

# *canadian bridge digest*

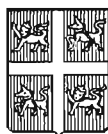
CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION  
FEDERATION CANADIENNE DE BRIDGE



NOVA SCOTIA  
NOUVELLE-ECOSSE



YUKON



TERRE-NEUVE  
NEWFOUNDLAND



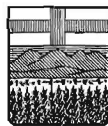
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND  
ILE DU PRINCE-EDOUARD



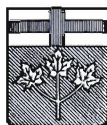
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
TERRITOIRES DU NORD-OUEST



QUEBEC



ALBERTA



ONTARIO



NEW BRUNSWICK  
NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK



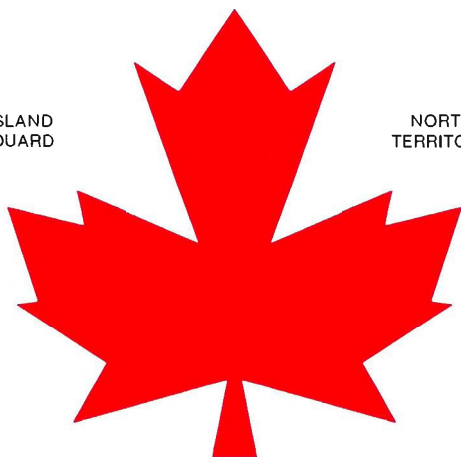
MANITOBA



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
COLOMBIE BRITANNIQUE



SASKATCHEWAN



# Canadian Bridge Digest

ISSN 0317-9281

87 Grandin Village  
St. Albert, Alberta  
T8N 1R9  
Phone (403) 458-7332

Published quarterly.

Issue XXV11 Vol. 10 No. 1

Deadline for next issue is  
March 10, 1980.

Please send articles  
**SPECIAL DELIVERY**  
to ensure deadline date.



**Ron  
Bass**

**Jill  
Savage**



This year's Olympiad Fund games  
will be held on Monday, May 5, 1980  
and Tuesday, October 7, 1980.

## CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

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### JOINT EDITORS

Ron Bass & Jill Savage, 87 Grandin Village St. Albert, Alberta



# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Just one of the things that cross a bridge editor's desk are the results of North American Championships. The latest event took place in Cincinnati and it was encouraging to note that many Canadians turned in fine performances there.

On numerous occasions many deserving persons are not recognized publicly for fear of overlooking someone just as deserving. However, that seems like a cop-out to us, and we've decided to take our lumps and list the results so that those who have not had an opportunity to view the re-caps will know how well Canada fared.

The many, many pages of results have been carefully scrutinized (until our eyes blurred and our vision faded) and following are those who ranked in the overalls.

If any name is inadvertently omitted, it is merely an oversight and one we will correct if notified.

Two brothers from Calgary were top winners. They took home the Rookie Grand National Title, even though they were forced to abandon their usual bidding system and play Class "A" conventions only.

They were David and Paul Chen, Calgary, Alberta. Another outstanding performance was turned in by George Retek of Montreal, P.Q., new member of the Board of Directors from District 1. George was the winner of the Individual with a score of almost 75 per cent.

Following are persons who placed in the overall standing in various events:

★ Wayne Timms and Bryan Culham, Kitchener; Don Presse, Dartmouth; Victor Goldberg, Halifax; John Gowdy and Michael Roche, Toronto; ★ Neil Chambers, Vancouver. ★ Rene Mancuso, Notre Dame de Grace and ★ Mark Molson, Montreal; Neil Kimelman, Winnipeg and Bob Kuz, Selkirk; Ted Horning, Thornhill; Sammy Kehela and Gerry Charney, Toronto; Karen Allison, Toronto; ★ Eric Kokish and Peter Nagy, Montreal; L. Greenspoon, Downsview; and Elji Kujirai, Toronto; Roz Citron, Willowdale; Cliff Campbell and Dave McClellan, Thunder Bay; Cam French, West Hill and Caroline Pascoe, Sudbury; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Morris,

Oshawa; Margaret Veness, Flin Flon; Cathy and Wayne Stewart, Thompson; Don Gladman and John Lang, Calgary; Sophie Moffatt and Art Romanick, Sudbury; Norm Elston, Toronto; Alex Sutton, Islington; Mrs. K. Allen, Toronto; Joe Currie and Gul Baldurson, Halifax; Lynne Milner, Toronto; Eric Murray, Toronto.

☆ Placed overall in more than one event.

A myriad of other Canadians had section tops during the tournament. Unfortunately space (and eyesight) prohibit listing all these.

Congratulations to all winners!

# That's how they play it in Saskatchewan

By Dr. W. J. Lucas, North Battleford

As my partner had his usual bad day once again, we failed to qualify out of our local club for the Unit game in the Grand National Pairs. Luckily I heard that there is an ACBL sanctioned Duplicate game in Butlerfield, Sask. (population 400) where the local druggist (himself a competent bridge addict) was able to educate nine LOL's in the intricacies of the finesse and direct a weekly Duplicate with a 2½ table Howell movement.

As they were holding a playoff I think I've found the place where even I can qualify. We drove for an hour and on arrival I was surprised to see that there were seven full tables. Obviously good news travels fast and there are other non-qualifiers trying to sneak into the Unit final through the back door. We sat down against the druggist and his partner, a kindly LOL who looks at all strangers with great trepidation. Out of the chute the following hand comes up:

South Dealer: Non-Vul

## NORTH

S A 3  
H KQ 10 3 2  
D Q 10 9 8  
C K 6

## WEST

S Q 10  
H J 9  
D K 6 5 2  
C J 9 7 5 2

## EAST

S 8 5  
H A 7 6 5  
D A J 7 4  
C A Q 4

## SOUTH

S K J 9 7 6 4 2  
H 8 4  
D 3  
C 10 8 3

## The Bidding:

South	West	North	East
3S★	P	P★	Dbl
P	4C★	4S★	Dbl★

All pass

★

I love to preempt!

★★

I played with this guy before and 2½ quick tricks are not enough to raise his preempts

★★★

More trepidation

★★★★

She just might bring this home or perhaps the nut had a better preempt for a change

★★★★★

Got the city slickers!!!

Opening lead: Heart J, covered by Q, A.

Druggist competently played Diamond 7 to get to his partner's hand for the obvious club shift to set the contract. She takes her Diamond king and now (after a full minute) the kindly LOL on my left layed down the Heart 9!

In retrospect she thought either: a) with both finesses working 4 clubs is cold on an automatic simple squeeze in the red suits so +100 will not be a good score, or b) the druggist gave me heck last week for switching suits all the time.

I will never know which one. At any rate I think here is the reason I came here. All I need is an even break in spades with the Queen on side and I was presented with an otherwise unmakeable contract. I take the trick, lead the Heart 2 and ruff with the Spade Jack. If this holds I will play Spade King, low to the Spade Ace and dump two clubs on the hearts.

Naturally LHO over-ruffs, leads a club, druggist cashes the Ace and Queen and leads his last heart. I feel in my bones that no matter how I guess it will be wrong. If I rise with the King I still have to guess whether the original spade division was Q 10 x - 8, or Q 10 - 8 x, so I play my RHO for the 10 and insert the 9. The resulting -500 set the tone for the evening. I never want to see the druggist and his LOL's again!

# The Coriolis Effect In Duplicate Bridge

By L. E. Davidson, B.A., B.Ed.,  
and E. B. Kroshus, B.Ed.,  
Moose Jaw, Sask.

In every kind of competitive game some effort is made to minimize any directional advantage that may accrue to one competitor due to sun, wind, field conditions or the like. Changing ends at halftime, horseshoe courts running North - South to equalize the effects of the evening sun are well known and accepted to be "fair" procedures. In ordinary "kitchen" bridge some attempt is usually made to minimize directional influences by having the players rotate in some predetermined or perhaps random way to allow each player to reside in the position which "gets the cards" at some time during the competition. Duplicate bridge attempts to do a similar thing in "one winner" movements and accomplishes complete "fairness" with regard to direction insofar as Team of Four competitions are concerned. Unfortunately, there are significant directional influences in one class of competition regularly held by all duplicate bridge clubs and at sectional, regional and national tournaments. These are single sessions championships in which the overall winner is determined by comparing the best North-South pairs score directly against the best East-West pairs score. Aside from the fact that these pairs at no time in the competition hold the same hands and that they are being compared with entirely different fields it is our purpose to prove that there are purely directional influences at work favoring the East-West pairs in this type of competition.

