

CANADIAN

FALL 1990

bridge

CANADIEN



The Canadian Bridge Federation is in good hands. Katie Thorpe and Doug Heron understand administration. They know how to play championship bridge. And most important, they're nice people too!

Continued on page two



DR. ALVIN BARAGAR

Edmonton

Alvin was associated with the CBF for many years. He began as the CBF's Executive Secretary and, in recent years, acted as the CBF's International Events Representative. This role required him to represent the CBF to the World Bridge Federation and also function as Chef de Mission at World Championships.

Alvin, a passionate supporter of Canadian Bridge, gave countless hours of his free time in trying to improve our organization and our country's international standing. Even now, as a CBF retiree, Alvin continues to provide input on these issues, evidence of his deep personal commitment to the game. We need more like him!

ALLAN SIMON

Calgary

Allan began his contribution to the CBF as the inventor and coordinator of the Canadian Bidding Contest, a longstanding feature in the Canadian Bridge Digest. Allan took over the editorship of the Canadian Bridge Digest in 1985. Under his stewardship, the magazine continued the steady growth that had begun with previous editors. Allan brought superb professionalism to the job. As Editor, he achieved a consistently well-produced bridge journal with varied, high quality content. Thank you, Allan, for a job well done!

THANK YOU!

The bridge players of Canada are greatly indebted to the following individuals for years of generous service to the CBF.

BARB TENCH

Ottawa

Barb Tench served briefly as the CBF's Executive Secretary before demands in her personal life forced her resignation from the CBF early last year. Barb was a great asset to the CBF Board, because of her professional skills and her perpetually energetic and cheery disposition. Thanks, Barb, for all your help.

SANDY MCILWAIN

Vancouver

Sandy took over from Allan Simon as coordinator of the Canadian Bidding Contest. Running this feature was a demanding, time-consuming task which Sandy tackled reliably and enthusiastically. Sandy developed the column into both an education tool for up-and-coming players and a forum for communication between players from all around the country. He would probably have continued his contribution forever, but, luckily for him, the column has been discontinued because of the new magazine format and publishing schedule. Thanks, Sandy, for all you've done for Canadian Bridge.

C O V E R



KATIE THORPE

Now in her second consecutive term as CBF President, Katie Thorpe has demonstrated the personal commitment, tenacity, skill, and diplomacy required of a top administrator. But she is also a bridge champion! In April she won the COPC title playing with John Carruthers. Last year, her women's team finished third in the Australian Venice Cup. Her squad will represent Canada in women's competition again next year, having recently won the 1990 CWTC Championships.

DOUG HERON

Doug was elected to the CBF Board last year and has quickly established himself as a skilful, dependable administrator. Did his new responsibilities detract from his performance at the table? Not quite! In April he placed third in the COPC playing with Doug Fraser. Then, last June, his team won the 1990 CNTC. His Ottawa squad will now represent Canada in the upcoming tri-country playoff with Mexico and Bermuda. He is in hot pursuit of a berth at the next Bermuda Bowl!

EDITORIAL

THE NEW CBF

The CBF has undergone a fundamental restructuring. This is the result of a new financial arrangement between the CBF and ACBL whereby the ACBL now collects, on the CBF's behalf, a \$3.00 (Canadian) CBF membership fee from prospective Canadian ACBL members. In the long run, this should generate some \$50,000 annually for the CBF's General Account, about double what is now possible through levying dues from member units. As a result of this system, the CBF is now a full-fledged membership organization, rather than merely a cooperative of Canadian ACBL Units. The CBF is re-examining its constitution, objectives, and mandate in light of this change. Therefore, now is the time for individual members, whether newcomers, recreational players, or veteran competitors, to voice an opinion on how the new CBF should unfold. One consideration is that, being a true membership organization, we must think about growth, namely promotion of the game and signing of new players. The CBF and ACBL, now intricately wed financially, share this objective and can help each other. The CBF Board welcomes your ideas on this important concern.

THE NEW MAGAZINE

Last January the Board decided to discontinue using the ACBL Bulletin as a vehicle for distributing the CBF Digest and instead mail the CBF publication directly to its members. I shall outline the many reasons underlying this decision in the next issue.

The Board also decided to change the name of our publication to "Canadian Bridge Canadien". The new title symbolizes a shift in magazine content to include as much educational and general-interest material as possible, while still reporting on the events and activities of our organization. The new focus is dictated by the change in the CBF constitution.

The new magazine will involve a marginally greater expense. However, the CBF Board believes this to be a worthwhile investment in the long-term, as I will explain next time. Meanwhile, even with the projected increase in income from the new financial arrangement with the ACBL, we can afford only two



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issues per year at this time. The magazine will be published once in the fall, and once in the spring. The fall issue will concentrate on CBF events and activities, whereas the spring edition will contain material having a broader appeal. Overall, the Board wants the magazine to continue to act as a vehicle for communication between Canadian players, club managers, and administrators, as well as provide the means of developing a uniquely Canadian bridge identity. In that respect we invite maximum contribution from readers! Since that approach may sometimes yield amateurish results, we ask that you bear our organizational goals in mind when making the inevitable comparison between our product and the ACBL Bulletin, which is now written and produced entirely by professionals.

LANGUAGE POLICY

In the aftermath of Meech, language is as sensitive a topic as ever. The CBF's relatively scarce resources prevent publication of translations of original articles. Therefore, we ask forgiveness from unilingual readers who may experience frustration when faced with content they cannot understand. In any case, it is hoped that the patchwork style that should result from this editorial policy fairly reflects the regional and cultural patterns inherent in our nation. Despite all that, if the magazine brings us closer together as bridge players, then we will have achieved our aim.

THE STAFF

Jude Goodwin-Hanson is our new publisher. It is thanks to her talents and hard work that this issue arrived at your doorstep.

I am your new, 'temporary', editor. I shall try my best to continue the high standard forged by Allan Simon, Ron Bass and Jill Savage, and others.

The last time the CBF published the Digest was last January; this issue of the new magazine has been a long time in the works. The long interval between news is due mainly to financial problems (difficulties in implementing the new ACBL-CBF system) and logistical problems (difficulties in setting up our new distribution system). Paradoxically, the editing has been a rush job, because of my other professional and personal commitments. Jude and I promise to get all the bugs out by the next issue.

Meanwhile, please be patient with us!

Aidan Ballantyne

FALL 1990

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DEADLINE

For Next Issue
January 31, 1991

PHOTO CREDITS

John Armstrong, Toronto
George Retek, Montreal

HOT LINE

The CBF now has a fulltime CBF Coordinator, Jan Anderson, to run our national events and generally take care of business. Those who have any questions or comments concerning the CBF or its events may contact her directly.

(306)761-1677





Saskatoon's HARPER - CAMPBELL WIN NABC OPEN PAIRS

With 70.3% Game

Don Campbell (left) tells us about a trip to the Fort Worth 1990 Spring NABC with partner Barry Harper (right).

We went to Fort Worth to represent District 18 in the North American Open Pairs. Our initial high expectations for that event were perhaps misplaced, as evidenced by twin 45% games the first day. Quickly eliminated, we took a day off to recuperate; I played golf and Barry found a Japanese garden, fed goldfish, and contemplated life. That evening, we debated whether or not we had what it took to compete in the upcoming NABC, even in a side game. Long into the night we concluded that, if we were going to place last, it might as well be in the NABC Open Pairs.

In the Open we had an auspicious start when, on the very first hand, the opponents pushed us into a low percentage spade slam, doubled. The right view led to +1660 and a cold top. After two sessions the field was cut from 308 to 168 pairs. We qualified handily and entered the final two sessions with a 68.2 carry over (152 maximum).

The first final session was our 'dream' session. We scored three cold tops and 32 or more (38 top) on ten other boards. After 6 rounds we were about sixty points above average. Then we picked up the pace!

After two passes, at favourable vulnerability, I held the south hand in this deal (see top of next column).

