. I thought it was quite possible that the opponents had a good save in 5♥ or 5♣ and did not want to give Weischel an easy reentry into the auction.

In retrospect I think 4♥ by me (a splinter) would have been a better choice than 4♠. 4♥ is almost as preemptive as 4♠ and at least preserves some chance of getting to slam. As a splinter is a slam try it should show a big hand opposite a mere 1-level overcall. There is some chance that Brad would have moved towards slam as a splinter in hearts certainly makes his hand look better.

I was wrong and it cost me another World Championship (this was my third Silver Medal). Losing always sucks, but I wasn't too bummed out this time. I thought we had played well and we had lost a very close

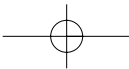
Whatever bad feelings I had were quickly extinguished by the kind words of two good friends (as well as two of my mentors). Jeff Meckstroth came up to me immediately after the final session and told me, "Don't feel bad. You played really well and 4S is the bridge player's bid". Well Jeff is certainly THE bridge player in my view and it was good to know that he agreed with my losing decision. Eric Kokish, who had done a great job as Chief Vugraph Commentator in Bermuda, told me that seeing me play so well on vugraph made him proud to be Canadian. That was my personal highlight of the Orbis World Bridge Championships.

KEN WARREN EXPELLED FROM ACBL

Ken Warren of Pickering Ontario, was expelled from the ACBL for unethical actions detrimental to the ACBL. According to ACBL regulations, Warren may not apply for reinstatement for at least five years from Nov. 23, 1999, the date of his original discipline.

It was determined that Warren had been committing wrongful acts for several years. His first offense was copying results of boards he had not played in pair games. Later it was discovered that he was dealing honor cards to himself in team games.

GREAT BRIDGE LINKS
 The Web Site for Bridge
www.cbf.ca/GBL



JUNIOR BRIDGE by Eric Sutherland***A NEW CENTURY -
A NEW GAME!***

Junior bridge continues to blossom in Canada as we enter the next century. We have an ever expanding group of players who are becoming recognized the world over for their leadership in both expertise and poise at the table.

Most notable among these is Josh Heller who was invited to attend the Generali Masters Individual in the Junior Category in Athens, Greece. Josh was awarded the WBF Youth Bridge Award in 1999 and was a member of Canada 2 at the 1999 World Junior Championship.

Also, with the recent incredibly generous donation of Larry Berry in honour of his daughter Erin, it looks like our young players will have more opportunity than ever to experience the joys of this game. As stated earlier in this issue, more details of this fund will be determined in a later issue of this magazine.

JUNIOR BRIDGE 2000

This year is full of activities for all players.

- The Canadian University Team Championship took place at Hart House in March of this year (details in the next issue).
- There is a Junior Bridge Camp in August in Claremont, California (prior to the Summer NABC in Anaheim, CA).
- The Kingston Regional in late August always promises to be a great event for

all junior players. Nowhere else in North America are there more juniors than in Kingston under the tutelage of Ed O'Reilly.

JUNIOR TRIALS

Finally, the trials for the 2001 World Junior Championship will be taking place later this year. A questionnaire was mailed to all junior players in Canada earlier this year seeking their input for the format of this event. Once the data from these questionnaires are compiled, the format and location of the trial will be determined.

Anyone interested in participating in the 2000 Canadian Junior Team Trials must contact me, Eric Sutherland (see inside front cover), to receive a copy of the conditions of contest for the trial.

One of the challenges that Canadians must continually overcome is the size of our vast country. There are many young players that are isolated in parts of the country and don't even realize there are other young players out there. Rest assured, there are many, and they are ready to welcome any new members into the fold.

To overcome this challenge, I am seeking assistance from other players around the country to act as a kind of regional coordinator. The role of these individuals would be to assist in identifying and shepherding new, young players into the true excitement and thrill of bridge. If you are interested in helping the future of junior bridge in Canada in this way, please let me know as soon as possible.

It is true that many juniors are shy and are unaware of their true talent which they take for granted. If you have someone like that in your area, please call me and let me know.

FINDING THE BALANCE

On a personal note, bridge has given a lot to me over the years. By acquiring the analytical and problem solving skills required in bridge, I have progressed rapidly in my career and hope to continue the rise in the coming years. Bridge also allowed me to communicate more effectively as I was always around adults and had to mature quickly to gain respect in their world.

There are those young players that do take the game too seriously and don't leave enough room for other pursuits outside of bridge. This game, like any other, should be in balance with school, and other physical and social activities. I hope to emphasize this among the new

group of young players. It is only through a balance that bridge will truly bear fruit for the young players as they are given confidence and skills to make them better leaders for tomorrow.

GRANTS FOR BRIDGE CAMP 2000

The ACBL Educational Foundation has approved grants of \$200 (USD) per person to Junior players planning to attend Bridge Camp 2000, scheduled for Aug. 2-10 in Southern California just prior to the Summer NABC in Anaheim. Bridge Camp 2000, the third such gathering conducted by the ACBL, will take place at Pitzer College in Claremont CA, just east of Los Angeles. There will be various sporting activities and contests each morning, a choice of lectures after lunch and a session of bridge during the afternoon.

Any ACBL members who are 16-25 may attend. The price is \$425 (USD) per person.

If you are interested, contact Charlotte Blaiss, ACBL director of Junior Programs. 901-332-5586, Ext. 222 or e-mail cblaiss@acbl.org.

Top Canadian Masterpoint Holders

1999 JUNIORS (Under 26)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Jeff Smith, Gloucester ON | 610 |
| 2. Darren Wolpert, Thornhill ON | 521 |
| 3. Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON | 323 |
| 4. Ian Boyd, Calgary AB | 317 |
| 5. Craig Barkhouse, Barrie ON | 298 |
| 6. Erin Anderson, Regina SK | 280 |
| 7. Isabelle Brisebois, Gloucester ON | 221 |
| 8. Charles Halasi, Toronto ON | 217 |
| 9. Vincent Demuy, Laval PQ | 162 |
| 10. David Grainger, Etobicoke ON | 150 |

Top Canadian Masterpoint Holders

1999 YOUTH (Under 20)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON | 323 |
| 2. Erin Anderson, Regina SK | 280 |
| 3. Isabelle Brisebois, Gloucester ON | 221 |
| 4. Charles Halasi, Toronto ON | 217 |
| 5. Vincent Demuy, Laval PQ | 162 |
| 6. David Grainger, Etobicoke ON | 150 |
| 7. David Sabourin, Dunrobin ON | 121 |
| 8. Susan Harbour, West Hill ON | 120 |
| 9. Josh Heller, Toronto ON | 114 |
| 10. Matthew Mason, Kingston ON | 98 |
| 11. Noreen Bramsen, Toronto ON | 83 |
| 12. Andrew Haydon, Kingston ON | 62 |
| 13. Andrew Thomas, Scarborough ON | 55 |
| 14. Samantha Nystrom, Burnaby BC | 36 |
| 15. Bruce Cole, Peterborough ON | 35 |
| 16. Mark Donovan, Kingston ON | 33 |

**THE NEXT ERIN BERRY
ROOKIE-MASTER PAIRS WILL BE
WEDNESDAY, OCT 25, 2000**

1999 ERIN BERRY *Canadian* ROOKIE-MASTER GAME

Winning the Rookie Masters was a proud moment for Ron Mikulin, who returned to bridge a little over a year ago after a long absence. In fact, Ron got his first exposure to cards playing King Pedro and Smear at the age of five. As a young man, he attended the University of Alberta, where he played both bridge and football (Alberta Golden Bears), and even managed a little time for classes. An injured knee meant getting down to serious studying and bridge was put on hold from 1961 to 1997.