## REASON FOR THE STUDY

At our club seasoned pairs are asked to sit North-South because they are usually more experienced in scoring procedures and thus could be expected to minimize scoring error since it is the

responsibility of the North player to do the scoring. The expected side effect of this procedure should be to place the stronger players in the North-South field and it would be expected that a disproportionate number of "overall" winners would come from this field. Inspection of the data below which are the results of games held during the past year in which North-South winners were compared with East-West winners to determine the overall winner suggests to the authors that the opposite is true. The disproportionate number of overall winners comes from the East-West field. Some directional influence must be at work!

## THE DATA

Number of Games (N)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Number of E-W								
Winners (E)	0	0	1	1	2	3	4	
$0.125N^2$	0		0.125		0.5		1.125	
						2	3.125	
							4.5	
								6.125


TABLE 1

Table 1 shows the relationship between the number of games and the number of E-W winners along with an empirical relationship which seems to fit the data rather well especially when it is considered that the domain of N is restricted to the set of whole numbers. Since only 6 of this type of game are conducted annually it is pointless to pursue the data further as any more would undoubtedly support the original set. Extrapolation of the data seems to support the  $0.125N^2$  relationship.

## MATHEMATICAL ANALYSIS OF THE DATA

The empirical  $0.125N^2$  relationship





leads to a simple differential relationship.

As N increases and becomes greater than 4 it is apparent that an E-W winner is a certainty. For much larger N's, say 13 because this is the largest number bridge players are likely to encounter in their game a three way tie for first from the East-West field is predicted.

Since the games are conducted sequentially it is apparent that N is directly related to the time which means that as time goes on it becomes more and more certain that the overall winner must come from the E-W field.

## PHYSICS OF THE SITUATION

The authors consider that in situations as macroscopic as bridge competitions a Newtonian approximation of the physics involved is adequate so only passing reference to quantum mechanics will be made out of deference to the wide range of backgrounds occurring in the bridge playing populace. The IMPULSE = MOMENTUM CHANGE interpretation of Newton's Law is central to the conclusions we have reached.

To define the factors and terms: The first is commonly used in many competitive situations - who among us has not heard some sports commentator at some time during a competition refer to some "change in the momentum" of one or the other competitors? This factor is intuitively obvious and is especially apparent in bridge competitions. Players at sectional tournaments and higher levels of competition are routinely admonished that "bridge is a timed event" and penalties for slow play are part of the rules of the game. The other factor in the relationship "F" is suggested by the authors to be the widely known coriolis force ever present in all situations on the surface of the earth present due to the rotation of the earth. Although this force is usually considered to be negligible in most competitive games situations when it is coupled with the first factor (which in bridge competition seems to be

indeterminately long) their product (the IMPULSE) is anything but negligible. To further explain the coriolis force whose influence is usually relegated to the bathroom (see acknowledgements below) a homey illustration might be in order.

Consider a ball projected straight North from a "stationary" pad at the equator. At the instant of launch the rotation of the earth has imparted an Eastward component of velocity to the ball in the amount of one earth's circumference per day. As the ball travels Northward the angular velocity of the earth remains constant but the linear velocity of points on the earth's surface diminishes as the circumference of the earth measured along that latitude is shortened. The Eastward component of the velocity of the ball will have an apparent Westward component of speed relative to the point on the earth over which it is travelling. For example at the Saskatchewan - North West Territories border (Latitude N60 taken for ease of calculations) the ball will have an apparent Westward component of velocity of half of an earth's circumference per day.

## RESULT

It is self-evident that at any point on the earth's surface (i.e. the site of the competition) the coriolis force is constant. It should be enough to convince any astute reader that as time goes by any North-South momentum will be changed to an East-West momentum. Any East-West momentum originally present would simply be enhanced by subsequent coriolis impulses - the change in momentum then is clearly cumulative and always favours E-W. This supports the mathematics previously presented that predicts a certain E-W overall winner after 4 games. The whole can be summarized by the quotation (acknowledged below) "Toward morning" (as time goes by) "us farmers" (East-West pairs) "get lucky." (momentum shifts in our favour).

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Preliminary clues to the importance of the coriolis effect in bridge are attributed to a cagey old bridge player who upon entering a new site for competition inquired immediately of the direction of the bathtub. The authors seized on the suggestion that the c.o.b.p.'s experience at the game had led him to the right place to ask questions but that perhaps the question was not the right one.

Also before he assumed his position at the table he was heard to remark "Toward morning us farmers get lucky." Another clue was the repeated taunt aimed at the authors by winning East-West pairs to the effect that we were runners-up in the overall awards having soundly beaten the rest of the North-South field only to find that some East-West pair had a higher percentage score. Another clue came from seasoned East-West pairs who play inordinately slowly thus maximizing the first factor. They probably do this without knowledge of the beneficial effect of the coriolis impulse but have simply discovered empirically that it works. Victor Mollo gives implicit support to the advantage to be gained by fast play on the part of North-South when he has Horrible Hog present an apparently impossible grand slam problem to Colin the Corgi. Colin's immediate analysis of the best way to make the hand is to suggest that the declarer (South) play the hand with lightning speed switching from suit to suit in order to increase the possibility of a revoke.

## CONCLUSION

The publication of this article is likely to cause serious hardship on the directors of duplicate games as the knowledge herein will cause all competitors to insist upon occupying East-West positions - a situation which will preclude further competition. The authors, with due regard for the social implications of their findings, propose one or more of the

following methods of minimizing or eliminating the coriolis effect from duplicate bridge.

1. Playing rooms might be constructed at an angle of 45 degrees to grid directions such that pairs would become SW-NE and SE-NW. It is recognized that with property values the way they are this will be a definite hardship on clubs run as proprietorships.

2. A dizzying proposal is to have the clubs or perhaps each table mounted on some kind of rotating turntable so that during the competition players would be continuously changing direction.

3. Encourage fat kibitzers to lean toward the North-South pair thus contributing to the mass factor in such a way as to compensate somewhat for the East-West coriolis advantage.

The theory has been tested - the authors played East-West one Wednesday at the club hoping to take advantage of the coriolis forces. We came in second last and were about to scrap the whole theory until it dawned on us that North is East at our club. We do not see this as any argument against the logic of this thesis.

## FOOTNOTES

1. An attempt by the authors to disguise the location of the club from which the data was selected so as not to embarrass players to whom this paper refers directly or indirectly.

2. Americanized spelling is used here to further disguise the location origin of this study, consistent with footnote 1.

3. Mollo, Victor, **Bridge in the Menagerie**, ACBL Bulletin, March 1977.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Our apologies to Professors Davidson and Kroshus for editing their fine article so severely. The profundities of scientific data were overwhelming to our non-scientific minds. We trust the excellence of their work is not diminished in any way, and that this will not be the last article we receive from these resourceful authors.

# That's how it's done in the East

(This article has been reprinted from the Metro Telecaster with the kind permission of Mr. Don Dobson, Halifax, N.S.)

North	East	South	West
Pass	Pass	1S	4H
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
4S	All pass		

The downfall of many good bridge players is that they frequently conceive the game to consist of many generalities. The truth is that top level bridge depends upon the sum of thousands of tiny particulars.

Eric Balkam, of Halifax, is a player who understands as many details of the game as anyone I've met. Moving to Halifax from Fredericton about four years ago, he has won every championship played in the Atlantic Provinces.

As well becomes a person who has a fine grasp of the importance of detail, Balkam is in his final year of the C.A. degree with H.R. Doane & Company, chartered accountants.

Today's hand was dealt in a local tournament. Both elegant and precise, Balkam's play shows a good example of how the top players "read" the opponents' distributions. His approach to the play of the hand is the only one that works. If any of my more erudite readers are able to prove me wrong, I'll be pleased to hear from them.