DLR: N
VULN: E/W

♠ J
♥ 8763
♦ 87653
♣ K63

♠ Q1087
♥ A105
♦ AK10
♣ A105

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K62
♥ QJ942
♦ QJ4
♣ 84

♠ A9543
♥ K
♦ 92
♣ QJ972

N	E	S	W
P	P	1♣	1NT
2♥*	DBL	2♠	DBL
3♣	3NT	P	P
P			

I felt I had three options: 1♠, 2♣, or my actual choice of 1♣. I chose 1♣ since I preferred a lead to my touching honors. I thought I would probably be able to show my spades later. West overcalled 1NT. Barry followed our theory of maximum interference and, showing fine card evaluation, brought a 'toy' into action. He bid 2♥ which conventionally shows hearts with a 'better minor'!

East humourlessly doubled, I bid my spades, West doubled that, and Barry ran to 3♣. This would have been a good contract for us (-500 at worst), but East bid 3NT. Barry led a low club, holding declarer to nine tricks. 3NT with any other lead makes 690 and 4♥ makes either 650 or 680. Minus 600 was worth 36- out of 38.

This was the beginning of a string of great results and we eventually finished 5 1/2 boards above average, or 70.3%. That gave us almost a two-board lead on fellow Canadians Marc Stein and Doug Fraser from Montreal. As yet, neither one of us had as much as *placed* in the overalls at an NABC. We were praying the second session would be rained out! We entered the final segment hoping not to embarrass ourselves. We didn't seriously believe we would win. However, we agreed to temper our aggressive style somewhat, due to our big lead.

The last session was tension-filled.

ADRIAN HICKS

1910-1990

A TRIBUTE

A giant has left our world, not soon, if ever, to be replaced. Adrian Hicks, Western Canada's first Life Master, passed away at his home on May 23rd.

The cause of death was a heart seizure. This alone may have surprised those who knew him, for he put his heart into everything he addressed. He overcame adversities in the last few months of his life, including three family deaths: his wife June Budd, his brother George, and his sister Audrey Graham. Adrian rarely complained, finding strength in his beloved dog Lucky, his never-waning interest in the sporting world, and the game that he loved. Even when barely released from intensive care, Adrian informed his doctor that he fully intended to honour his commitments at the Penticton Regional in June. The doctor disagreed, not surprisingly. When he arrived home just three hours before his passing, he advised his niece that he planned to play at the Haida Bridge Club, his second home, perhaps as early as the next day.

During the war, Adrian served Canada

We played a tight game; neither one of us wanted to make the one bad call or play that would cost the event. A small share of our afternoon's luck led to a 57% game, enough for a two-board margin of victory over the rest of the field. Our feelings about winning? Amazement, excitement, disbelief, and shock!

To our further surprise we received widespread media coverage after returning home. Newspapers, television, and radio interviews publicized our win.

Perhaps our victory will boost the game in Canada!

with courage, enlisting in the Seaforth Highlanders in 1940. He often related that he held his platoon record for days in the brig. Nonetheless he served for five years with distinction.

Adrian's integrity at the bridge table was unquestioned. He often lost patience with his partners, but only because he wanted them to rise to their potential, which would almost invariably fall short of his own.

Adrian became a Life Master in 1954 and won many Regional Championships. Perhaps his finest hour came in Missoula, Montana, 1959, when he and Isadore Epstein of Tacoma, WA, won three regional titles and finished second in another event. Adrian's declarer play and defense were outstanding! Even in his later years he was a most feared opponent at the Haida.

It was this writer's honour and pleasure to visit Adrian regularly over the last few years of his life, share reminiscences, and partner him in a few sporting ventures, happily with a degree of success. I will miss you, you old son-of-a-gun, and hundreds of others will remember you with fondness and respect.

Rest in peace, Adrian, you will not be forgotten.

Phil Wood



THE 1990 CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS NATIONAL FINAL

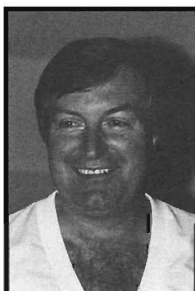
This year the CNTC National Final was played in Toronto, at the Novotel Hotel in North York. The playing site was near perfect and the event was superbly organized thanks to Katie Thorpe, Steve Cooper and family, and other dedicated locals. The competition was directed by Stan Tench with his usual competence and efficiency. This time, Stan's stiffest test was his computer, which, in the later stages of the event, began resisting the scores which Stan was trying to feed it.



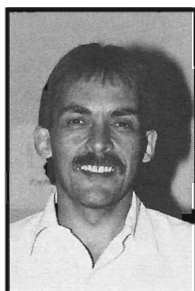
Doug Heron



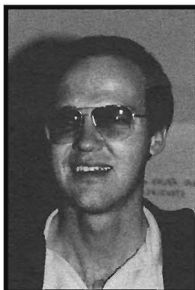
Dave Willis



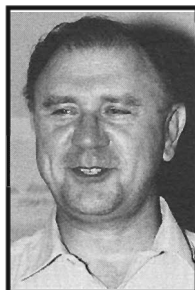
John Valliant



Mike Betts



Randy Bennett



Ed Zaluski

1990 CHAMPIONS

A total of twenty-two teams representing various parts of the country qualified through zone playdowns for the three day round-robin. The top four round-robin finishers qualified for single knockout play-offs. Round-robin results between playoff qualifiers were carried over, to a maximum of 20 IMPs.

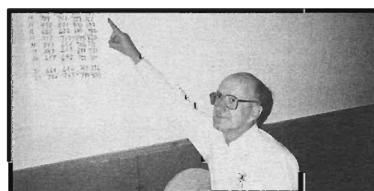
The round-robin winners earned the right to select either the third or fourth-place finishers as their semi-final opponent.

The round robin was dominated throughout by HERON (Doug Heron, Ed Zaluski, Dave Willis, John Valliant, Randy Bennett, Mike Betts), a veteran Ottawa - St. Johns - Fredericton combination whose adventuresome, yet relatively error-free, brand of bridge proved overwhelmingly effective. The defending champs, Toronto-based STEIN npc (Mark Molson, Boris Baran, Marty Kirr, Arno Hobart, George Mittleman) were without Mittleman's partner, Billy Cohen. The resulting logistic problems probably contributed to a slow start. Nevertheless, a midpoint surge propelled them into second place and into the playoffs. Their Toronto archrivals, MURRAY npc (John Carruthers, Allan Graves, Neil Chambers, Drew Cannell), finished a close third. The final play-off berth was claimed by a long shot, yet another Hogtown squad, CULP (Maureen Culp, Sam McCallum, Leah Milgram, Bill Milgram, Fred Lerner, John Sabino) who scored a big last round win to barely nip Winnipeg's TREBLE (Bill Treble, Tom Butterworth, Doug Fisher, G. Sekhar, Doug Fox, Roy Dalton) at the wire.



Second Place Winners

STEIN npc - George Mittleman, Mark Molson, Arno Hobart, Boris Baran, Marc Stein npc (Marty Kirr, not shown)



Stan Tench points to round-robin results (delinquent computer not shown)

ROUND ROBIN FINAL STANDINGS

1. Heron	1043
Ottawa, New Brunswick, St. Johns	
2. Stein (npc)	1000
Toronto, Montreal	
3. Murray (npc)	995
Toronto area	
4. Culp	920
Toronto area	
5. Treble	915
Winnipeg, Toronto	
6. Barton	909
Edmonton, Calgary	
7. McIntyre	898
Ottawa	
8. Milne	892
Toronto area	
9. Rayner	879
Toronto area	
10. Herold	868
Vancouver, Victoria	
11. Baldwin	852
Vancouver	
12. Berton (npc)	850
Toronto area	
13. Anderson	835
Thunder Bay	
14. Miller	826
Vancouver	
15. Fraser	810
Montreal, Toronto	
16. Tan	796
Halifax	
17. Hirsch	780
Montreal area	
18. Gartaganis	774
Edmonton	
19. Mitchell	753
Edmonton	
20. Holland	705
Nova Scotia, Montreal	
21. Gillespie	633
Ottawa, Toronto, Montreal	
22. Langevin	544
North Bay	

THE CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

HERON	5	63	112	148	177
CULP		36	73	106	142

STEIN (npc)	6	49	100	136	159
MURRAY (npc)		21	37	50	100

Semi-finals

And so it would be HERON vs STEIN in the final. The two teams had played each other at the very beginning of the event, during the first match of the round robin. Now they would meet at the end, this time with a National Championship on the line.