While attending university, Ron met his lovely wife, Louise. They have been married for 36 years and have four children. A year after graduation, Ron entered what was to be his life's profession - teaching. He taught for 31 years, including 18 as Principal of Donaldda School. Coaching was a big part of Ron's teaching career. His credits include 13 provincial wrestling titles in a row, and many local and regional championships in volleyball and basketball with the Donaldda Eagles girls' team - too many, in fact, to name here. In all, Ron coached for over 37 years, a total of over 27,000 hours of extra-curricular service.

Once retired, Ron could finally take up bridge again. He met his partner, Hameed Syed, at a bridge session in Camrose. Hameed approached Ron and asked if he played Jacoby. Ron was so nervous, he told him he played the Warsaw Convention. Hameed went away and returned later, asking if it was the Sputnik Convention. Ron replied that they settled it at the Geneva Convention. Both men smiled and have been partners ever since, playing one or two matches a month for over a year now.

Ron reads every book he can to improve his bridge play. His goals include playing at a high level and eventually becoming a bridge teacher. When troubled

☞ (CONTINUED ON PAGE 19)

NATIONAL WINNERS (556 PAIRS)

1. Hameed Syed
Ron Mikulin
Edmonton BC
69.51%
2. Francois Cecyre
Bernard Bedard
A Tout Coeur
69.31%
3. Anne Heffernan
Barbara Kyselka
Peterborough BC
67.82%
4. John Gilliatt
Barbara Robert
Penticton DBC
67.08%
5. Bill Gorkoff
P. Davidoff
Trail DBC
66.90%
- 6/7. N. Gooding
M. Hansen
Williams Lake DBC
66.67%
- 6/7. Mary Henderson
Marg Filipovic
Thunder Bay DBC
66.67%
8. Elizabeth Legacy
Norma Boyd
Cape Breton DBC
66.54%
9. Mae Riddell
Melanie Robinson
Peterborough BC
66.38%
10. Kay Oliver & Bill Stitt
Victoria Bridge Centre
66.20%

☞ (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18)

with a problem, Ron seeks help from Doug Deschner, Bob Larson, Nick Gartaganis, or Ron Rodvic. He says he likes to learn from the best. While taking a serious approach to the game, Ron feels it's important to have fun in the process of learning. He tells of a hand he played at the Senior Center in Camrose. "I gave the wrong number of aces, but the person with the ace was not on lead. His partner was leading, and he led a spade instead of a heart. We made seven no trump, doubled and redoubled. That was fun."

Ron will be playing in the Great Falls Montana D18 Grand National Teams in May representing Edmonton but is proud to be from Meeting Creek, Alberta.

Hameed is a lawyer in Camrose who has been playing bridge for the past 15 years. He became a Life Master in 1996. Ron enjoys playing with Hameed as he is technically a very good player. Their first duplicate tournament was at the Senior Sectional in Red Deer where they placed first overall (a gold medal). Hameed said to Ron, "Wasn't that fun?" Ron wasn't sure as his knees were still knocking and his hands were shaking. They continue to play together and are trying to improve on their bidding and consistent play.

... by Ron Mikulin

23 clubs took part in our annual Erin Berry Rookie-Master Game. The Saskatoon Duplicate Bridge Club had the highest turnout with 50 pairs. The Victoria Bridge Centre came in a close second with 46 pairs followed by the Thunder Bay DBC with 44 pairs. Jeff Blond of Montreal did the analysis for this game. Disappointing was the fact that 2 clubs cancelled their games and 3 clubs failed to report any results.

THE EDMONTON BRIDGE CENTRE

by Alex Fowlie

The Edmonton Bridge Centre is the major bridge club in Edmonton, although there are several other clubs in the city and surrounding area that hold one or two games a week. The Centre is a non-profit corporation founded in 1987, and owned by roughly 500 members. It is located next door to the Ramada Inn on Kingsway Avenue.

The facility is one of the nicest in Canada as those who played in the 1996 Edmonton regional can attest. There are three separate main floor playing and teaching areas with floor-to-ceiling windows. A bar, pool table and television area offer a chance to take a break from bridge. The Centre is non-smoking except in the separate, ventilated smoking room.

The club offers a full range of bridge services. There is a large lesson program that has produced many new members for the club. Duplicate games are available every night (and most afternoons) except Sunday as well as recreational bridge, various newcomers games with limits of up to 200 masterpoints, IMP Pairs (every Thursday night) and rubber bridge (available at all times). Fees for regular games are \$5.00 for members, with an extra charge for non-members. Games range from 5 or 6 tables to 30 or more. On Mondays especially, it's wise to come early. The Centre has room for over 40 tables and hosts the May sectional each year.

THE ANALYSIS SHEET MISSED THIS ONE!

by Bill Lim
Prince George, BC

The place: The duplicate club in Prince George, BC.
The date: Friday evening, July 23, '99
The venue: International Fund Game #3
The deal: Board 17

North

♠ 873
♥ AQ1075
♦ A7
♣ K73

West

♠ A1064
♥ 3
♦ Q9653
♣ J54

East

♠ QJ2
♥ KJ8
♦ K84
♣ Q986

South

♠ K95
♥ 9642
♦ J102
♣ A102

I was East. My partner was Robert, a seat-of-the-pants player with a well-earned reputation for making off-the-wall bids which drive his partners and opponents alike round the bend.

North opened 1♥, I passed, and South raised to 2♥. Robert now doubled (See what I mean?). North passed, and I, mumbling to myself something about a 50-point deck, bid a modest 3NT, which closed the auction.

South led a heart won by the Ace. North continued hearts won by my Jack. I quickly took four spade tricks, then a diamond to my king, followed by a diamond, ducked to North's now blank Ace. N-S astutely cashed out, holding me to my contract.

Not strangely, the analysis sheet made no mention of the cold contract that we had found!

"Robert", I said as we left our glassy-eyed opponents, "about that double..."

☞ *(Andy Stark - Continued from page 7)*

with Bob Gwirtzman of NY City were only 4 IMP's down going into the fourth and final sixteen board quarter. Everyone seemed to be rooting for Andy's team. I sat out the last segment, and literally dozens of people came up to wish us the win.

It was not to be, but came down to missing a grand slam, and playing in the wrong suit in a small slam... had those two decisions been made correctly we would have won by 4 IMP's!

Andy's other hobbies include Golf, Ultimate Frisbee, and Curling.

Andy tells the story of sitting down at the table with his partner.

The opponents pick up his convention card and see that Andy's partner is also listed as Andy Stark. (Bridge players always have big egos if they are to succeed, but can you imagine actually playing with yourself as a partner? You would have the perfect partner.

Anyhow, they ask for his partner's real name, and get annoyed when he says Andy Stark. The Director is summoned, and it turns out his partner really IS Andy Stark (no relation) from New York City! They have already won two Swiss Regional events playing together. Everyone has a good laugh!

Good luck in 2000.



THE 1999 CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
By Eric Kokish & Beverly Kraft

The September 1999 issue of Bridge Canada listed results and team rosters of the 1999 Canadian National Championship Finals for the CNTC, COPC, and CWTC. Following are excerpts from Eric Kokish and Beverly Kraft's excellent coverage of the CNTC and the CWTC. Portions of this coverage were printed in the ACBL Bridge Bulletin September and October 1999. The hands discussed here are ones not seen in the ACBL's magazine. The Round Robin hands were covered in the January 2000 Issue of Bridge Canada.