Most pairs were in four spades, today's south being the only declarer to be successful in that contract.

Dealer: North Both Vulnerable

	North	
	S J932	
	H 432	
	D J65	
	C 1075	
West		East
S 8		S Q65
H KQJ10876		H 95
D K7		D Q842
C KJ6		C 9842
	South	
	(Balkam)	
	S AK1074	
	H A	
	D A1093	
	C AQ3	

Opening lead: King of hearts

Holding four of his partner's spades, North correctly concluded that his side wouldn't have many defensive tricks in that denomination.

Winning the opening lead in hand South led one round of trumps and played a low diamond. Forced to win the King, West continued hearts, ruffed by declarer.

After much thought, Balkam now made the brilliant play of the ten of diamonds. Winning his Queen, East shifted to a club on which Balkam played low. West won the Jack and played a third round of hearts. Ruffing this in hand, declarer went to dummy with the Jack of diamonds, finessed a spade, extracted trumps and discarded a club from dummy on the Ace of diamonds. By the simple process of cashing Ace of clubs and ruffing his last club in dummy he came out of the fray with only three losers.

A fetching bit of addendum about Balkam is that one of his favorite partners is his girlfriend, Sharron Josey, of Halifax, who is one of the top female players in Canada.

Usually a mixed pair partnership leads to great shallows and much misery. If one or the other is the predominant player (and this almost invariably obtains) the miasma of suffering is something akin to the rising and dancing heat waves from the floor of a great desert.

Not Balkam and Sharron. They are as happy at the bridge table as they are in life.

**NOTE:** Since the publication of the column, Eric and Sharron have become Mr. and Mrs. Eric Balkam.



# CBF Treasurer's Report

by Aaron Goodman, Treasurer

To the President, Directors and Members of the Canadian Bridge Federation:

At end 1978, I submitted my 10th consecutive annual report of financial operations of the Canadian Bridge Federation. Customarily reports covered the year from January 1 to December 31, and, as I have found, were not available in time for publication in the first, usually February, issue of the CBF Digest. Consequently, individual members received no information about our financial operations until late in the year. Observing that in December, there is really little activity in the funds, and that most expenditures have already been made, I propose departing from past procedure so that this year's financial reports can appear in the first 1980 issue of the Digest. My report for 1979 therefore, will cover 11 months only, January 1 to December 1, 1979.

Statements hereto attached will show:

a) Receipts and disbursements on both Membership and Olympiad Fund account (maintained separately) indicating in each case the year end cash position, and

b) a listing in detail of payments and contributions made in 1979 by Units of the C.B.F. and by affiliated Clubs, listed separately for Membership and Olympiad Fund account.

Comparative figures are given for the years 1978 and 1977.

On membership, account our support from member Units reached almost, but not quite, maximum \$16215.50 for 1979 (plus \$708.00 previously unpaid 1978 dues), a marked increase over \$14,394.00 realized in 1978. Several Units, notably Ontario 166, show a substantial gain in membership with increased payments to the C.B.F. Where there are Units which have failed to pay assessed dues, and there are but a few, I

continue to urge Zone Directors to contact and try to bring home to these Units, that their support, no matter how large or small, is still important to the well being, indeed to the very existence of the CBF. Strive for 100% support from each Zone.

The CBF in 1979, published three Digests, costs of two of which, March and August, are seen to be \$4495.53. The November issue, as yet unbilled by the ACBL, will cost about \$2450.00. Our new Digest Editors, Bass-Savage expect to produce four Digests in 1980, with estimated costs based on above figures, running close to \$9000.00. In paying the ACBL for publication of the Digest, we suffer an Exchange loss of over \$300.00 per issue, a substantial but unavoidable addition to over-all costs.

Expenses of our Calgary meeting of Directors and of Members also runs higher than in previous years. Hotel rates for rooms and food are reaching astronomical levels. Expenses of Directors attending the Calgary meeting of both Directors and Members, including our past president, came to \$4526.75, while Hotel charges for meeting rooms, etc. came to \$582.12. While Directors reduced the anticipated cost of a second 1979 meeting by holding a telephone conference meeting at a cost of \$1524.43, serious thought should be given to ways and means of effecting economies to lower the ultimate cost of meetings to the CBF.

The 1978 year end balance in Membership Account was \$27,167.10. Dues collected in 1979 amounted to \$16,923.50, while interest earnings on Bank deposits was an appreciable \$4284.61, altogether an available total of \$48,371.21. Deducting expenditures as listed, \$17,337.89 leaves an on hand balance of \$31,037.32. Outstandings, though, are to ACBL about \$2500.00 and to accounts payable about \$700.00,

which when paid will reduce the on hand balance at year end to about \$27,800, not appreciably changed from year end 1978 - but some improvement.

On Olympiad Fund account, we realized in 1979 \$8352.22 - a marked decline unfortunately from \$9165.89 realized in 1978, \$9677.00 in 1977, and \$10,776.85 in 1976. Our two Canada Wide Olympiad Fund games, plus a Summer Olympiad Fund game, produced 1018 Tables played at 98 sites which yielded but \$6096.75, pointing to a far lower attendance than in previous years. There must be, and we must seek some way of promoting our Canada Wide Olympiad Fund games both to produce a healthier turnout and increased many Clubs and/or Units hold but one game annually in support of the Olympiad Fund - and some not at all. Canadian players participating in International events have established a fine record of performance. If Canadian participation is to continue, Olympiad Fund games must be held much more often by Clubs

and Units than was the case in 1979.

We were fortunate to receive from the ACBL \$4051.49 being 75% of the net realized at the 1978 Summer National Olympiad Fund game held at Toronto.

This added to the proceeds of other Olympiad Fund games brought total receipts to \$12,403.71. Taking into account \$12,168.64 brought forward at year end 1978, and listed expenditures of \$1588.41, our Olympiad Fund shows at Dec. 1, 1979 an on hand balance of \$22,983.94. Before we become complacent, however, let us remember that in 1978 when costs of travel and hotel were much lower than now, the CBF paid out close to \$15,000.00 to partially cover expenses of sending six pairs and one team to compete in the Olympiad Pairs event in New Orleans. Which means, that we must carefully budget expenses of participating in International events, while continuing to seek ways and means of raising additional monies to finance our participation.

## CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 1, 1979 RECEIPTS

	MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNT	OLYMPIAD ACCOUNT
1979 Membership dues	16215.50	
1978 Membership dues (paid in 1979)	708.00	16923.50
Interest earned on deposits		4284.61
Proceeds of Canada Wide Olympiad Games:		
Apr. - 26 Sites, 318 tables		2222.00
(Jul) Aug. - 34 Sites, 284 tables		1988.50
Sep. - 38 Sites, 416 tables		2886.25
Proceeds from other Olympiad Fund Games		755.47
Contribution from Toronto Easter Regionals		500.00
From ACBL, 75 of proceeds Int. Fund Game, Summer Nationals		4051.49
	21,208.11	12,403.71
Brought forward from Dec. 31, 1978	27,167.10	12,168.64
 TOTAL available funds, 1979	 48,375.21	 24,572.35

## DISBURSEMENTS

F.A. Baragar, Executive Secretary		1500.00	
COST of CBF Digest:			
A.C.B.L. Nov. 1978	1846.90		
Mar. 1979	1511.73		
Aug. 1979	<u>1927.92</u>	5286.55	
Bob Brooks - Mar. 1979	432.90		
Bass/Savage Aug. 1979	622.98		
Nov. 1979	<u>433.79</u>	<u>1439.67</u>	
Miscellaneous items		103.50	
A. Goodman, 1978 honorarium		300.00	
Expenses of Directors attending meetings of Directors & Members, Calgary, including Past President Kissen		4526.75	
Cost of meeting by telephone conference, replacing 2nd 1979 meeting		1524.43	
S. Borg, expenses relating to Novice competition		318.20	
A. Kisen - telephone & mailing charges		239.59	
Expenses of Bass/Savage, editors attending meeting, Calgary		177.00	
J.T. Murphy, telephone & postage		67.97	
Secretarial work at meeting & photostats		176.85	
Calgary Inn, cost of meeting rooms		582.13	
F.A. Baragar, telephone, photostats, postage		330.42	
Printing, postage, telephone (part 1978)		295.14	
A. Goodman, Xerox, Postage, Tel.		118.50	
Bank Charges		4.13	
F.A. Baragar, tel., Xerox, postage		297.07	
A.C.B.L. for two Canada Wide Olympiad games			1003.00
A.C.B.L. table fees April c/w Olympiad games			497.91
CBF Charity Fund - returning sum paid in error			87.50
		<u>17,337.89</u>	<u>1588.41</u>
Balance on hand, Dec. 1, 1979		<u>\$31,037.32</u>	<u>\$22,983.94</u>

### BRIDGE BOLTS

(Overheard at the local Bridge Club)  
 "Partner, everytime you put me in  
 six, I can only make five; and when  
 you put me in four, I can only make

three; shouldn't that tell you  
 something?"  
 "It does, it does, but you keep bid-  
 ding the suit first!"