THE FINALS

HERON began the 72-board final with the maximum carryover as a result of a 20 IMP win against STEIN in the round robin. From all reports it would appear that neither team played up to its true potential. A large number of IMPs were exchanged, not all attributable to the swingy nature of the hands. The bottom line was that HERON never relinquished their lead, although the final margin was less than the original carry-over. In that sense, the National Championship was decided in the very first match of the round robin!

HERON	20	59	117	170	221
STEIN (npc)		48	105	156	209

Fatigue is often a factor during the final, as the hand at the top of the next column shows.

As East, Ed Zaluski could not remember if West's sequence showed four spades and long hearts or vice versa. He chose to bid 4♠ at his last turn, no doubt influenced by the fact that he held more of this suit.

The 4-2 fit played well enough after a club lead. Ed won in his hand, led a heart to the King, ruffed a heart, cashed the ♠Q,

DLR:E	♠ J63
VUL: E/W	♥ J1094
	♦ KQ
	♣ Q963

♠ AK97

♥ AKQ876

♦ 3

♣ A2

N	E
W	S

♠ Q4

♥ 2

♦ 109762

♣ KJ1054

♠ 10852

♥ 53

♦ AJ854

♣ 87

N	E	S	W
-	P	P	2♦*
P	2♥**	P	4♥
P	4♠?	All pass	

* Morgan 2D, a specialized convention showing either a balanced 22-24 HCPs or a hand of ACOL strength with two suits, one of which is a 4-card major.

** A waiting bid asking for clarification.

led a club to the Ace, played off his top trumps leaving the Jack outstanding, and ran hearts from the top.

With both majors dividing normally, he lost a spade and a diamond. The other side played a more normal 3NT making six - lose but 1 IMP!

One of the largest swings was on the hand shown on the next page.

Both sides reached 6♠, played by North, and both declarers received the ♦Q lead. At one table Doug Heron won the Ace, played two top spades, played ♠K, then ran the Jack. Down one!

At the other table the STEIN declarer, Boris Baran, played the top spades ending in dummy, then finessed the other way for the ♠Q, slam bid and made! Perhaps Boris felt the diamond lead was

The CNTC annually provides an ideal battleground for field-testing experimental conventions. A tool favored by many of the contestants is a 2♠ Opener denoting a weak preempt in an unknown suit. One reason for HERON's success was their ability to counter such high-tech weaponry.

VUL: E/W
DLR: S

♠ A972
♥ Q
♦ K6432
♣ KQ3

♠ 86
♥ A1098732
♦ A97
♣ 9

♠ QJ3
♥ KJ4
♦ QJ108
♣ 1074

♠ K1054
♥ 65
♦ 5
♣ AJ8652

S	W	N	E
P	2♠*	P	2NT
3♣	3♥	3♠!	P
4♣	P	P	P

* Weak Preempt in an unknown suit

A one, two, or three heart opener by West would have fetched a take-out double from North and the good 4♣ game would then easily have resulted. The actual 2♠ bid presented Heron, North, with a problem. He elected to pass and await further developments. When his passed-hand partner overcalled clubs, Heron boldly introduced his 4-card spade suit, his club fit providing a welcome safety net. This action enabled the normal game to be bid after all.

The hand at the top of the next column demonstrates the opportunism necessary for CNTC success.

♠ A10976
♥ —
♦ K84
♣ 109632

DLR: E
VUL: E/W
LEAD: ♦10

♠ K4
♥ K1096
♦ Q109753
♣ 7

♠ QJ3
♥ QJ875432
♦ 6
♣ Q

♠ 852
♥ A
♦ AJ2
♣ AKJ852

Culp-McCallum, N-S, arrived in 6♣ after an uneventful auction. Sitting South, Sam McCallum won the ♦10 opening lead with the Jack in hand, played a round of trumps, and casually led a low spade towards the Ace. West, apparently cruising on automatic pilot, followed with the four spot and Sam won the Ace. He now played off the diamonds, cashed the ♥A, and exited a spade. West was forced to win and yield a ruff-sluff. This steal earned Culp 11 IMPs when the other side scored up a mere game. Obviously, CULP's qualification was no fluke!

SEMI-FINALS

Round-robin winners HERON elected to play CULP against whom the leaders enjoyed a 5 IMP carry-over. This meant the two Toronto heavy-weights, STEIN (npc) and MURRAY (npc), would play each other in the other semi, with the former holding a 6 IMP advantage. STEIN (npc) decided at this point to convert Mittleman into a npc and rely exclusively on their two practiced partnerships.

Both 64-board semi-finals were decided in the first half, as the line scores indicate.

DLR: S ♠ K532

VUL: Both ♥ A108

♦ K72

♣ KJ5

♠ J6

♥ K952

♦ 1064

♣ Q843



♠ A1097

♥ Q64

♦ A

♣ A10962

♠ Q84

♥ J73

♦ QJ9853

♣ 7

S	W	N	E
1♣	P	1♠	P
3♣	P	4♥	P
5♣	P	6♣	All Pass

from length, in which case the probability of West holding the ♣Q would be marginally greater than 50-50. Or, perhaps he felt that the declarer at the other table would run the Jack and, being behind, he could generate a swing, hopefully in his favor, by going the other way. In any case, the STEIN team won 16 IMPs on the deal to stay in the match.

This year's CNTC continues the trend of recent years: no repeat winners. Our newly crowned championship team is comprised of veterans who have all played their share of previous CNTCs. Yet, this is a first CNTC win for each of them. Congratulations!

With their victory, HERON has earned the right to represent Canada in the upcoming tri-county playoff between Canada, Mexico, and Bermuda. The winner of that event advances to the 1991 Bermuda Bowl in Japan.

Best of luck, lads!

WORLD JUNIOR BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
August 16-22, 1991

Canada has been granted a team in the World Junior Bridge Team Championship next year. To this end, the CBF will entertain applications from qualified pairs or players to make up a team of six for the Championship. The team will be chosen by a committee formed by the CBF.

To be eligible you must:

- 1) Have been born on or after January 1, 1965
- 2) Be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant
- 3) Not have played in a World Bridge Federation Championship for a country other than Canada after January 1, 1989
- 4) Be available for training sessions (dates and sites to be determined) before the Championship

Interested pairs and players should submit an application to:

World Junior Bridge Team
Championship
c/o John Carruthers
65 Tiago Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M4B 2A2
(416) 752-7034 (home)
927-3845 (business)

ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15, 1990

Applicants should list their bridge achievements (do not be modest!), and enclose:

The names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees (in case the applicant is not known to the selection committee).

Proof of date of birth (photocopy of birth certificate or passport - do not send official documents).

The Selection Committee will consist of John Carruthers (Team Manager), Katie Thorpe, CBF President, Aidan Ballantyne, CBF Director, and additional members to be determined from the applicants' geographical areas.

The selection criteria will be headed by the applicant's bridge achievements and team compatibility. Preference will be given to pairs over individuals.



THE 1990 CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS NATIONAL FINAL

ROUND ROBIN FINAL STANDINGS

1. Rivard	718
Quebec City	
2. Paul	717
Toronto & Montreal	
3. Sanders	639
Saulte Ste marie	
4. Holland	577
Vancouver	
5. Neate	549
Vancouver	
6. St. Amant	536
Ontario	
7. Lynn	530
Halifax	
8. Dombrowski	500
Quebec	
9. Lay	485
Ottawa	
10. Goodwin-Hanson	463
Vancouver	
11. Moulton	444
Halifax	
12. McNab	392
Halifax	
13. Storey	382
Thunder Bay	
14. Tower	348
New Brunswick	



1990 CHAMPIONS

Katie Thorpe - Diana Gordon
Gloria Silverman - Mary Paul
Sharyn Reus - Francine Cimon

RUNNERS UP

Sanders - Susan Sanders,
Jennine O'Connor, Florence
MacLeod, Deanna Thomas,
Jan Miller, Laura Richmond

Holland (npc) - Leslie Gold, Rhonda
Betts, Lynn Dickie, Marcia Christie

Rivard - Janine Rivard, Noëlla Massé,
Pauline LeMonde, Inette Lepage

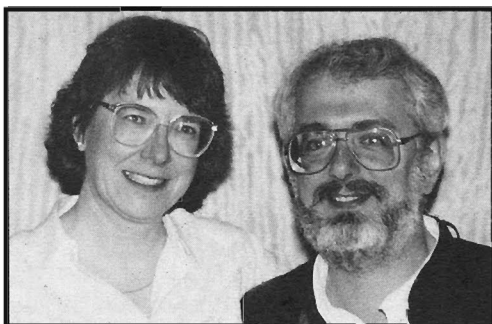
This year's National Final was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The event began with a bagpipe tribute and carried on for five days of great Maritime hospitality including CWTC t-shirts, a hospitality room with complimentary refreshments and open almost twenty-four hours, a giant surprise-cake, and the grand finale of a five-course east-coast meal (including wine and 'awards'). Tournament Chairman JON GOLDBERG (Zone I CBF Director) certainly lived up to the high standards demanded by this event and its participants, while KARL HICKS supported the effort with capable directing and a generous offering of humour.