THE QUARTER-FINALS

In the quarter-finals, BALKAM chose FERGANI with some misgivings, but seemed to have done the right thing by halftime. A 79-12 third quarter turned the match around for FERGANI, however, and the Maritimers could not recover. HARGREAVES withstood a late rally by GREEN, while WOLPERT trailed all the way against LEBI, losing a tight match by 25 imps. BARAN got off to a good start against WILLIS, and down 84 with 16 deals remaining, WILLIS conceded.

HODGSON started impressively against GORDON but the second quarter (69-2) turned the match around and GORDON won in some comfort. NADLER (npc) led comfortably throughout against DUPONT, as did ADACHI against KRAUSE. DUNBAR made it close at the half against WINESTOCK, but WINESTOCK pulled away in the third set to coast home.

This is a pretty good 4♥ for North/South (see right), but many pairs stopped at 3♥. Game can be defeated, but it's not at all obvious

how to organise the defense. West overcalls in spades, so East leads the ♠K, North having shown a long suit. It is tempting for West to overtake the ♠K to continue the suit, but North's trumps are very good and there is no trump promotion. The winning plan for West is to discourage a spade continuation, ideally by playing the ♠Q under the king. East must shift to a diamond. If declarer spurns the finesse, as he often will, to try three rounds of clubs (before or after cashing the ace of trumps), West will be able to ruff the third club, and declarer will have only six hearts, two clubs, and the ♦A, for one down. We did not hear of anyone holding a heart contract to nine tricks, but our sources were hardly comprehensive.

Board: QF1 North
 Dealer: S ♠ 94
 Vul: E/W ♥ AQJ10982
 ♦ 54
 ♣ Q7

West	East
♠ AQJ832	♠ K5
♥ 643	♥ K7
♦ K6	♦ 8732
♣ 32	♣ J10965
	South
	♠ 1076
	♥ 5
	♦ AQJ109
	♣ AK84

Mark Molson tells us that it is essential for serious partnerships to play NAMYATS, that it's a wonderful convention. We have in the past managed to ignore him, but after considering the next deal, we're beginning to think that he might be on to something after all . . .

CNC Continued on page 22

THE ACBL WEB SITE NOW HAS A PAGE FOR CANADIAN POINT RACES AND LISTS

www.acbl.org/members/CanadianRaces.htm

Check here for the Top 100 and the Richmond Trophy

☛ CNC Continued from page 21

Board: QF18 North
 Dealer: E ♠ J762
 Vul: N/S ♥ 9
 ♦ 976532
 ♣ Q7

West East
 ♠ AQ104 ♠ K853
 ♥ J53 ♥ 84
 ♦ AKJ10 ♦ Q8
 ♣ J9 ♣ K8643

South
 ♠ 9
 ♥ AKQ10762
 ♦ 4
 ♣ A1052

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Lindop	Baran	Lerner
Double	P	1♠	1♥
			4♥

West led two rounds of diamonds. Declarer ruffed and tried a club to the nine, queen, and king. East returned a trump and kept all but one of his clubs, securing the setting trick with the ♣8. One down; minus 100. We believe that East is worth 2♠ in response to the takeout double, but we're not selling that to East, who points out that 2♠ might have led to a minus at 4♠. Meanwhile . . .

West	North	East	South
Grodecki	Molson	Frukacz	Graves
Double(2)	P	5♣(3)	4♣(1)
P	Double	All Pass	P

- 1) strong 4♥ opening
- 2) intended as strong, balanced
- 3) interpreted as "clubs"

Molson thought enough of his singleton heart to double 5♣ and Graves must have been blowing subliminal kisses across the table. We are not privy to the details of the play but the contract finished five down; minus 1700. That was 18imps to BARAN, more or less from nowhere. Which just goes to show that it's a good idea to do your homework, at least

to prepare defenses against the more popular conventions.

Board: QF26 North
 Dealer: E ♠ Q63
 Vul: B ♥ KQ9
 ♦ Q86
 ♣ 10765

West East
 ♠ J42 ♠ K10975
 ♥ 753 ♥ 104
 ♦ A543 ♦ KJ1097
 ♣ J94 ♣ 2

South
 ♠ A8
 ♥ AJ862
 ♦ 2
 ♣ AKQ83

6♣ requires little more than clubs no worse than 3-1, but it's a very difficult slam to reach, particularly if East/West compete vigorously, depriving South of the opportunity to show both his club length and unambiguous slam interest. We know that Irv Litvack-Roy Hughes reached slam when North raised both hearts and clubs at his earliest opportunity. South, with superb clubs, could picture North with excellent hearts for his raise of a secondary suit with weak trumps. Try this one uncontested with your favourite partner.

6♠ on the following layout eventually turns on a finesse. Can you see which crucial card must be onside for declarer if he adopts a normal line of play?

Board: QF33 North
 Dealer: N ♠ 1043
 Vul: Neither ♥ 743
 ♦ 9732
 ♣ Q93

West East
 ♠ QJ9876 ♠ A2
 ♥ 82 ♥ AKQ9
 ♦ AK8 ♦ J4
 ♣ 62 ♣ A10754

South
 ♠ K5
 ♥ J1065
 ♦ Q1065
 ♣ KJ8

CNC Continued from page 22

The popular approach in 6♠ was to win the opening red-suit lead, cash the ♠A, take a diamond ruff with the ♠2, throw a club on the third high heart, ruff a club, and lead the ♠J. With the suit three-two and the king in North, the hand would be over, but here South wins the ♠K and produces the thirteenth heart. Declarer is reduced to ruffing low, but with the all-important ten of spades offside, the slam goes down. In many matches this was flat at 6♠ minus one, but there were several swings when East/West stopped short at one table.

Following is one of our favourite play deals. You arrive in 6♥ with no opposition bidding. Your somewhat eccentric auction (favourable vulnerability):

South	North
1♥	2NT (forcing raise)
3♠ (short)	3NT (waiting)
4♣	6♥///

North
 ♠ Q5
 ♥ AQ965
 ♦ —
 ♣ KJ9852

South
 ♠ J
 ♥ KJ1042
 ♦ AJ85
 ♣ A103

West leads the ♦6, playing fourth-best leads. Barring a miracle in diamonds (ruffing out the short king-queen), the deal turns on finding the ♣Q. Can declarer form a picture of the distribution?

Discard a spade from dummy, take East's queen with your ace and ruff a diamond in dummy. West will follow with the deuce, giving his partner a true count lest it be vital to choose between allowing a ruff-and-discard and breaking the club suit. East will give a true remainder count for the same reasons, in

this instance following with the three. Come to a trump (they are two-one) and ruff another diamond, both following. Draw the last trump (West has it) and exit dummy with a spade, which runs to West's king. West correctly forces dummy by leading the ♦K. What do you think you know at this point?