District 1 will hold a district-wide Chari-  
 ty Game on Tuesday, April 15, 1980.  
 District 1 comprises Units 194 and 230 in

the Atlantic Provinces; Units 151, 152  
 and 199 in the Province of Quebec; and  
 Unit 192 Eastern Ontario.

# CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

## RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY UNITS - JAN. 1st to DECEMBER 1st, 1979 with Comparative 1978-1977.

### MEMBERSHIP

### OLYMPIAD FUND

1977

1978

1979

ZONE 1.	1977	1978	1979	1977	1978	1979	
ACADIAN UNIT 230	602.00	308.00	311.00 ('78) 299.00 ('79)	974.50 263.00°	733.30 294.00°	185.00 72.00 59.50 49.00 56.00	Fredericton DBC (4) Fundy DBC Montague Central DBC Moncton DBC Newcastle DBC
CANADIAN MARITIMES 194	673.00	729.00	781.00	364.00	74.00 1032.24°	91.00 35.00 69.00 77.00	Cornerbrook DBC Yarmouth DBC Bluenose Br. Club Truro DBC

### ZONE 2.

### OLYMPIAD FUND

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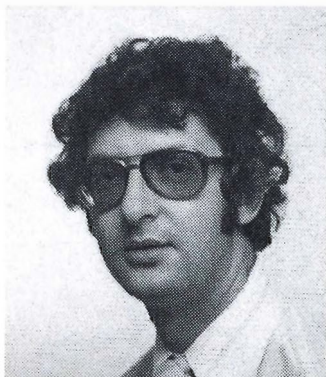


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QUONTA UNIT 238	430.00	411.00	396.00	409.00	318.50	63.00 Falconbridge DBC 91.00 Noranda DBC 77.00 Porcupine DBC 105.00 Sudbury Unit 73.50 North Bay DBC
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# Canadian Bidding Contest



by Allan Simon

In presenting this column, we have two purposes in mind:

1) Self-improvement: Readers are encouraged to solve each problem (and, indeed, to send their answers to me); in the next issue, they can compare their answers — and more important, the reasoning behind the answers — with the experts.

2) To introduce our expert elite to a wider public.

Let's set the stage for the first set of problems:

-Our bidding system was defined in the November issue. Basically, we are playing five-card majors with a minimum of artificial conventions (negative doubles through two spades, weak twos, etc.)

-Our first set of twelve panelists are, in alphabetical order:

**SHARRON BALKAM**  
(Halifax, N.S.)

The former Miss Josey modestly writes that she is no expert; but her well-reasoned answers attest to the contrary.

**AIDAN BALLANTYNE**  
(Vancouver)

A recent Life Master, Aidan has been

on a two year tear through B.C. Regionals, winning everything in sight.

**JACKIE BEGIN**  
(Montreal)

Mme Begin won her first National championship in 1952. A bridge player's bridge player, she hasn't slowed down since.

**BILL CAMPBELL**  
(Fredericton, N.B.)

Rarely travels to important tournaments in central Canada; but many consider him the top player in New Brunswick.

**BOB CROSBY**  
(Edmonton, Alta.)

The captain of the amazing Edmonton team that won it's district's Grand National Team title seven years in a row.

**SAM GOLD**  
(Montreal)

Now in his 70's, his accomplishments (fourth in 1964 Olympiad, deviser of movements, patron saint of most of Montreal's young experts) would fill a book.

**TED HORNING**  
(Toronto)

Is well known for his syndicated column Canadian Bridge. Placed an unlucky second in the 1978 Blue Ribbon Pairs in Denver. Has a great way with cards and words alike.

**NEIL KIMELMAN**  
(Winnipeg)

A charter member of a small group of Winnipeggers who have been sweeping Prairie Regionals.

**SHARYN KOKISH**  
(Montreal)

Is the girl who has everything: Great looks, a member of Canada's Women's

Team, 2500 masterpoints, and a husband, Eric, who is considered by many (mainly his parents) to be Canada's top bridge player.

**BOB KUZ**  
(Selkirk, Man.)

Is another member of the Winnipeg mafia. Kuz and Kimelman were the only Canadian pair in the top 10 in the Men's Life Masters Pairs at the Cincinnati Nationals.

**DAN MATHIESON**  
(Regina, Sask)

Like Campbell, is not that well known outside his home province, but is a terror in Saskatchewan and District 18 tournaments.

Finally, from the history books we have unearthed a link with Canada's past, the winner of the 1949 Non-Masters Pairs (you could look it up), Toronto's **ERIC MURRAY**.

**FEBRUARY SOLUTIONS**

(A) Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds:

S:73	H:QJ105	D:AK8532	C:A
West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1D
2C	Dbl.	5C	?

The scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
5H	7	100
Double	4	70
Pass	1	50
5D	0	50

*The conservative element gets to speak first:*

**MURRAY:** Double. A plus is a plus in a plus (I hope)

**CAMPBELL:** Double. Take my sure plus; doubtful five hearts can make; even if we have a heart fit, there are liable to be bad splits.

*But a greedy majority voted for five hearts:*

**HORNING:** Five hearts. This bid seems to be the midpoint between ultra-conservatism (**Take that, Eric Murray!**) and wild abandon. If partner continues to six with AK,A in the majors, I hope finesse works and diamonds behave.

*Why? Is the overtrick so important?*

**KIMELMAN:** Five hearts. It seems to be the time for natural bidding. We might even have a slam. Partner should infer that I have at least a second round club control.

**GOLD:** Five hearts. Risky but refuse to stay fixed when even slam is possible.

*To sum up: There is no guarantee five hearts will be a great success (partner does not even promise four hearts). But there are slam chances and winning players apparently prefer to resolve close decisions in favor of the more aggressive alternative. An instructive problem.*

*I do not want to leave this problem without discussing the bid suggested by BALLANTYNE, namely a forcing pass. In a lengthy treatise, Ballantyne argues that a pass combines the advantages of five hearts and Double but is less unilateral than either. An attractive argument, but the fact remains that no other panelist considered a pass forcing in this sequence. Readers, take heed: Do not use a forcing pass unless you trust partner 100% I should know; When I held the South hand, I passed, and so did everybody else. +100 was not a top.*

B IMP's, neither vul., South holds:  
S:AQ6 H:J96543 D:A10 C:A7

West	North	East	South
Pass	1S	Pass	2H
3C	3H	Pass	?

Scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
4C	8	100
3S	3	70
6H	1	60
5H	0	50
4NT	0	50

*In spite of the panel's near-unanimity, this problem is extremely tough. Even if we assume that the trump suit is set (but see Campbell's answer), there is no scientific way to determine whether partner has the right cards for six or seven. Also, consider that we may well succeed in an unmakeable contract if we simply leap to six without divulging our precise holding (e.g. if partner holds KJxxxx KQxx Jx x West may rise with a doubleton King of Hearts at trick two). So I go along with my fellow Albertan:*

**CROSBY:** Six hearts. Not enough room to find out about the Spade King and the AK of trump, so a direct jump to six hearts might give partner the notion to carry on to seven with the AK of trump. Now it will be his fault if the spade King is offside.

At the other table, West leaped to on-ly 6H at his second turn and North **DID** double. South didn't read this as North intended and assumed a trump stack. He passed and led a club. E/W took all 13 tricks to add +1860 to the team total, a maximum swing of 24 IMPs! True, true!