THE 1990 CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Final Standings

1. Katie Thorpe
John Carruthers 429.4
2. Nader Hanna
Robert Lebi 408.4
3. Douglas Heron
Doug Fraser 406.8
4. Ray Chen
Chuck Messinger 404.1
5. Michael Schleifer
Carole Klein 402.9
6. Allan Graves
Ted Horning 402.6
7. Andy Altay
Ian McKinnon 390.8
8. Leah Milgram
Bill Milgram 385.7
9. David Turner
George Berton 385.0
10. Michael Cafferata
Ken Warren 374.7



1990 COPC Champions
Katie Thorpe - John Carruthers



Second – Robert Lebi & Nader Hanna



Third – Doug Fraser & Doug Heron

The 1990 COPC was held in Toronto alongside their Easter Regional. This was the second year in a row that Toronto hosted, and that fair city gets the call again in 1991 (see calendar on back cover). Many thanks, on behalf of all Canadian players.



CBF ZONE REPORTS



ZONE II

QUEBEC CITY, CHICOUTIMI,
OTTAWA, EASTERN ONTARIO



by Doug Heron

Extending from Quebec City and Chicoutimi in Eastern Quebec to include Ottawa and much of Eastern Ontario, Zone II covers a distance of 400 miles and an area of 100,000 square miles.

Within this vast territory lies a fascinating blend of rural and urban living, and more than 25% of the CBF membership. Stir in the great majority of Canada's French-speaking membership, and the result is a cosmopolitan blend of interesting and extremely competitive and successful bridge players.

UNIT 199 (Saguenay) 354 members

A small, mainly French-speaking unit centered in Chicoutimi about 200 kilometres northeast of Quebec City, most members play bridge only at local tournaments in Chicoutimi and Quebec City. Distances are a problem, and CBF playdowns often must end with the Unit Final.

UNIT 152 (Quebec) 496 members

Also mainly French-speaking, but centered in Quebec City, this Unit provides more opportunity for competition and success at the national level. In 1988, the team of Maurice Larochelle, Jaques Laliberté, Kamel Fergani, Raymond Fortin, Jean Bernier, and André Laliberté won the Canadian National Team Championship and went on to represent Canada in the 1989 Bermuda Bowl.

UNIT 151 (Montreal) 2959 members

The largest unit in Zone II incorporates Canada's largest city and boasts a large number of fiercely competitive players who have had many national and international successes. Space prevents a complete listing, but a few of the notables are:

MARK MOLSON is perhaps Canada's most successful player in recent years. Mark holds several CNTC victories, Richmond Trophy wins (most masterpoints by a Canadian in the calendar year), and last fall combined winning the Blue Ribbon Pairs with a win in the Reisinger Teams, playing with two different partners. This incredible feat also won him the trophy for the most masterpoints won at



the Fall NABCs. Although Mark has recently moved to the USA, we still consider him one of ours.

BORIS BARAN usually plays with Mark Molson in team games. Boris has won several Canadian Championships and, in partnership with **MARC STEIN**, has destroyed the field in countless matchpoint events. He finished second at the most recent North American Open Pairs Championship.

ERIC KOKISH is one of Canada's most successful and feared competitors at the table. However, he is perhaps best known for his bridge journalism and contributions to bridge theory. An editor of the prestigious US publication, 'The Bridge World', a contributing analyst and editor to the 'World Championship Book', and several other international bridge journals, Eric is considered by some the best bridge writer in the world today.

JOE SILVER is colourful and flamboyant. Joey has had innumerable successes, all the while apparently trying to outdo Zia Mahmood in the world of imaginative play. He often writes under the title 'Bridge in the Fast Lane', a self-explanatory heading. His most notable success was a win in the New York City Cavendish Pairs.

SHARON REUS and **FRANCINE CIMON** have dominated Canadian women's team play as part of the **THORPE** team, winning the Bronze medal at the last Venice Cup, and tying for third at the previous Olympiad.

DOUGLAS and **SANDRA FRASER** are one of the most successful married couples at the bridge table. They have also enjoyed national and international success playing apart. Doug recently won the North American Men's Teams.

UNIT 192 (Eastern Ontario) 1360 members

Based in Canada's capital and including a wide geographic mix of rural and urban communities, this Unit has long been a hotbed of competitive bridge. This year, three of the five

teams representing Zone II at the CNTC National Final in Toronto were from Ottawa.

DAVE WILLIS and **JOHN VALLIANT** won the Canadian Open Pairs Championship in 1988 and will represent Canada at the World's in Geneva this fall. This year, playing with Ottawa's Doug Heron and Ed Zaluski and Maritimers Randy Bennett and Mike Betts, they won the Canadian National Team Championship.

Others who have achieved national and international success include **JOHN** and **BILL BOWMAN**, **STEVE BROWN**, **MARTY CALEY**, **MIKE GAMBLE**, **DAVE KENT**, **AL MACDONALD**, **LAURIE MCINTYRE**, **JIM RIEGLE**, **DAVE STOTHARD**, and **ED ZALUSKI**.

NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

MOE DESCHAMPS recently retired his position as CBF Charitable Fund Chairman. He is a tireless worker who has also been the driving force behind the advent of Senior's bridge events in Canada.

STAN TENCH is perhaps Canada's best known eastern tournament director, long known for his computer-like brain and organizational skills. Stan is a stalwart on Unit 192's executive, and annually directs the CNTC National Final.

GEORGE RETEK is a member of the ACBL Board of Directors and chairman of the ACBL's Finance Committee. George has long been a dynamic and forceful representative of Canada's interests at the ACBL board meetings. He has also had many successes at the table and this year represented Montreal at the National Team Championship Final.

In summary, Zone II is a fascinating blend of personalities, languages, and geography. We look forward to seeing visitors from the rest of Canada at our tournaments.




ZONE III

SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL ONTARIO



by Katie Thorpe

Hello to everyone in Units 166 and 246, the two ACBL units that make up CBF Zone III.

And thanks to both units for being so supportive of the efforts of the CBF. This is now my third year as your CBF Director and my second as CBF President. It has sometimes been a lot of fun, and sometimes a lot of aggravation - just like any job!

Unfortunately the news from our Zone is not as good as it could be, at least as far as the CBF is concerned. Although attendance grew a little in the Canadian Open Pairs Championship (COPC) for the 1989-90 season, turnouts for the Canadian National Team Championship (CNTC) and the Canadian Women's Team Championship (CWTC) were disappointing at all stages.

For example, Unit 246 had only four teams show up at their CNTC Unit Final. Were the CBF to switch the basis for participation in the national final to per capita participation, then Zone III would have been entitled to only three teams this year. Additionally, we were the only zone to fail

to raise our share of CNTC funds. The CBF has now reduced the charge at the club and unit levels. Hopefully this, plus selection of a more suitable weekend for the unit final, will alleviate some of the difficulties we faced this year.

This year the CWTC was to be run with a zone final only, using preregistration. By the cut-off date in late April, only four teams had indicated a desire to play. Since our zone was entitled to five teams in the National Final, the zone final was cancelled and the four teams automatically qualified. This was very disappointing, and any suggestions for remedying this problem are welcome. Should we have club games? Just a national final? Try again with a zone final only?