If you believe the carding in diamonds, West has five, East four. West has two hearts, East one. What about the spades? West would have led one with both the ace and king, so the honours are split and East has ducked to leave the next move to his partner, who might know more about the distribution. As no one bid, you might instinctively feel that spades will be five-five, but is that going far enough? North's initial action made it difficult for East to enter the auction at unfavourable vulnerability, so he might well hold as many as six spades. Could West have five spades headed by the king? In a vacuum, perhaps. But would West pass over 1♥ with king-fifth of spades and king-fifth of diamonds? No one plays that way any more. It is much more likely that West has only four spades, which leaves him with four-two-five-two shape. You back your judgment and show your cards, announcing that you will play for clubs two-two. And so it is:

West	North	East
♠ K932	♠ Q5	♠ A108764
♥ 83	♥ AQ965	♥ 7
♦ K10762	♦ —	♦ Q943
♣ 74	♣ KJ9852	♣ Q6
	South	
	♠ J	
	♥ KJ1042	
	♦ AJ85	
	♣ A103	

You might arrive at the right conclusion after two rounds of spades by judging that the

CNC Continued from page 23

opponents, with ten combined spades and a singleton heart, would surely have bid at some point if someone held a singleton club, but you'd always like to do a bit better than that. Wouldn't you?

The SEMI-FINAL

In the CNTC Semifinal, a strong second quarter gave FERGANI a 21-point cushion at the half. The lead mounted to 40 after three quarters and FERGANI was nicely placed to complete an upset. It was not to be. BARAN played well and made the most of their opportunities (there were simply too many of them, from FERGANI's point of view) to win, going away, by 19imps.

LEBI parlayed a strong first set into a 44-imp lead at the half, then gave back some bits and pieces in prevent mode to win by 27.

It would be BARAN vs LEBI, two of the morning-line favourites, in the 72-board CNTC final.

In the CWTC Semi-final ADACHI served notice early that GORDON would not have an easy time of it. After a strong first set, ADACHI gave back only 2imps in the second and led 59-36 at the half. GORDON recouped 18imps in the third quarter to cut the deficit to 5, and pulled it out in the fourth for a narrow 13IMP win.

WINESTOCK built a solid 119-51 lead after three quarters against NADLER, then relaxed. NADLER, showing great heart, rallied strongly and recouped 50imps of their 68-imp deficit. WINESTOCK breathed a joint sigh of relief and vowed to maintain their intensity in the final the next day.

Decide for yourself whether the defensive problem for East/West is a solo challenge or a cooperative venture:

Board: SF3
 Dealer: S
 Vul: E/W

West
 ♠ 75
 ♥ 10742
 ♦ K
 ♣ AKQJ106

North
 ♠ AQ96
 ♥ KQJ85
 ♦ 95
 ♣ 98

East
 ♠ J3
 ♥ 93
 ♦ A106432
 ♣ 543

South
 ♠ K10842
 ♥ A6
 ♦ QJ87
 ♣ 72

It would be useful to have complete bidding and play records for deals like this one, where there is much of interest, but the CBF has not yet insisted on the host Unit providing such a service and once again, there was nothing done.

In BARAN vs FERGANI, Mittelman-Graves stopped in 3♠ with the North/South cards and were permitted to take ten tricks. The stakes were higher at the other table, where Fraser-Blond reached 4♠ after a 3♦ help-suit trial bid by South after North raised to 2♠ in competition. West, envisioning the problem for the defense, started with the ♣Q, hoping to get a count. When the nine-eight appeared in dummy, the possibility of underleading in clubs to cash a second diamond had disappeared. West continued with the ♣10 to alert his partner that there was something afoot, then switched to the ♦K . . . which held. That was all for the defense. Quite apart from West's unusual plays in the club suit (which he had bid and rebid), East should have appreciated that with king-and-one diamond, West would have switched to the small card and not the king. "Should I have known to overtake?" he said at the table. "Let's talk about it later," said West. 6imps to FERGANI.

BARAN was staying in touch largely because some of the hyper-aggressive tactics of their opponents were not paying off. The other side

☛ CNC *Continued from page 24*

of that coin was Board SF13, where Doug Fraser was dealt:

♠ KJ109 ♥ Q102 ♦ J63 ♣ KQJ

His partner opened an 11-14 point notrump, both vulnerable, and he settled for a game invitation, which was refused, Jeff holding:

♠ Q65 ♥ K75 ♦ AK98 ♣ 865

Now it's certainly true that Doug had a junky 13, but even so, the four-card suit was good and there were two tens amid the rubble. The only reason not to bid game is that you tend to open just about any 11, and accept with any 13, which strikes us as a needlessly dangerous way to approach the game. On everyone's routine game (there was no defense), FERGANI coughed up an unlikely 10 imps. Perhaps it's not worth discussing.

40 imps down to start the final stanza, BARAN's deficit rose to 51 when a silly defensive error allowed a thin game to slip through. Over a stretch of eight deals however, BARAN proceeded to gain 48 imps while losing just one.

In the CWTC, Saltsman-Koffler also failed in 3NT against Cimon-Lacroix, but Kraft made it from the South side on a diamond lead, adopting a line similar to the one taken by Cannell.

Kokish would not have made 3NT by clearing clubs first because West would have thrown spades and East would have shifted to diamonds to establish the suit before declarer could make a spade trick. There was, however, a club play that might have worked: win the first heart and lead a club, following low from dummy when East plays the seven, eight, or nine. West would win the ten and clear hearts, but declarer would have time for five clubs, two hearts, and two spades, with East unable to regain the lead. You would not per-

mit this to happen if you were East, of course. When declarer leads the first club from hand, you would play the jack.

It continued to rain on FERGANI's table two pair when they turned over 10 imps on the next deal by playing in a cue-bid. 9 imps more went to BARAN immediately thereafter when a marginal penalty pass of a takeout double struck gold. With eight deals left to play, BARAN had closed to within 4 imps.

FERGANI had a big result on Board 58, Fraser making a vulnerable 3NT on a favourable lead while Mittelman-Graves stopped sensibly in a partscore. But that was all for FERGANI. BARAN tacked on 33 unanswered imps down the stretch to complete an 81-22 segment and pull out the match by 19 imps.

A different result at one table on the penultimate board would have produced a different winner:

Board: SF63	North	
Dealer: S	♠ 976	
Vul: N/S	♥ Q1072	
	♦ KQ10964	
	♣ —	
West		East
♠ KQJ1052		♠ A43
♥ A8		♥ K9543
♦ 52		♦ J
♣ Q92		♣ AK83
	South	
	♠ 8	
	♥ J6	
	♦ A873	
	♣ J107654	

Blond-Fraser missed the excellent 6♣, when they bid: 1♠-2♥; 2♠-3♠; 4♣. The raise to 3♠ was intended as strong and interpreted that way. North led the ♦Q, playing standard leads. West, very unhappy, claimed, showing his hand. South won the ♦A and gave North a club ruff, holding the contract to 11 tricks; plus 450. Both pairs suspected the match

CNC Continued from page 25

was very close and that this lively deal might determine the outcome, and so it was.

At the other table, Mittelman-Graves reached 6♠ after a delayed splinter raise by East. North led the ♦K ... which held the trick. Plus 980. 11 imps to BARAN. Had the defenders found their club ruff, FERGANI would have gained 11 imps instead and would have survived a nightmare session to reach the final.

FINAL - First Quarter (Boards 1-18)

In the CNTC, LEBI put 10 imps on the board immediately when the vagaries of the auction left Drew Cannell with a normal and successful lead against 3NT while it was much more difficult for George Mittelman to find the right defense (lead or switch) at the other table.