*Most panelists cue-bid four clubs, although: a) by the time they are done cue-bidding they'll be at the six-level anyway; b) bypassing three spades will make it difficult to convince partner you hold AQx of his suit) and c) every panelist had different ideas on what to bid on the next round.*

**MURRAY:** Four clubs. Five hearts appears superficially attractive but there are many hands where partner may have good trumps, e.g. KQ10x but no real play for six.

**BALKAM:** Four clubs. If partner bids four hearts, I bid four spades.

**KOKISH:** Four clubs. To be followed by five Hearts.

**MATHIESON:** Four clubs. Over four diamonds bid five clubs.

**HORNING:** Four clubs. I intend to use a trump asking-bid next.

*Finally, the arguments for three spades:*

**CAMPBELL:** Three spades. This approach-forcing method is the only way to get to seven spades in case partner holds something like KJxxxx AKx Jxxx - void.

**BEGIN:** Three spades. I have two more cue-bids left over. The subsequent bidding should make it clear I am worried about trump quality.

*Not to mention your worry about which suit is trump.*

(C) Rubber Bridge, N-S vul., South holds:

S:K3 H:1032 D:K6 C:AKJ1083

West	North	East	South
-	1C	Pass	?

Scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
1D	4	100
3NT	4	90
1H	1	50
2NT	1	50
3C	1	40
5C	1	30

*This problem falls smack-bang into a hole in standard American. I have no suggestions to offer, so let's sit back and snicker as the panel valiantly tries to improve:*

**KIMELMAN:** Three no-trump. There are two reasons I did not choose the more "scientific" three clubs. First of all my two King-doubletons scream for the contract to be played from my side. 3 NT still appears the most likely contract. I would not be upset if partner took another call as he would not make a slam try at rubber bridge with a "close" hand.

**KUZ:** Three clubs. Describes my hand best. Don't really like any temporizing bid.

**BALKAM:** One diamond. Would rather bid one heart but I could end up being supported at the four level.

**CROSBY:** One diamond. Appears that 3 clubs is limit so I manufacture a



bid of one diamond and support clubs later. Should describe my 2-6 in the minors perfectly!

**HORNING:** One heart. This is one time when I would like partner to raise my non-suit. If partner bids no-trump instead, I hope the lead-inhibiting bid works against East as well.

**KOKISH:** Two no-trump. Only alternative is one diamond which may lead to complicated auctions. Will continue to four clubs over partner's 3 NT. Inverted minors, anyone?

**BALLANTYNE:** Five clubs. At least this expresses the strength in the trump suit. Jump shifts are too dangerous; partner might not get the joke. Three no-trump might get the hand played from the right side but is misleading also-short on HCP and long on tricks.

*I was going to award this bid MINUS 30 points, but then I remembered:*

*a) Aidan and I were once teammates in a Swiss; my partner and I played miserably and we went 3 and 5. But Aidan was marvelously sympathetic and now I can repay him.*

*b) The guy is a better bridge player than me*

*c) He looks like he may know karate.*

(D) IMP's, both vul., South holds:  
S:- H:Q6 D:K10987 C:A107542

West	North	East	South
1S	1NT	Pass	?

Scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
2S	7	100
3C	2	60
3D	1	60
3S	1	50
4S	1	20

*Yet another toughie! Panelists had to decide whether to bid out their pattern (but which suit to bid first? The higher ranking or the longer one?) or to cue-bid (but at what level?). Let's start with the natural bidders:*

**KOKISH:** Three clubs. Will bid diamonds next.

**CROSBY:** Three diamonds. A void in spades opposite a no-trump overcall may not necessarily be an asset. If partner bids 3 NT I will jump to five clubs which should show no slam interest. An initial spade cue-bid would overstate the value of this hand

*And here are the cue-bidders:*

**BALKAM:** Two spades; if partner does not bid a minor I cue-bid three spades without question. A very good hand to watch partner squirm over cue bids.

*And she says she's no expert!*

**MATHIESON:** Two spades, then three diamonds over the likely 2NT response and four clubs over a probable 3NT. A small slam is likely but we may have wasted spade values.

**BALLANTYNE:** Two spades. If partner bids hearts I'll bid 3NT. Three spades directly could be mis-interpreted as psych-exposing.

*That danger did not deter the man on whose lips millions hang every morning:*

**HORNING:** Three spades. The jump cue should be unusual enough to suggest my intent. Against frequent psychers I would make life easier for partner by bidding three diamonds.

*Finally, I present the Wild Bull of the Prairies. I don't know whether he is serious, but readers are entitled to a good laugh:*

**KUZ:** Four spades. I've been told I'll be the only one bidding this but any other logical sequence is also committing us to the five level and we might lose the diamond suit. And I can't have hearts since three hearts is forcing.

(E Rubber bridge, N-S vul. and a 60 partial, South holds:

S:J965 H:Q95 D:Q1074 C:Q8

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	2D	?

## Scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
Double	6	100
2 NT	6	90

*Ah, finally a nice, simple, everyday-type problem. We have a good chance to close out the rubber but we might get richer by doubling an impertinent East. I never know what to do in these situations, so I thought I'd consult the experts. Well, I still don't know.*

*Arguing for two no-trump:*

**GOLD:** Two no-trump should win the rubber. E-W may have a cheap save in clubs or hearts, since West probably has at most one diamond.

**CROSBY:** Two no-trump. Clear cut rubber bridge action. At five cents a point that comes to around \$30. At IMPs and duplicate I would come up with a different answer.

**KUZ:** Two no-trump. I'm going for the surest plus.

*And speaking for the double are the three ladies on the panel. Their comments prove that super-aggressiveness is the one trait a woman must possess in order to become a top-flight player.*

**KOKISH:** Double. A rubber bridge player's dream. The best time to double is when you are still a big favorite to win the rubber. Even better here they won't score a game if by some miracle they should make it. Please send me East's address and phone number.

**BALKAM:** Double. I rather like collecting numbers. I am certainly not in a hurry to have the gentlemen on my right as my partner.

**BEGIN:** DOUBLE!!! SLOBBER - DROOL - ALL THAT NICE RED BLOOD !!! I'm just as vulnerable with 60 on after the slaughter. I wonder if they still call these "money-makers"?

*Since the doublers are so vociferous in their arguments, I have broken the tie in their favour.*

(F Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds:

S:Q54 H:QJ76 D:AJ5 C:A65

West	North	East	South
1H	Pass	1S	Pass
2S	Pass	Pass	Pass

Which card do you lead?

## Scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
Spade x	9	100
Spade Q	1	80
Small heart	2	60
Any other card	0	30

*The trump lead was a winner by a wide margin.*

**MATHIESON:** Four of spades. You hope to get in twice with your minor suit Aces in order to pump spades again. Minus 110 will get most of the match-points.

**CAMPBELL:** Four of spades. Any other card could give away a trick.

**GOLD:** Four of spades. Will help declarer draw trump each time I'm in.

**BEGIN:** Queen of spades. If I'm going to be a hero, I might as well be flashy about it. (Unless partner has the stiff King, in which case I'll dredge up the old "pulled the wrong card, sorry partner" ploy)

*And a sneaky lead received minority backing:*

**KIMELMAN:** Seven of hearts. Club five and Spade four are my next choices. But they seem too risky. Heart echo might have some sort of effect on declarer.

*Let me end this column on a conciliatory note. Protected by my isolated location and my obscurity I have taken shots at a few panelists. In fact, the panel did an excellent job on a tough set of problems (the last hand for instance is from the Toronto Nationals. Only a trump lead -- yes, Jackie, even the queen -- or a low heart would defeat two spades. And only ONE defender in my section -- the one on MY left of course -- found that lead).*

*Thank you, panel. Next issue, a different set of panelists will appear. Try to anticipate their votes by sending your*

choices (on a plain piece of paper, together with your name and address) to:

**Canadian Bidding Contest**  
**Allan Simon**  
 1339 Hamilton St. NW  
 Calgary, Alta.  
 T2N 3W8

*The reader with the highest total will receive a book prize and will be invited to join the expert panel.*

*As I am writing these lines (on Dec. 3), solutions are still pouring in. The leader in the clubhouse is Richard Bickley of Regina with 560 points; however the editors have decided to extend the deadline until Christmas. The final results of the February contest will therefore appear in the next issue.*

*One more thing: I need your help. I would appreciate receiving problem hands suitable for this column. And I need names and addresses of experts in the following areas: Ottawa, Victoria, Quebec City and Saskatoon.*

### May Problems

(A) Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds:

S:643	H:875	D:Q8652	C:74
West	North	East	South
3H	Dbl.	Pass	?