The CNTC National Finals were held in Toronto early in June and ran very smoothly, with the usual efficient directing of Stan Tench and the great assistance of the whole Cooper family. Our appreciation to Steve and Karen for handling the hotel arrangements, Susie for caddying, Karen again for the hospitality, and Evelyn for putting up with it all. Without them, the event would have been chaotic.

Which leads me to another topic - volunteers. Where are you all? Most people are aware of how much is involved in holding an event, but too many people never help out. While the championships still happen, the little extras that make them better and more fun do not get done. A volunteer doesn't need to run the whole thing - just a few errands would make a big difference. Please, let's hear from a few new people willing to give a hand.

Some of you may have missed the usual charity presentation during the Toronto regional. The CBF, on behalf of the Canadian players, is still giving away more than \$40,000 a year to worthwhile charities. This year the presentations are being made all across Canada. We'll be back in Toronto recognizing your generosity in the future.

So Zone III, let's hear from you: ideas to improve the events, volunteering, suggestions for new events, thoughts on how to get more people involved in the game, any topic you want!



ZONE IV

MANITOBA AND NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO



by Gim C. Ong

Zone IV is made up of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario, spanning quite a bit of real estate in this neck of the woods.

The following units make up our Zone: Provincial Manitoba (Unit 181); Northwestern Ontario (Thunder Bay Unit 228), Sault International (Unit 212) and Quonta (Sudbury Unit 238).

Attendance for all CBF events went up in the past year, thanks to the hard work of club managers and the many players who participated.

HELEN SHIELDS MEMORIAL TROPHY

Recognition has finally been accorded this Grand Lady of Bridge from Thunder Bay. The Thunder Bay Unit has donated a large handsome trophy for the Canadian Rookie-Master Event and will be providing keeper trophies to the annual winners. Thank you Thunder Bay!

CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS

Three pairs achieved success in the 1990 COPC Finals in Toronto. Good show, Drew Cannell - G. Sehkar (Winnipeg); Dave McLellan - Guy Coutanche (Thunder Bay); and Bill Moffat - Fred Sheinman (Sudbury). A disappointment was that none of the 'good' players from Sault Ste. Marie participated in this event.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TEAMS

Due to the vast geographic distances within our Zone, three zone finals were held to pick our best teams for the 1990 National Finals. Our representatives were: Bill Treble - Tom Butterworth - G. Sehkar - Doug Fisher (Provincial Manitoba); Bill Anderson - Jim Hobson - Sue Cressman - Dave McLellan - Rolly Lamframboise - John Sihvonen (Thunder Bay); and Mark Langevin - Bob Hannaford - Brian Thomas - Dennis Leduc, Wayne Ricker, Doug Root (North Bay). The Zone IV Co-ordinator, Bob Kuz, and I would welcome any input on how to expedite the selection process for next year, seeing that Winnipeg will play host to the National Finals, June 1-5, 1991. Please submit any proposals as soon as possible and I will set up a telephone conference call to obtain concurrence of all units.

CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAMS

Zone IV women, where are you? This event is poorly attended across the zone. Your Zone IV Co-ordinator, Diane McAndless (Thunder Bay) and I would like your ideas on how to improve this event. Our Zone is allowed three berths in the National Final.



ZONE V

ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN,
NORTHERN MANITOBA



by Dick Anderson

For us, as in most zones, distances are paramount in planning events.

In our zone it is not unusual for people to drive two hundred to three hundred miles for a weekend sectional, or five hundred miles one way to attend a Zone CNTC Final.

Even then, our friends in Flin Flon and Thompson would consider this a short jaunt. For years they have driven one thousand miles one way to play in the CNTC. These participants have been constant inspiration for those in our Zone who may occasionally feel 'hard done by'.

Since its inception, the CBF has enjoyed strong support from our Units. The goal of better bridge through grassroots events, such as the CNTC and COPC, has always

appealed to many of our players. An opportunity to play in a National Final is looked on as a chance to bump heads with the best in the country. Certainly, we frequently come out second best, but the prairies are well known as 'next-year country', so we keep coming back for more.

Our zone has enjoyed an envious reputation for strong club support of special events for many years. Per capita, we rank at or near the top in supporting charity games, Olympiad Fund Games and the various Canadian Championships. Numbers have fallen slightly in the last few years, but we still get terrific support!

Although distances can be prohibitive, we do enjoy the benefit of having a reasonably well distributed population, which allows us to rotate Zone Finals among four major centers. This arrangement assures an equal amount of travel for almost everyone in the long run. The exception is Northern Manitoba who always come from far, far away. The tremendous support we get from these sixty people certainly shames those who think forty or fifty miles is a lot of travelling.

Those who have visited the prairies, and the fifty percent of BC's population who came from them, know that our weather can be a delight. Hot, windy summer days are followed by bone-chilling winter. Our land is mostly flat, but the blizzards or sudden snow storms can make travel a hazard. Prairie people take pride in overcoming these adversities. They enjoy their mad-cap brand of bridge all the more if they can brag, over a suds or two, of how they defied the odds to play. We in Zone V are justifiably proud of our players. We persevere, and we learn to understand each other. In future we look forward to more competition and the chance to improve the game we love.



ZONE VI

BRITISH COLUMBIA



by Aidan Ballantyne

Our zone compares to Zone V in that both are located inside a trans-national ACBL district. In our case the district is called DINO, for District Nineteen Organization. DINO is huge, encompassing Washington, British Columbia, and Alaska.

The CBF is not represented at the district level and this sometimes presents difficulties in meshing CBF events and activities with those of the district, and in reconciling conflicting aims and interests. Regardless, the players in our zone have long felt a special affinity with those from Washington State. More recently, we have started to develop closer ties with Alberta and Saskatchewan, if not the rest of Canada. Zone VI is made up of six units:

VICTORIA UNIT 432

The Victoria Unit has 431 members and is located in the southern half of Vancouver Island. It is well known for its Regional which used to be held in the famed Empress Hotel and has since moved to the new convention center nearby. The new center is comfortable, tastefully designed, and well lit, providing an ideal playing site.

Victoria's best known stars are Jim McAvoy and Duncan Smith, a partnership which perpetually represents BC at the CNTC National Final. They are capably backed up by Jim's wife Connie, Mike Hargreaves, and others. Victoria also has a promising youngster, Mike Roberts.

PARKSVILLE UNIT 429

The Parksville Unit has 450 members and is located in the northern half of Vancouver Island. The unit also includes Powell River, which is on the mainland coast.

The unit's best known player is Gary Tomczyk, a playing professional and repeat winner of the Richmond Trophy. Other name players include Al Chapelle, recently moved from Vancouver to Nanaimo and active in bridge organization as well as play, Jacques Ribeyre, Ken Bibby and Dick Grant. However, George Schick perhaps surpasses all of them in local reputation, thanks to his generous administrative contribution to Parksville bridge.

VANCOUVER UNIT 430

The Vancouver Unit has 1316 members and includes the city of Vancouver as well as Howe Sound and the Lower Fraser Valley. For better or for worse, Vancouver regards itself as the hub of BC bridge. This is because it has the largest bridge population, is located midway between the Island and the Interior, and is the main gateway to the US.

Vancouver has a number of players who have enjoyed success at regional tournaments, as well as a number of travelling professionals.

Rob Crawford presently holds the record for most masterpoints won by a Canadian in a single year. Larry Hicks represented the ACBL at the most recent Junior World Championships. The unit's current masterpoint leader is Leo Steil.

The unit boasts a number of other bridge personalities including the incomparable Phil Wood, a retired (sure!) National Tournament Director, and Jude Goodwin-Hanson, who is famous for her bridge cartoons.

OKANAGAN UNIT 571

The Okanagan Unit has 372 members and is located along the beautiful Okanagan Valley, world-renowned for its orchards, vineyards, scenery and the Ogopogo lake monster.

The Okanagan hosts the Penticton Regional which this summer set a record for the largest regional held in Canada. Penticton has a beautiful first-class convention centre surrounded by numerous hotels and motels and bracketed by two very blue lakes. The regional's great popularity is testimony to the ideal location and the enormous efforts put forward by the small Okanagan Unit every two years.

The Okanagan is also the home of DINO's current president, Martin Ware.