BARAN took the lead on Board 3 when a destructive opening bid by Cannell nudged his opponents into a good game that was not reached at the other table:

Board: F3
Dealer: S
Vul: E/W

♠ 5	♠ A92	♠ J763
♥ A65	♥ 987	♥ KQ4
♦ AK974	♦ 8653	♦ 10
♣ Q853	♣ K72	♣ A10964
	♠ KQ1084	
	♥ J1032	
	♦ QJ2	
	♣ J	

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Carruthers	Baran	Cannell
2♠(2)	3♠	5♣	2♦(1) All Pass

1) (weak, majors)
2 (minors)

In 5♣ Boris Baran ruffed the second spade

and advanced the queen of trumps, with gratifying results. He made six; plus 620. Lebi-Hanna stopped in a club partial, so BARAN gained 10 imps.

On Board 5, Baran, East, held:
(E) ♠ 754 ♥ AQ106 ♦ AK1065 ♣ 6
Carruthers, on his right, opened 1♦, playing five-card majors. Would you pass, or overcall 1♥? Boris passed, and when Cannell's 1NT response came back to him, he doubled, showing a strong hand with diamonds. How do you like it so far? Cannell scampered out to 2♣, doubled on his left by Kokish, whose clubs were A1087. That ended the auction and the contract was duly made, plus 180, dummy producing queen-nine of clubs over the doubler, with king-jack-sixth in the closed hand. At the other table, Lebi overcalled 1♥ with 2♦ and finished in 3♦, which yielded plus 110. A strong 7 imps to LEBI who extended their lead to 12 imps on Board 7 by exercising better competitive judgment.

A systemic four-card major opening by Mittelman brought in 10 imps for BARAN when it preempted a 1♦ overcall (made at the other table) and attracted a favourable lead against a non-vulnerable 4♠.

Board: F13
Dealer: N
Vul: B

♠ Q9	♠ A7632
♥ 8	♥ 105
♦ AJ765	♦ K1084
♣ 109753	♣ 42
♠ KJ1085	♠ 4
♥ KQ972	♥ AJ643
♦ —	♦ Q932
♣ QJ8	♣ AK6

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Carruthers	Baran	Cannell
1♠	P	P	1♥
3♥	Double	2♥	3♦
P	P	3♠	4♣
P	4♦	All Pass	

CNC Continued from page 26

4♦ went one down; minus 100. Remarkably, we think, the same par result was achieved at the other table. We confess to being horrified. Hands with four- or five-card trump support ought to do more than cue-bid gently at the two-level. Here, over the negative double, East could have bid 3♥ (mixed raise), or 2NT (limit raise), or 3♠ (preemptive), or 4♠ (pressure). We much prefer any of those actions to the combination of 2♥, then 3♠, because it's always easier to value a hand like West's facing marked trump length. 2♥ would typically deliver three-card support. In real life, a big bounce would often drive North/South to 5♦, down 500. South, with a nice combination of offensive and defensive values, would like to suggest declaring while leaving it open to defend, but would a double of 4♠ send that message? Would your partnership have a firm understanding about this type of double? It was 44-29, LEBI, going into the final deal of the set (see right).

At the other table, Kokish-Baran bid and made 4♥ with the East/West cards; plus 420. Robert Lebi valued his hand sensibly, downgrading to open a weak notrump. Over 2♠, he wanted to show a maximum, and doubled for penalty. The defense started with two rounds of hearts but lost its way in the middle game, allowing the contract to make; plus 670. 14 imps to BARAN, making the score on the segment 44-43 for LEBI.



VINCE ODDY BRIDGE SUPPLIES

FOR THE LATEST BOOKS, SOFTWARE & SUPPLIES

1-800-463-9815

Fax: 905-726-1504

Email: voddy@interlog.com

www.interlog.com/~voddy

Board: F18
Dealer: E
Vul: N/S

North
♠ KQ107542
♥ 8
♦ 107
♣ K83

West
♠ 98
♥ A943
♦ K83
♣ A1075

East
♠ AJ3
♥ KQJ5
♦ J64
♣ QJ4

South
♠ 6
♥ 10762
♦ AQ952
♣ 962

West	North	East	South
Hanna	Graves	Lebi	Mittelman
2♣	2♠	1NT*	P
		Double	All Pass

* (12-14)

In the CWTC, GORDON took a 17-imp lead over WINESTOCK, 52-35.

Second Quarter (Boards 19-36)

BARAN recovered 6 imps on Board 26 when a Lebi weak notrump kept his side out of diamonds and made it convenient for Graves-Molson to alight in their cold 2♠. With 3♦ yielding 110 the other way in the other room, BARAN recorded a system triumph of sorts, closing to within 5 imps, 51-56. Then came three consecutive deals that would decide the match ...

☛ CNC Continued from page 27

Board: F27
 Dealer: S
 Vul: Neither

North	♠ AQ109652
♥ —	
♦ A4	
♣ K853	
East	♠ J83
♥ KJ10962	
♦ Q86	
♣ 7	
South	♠ K7
♥ Q743	
♦ 9753	
♣ AQ10	

Graves-Molson stopped in 4♠ with the North/South cards, as you might expect, Carruthers and Cannell were more ambitious

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Carruthers	Baran	Cannell
P	1♠	2♥	Double*
3♠	4♣	P	4♠
P	6♠	All Pass	

Each of the four players took questionable actions here, but the final contract was quite reasonable. Carruthers ruffed the opening heart lead and drew three rounds of trumps, ruffing a second heart in hand on the way. West, placing North with 7-0-1-5 shape, discarded his last heart and a diamond, which, in effect, shortened the play; declarer could ruff out diamonds now and use the long diamond to discard a club. There was a bit more to it than that at the table, however. Declarer, trying to conceal the position, led the ♦4 from hand without cashing the ace. Had East been dealt two diamond honours (with West retaining a long diamond), he would have been able to win and return a club, killing either an entry or the value of the ten of clubs before the diamonds were unblocked. As it was, East ducked, West won the diamond, and played a diamond, so declarer had time to test diamonds in peace, claiming his slam; plus 980.

11 imps to LEBl, 67-51. Had West kept his fourth diamond, declarer (after ace and another diamond, would have used one club entry to ruff the third round of diamonds and finished the trumps, squeezing West in the minors while trying for the singleton jack of clubs in the process. With the heart menace isolated, there were some double-squeeze or compound-squeeze chances as well. Could the slam be defeated? Try to make it on the lead of the ♣7. Declarer can't afford to win in dummy and play ace and another diamond without drawing trumps because East will ruff a club. If he wins in hand and later uses a club entry to isolate the diamond menace in West, the entry position for the squeeze will be destroyed. But who would lead a club on that auction?

Both Norths declared 4♥ on board 28, Molson after Graves showed diamond length and club shortness. Lebi had no trouble finding the lead of the ♠6 on this auction, and Molson ducked to the king. Hanna switched to a club, trying to protect his heart holding, a play that worked well.

Board: F28
 Dealer: W
 Vul: N/S

North	♠ Q104
♥ K7632	
♦ Q4	
♣ AQ5	
East	♠ 62
♥ J	
♦ 97532	
♣ K10976	
West	♠ K973
♥ Q1054	
♦ K	
♣ J432	
South	♠ AJ85
♥ A98	
♦ AJ1086	
♣ 8	

Molson won the ♣A and ran the ♦Q to the king. A second club tapped dummy, and Molson although he had the trump spots to guard against two honours fourth in West, could not afford such a luxury because he still had a losing club to dispose of. Playing straight up, he played ace-king of trumps,

CNC Continued from page 28

intending to play on diamonds if everyone followed. When East showed out, Molson was going down. Had he played spades next, he would have escaped for one down, but he tried a diamond; West ruffed in and the defense got a club trick for two down.