(B) IMP's, both vul., South holds:

S:AKQ10975 H:J1065 D:97 C:-

West	North	East	South
Pass	1C	Pass	1S
Pass	3C	Pass	?

(C) Matchpoints, E-W vul., South holds:

S:QJ108 H:42 D:AJ32 C:K108

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	Pass
1S	3D	3S	?

(D) IMP's, N-S vul., South holds:  
 S:KQH:10863 D:A64 C:AKQJ

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1C
Pass	1D	1H	?

(E) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds:

S:3 H:K63 D:KQJ106432 C:8

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	4C	?

(F) Rubber bridge, E-W vul., South holds:

S:J63 H:1097 D:643 C:KQ92

West	North	East	South
1S	Pass	2H	Pass
3S	Pass	4D	Pass
4H	Pass	4NT	Pass
5H	Pass	5NT	Pass
6D	Dbl.	7H	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Which card do you lead?

In 1976, Bill Campbell of Fredericton set what might well remain a Canadian record for years to come. Mr. Campbell won seven out of eight Open Pairs Championships (in eight consecutive sectional and regional events). And to make it even more challenging, Bill performed this feat playing with a different partner each time...

### CAMEL ENTERPRISES

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194	Maritimes	781	6.0	681	108	167	118	116	103	128	49	95			
230	Acadian	646	4.9	540	85	157	109	103		109	41	42			
	CBF Zone 1	1,427	5.5												
151	Montreal	2,202	8.2	1,868	384	674	337	242		237	111	217			
152	Quebec	339	5.9	287	65	99	56	39		39	12	29			
192	E. Ontario	1,268	4.5	1,096	173	339	222	158		145	87	144			
199	Saguenay BA	410	5.9	325	76	112	54	47		78	18	25			
	CBF Zone 2	4,219	6.7												
166	Ontario	5,503	9.0	4,685	751	1,745	872	638		678	296	523			
	CBF Zone 3	5,503	9.0												
181	Manitoba	714	5.9	607	84	215	119	81		79	43	93			
212	Soo Int BA	201	3.1	171	18	41	31	24		43	20	24			
228	N. Wn Ontario	233	13.7	207	22	58	26	39		30	27	31			
238	Quonta BA	444	(.9)	379	59	136	73	76		54	14	32			
	CBF Zone 4	1,592	4.6												
390	Calgary	664	4.6	560	75	190	97	80		101	40	81			
391	Northern Alta.	720	7.6	601	78	217	108	92		109	43	73			
392	Lethbridge	155	2.6	127	10	37	25	12		34	11	26			
393	Med. Hat	63	18.9	56	12	16	10	7		13	2	3			
573	S. Sask.	423	2.2	345	31	119	90	50		75	26	32			
575	N. Sask.	468	4.5	391	44	106	101	66		61	31	59			
	CBF Zone 5	2,493	5.2												
429	Parksville	357	9.5	295	69	114	42	52		46	20	14			
430	Vancouver	1,600	3.6	1,343	234	459	225	202		200	98	182			
431	Victoria	314	11.3	267	36	74	35	48		44	26	51			
456	Quesnel	221	9.4	177	42	53	29	36		29	10	22			
571	Okanagan	409	.7	343	55	109	69	66		67	22	21			
574	Kootenay	226	(2.2)	184	14	61	47	36		46	10	12			
	CBF Zone 6	3,127	4.5												
	Totals	18,361	6.5	15,535	2,525	5,298	2,895	2,310		2,445	1,057	1,831			
	Growth %	6.5		5.7	11.4	6.4	2.2	1.4		6.9	10.3	12.2			

# Bridge Bionics

**Mrs. Fannie Ong**, of **Winnipeg** has agreed to act as consulting resident expert during the absence of Doctor Bridge-ette (whom, we understand offered unsolicited advice to a 6 foot 4 inch, 220 pound opponent.

## Rare Play

Dear Doctor Bridge-ette:

I feel so inadequate as far as my bridge is concerned. Just the other day a hand came up that makes me feel completely impotent. I was in 4S on this layout and failed to make my contract.

NORTH  
S 42  
H AQ10986  
D 1076  
C K8

WEST  
S 93  
H K53  
D KQ53  
C 7642

EAST  
S J107  
H 742  
D 92  
C AQJ109

SOUTH  
S AKQ865  
H J  
D AJ84  
C 53

The defence quickly cashed two club tricks and I won the spade return and ran a few more spades. West had heard my spade and diamond bids and discarded all his clubs and a diamond. I finessed the heart Queen and played the Ace hoping to drop the King doubleton. No such luck. Down one as I had to lose two diamond tricks.

I came under censure for the bridge players said I could have made the hand. I am at the end of my patience and thinking of quitting the game.

Resign myself.

Dear RESIGN MYSELF:

The play you mentioned is a rare play and I wouldn't lose any sleep over it if you failed to make the contract. I would wager over 95% of bridge players would not make the hand. You went wrong when you played the heart Ace, instead of any diamond from dummy. You had West in a stepping stone - a very rare play indeed.

The hand reduces to this end position:

S --  
H A10  
D 1076  
C --

S --  
H K5  
D KQ5  
C --

S 5  
H --  
D AJ84  
C --

S --  
H 7  
D 93  
C J9

Now on a diamond play from dummy, either the 10 or small to the Jack in hand would do, and West would find himself in an uneviable position. He could win but would have no safe return - if a heart, you finesse and play the Ace for 2 diamond discards; if a diamond, you win and the second diamond loser disappears. No doubt, the other bridge players made it, but only in the post-mortem.

## In the Congregation

Dear Doctor Bridge-ette:

I am a local clergyman. I have found your column to be interesting as well as sympathetic and human, which is why I am writing to you. In my congregation are bridge players who indulge in the game until the wee hours every Sunday morning. This has created quite a problem for I found I have the greatest difficulty in getting through to them. They are either completely comatose or mori-



bund thinking about the misplayed hands of the night before.

Blessed.

Dear BLESSED:

At least they still show up for your sermons. Remind them there are actually bridge players in heaven where all their finesses win and all their partners play flawless bridge. Then, do your best to get them there!

## Dumb One

Dear Doctor Bridge-ette:

My husband pretends to have laryngitis and hasn't spoken to me since we failed to defeat the opposing 3NT contract on this hand:

NORTH  
S AQ63  
H KJ10  
D KQ82  
C Q9

HUBBY  
WEST  
S J10  
H A863  
D 9754  
C K103

EAST  
S 9542  
H Q74  
D A106  
C J64

SOUTH  
S K87  
H 952  
D J3  
C A8752

South played 3NT on this auction:-

North  
1D  
2NT

South  
1NT  
3NT

Hubby led the spade Jack which declarer won with the Ace in dummy. A low diamond to the Jack won when I ducked. Then he went after the club suit by leading to the Queen, then Ace and giving up the third round. The heart switch came too late and declarer made four for a top board.

Hubby berated me for not stepping up with the diamond Ace in order to play a heart to establish our five tricks before declarer could make his nine. I just told him next time to lead fourth best from his longest and strongest suit and we could easily defeat the contract.

Who is the dumb one?

D---.

Dear D---:

I think the honours are split. Remember no bridge partnership is free of problems. Be realistic and play it like it should be - only a game. Now kiss and make up, and hubby's voice will soon be restored.

## Partner in Life

Dear Doctor Bridge-ette:

I'm getting suicidal! When we were going steady, Bill would play bridge with me and life was wonderful. Now that we are married he wouldn't play bridge with me on a bet. He says my bridge has gone to pot. And I don't even smoke!