KOOTENAY UNIT 574

The Kootenay has 178 members and is located in the southeastern corner of BC.

The Kootenay's best known bridge personality is Don Ellison, a star player, teacher and bridge author. Though small in population, the Kootenays have long been a well-organized, motivated, and vocal unit. A sometimes member of the CBF, the Kootenays have never hesitated to express the bridge concerns of the 'little guy' to both the ACBL and the CBF!

The Kootenay Unit is famous for its Rossland Gold Rush Sectional which is located in a scenic, recreational locale. The tournament combines competition with warm and generous hospitality.

QUESNEL AND PRINCE GEORGE UNIT 456

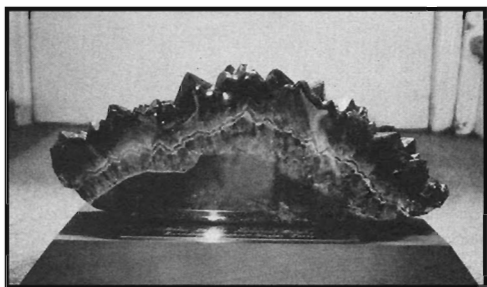
This unit has 246 members and covers a large portion of central and eastern British Columbia. It is very large geographically and its urban centers are relatively distant from the rest of the provincial bridge playing population. All this presents local players and organizers with a stiff test. At present, local administrators are deeply committed to promoting and teaching the game to newcomers. The challenge for the rest of the province is to facilitate exposure of this unit's players to tournament competition further south.

The units in our zone fall into two general categories; urban, with a high density of bridge players and relatively easy access to sectional and regional competition; and the hinterland, where the situation is reversed. The interests and aspirations of the two types of units differ considerably. These regional contrasts, plus the sheer size of the province, hinder communication and pose serious obstacles to the successful running of province-wide events.



Zone I director Jon Goldberg was too busy with the CWTC to report in this issue.





Helen Shields 1990 ROOKIE-MASTER TROPHY

The National Winners of the 1990 Canadian Rookie-Master Game were H. Finkle and M. Philp from Trenton, Ontario. They will have their names inscribed on the Helen Shields Memorial Trophy and receive replica keeper trophies provided by the Helen Shields Memorial Fund.

Many thanks to Unit 228 and Thunder Bay for organizing the fund and making these awards possible. Thank you also to all of you who played in this game. Several clubs really outdid themselves in making the event a success. A little effort sure goes a long way in attracting new players to the game!

Special congratulations go out to the Thunder Bay Duplicate Bridge Club, Ottawa's R.A. Duplicate Bridge Club, Chicoutimi-Nord Bridge Club, Trenton Bridge Club, Saskatoon Duplicate Bridge Club, Nanaimo Duplicate Bridge Club, and Victoria Duplicate Bridge Club which all had fantastic turn-outs.

Helen Shields of Thunder Bay, Ontario, died on May 8, 1987. She was one of the finest bridge players at the Lakehead as well as a very pleasant and easy person to play with. She never criticized her partner or opponents on their play.

Helen's talents led her to the positions of President of the Thunder Bay District Bridge Club, President of Unit 228, and, eventually, Director and President of the Canadian Bridge Federation. She was also instrumental in forming and developing the Heritage Seniors' Bridge Club.

Helen was always glad to help newcomers to the game. We are honoured to have her name connected with the Rookie-Master Game and Trophy.

1990 HELEN SHIELDS CANADIAN ROOKIE-MASTER GAME

NATIONAL STANDINGS (927 Pairs)

1. H.Finkle & M.Philp	Trenton BC	69.68%
2. W.Black & B.Veitch	Flin Flon DBC	68.45%
3. G.Belzile & L.Dorais	Rimouski	68.18%
4. P.Kline & A.Kline	Ted Horning's Bridge Studio	67.99%
5. H.Jacobs & B.Stoeklin	Aurora BC	67.80%
6. D.Zabinsky & J.Kelly	Prince George DBC	67.50%
7. C.St.Amant & L.Jackson	Trenton B C	67.13%
8. Rita Novak & Roger Dunn	St.Lambert	66.96%
9. Brian Alexander & Bella Singh	Fredericton	66.31%
10. K.Rustad & C.Frederickson	Prince George DBC	66.25%

ZONE I (104 Pairs)

1. Brian Alexander & Belle Singh	66.31%
2. A.Gillam & Wm.Belbin	64.35%
3. Mrs.E.LePage & Mrs. B.Frenette	64.32%
4. Mrs. L.Chiaison & Mrs. F.Erskine	63.64%
5. B.Wells & K.McCurdy	60.00%

UNIT 194

Truro Duplicate Bridge Club	(3 tables)
1. B.Wells & K.McCurdy	60.00%
2. D.Scammell & R.Baltzer	54.00%
Corner Brook Duplicate Bridge Club	(5 tables)
1. A.Gillam & Wm.Belbin	64.35%
2. P.Bulter & E.Snelgrove	58.80%

UNIT 230

Charlottetown Duplicate Bridge Club	(7 tables)
1. J.Gaudet & W.Chandler	56.47%
2. M.Reid & G.Darrach	56.15%
Newcastle Duplicate Bridge Club	(9 tables)
1. G.Steeves & N.McKinnon	55.06%
2. R.Ogilvie & D.McKinnon	53.87%
Fredericton Duplicate Bridge Club	(7 1/2 tables)
1. Brian Alexander & Bella Singh	66.37%
2. Amelia Goldman & Sandy Camerson	56.85%
Amherst Duplicate Bridge Club	(8 1/2 tables)
1. J.Jodrey & F.Hopper	59.86%
2. K.E.Hagen & M.Brown	57.58%
Nipisiquit Duplicate Bridge Club	(12 tables)
1. Mrs.E.LePage & Mrs.B.Frenette	64.32%
2. Mrs. L.Chiaison & Mrs. F.Erskine	63.64%

ZONE II (244 Pairs)

1. G.Belzile & L.Dorais	68.18%
2. Rita Novak & Roger Dunn	66.96%
3. Celine Demers & Therese Robin	65.71%
4. A.Edwards & A.Porter	65.56%
5. George Nakash & Rose Anto	64.59%

UNIT 151

Baie D'Urfe	(8 tables)
1/2. E.Zwicky & R.Klein	64.58%
1/2. J.Mill & L.Askew	
St.Lambert Bridge Club	(9 1/2 tables)
1. Rita Novak & Roger Dunn	66.96%
2. Laurier Saune & Guy Trem \panier	57.44%

UNIT 152

Club de Br.Thetford Mines	(10 1/2 tables)
1. Celine Demers & Therese Robin	65.71%
2. George Nakash & Rose Anto	64.59%
Les Saules	(11 tables)
1. Armand Dion & Claude Duchesne	61.90%
2. Janine Rivard & Louise Lambert	60.11%

UNIT 192

R.A.Duplicate Bridge Club	(29 Tables)
1. A.Edwards & A.Porter	65.56%
2. R.Thompson & M.Szabo	61.67%

UNIT 199

Club De Br. d'Alma Inc.	(9 tables)
1. Diane Tremblay & Michele Tremblay	58.80%
2. Adelard Racine & Guy Bouchard	58.33%
Chicoutimi-Nord	(31 tables)
1. Yolande morin & Micheline Girard	62.88%
2. Esther Mihelich & J.A.Belley	61.55%
Rimouski	(14 tables)
1. G.Belzile & L.Dorais	68.18%
2. E.Ouellet & G.M. Fournier	64.20%

ZONE III (103 Pairs)

1. H.Finkle & M. Philp - Trenton	69.68%
2. P.Kline & A.Kline	67.99%
3. H.Jacobs & B.Stoeklin	67.80%
4. C.St.Amant & L.Jackson	67.13%
5. M.Kenny & G.Goddard	62.69%

UNIT 166

Ted Horning's Bridge Studio	(15 tables)
1. P.Kline & A.Kline	67.99%
2. M.Kenny & G.Goddard	62.69%

UNIT 246

Aurora Bridge Club	(13 tables)
1. H.Jacobs & B.Stoeklin	67.80%
2. D.Sherman & B.Saley	60.61%
Trenton Bridge Club	(23 1/2 tables)
1. H.Finkle & M.Philp	69.68%
2. C.St.Amant & L.Jackson	67.13%