At the other table, North/South bid: 1♥-2♦; 2NT-3♥-4♥, and Baran led an unfortunate club. Carruthers won the queen, took a club ruff, and played ♥A9, running it in some comfort when West did not split his honours. He lost only a trump and a diamond now for plus 650. 13 imps to LEBI, 80-51.

This was a swing deal in the CWTC final also. Winestock went down in 4♥ on a spade lead but Habert-Kraft stopped to double Silverman-O'Hara in a frisky 3♣ for a 500-point set. 12 imps to GORDON, opening up some daylight in the match.

Board: F29 North
 Dealer: N ♠ 72
 Vul: B ♥ 1082
 ♦ KQ75
 ♣ K1075

West	East
♠ KJ	♠ A983
♥ KQJ	♥ 9654
♦ AJ43	♦ 962
♣ AQ92	♣ 64

South
 ♠ Q10654
 ♥ A73
 ♦ 108
 ♣ J83

Both Wests declared 3NT, a contract that appears to offer some chances. The lead is important, however, and Carruthers found a particularly effective one in the ♠7. That was a fine start toward killing the entry to dummy for the long heart and Kokish eventually scrambled eight winners for one down. Molson led from strength and Hanna had time for both the long heart and an extra win-

ner in the minors for plus 600. 12 imps more, building LEBI's lead to 41 imps, 92-51.

Board: F31	North	East
Dealer: S	♠ 109843	♠ A72
Vul: N/S	♥ Q	♥ A1098
	♦ AQ53	♦ 1094
	♣ AQ4	♣ 865
West	South	
♠ KQJ6	♠ 5	
♥ J765	♥ K432	
♦ 86	♦ KJ72	
♣ 1097	♣ KJ32	

Molson-Graves stopped in 3♦ with the North/South cards, with game in that strain a reasonable proposition; plus 150. Carruthers-Cannell rolled into 3NT, South declaring. The opening lead was the ♣9, Rusinow. Cannell called for the ♥A and then the ♥Q. Unerringly, Boris Baran took his ace and switched to a low spade. West won the jack and returned the six, and the defense cashed out, just in time; minus 100. 6 imps to BARAN, 57-92.

There wasn't much in the rest of the deals in this segment, which LEBI won 49-15. At the half, LEBI led by 35 imps, 93-58.

In the CWTC, GORDON outscored WINE-STOCK 52-19 to lead at the half by 50 imps, 104-54.

Third Quarter (Boards 37-54)

At both tables on Board 39 (next page), North responded 1NT to South's 1♠ and East overcalled 2♦. Clearly, you'd like to compete to 3♣ with the North/South cards but South can't afford to bid at the three-level with a hand that could easily be a couple of aces stronger. The solution to the good 3♣ vs competitive 3♣ dilemma is to treat 2NT as a

CNC Continued from page 29

weak gadget, in this case describing a moderate spade-club two-suiter.

Board: F39
Dealer: S
Vul: E/W

West
♠ 986432
♥ KJ43
♦ 8
♣ A2

North
♠ J
♥ Q1096
♦ Q942
♣ QJ93

East
♠ 10
♥ A872
♦ AKJ1065
♣ 85

South
♠ AKQ75
♥ 5
♦ 73
♣ K10764

Board: F40
Dealer: W
Vul: B

West
♠ K86532
♥ —
♦ KQ752
♣ J10

North
♠ 97
♥ QJ86
♦ 964
♣ KQ64

East
♠ QJ
♥ AK7543
♦ A108
♣ A2

South
♠ A104
♥ 1092
♦ J3
♣ 98753

West	North	East	South
Hanna	Kokish	Lebi	Molson
P	P	1♥	P
1♠	P	3♥	P
3♠	P	4♣	P
4♦	P	4♠	All Pass

In other situations, the second suit might not be known, or opener might have a one-suiter (e.g. 1♥-P-1NT-2♠; 2NT could be hearts and a minor or just hearts). Molson, who does not use this treatment, passed and defended 2♦; plus 110 after gentle defense. Cannell was able to compete to 3♣ and bought the auction; also plus 110. 6 imps to LEBI, 99-58.

Would East make 3♦? With the East hand concealed (if there is no club bid from South), North has an awkward discard on the second high spade from South and might discard a heart rather than a club. South can help by playing his lowest equal honour on the second round to show strength in clubs, convincing North to save his hearts.

SIX FIGURE MATCHPOINTS?

The World Simultaneous Pairs (June 2 & 3) and the Worldwide Bridge Contest (Aug. 22 & 23) will give players a shot at hundreds of thousands of matchpoints on each deal. Read about it at the following sites:

- www.cbf.ca/GBL/gblTOUR/wwPairs.html
- The ACBL site - www.acbl.org
- The MSO site - www.msoworld.com

6♠ is a reasonable slam. Ignoring some unlikely trump coup positions, declarer needs three-two trumps and either five diamond tricks or four-three hearts to pitch a second diamond on a long heart. Lebi-Hanna missed it when the diamonds got lost and Lebi was unwilling to go past game facing a broken spade suit (no weak two-bid or three-bid). Plus 680. Mittelman-Graves bid this one, so BARAN gained 13 imps, 71-99.

On the next deal, the West players held: ♠ 10985432 ♥ Q985 ♦ — ♣ 96 with only the opponents vulnerable.

For BARAN, East opened a strong notrump and West transferred to 4♠. For LEBI, East opened 1♦, playing weak notrumps. West responded 2♠, weak, ending the auction.

East held: ♠ AK7 ♥ A7 ♦ KJ1072 ♣ Q103, and both declarers took eleven tricks (ten could not be stopped). 6 imps to BARAN, 77-99.

If you play weak notrumps (in particular), it might be a good idea to define a weak jump

CNC Continued from page 30

response as a hand that won't make game opposite a normal strong notrump. That would have helped Lebi-Hanna this time.

Board: F42
 Dealer: E
 Vul: E/W

North
 ♠ K753
 ♥ K9862
 ♦ 72
 ♣ 75

West
 ♠ J106
 ♥ Q73
 ♦ AQ854
 ♣ AQ

East
 ♠ Q842
 ♥ 104
 ♦ J1063
 ♣ J92

South
 ♠ A9
 ♥ AJ5
 ♦ K9
 ♣ K108643

Both North/South pairs in the CNTC bid and made 2♥. In the CWTC, Winestock-Clinton competed to 3♦ with the East/West cards and jockeyed Habert-Kraft into 3♥, which was not particularly comfortable. Habert made it, however, with a remarkable over-trick, for plus 170. At the other table, Nancy Koffler declared 2♥ as North. Francine Cimon led the ♦J to the king and ace. Martine Lacroix cashed the ♦Q and got a count card from her partner. Declarer had shown four-five in the majors, so was marked with a doubleton club. Lacroix switched to the ♠J, aiming to shorten dummy's trumps twice. Declarer won the king to play a club to the king and ace. A second spade went to the ace and a second club to the queen. Now the ♠10 to force dummy. Declarer ruffed a club to establish the suit and could have succeeded by playing ♥K and A, then a good club. Instead she ruffed her last spade with the jack of trumps. Lacroix overruffed and tucked dummy in with the ace of trumps. East had to score the ♥10 behind declarer when dummy had to play a club. Minus 50; 6 imps to GORDON.