Bridgely Beloved.

Dear BRIDGELY BELOVED:

Remind your husband that your figure hasn't gone to pot. And ask one of the local male experts to play with you. Give your husband a good overdose of competition and you'll never have to take one.

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# Haven't We Played This Hand?

by Ed Lichtman, Winnipeg

During a recent Regional, the Swiss qualifying produced match-ups whereby five of the strong teams in the K.O. were in the same bracket of eight. In fact, a team that was put to rest 72-5 would have been an odds - on favorite to win the other bracket. The semi-finals saw us facing a powerful Minneapolis squad.

After a pressure packed 26 boards we emerged with a massive four IMP margin. With victory in the final virtually assured, we quickly shifted the scene to the nearest watering hole (after pausing to check out the trophies on the way) where the pressure was relieved entirely.

The finals went as predicted and we were soon out of reach. Then; N-S Vul.

DEALER; EAST

NORTH  
S 109654  
H AK  
D 6543  
C J2

WEST  
S A73  
H 874  
D J7  
C KQ863

EAST  
S J  
H J9653  
D Q982  
C 1095

SOUTH  
S KQ82  
H Q102  
D AK10  
C A74

In second seat, I opened the south hand one diamond. West, who had been trying to create swings for some time, was undaunted by the fact that I had robbed him of the opportunity to bid his shortest suit and called one spade. When this came back to me, I reopened with INT and my partner raised to three (it's hard to see how we could possibly find four spades after that overcall). West,

his dirty work accomplished, decided he had psyched enough on this board and led the fourth best from his longest and strongest. Poor West was not pleased to see the club jack hold the first trick. Result 660 vs 650 . . . push. He was still muttering something about there being no justice as we took the cards from the next board;

E - W Vul.

DEALER; SOUTH

NORTH  
S Q10852  
H A862  
D K2  
C A7

WEST  
S A73  
H 754  
D 87  
C KQ864

EAST  
S J96  
H KQJ10  
D 1096  
C J103

SOUTH  
S K4  
H 93  
D AQJ543  
C 952

Before I could even say pass, West triumphantly slammed the king of clubs on the table and screamed, "I know what to do this time!" After a few seconds of stunned silence and some suppressed smirks, I turned slowly towards a puzzled West and said, "I've got some bad news for you . . ." He quickly shuffled through his cards again, smiled, and said, "nice joke!"

I felt rather sorry for the poor director as he fumbled through his little white bible. Finally he came up with; "South would start the auction and East was barred from bidding on her first turn. The club King would become a penalty card if N - S bought the contract which meant that it would be led if South was

declarer. If North was declarer he could demand or forbid a club lead." I had no idea what the correct ruling was in this weird and wonderful situation but this penalty is clearly inadequate because in all cases where North and South each take a call, East would be free to enter the auction knowing her partner's whole hand. However, we did not challenge the ruling for several reasons;

1) It was irrelevant as the match was in the bag,

2) The previous hand had gone so quickly East had no idea of what her partner held. All she knew was that she heard us mention the word "psych," and

3) In our "pressure relieved" state we didn't realize how inadequate the ruling would turn out to be.

The auction reverted back to me and I passed. West passed and my poor part-

ner went into the tank. West was marked with a 10 point hand so in any case where I could not respond to his one spade opening West would balance and E - W could score a vulnerable game. With the South hand passing, it was highly unlikely that N - S had a makeable game and further there was no guarantee that it was our hand, even for a partscore. After many long agonizing minutes, the hand was passed out. With North as declarer as would have been the case on our anticipated auction, East would have been prevented from leading a club since the club K was a penalty card; so nine tricks were certain at notrump. At the other table 3NT was bid and made result we lost 9 IMPs . . .

When West said his prayers that night, I'm sure he added an extra verse, "and thank you for giving me a second chance on that hand."

## Northern Alberta Unit #391 News

By Olive Macdonald

There is an old adage that in time of trouble everyone rallies around to give support. This was proved in Edmonton recently when Northern Alberta Unit #391 found itself in dire straits due to decreased attendance at Sectional Tournaments over the past year.

The Unit was on the verge of bankruptcy and went out to the various duplicate clubs in the city to ask for help. The response was overwhelming. The last week of November was designated as Unit Bridge Week. The majority of the clubs held a Unit game, a portion of the card fee given to the Unit fund. The winners of each game were invited as guests to attend the Unit Game of November 30. The free play winners were as follows:

Wetaskiwin Bridge Club: Dave and Roberta Allen;

Marie Perry Club: Helen Hatch and Clara Drews;

XY Club: Earl Sكتور and Art Jar-

dine;

Sherwood Park Club: Ken and Alberta Hutchings;

Centennial Bridge Club: Florence Longpre and Paulette Bosniak.

The Clubs that weren't able to hold a special game very generously donated a cheque to the fund.

The week came to a grand finale with a Unit Game held at the Klondike Bridge Centre on Friday evening, November 30. The turnout was most gratifying. A total of 21 tables entered into a fun night of a Pick-A-Pair event. Refreshments were served throughout the evening ably provided by board members Holly Nickerson and Chuck Moorhead. All who attended had a super time.

The winners of the event were Dick and Christie McKinney; Joan Foulkes-Jones; Judy Lindberg. Congratulations!

President Bob Toffan and fellow board members wish to express their sincere thanks for the support given to them at this time.

# Gruesome Foursome

By John Gilchrist, Winnipeg

Our group of bridge players have been irreverently dubbed the Gruesome Foursome for reasons that will become obvious even to the uninitiated as the following hands unfold.

None vul.  
East dealer

NORTH  
S 7  
H Q52  
D Q8642  
C AK87

WEST  
S AKJ54  
H AJ7  
D J107  
C 104

EAST  
S 862  
H K10984  
D 953  
C J5

SOUTH  
S Q1093  
H 63  
D AK  
C Q9632

The auction:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1S	2NT(1)	Pass	3S(2)
Pass	4D(3)	Pass	6C(4)
Pass	Pass	Pass	

(1) Not playing unusual NT's but North had heard somewhere that there was such a bid and he held both minors.

(2) South figured he had a mighty strong hand and thought the best way would be to cue bid the opponents suit, like the experts do. Anyway, they must be in the slam zone as partner had promised over 20 points by his 2NT jump bid.

(3) Something's wrong here. Better show partner my 5-card suit.

(4) I'll bid my 5-card suit. If partner doesn't like it, he can bid his diamonds again as I have the Ace-King.

West led the spade Ace and was a little disappointed that dummy held only a singleton. Didn't he bid no trumps? Some people will do anything. Why didn't I double the so-and-so. So West switched. To a diamond.

South rose to the occasion for he felt that he had been in a good contract when the dummy came down. He won the diamond with the King (better to conceal the Ace). After some thought, he decided that he could safely play another round of diamonds. Then two rounds of trumps ending in dummy. The diamonds were run discarding the losing hearts and the rest of the tricks made on a cross-ruff of spades and hearts.

West wailed that he held only two aces and the commotion became rather frantic after that.

The next hand was even more 'gruesome'.

None vul.  
East dealer

NORTH  
S A7  
H ---  
D K75  
C AQJ86543

WEST  
S Q953  
H 10973  
D Q84  
C 102

EAST  
S J106  
H AQJ8654  
D 9  
C K9

SOUTH  
S K842  
H K2  
D AJ10632  
C 7

## The Auction

West	North	East	South
		1H	2D
Pass	7D	Dbl	Pass
Pass	RDbl	Pass	Pass
Pass			

North thought he had a very good hand as he held a 7-card solid suit (?) and leapt to 7D and even redoubled to show his sheer power. The heart lead was ruffed and Club Ace played. After

some frenzied soul searching, declarer played a small club to ruff in hand. The diamond Jack was led and passed when West correctly did not cover. South commented that West should cover an honour with an honour when the Jack held. It was plain sailing from now on - diamond King, a spade to his King, Diamond Ace pulling all the trumps, then a spade to dummy to run all those clubs. It took a little while to tote up the score.

Rubber bridge is our main past-time every weekend until the wee hours.



## Who's Holding My Hand?



South dealer  
North-South Vul.