ZONE IV (132 Pairs)

1. M.Johnsen & G.Ward	64.58%
2. H.Pal & H.Fryza	64.29%
3. L.Richmond & J.McKiggan	62.92%
4. J.Roger & P.Roberts	61.80%
5. J.J.Aceti & J.L.Roy	60.98%

UNIT 181

Bridge Inn	(11 tables)
1. H.Pal & H.Fryza	64.29%
2. A.Blankstein & C.Blankstein	58.63%

UNIT 212

Superior Duplicate Bridge Club	(9 1/2 tables)
1. L.Richmond & J.McKiggan	62.92%
2. G.Buerkle & E.Stewart	59.82%

UNIT 228

Kenora Duplicate Bridge Club	(5 tables)
1. G.Jackson & D.Shannon	57.87%
2. J.Devlin & A.Torrie	55.56%
Thunder Bay Duplicate Bridge Club	(19 1/2 tables)
1. M.Johnsen & G.Ward	64.58%
2. J.Carroll & R.Jack	61.01%

UNIT 238

Falconbridge Duplicate Bridge Club	(14 tables)
1. J.J.Aceti & J.L.Roy	60.98%
2/4. R.M.Ryan & W.A.Wallace	58.90%
2/4. Mrs. T.Garrow & R.Garrow	
2/4. R.Gryschuk & S.St.Denis	

Sudbury Duplicate Bridge Club	(7 tables)
1. J.Roger & P.Roberts	61.80%
2. D.McCowan & R.Rucker	63.39%

ZONE V (186 Pairs)

1. W.Black & B.Veitch	68.45%
2. Karl Meyer & Rolf Saetre	65.97%
3. Ray Lothian & Edna Clemens	65.83%
4. Bill Walker & Ken Gee	65.18%
5. Norma McIver & Doreen Robb	64.88%

UNIT 245

Plin Flon Duplicate Bridge Club	(9 tables)
1. W.Black & B.Veitch	68.45%
2. D.McCowan & R.Rucker	63.39%

UNIT 390

Unitarian Church	(7 tables)
1. Karl Meyer & Rolf Saetre	65.97%
2/3. Betty Davies & Jean Robinson	59.38%
2/3. Marion Panabaker & Conrad Ayasse	

UNIT 391

Edmonton Bridge Centre	(3 tables)
1. Tony Fisher & Harry Meimar	56.50%
2. Marj Middagh & Elaine Foulon	50.00%
Grande Prairie Duplicate Bridge Club	(4 1/2 tables)
1. S.Fenton & A.Frank	55.56%
2. K.Young & Midge Young	54.17%

UNIT 393

Brooks Duplicate Bridge Club	(6 tables)
1. Mike Orlita & June Endersby	61.48%
2. Elaine Orlita & Orelie Grosfield	54.07%

UNIT 573

Carlyle Duplicate Bridge Club	(8 tables)
1. Ray Lothian & Edna Clemens	65.83%
2/3. Doris Cudmore & Marg Campbell	55.42%
2/3. Marguerite Brayford & Ocif Weir	
Moose Jaw Duplicate Bridge Club	(16 tables)
1. N.Welaski & M.Suchan	62.82%
2. M.Fullon & V.Burton	59.78%
Regina Duplicate Bridge Club	(10 tables)
1. Bill Walker & Ken Gee	65.18%
2. W.Pengelly & Maurice Wilson	61.31%

UNIT 575

Nipawin & District Duplicate Bridge Club	(4 tables)
1. W.Birch & I.Neuman	60.71%
2. W.Hill & B.Karras	55.95%
Prince Albert Duplicate Bridge Club	(5 1/2 tables)
1. H.Moon & A.Painchaud	58.00%
2. M.Dashnay & J.Dashnay	56.00%
Saskatoon Duplicate Bridge Club	(20 tables)
1. Norma McIver & Doreen Robb	64.88%
2. Louise Thiessen & Aby Rajani	61.90%

ZONE VI (158 Pairs)

1. D.Zabinsky & J.Kelly	67.50%
2. K.Rustad & C.Fredrickson	66.25%
3. D.Sidhu & P.Chew	64.81%
4/5. W.F.Cousins & Pat Curtis	63.75%
4/5. M.Palmason & P.Dewdney	63.75%

UNIT 429

Nanaimo Duplicate Bridge Club	(18 tables)
1. Amy Marks & Noni Bartlett	60.71%
2. David Dawes & Sheila Dawe	60.42%

UNIT 431

Victoria Duplicate Bridge Club	(20 Tables)
1. D.Sidhu & P.Chew	64.81%
2. J.Elliott & M.Ainsley	60.19%

continued on page 25

He breathes like a whale, looks off into space, takes his head into his hands, picks up his cards, puts them back down.

WHAT MAKES A TOUGH PAIR?

by

Bernard Marcoux, Montreal

What makes a tough pair at bridge? Many would say good bidding and discipline. Obviously. But I think there is something else, more elemental, rarely possessed, that I will try to describe here. To illustrate, I will take as an example the pair of Marty Bergen and Larry Cohen whom I studied during the Salt Lake City Life Masters Pairs.

Bergen-Cohen are leading the field going into the final segment. On the first board, Bergen has to lead against 3NT after a Smolen sequence. He chooses a low club from K1093, the singleton Queen wins in dummy, and Ed Manfield, his opponent, makes twelve tricks. How do you react? You're leading one of the most important tournaments of the year and you start off with a bad board. Cohen doesn't even flinch; Bergen says: "Sorry, Partner", and on to the next deal.

Bergen-Cohen move for the second round and we all follow. A silence always descends on the table when they arrive. There is an aura around them, a kind of concentration of their own, and nobody tries to distract them. It's almost as though they were in another place. Lee Trevino once said that he and the other golfers played golf, but Jack Nicklaus was

playing another game entirely: a superior, inaccessible game. I believe Bergen-Cohen play this 'other game'.

In the last round they arrive in 6♠ with these cards:

COHEN

♠ Q74
♥ AKQJ5
♦ AQ109
♣ 8

BERGEN

♠ AK982
♥ 93
♦ 5
♣ J10765

The lead is ♠A, followed by a diamond. Bergen calls for the A and catches RHO's K. Good news or bad news? He plays the ♦Q from dummy, RHO discards a heart. So Bergen leads the trump Q, all play small, then the trump 4. RHO plays low and Bergen says, "Time out".

He puts down his cards and he thinks. LHO has at least one trump, seven diamonds, the ♠A, and probably the ♠K as well. Likely, LHO also has additional length in hearts and clubs. Not much room left for spades. And why didn't RHO ruff the ♦Q? The double finesse for the J10 beckons.

Bergen shakes his head, probably wondering, "What am I doing here? Why put myself through such pain and torture?" He breathes like a whale, looks off into space, takes his head into his hands, picks up his cards, puts them back down. He knows that he must put in the ♠8. The distribution, the probabilities, the defense, everything points to that eight. And yet...

He detaches the ♠8, puts it back, and suffers some more. Suddenly, Cohen emerges from the secret world that he and Bergen share. Softly he says, "I would understand".

What's happening? What does this mean?

Bergen once listed the twenty commandments that make a good partner, and he and Cohen live by them. Rule 13 reads: "Remember, Bridge is ONLY a GAME"(to which Matthew Granovetter commented, "No, bridge is LIFE.").

When we face a decision such as Bergen's, it seems that our whole life is on the line. To make the right play and to win is so exhilarating. But to follow one's convictions and fail is so demoralizing. Cohen's remark related to the second possibility, to finesse the ♠8 and lose to the J or 10. His expression of support was a manifes-

tation of the special rapport that exists between two players who have attained that 'other place'. That special feeling is occasionally evident in other arenas also. Jerry Kramer, a member of the legendary Green Bay Packers once said, "We never lose, but sometimes we run out of time."

Bergen-Cohen never lose either, but sometimes they run out of boards.

For those who enjoy happy endings, Bergen eventually played the eight. It held. He sat up in his chair and smiled.

With one deal to play, Bergen-Cohen have a good game: a bit of luck, many good results, and only a few soft boards.