Board: F43
 Dealer: S
 Vul: B

West
 ♠ J1083
 ♥ QJ652
 ♦ 2
 ♣ K65

North
 ♠ AK965
 ♥ K7
 ♦ K
 ♣ QJ1074

East
 ♠ 72
 ♥ A43
 ♦ AQJ10743
 ♣ 3

South
 ♠ Q4
 ♥ 1098
 ♦ 9865
 ♣ A982

Lebi overcalled 1♠ with 3♦ and bought the auction. The defense started with two rounds of spades and a switch to the ♣Q. South ducked, so declarer made four. Would 3♦ be beaten on best defense? ♠Q, ♣A, spade, spade. Declarer ruffs high and will succeed if he plays ace of trumps. The king drops, so he plays three more rounds of trumps. South wins and must give declarer both the ♣K and the heart finesse. It is true that he might not do this, of course. Mittelman-Graves went minus with the East/West cards, so LEBI gained 6 imps, 105-77.

Board: F44
 Dealer: W
 Vul: None

West
 ♠ J53
 ♥ A9753
 ♦ Q102
 ♣ K5

North
 ♠ A4
 ♥ KJ108
 ♦ J75
 ♣ Q1074

East
 ♠ 9
 ♥ —
 ♦ AK98643
 ♣ AJ862

South
 ♠ KQ108762
 ♥ Q642
 ♦ —
 ♣ 93

6♦ is a desirable contract for East/West, but in the CNTC, both pairs stopped in five and made five:

CNC Continued from page 31

West	North	East	South
P	P	1♦	3♠
Double	P	5♣	P
5♦	All Pass		

Both declarers played a high diamond from hand and did not take the club finesse; plus 400.

In the CWTC, both pairs reached 6♦ when East shot out a slam. WINESTOCK's declarer, who had seen South jump to just 2♠, followed the CNTC line and failed; minus 50. Francine Cimon, for Gordon, who had seen South jump to 3♠, played the first round of trumps to dummy's queen. When South showed out, she took two club ruffs with the deuce and ten of trumps, ruffed herself in, extracted North's trumps with the ace and king, and had a long club for her twelfth winner. Plus 920 and 14 imps to GORDON, miles ahead in the match on the strength of some very solid play.

On Board 44, Molson had to lead against 4♥ from:

♠ K1098643 ♥ 4 ♦ 6 ♣ 9872, after:

West	North	East	South
Hanna	Kokish	Lebi	Molson
		1♥	2♠
Double*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

He stayed off the attractive spade lead and defeated the contract (he led his singleton diamond, which was neutral where the spade lead would have been into declarer's doubleton ace-queen). Mittelman-Graves got 300 from 4♠ doubled at the other table, so BARAN gained 8 imps, 85-108.

LEBI ended the segment ahead 29-27 and led 122-85 with 18 deals remaining.

This was one of the more lively boards:

Board: 54
Dealer: E
Vul: N/S

North
♠ K109
♥ AK
♦ 107
♣ AQ6532

West
♠ AJ754
♥ J2
♦ AQ543
♣ 10

East
♠ 6
♥ Q10853
♦ 986
♣ J987

South
♠ Q832
♥ 9764
♦ KJ2
♣ K4

All four North/South pairs finished in 3NT on this one. Cannell, South, was doubled by Graves, East, after Mittelman, West, had bid both his suits. A diamond was led and Cannell won the jack, led a spade to the ♠10 and the ♠K, ducked. Now three rounds of clubs (hearts from hand) and two high hearts. Declarer had taken eight tricks and West could not avoid conceding a ninth. In practice, he had discarded a spade and a diamond. Declarer exited with a spade and had to score a second diamond for plus 750. The diamond trick conceded on the go had left the defense badly placed. Plus 750.

Kokish, who overcalled 1NT over Hanna's third seat 1♠, declared from the North side and got a heart lead from Lebi. Perhaps naively, he led the ♠10 to dummy's queen, Hanna's ace. A heart knocked out the ace, and it was no longer possible to clear clubs since East's hearts were established. He played ♣AK, spade to the nine, and another club, but there was no longer a route to nine tricks. Down one; minus 100, 13 imps to LEBI.

In the CWTC, GORDON won the third quarter 52-10 and led by 92 imps, 156-64. An approach was made by the members of Team WINESTOCK: "If you buy the first round, we're prepared to repair to the bar for the rest of the evening."

CNC Continued from page 32

Canada's team for the Women's Olympiad in Maastricht, Netherlands, Autumn 2000, would be Dianna Gordon-Katie Thorpe, Rhoda Habert-Beverly Kraft, and Francine Cimon-Martine Lacroix. It would be the first taste of international competition for Martine, who started playing with Francine less than a year ago.

Meanwhile, the CNTC players would not be ready for Miller Time just yet.

Fourth Quarter (Boards 55-72):

With BARAN trailing by 37 imps, this was the first deal at the table where Molson-Kokish faced Carruthers-Cannell ...

Board: F64
 Dealer: W
 Vul: N/S

West
 ♠ Q109432
 ♥ 754
 ♦ 106
 ♣ J8

North
 ♠ K7
 ♥ AQJ63
 ♦ AQJ
 ♣ 642

East
 ♠ AJ
 ♥ 1098
 ♦ 8742
 ♣ AQ107

South
 ♠ 865
 ♥ K2
 ♦ K953
 ♣ K953

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Carruthers	Molson	Cannell
1♠	2♥	X*	XX*(1)
2♠	2NT	3♥	P
3♠	All Pass		

(1) heart honour

Molson likes fairly sound three-bids and a weak 2♠ is not part of the partnership style, so it was either a craven pass or 1♠ for Kokish. The light opening bid spawned a somewhat bizarre series of actions, with Molson demonstrating impeccable judgment, bedazzling the well-heeled Cannell in the process. 3♠ went quietly two down; minus 100.

"Okay, Kokes," volunteered Drewsie good-naturedly, "We know you're here." That, in our opinion, speaks well for the guy. With North/South on for a vulnerable game, would this initial deal herald the start of another fourth-quarter comeback by BARAN? Not by a long shot.

West	North	East	South
Hanna	Mittelman	Lebi	Graves
P	1♥	P	1NT
P	2NT	P	3NT
All Pass			

Hanna led a spade. Graves played dummy's king, as who would not? The defenders took six spades and the ♣A and the result was minus 150. The result of Eric and Markland's excellent adventure was not an 11-imp gain but rather a 9-imp loss. The only good news for BARAN was that both pairs at the table thought the board a likely gain for the trailing team.

After Kokish-Molson went down in a somewhat unlucky aggressive game (LEBI would gain 6 imps when Lebi-Hanna stopped safely), the mood was somewhat less electric. However:

Board F66
 Dealer: E
 Vul: Neither

West
 ♠ Q9852
 ♥ 109
 ♦ Q42
 ♣ K63

North
 ♠ A
 ♥ K52
 ♦ KJ10965
 ♣ 942

East
 ♠ KJ76
 ♥ AQ83
 ♦ A873
 ♣ J

South
 ♠ 1043
 ♥ J764
 ♦ —
 ♣ AQ10875

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Carruthers	Molson	Cannell
P	3NT	1♦	2♣
Double	All Pass	P	P

CNC Continued from page 33

Molson led his third-best spade. Declarer won performance, led a club to the jack and queen, and cashed the ace. He conceded a club to West, who finished spades. Declarer parted with a heart, and a heart through the king left it open to the defense to cash two hearts and exit with the ♦8 to tuck declarer in hand to lose two diamonds. East played a low diamond after winning the first heart, however, so declarer escaped for four down, minus 800. Not much of a triumph for North/South, and when Mittelman-Graves went one down in 4♣ at the other table, BARAN recorded a 13-imp gain. South felt that North should run from the double. It's easy to argue the other side of this case. Who do you think is right?