NORTH  
S J87  
H J852  
D 742  
C 843

WEST  
S KQ109  
H  
D Q6  
C AKQJ1092

EAST  
S A65432  
H Q  
D J53  
C 765

SOUTH  
S  
H AK1097643  
D AK1098  
C

(Deal submitted by Pat Lopushinsky):

You're sitting South, playing in the Canadian National Team Championships, when you pick up this beauty. It's the final hand of the final match and

you need IMPs.

Before you decide what the final contract should be, you have to decide how to open the hand. You give much thought to how best to keep the opponents out of the auction with their obvious spade fit.

The aggressive votes go to a 2 Club opening. Either way, the opponents nonetheless get to 6 Spades and you have the final call.

What do you bid? This time you don't even ask yourself who's holding your hand at the other table. It can't matter!

If you're looking at the situation realistically you probably bid 7 Hearts.

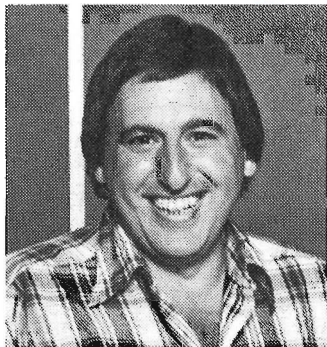
"Not the winning call," says Pat Lopushinsky of Edmonton (one of Alberta's leading players) who held the hand and bid the Grand. "As you can see, I couldn't pick up the Diamond suit and went down one. However, the other South also bid seven, so we pushed the board."

(Show me a player who says they'd double with the South hand, and I'll show you a paper "lion".)





# Bridge Unabridged



By Eric Kokish

## ONE FOR THE ROAD

**BOTH VULNERABLE  
WEST DEALS**

**NORTH**  
S 653  
H J654  
D VOID  
C J98543

**WEST**  
S VOID  
H AK1092  
D AQJ108762  
C VOID

**SOUTH**  
S AKQJ108  
H VOID  
D 43  
C AKQ107

**EAST**  
S 9742  
H Q873  
D K95  
C 62

### THE BIDDING:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
P	1H	DBL	1D
P!	P	7S	7H
P	P	P	DBL

### OPENING LEAD: Heart ace

Regular followers of this feature will be familiar with the name: Baran. Boris has been one of the city's biggest winners in recent years and his exploits have provided plenty of copy. Both Boris's parents are bridge players too and today's deal will help to explain in part the

secret of Bo's success. Genealogy's role can't be overlooked.

At first glance it would be easy to blame the computer for this freak deal, but the cards were dealt at random in a recent Swiss game and the players have only themselves to blame for the traumatic result that eventuated.

Boris's father, Arnold Baran, was South at one table. John Geerstsen was West and Tom Gorman was East. North was a distinguished stranger. West could, of course, have opened with a strong two-bid, but he correctly reasoned that he would have a better chance to gauge his side's potential if he started with a quiet 1D. This approach will usually be the winner, but when the cards run wild, anything can happen. East scraped up a response of 1H. South's approach emulated West's: go slowly and gently on freak hands. He started with a takeout double. West knew big things were in the wind, but he felt that he had to take a definite position immediately, before the opponents could get together in the black suits. He took his best shot when he leaped all the way to 7H!

North might have doubled to suggest a diamond lead, dummy's first bid suit, but he couldn't be sure that South would read his bid correctly (without prior discussion). He didn't know that South would have converted to 7S with confidence if he could only have known about his partner's diamond void! Without the double, South was flying blind when 7H came around to him. Despite all those black aces and kings, South couldn't dare believe that the opponents couldn't make 7H. He took the safe and intelligent course - he elected to "sacrifice" at 7S. West knew he might be doubling a cold contract, but what could he do? He led a high heart and the dummy brought forth simultaneous oohs and aahs. Arnold Baran quickly wrapped up all 13 tricks for +2470.

## BOTH VULNERABLE SOUTH DEALS

		NORTH	
		S 5	
		H A53	
		D AK65	
		C K10873	
WEST		EAST	
S A10943		S J872	
H Q107		H J84	
D J843		D Q9	
C 5		C J964	
		SOUTH	
		S KQ6	
		H K962	
		D 1072	
		C AQ2	

### THE BIDDING:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
		1NT	P
3S	P	3NT	P
P	P		

## Science and Safety

The scoring method was IMPs. The primary objective: Find the safest contract and then secure its success.

Harold Goldstein's opening no-trump was not a misbid. The partnership range was 11-14 HCP. Jay Saks' 3S response was a neat gadget designed to keep the partnership out of 3 NT when there was a serious flaw in the spade suit. Conven-

tionally, 3S showed 1-3-4-5 or 1-3-5-4 distribution. With a dubious spade holding opener could move toward game in any other strain. Here, Harold had considerable "slow" strength in his partner's short suit so he settled for 3 NT.

The opening spade lead went to the jack and king. It would be so easy to blissfully ignore the possibility of a bad club break and simply cash the ace queen. Down you would go. It was clear to declarer that he needed only **four** club tricks for his contract and equally clear that East was a "dangerous opponent" who would be able to return a killing spade should he obtain the lead. Could suitable means be found to ensure the contract against a bad club break? Certainly. Harold crossed to the diamond king and led the ten of clubs! East correctly ducked and the ten held. The hand was over and declarer chalked up an overtrick for his trouble. Had the ten lost to West's jack, the spade queen would still be protected. Had East covered, Harold would have won the ace, crossed to dummy's heart ace to run the eight of clubs. If that lost to the nine, the queen could later be overtaken. Even a diamond return by West would not tangle communications. Cute, huh? At the other table N/S tried their 4-3 heart fit and went one down.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

Because it is impossible to contact every Canadian bridge player personally, I would appreciate it if you would publish this appeal for me.

I would like very much to publish a book dealing with the history and evolution of bridge in Canada, working up to the present. Frankly I'm interested in just about everything, but the real meat of the book will be stories about Canadians, about tournaments, about the game in relation to the times. I'd like to include plenty of pictures, bridge hands with a special meaning for special people, statistics, folklore, human interest touches, etc., but I'm really starting from scratch and my own roots don't go back to the old days or extend to every corner of the country. This project will only work if I can succeed in collecting an incredible amount of material and I'm hoping the idea will turn you on a bit and convince you that collaboration would be an interesting and worthwhile experience.

The objective is to create something of which all Canadians can be proud, and to ensure the universality of the concept, I'm hoping to get some input from all sectors.

I haven't thought of nearly all the angles, but I've attempted to itemize some of the things that prove useful and would welcome any thoughts you have.

**INPUT FOR A CANADIAN BOOK OF BRIDGE:**

Name (including nickname):

Occupation:

City:

Year of Birth:

Brief Autobiographical Sketch:

Bridge achievements (Major; personally gratifying:

Dates:

Other players involved

Impressions

Anecdotes

Tournament reports or newspaper columns:

Anything printed that might be valuable in piecing together history:

Bridge hands: (these might not be your own. In any case it's always best to include as many names of participants as possible).

What would you like to see or not see in this book?

Names (and if possible, addresses/ phone numbers) of any other people that I might not readily think to consult. Names of newspapers in your city that have had local bridge columns: Photographs, scrapbooks, etc.

If you do decide to send something that you'd like returned, please let me know. I'm very trustworthy and discreet. I'm hoping to do some travelling and if you think a personal interview would help a lot, let me know that as well.

Perhaps this whole thing is an impossible venture, but I'm really enthusiastic and I hope I haven't imposed too much by soliciting your advice and/or assistance. Feel free to tell me off — I'm getting used to it after a few short years in bridge politics!

Thanks very much for anything you can do. I hope to hear from you over the next few months.

Yours sincerely,  
Eric Kokish

From the October, 1979 issue of International Popular BRIDGE monthly, England.

## BRIDGE BOLTS

Very late, in the late night duplicate, with its usual wild results, the director called for order. "Ladies and Gentlemen, we have a new record. Someone has lost 3400." As the triumphant declarer took his bow, a tipsy voice came from a far corner -- "Could he have made it on a different line of play?"

-Anna Kinella.

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