When Carruthers-Cannell went minus 200 in a pushy (but fairly normal) 4♥ on the next deal, it seemed that BARAN was fighting back strongly. There had been some chances but the remaining nine deals were considerably less lively. A Carruthers-Cannell phantom save cost 6 imps (it might have been 8). A good Mittelman-Graves 3NT brought in 7. But LEBI had this deal:

Board: F60 North
 Dealer: W ♠ AJ10
 Vul: Neither ♥ 10842
 ♦ 982
 ♣ A92

West	East
♠ 7	♠ 865432
♥ AQ3	♥ K75
♦ AK76	♦ 53
♣ KJ1085	♣ Q4

South

♠ KQ9
♥ J96
♦ QJ104
♣ 763

Table One

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Carruthers	Molson	Cannell
1♦	P	1♠	P
2♣	P	2♠	P
2NT	All Pass		

Table Two

West	North	East	South
Hanna	Mittelman	Lebi	Graves
1♣	P	2♠	P
2NT	P	3NT	All Pass

With spades three-three, there was no defense to 3NT, a magical contract indeed. 6 imps to LEBI.

BARAN won the fourth quarter 40-38 (three sets had been decided by one or two imps) but LEBI won the 1999 Canadian National Open Teams Championship 160-125. There were some mis-steps all around, but overall the bridge was quite good in the final. Robert Lebi-Nader Hanna, John Carruthers-Drew Cannell, four very tired middle-aged guys, had well and truly earned their title.

A few days after the event, a much-beloved teammate, Ted Horning, died after a fierce battle with cancer. The LEBI team decided to go forward for Canada as Team HORNING.

CANADIAN WOMEN TO ATTEND THE

IOC GRAND PRIX – For the first time in recent years the ACBL will send a team that includes **both** US and Canadian players to an IOC Grand Prix. The event will be the 2000 IOC Grand Prix. The Women's match (a 4-pair team) will have 8 players. "The seventh and eighth members will be selected from the Zone Two NCBO other than the USA finishing highest in the 2000 Venice Cup - Canada. **The pair will be selected from the winning team of the 2000 CWTC in a manner to be determined by the Canadian Bridge Federation**".

A special acknowledgement to all the proof-readers without whom this magazine would not be nearly as accurate and easy to read! Aidan Ballantyne, Jan Anderson, Nicholas Gartaganis, and Leo Weniger.

New Bridge Titles from
Master Point Press

www.pathcom.com/~raylee/



**Eddie Kantar teaches
 Modern Bridge Defense**
INTERACTIVE CD-ROM EDITION
Eddie Kantar \$69.95

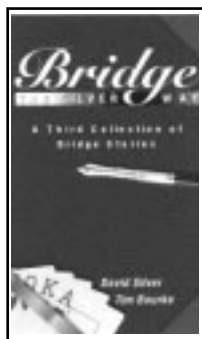
Based on the book that won the 1999 ABTA Book of the Year Award, this software includes animated hand diagrams, interactive quizzes,

"Kantar tackles the hardest part of the game and wins hands down" ZIA

THE BRIDGE TECHNIQUE SERIES
David Bird & Marc Smith \$7.95 each

The first three titles in a twelve-book series that will cover all aspects of card-play technique:

- Entry Management**
- Tricks with Trumps**
- Safety Plays**



Bridge The Silver Way
David Silver & Tim Bourke \$19.95

This collection of new stories again chronicles the adventures of consulting bridge expert Professor Silver. Hemingway, Dickens, Benét and Philip Dick are among the writers whose work is parodied here, and when the Professor takes on Death himself in the ultimate post-mortem analysis, you just know who's going to come out on top.

Call your bookstore or bridge supplier, or
 Master Point Press, 22 Lower Village Gate, Toronto,
 Ontario, M5P 3L7 (416) 932-9766





MAY 2000 • VOL. 30, NO. 2

BRIDGE CANADA EDITOR

Jude Goodwin-Hanson
20284 121st Ave
Maple Ridge BC V2X 9S4
Phone (604) 465-2933
Fax (604) 465-2979
e-mail: jude@cbf.ca

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Madeline Conrad
Alex Fowlie
Fred Gitelman
Doug Heron
Eric Kokish
Beverly Kraft
Bill Lim
Ron Mikulin
Eric Sutherland

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.
2719 East Jolly Place
Regina Sask. S4V 0X8
can.bridge.fed@sk.sympatico.ca

ADVERTISE IN BRIDGE CANADA

Full Page \$400
Half Page \$200
Quarter Page \$110
Business Card \$80

Canadian Funds
10% Discount for Full Year
Money due in advance of
Publication. Fax, Email, PDF or
Snail-mail. Price includes simple
layout or typesetting.

DEADLINE
For September 2000
Bridge Canada
JUNE 20, 2000

CALENDAR

COPC

National Final • Bridge Week
June 28-29, 2000 Halifax NS

CWTC

Zone representatives must be reported no later than May 8, 2000
National Final • Bridge Week
June 24-29, 2000 Halifax NS

CNTC

Zone Finals must be completed by May 8, 2000
National Final • Bridge Week
June 23-29, 2000 Halifax NS

ROOKIE-MASTER

ERIN BERRY
Wednesday, Oct 25, 2000

Y2K INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

May 11 ACBL Wide
May 8-14 ACBL Wide
Aug 11 ACBL Wide
Aug 7-13 ACBL Wide
Oct 11 Canada Wide

CHARITY FUND GAMES

Nov 20
Nov 20-26

CBF ON THE WEB

www.cbf.ca

news
updates
events
information
contacts

CANADIAN REGIONALS 2000

May 17 - 22 Palais des Congrès
Ottawa/Hull
Marion Dupont 613-237-8857
www.igs.net/~edalsj/OONCR.html

June 12 - 18 Trade & Conv. Centre
Penticton, BC
Margaret Pearce 250-492-0582
www.cbf.ca/BinBC/Pen00

June 28 - July 3 Bridge Festival 2000
"CANAT" Regional, Halifax, NS (p4-5)
Kathie Macnab (902) 443-4676

July 4 - 9 Hilton Hotel, London, ON
Mary Lynne Howe 519-657-9793

July 25 - 30 Cambrian Shield Regional
The Caruso Club, Sudbury ON
Lloyd Harris 522-6223

July 24 - 30 Radisson Airport, Calgary, AB
Delores Hedley 403-254-4995
members.home.net/mulc/calgary/cal.htm

Aug. 21 - 27 Split Regional
Ambassador Hotel, Kingston, ON
Ed O'Reilly 613-541-0034 bridge@kos.net
Canadian Legion, Newcastle, NB
Shirley Matchett 506 622 7648

Sept 12-17 Markham ON
Hans Jacobs (905) 841-6046

Oct. 3 - 8 Laval (Montreal), PQ
Sheraton Laval Hotel, PQ
Tibor Bertalan (514) 935-8452

We will be attempting to keep this list current on the CBF website, with hot links to the regional's web site if there is one. This service is FREE to all Canadian Regionals. Submit your regional corrections, updates and URLs to jude@cbf.ca. March 1, 2000. It is highly recommended that you confirm with tournament contacts before making hotel or airline reservations.



CBF HOTLINE: (306) 761-1677 FAX: (306) 789-4919