The last board is a disaster: -500 as a result of poor judgement. Play over, Bergen-Cohen rise slowly, analyzing what went wrong on the last deal. Did they think their game was good enough to compensate for the last mistake? Did they know then that they had won? I don't know. But neither ever uttered any reproach following that last debacle. Neither ever said, "Why did you...?" Bergen-Cohen were simply engaging in a calm discussion, fine-tuning their partnership for the future. They were a true pair, they had won, they were... in another place.

1990 HELEN SHIELDS ROOKIE MASTER (continued from page 23)

UNIT 456

Williams Lake Duplicate Bridge Club	(6 1/2 tables)
1. W.F.Cousins & Pat Curtis	63.75%
2. Paul Jenkins & Tom McKenna	61.67%
Prince George Duplicate Bridge Club	(6 tables)
1. D.Zabinsky & J.Kelley	67.50%
2. K.Rustad & C.Frederickson	66.25%
Terrace Duplicate Bridge Club	(6 tables)
1. A.Appels & F.Sabine	58.89%
2. M.McFarland & G.Grundman	54.44%

UNIT 571

Bridge Lake Duplicate Bridge Club	(5 tables)
1. Ernie King & Polly Black	60.19%
2. Ed Cotton & Ollie King	57.87%
Kamloops Duplicate Bridge Club	(9 1/2 tables)
1. A.Anderson & R.Swallow	55.10%
2. D.Marchand & G.Wilson	53.27%

UNIT 574

Silver City Duplicate Bridge Club	(8 tables)
1. Molly Palmason & P.Dewdney	63.75%
2. Pearl Palmer & M.Thiel	59.17%

RAPPORT DU NORD ET DE L'EST DU QUEBEC

par MAURICE LAROCHELLE

In the fall of 1989, as reigning CNTC champs, the Quebec squad of Maurice Larochelle, Jacques Laliberté, Raymond Fortin, Kamel Fergani, Jean Bernier and André Laliberté represented Canada in the Australian Bermuda Bowl. The team was captained by Montreal's Marc Stein and coached by Eric Kokish. This was a talented team that went with high expectations. Maurice Larochelle writes an account of what happened.

Le Bermuda Bowl et le Venice Cup, version 1989, font déjà partie du passé.

Pour ce qui est du Bermuda Bowl, vous savez sans doute déjà que le Brésil, l'Australie, et le Canada se sont respectivement classés premier, deuxième et huitième parmi les 8 équipes présentes. L'Australie s'est ensuite inclinée devant les États-Unis en demi-finale, alors que le Brésil a battu la Pologne, puis les États-Unis en finale. La Pologne se méritait la médaille de bronze en défaisant l'Australie.

Vous vous doutez bien que mes coéquipiers (Jean Bernier, Kamel Fergani, Raymond Fortin, André Laliberté, Jacques Laliberté, avec Marc Stein comme capitaine non-joueur et Eric Kokish comme entraîneur) et moi ne sommes pas très fiers du résultat.

En première ronde, nous avons eu la malchance d'affronter le Brésil, un habitué de ces compétitions et l'éventuel gagnant. Quelques gestes nerveux bien naturels et nous voilà battus par 33 IMPs, 20 points de victoire à 10. En deuxième ronde, nous rencontrons l'Australie, une autre habituée de ces championnats. Notre paire n'ayant pas joué en première ronde connaît à son tour quelques moments nerveux et nous voilà battus à nouveau, cette fois par 29 IMPs ou 20 à 10. En troisième ronde, l'équipe de Taiwan, qui terminera éventuellement en troisième place, habitée par la chance des équipes qui jouent bien, bat le Canada par 37 IMPs, ou 21 à 9. Enfin, en quatrième ronde, la Nouvelle-Zélande bat le Canada par 30 IMPs, ou 20 à 10.

A partir de là, il aurait fallu un miracle pour que le Canada se qualifie. Cependant, avec 11 matchs à jouer, l'équipe manqua nettement de fortitude mentale, contrairement par exemple à l'Égypte qui était alors derrière le Canada. En effet, L'Égypte lutta farouchement jusqu'à la fin pour terminer en cinquième place. Ils se sont prouvés qu'ils pouvaient battre les meilleures équipes au monde.

Ceci dit, j'ai l'intention de montrer quelques bons jeux des Canadiens, qui furent rapportés par les journalistes couvrant le tournoi, avant de rapporter quelques jeux intéressants faits par d'autres équipes.

KAMEL FERGANI

Lors de la cinquième des 14 rondes de 32 planchettes du round robin, le Canada fit une belle lutte à la France pour finalement s'incliner par 71 IMPs à 62, ou 16 points de victoire à 14. Kamel Fergani gardera de bons souvenirs de la main suivante qui fut présentée sur écran géant, puis rapportée par le bulletin quotidien.

Donneur: ♠ V964

Est: ♥ R62

VULN: ♦ A864

Aucun: ♣ AD

♠ D

♥ 983

♦ DV1092

♣ V832

	N	
O		E
	S	

♠ R7532

♥ AV107

♦ 5

♣ 974

♠ A108

♥ D54

♦ R73

♣ R1065

N	E	S	W
-	-	P	1SA
P	3SA	FIN	

Entame: ♦D

Kamel, en Sud, ouvrit les enchères à 1 SA, montrant un jeu balancé de 12 à 14 points. Raymond Fortin, en Nord, à cause des honneurs à sa courte, conclut à 3 SA, jugeant qu'il valait mieux ne pas rechercher un fit à pique.

Sur l'entame de la ♦D, le déclarant gagna chez lui, traversa au mort à trèfle et joua un petit pique pour son 10 et la dame. Voyant qu'il n'y avait aucun espoir de majorer les carreaux, puisqu'il n'avait plus d'entrée, Ouest changea au ♥9 que le déclarant laissa filer jusqu'à sa dame.

A la cinquième levée, le déclarant

retourna au mort à trèfle et risqua avec succès l'impasse au ♠R. Il encaissa ♠A, puis le ♠R, espérant que le valet était troisième au départ. Puisque ce n'était pas le cas, il fallait forcer Est, qui tenait présumément ♥A, à ouvrir cette suite.

Le déclarant alla donc au mort par ♦A et plaça Est en main à pique. Ce dernier pouvait bien encaisser deux piques, puis ♥A, mais le ♥K représentait ensuite le neuvième pli.

Du grand Fergani!

ANDRÉ LALIBERTÉ

En troisième ronde du round robin, Taiwan battit nettement le Canada par 86 IMPs à 49, pour 21 points de victoire contre 9, mais le Canada eut ses bons moments.

André Laliberté, en Sud, fit preuve d'audace en répétant ses piques au palier de quatre devant un adversaire qui avait bondit à 3 SA sur son intervention à 1 ♠.

Donneur: Est

VULN: E/O

♠ R10

♥ 98653

♦ 1085

♣ D64

♠ AV7

♥ AV

♦ D962

♣ V983

	N	
O		E
	S	

♠ 5

♥ RD10742

♦ R4

♣ R752

♠ D986432

♥ -

♦ AV73

♣ A10

N	E	S	O
	1♥	1♠	3SA
P	P	4♣	CTR
FIN			

Entame: ♥A

Cette main fut jouée 14 fois, le contrat le plus populaire étant celui de 3 SA par Ouest, lequel contrat fut ordinairement défait devant le très mauvais bris des coeurs et devant la pénurie d'entrées au mort.

A 6 tables aussi, on risqua 4 ♠ en Sud, ce contrat étant aussi ordinairement défait. Voyons André Laliberté à l'oeuvre.

Il coupa l'entame de ♥A et risqua avec succès l'impasse au ♠J, avant de jouer un carreau vers son valet et la dame. Il coupa le retour d'un coeur et céda la main à l'A d'atout.

A la sixième levée, le déclarant gagna le retour d'un carreau et encaissa tous ses atouts. Voyons la situation après 9 levées:

♠ -	♠ -
♥ 9	♥ RD
♦ 10	♦ -
♣ D6	♣ R7
♠ -	♠ -
♥ -	♥ RD
♦ 96	♦ -
♣ V9	♣ R7
♠ -	♠ -
♥ -	♥ RD
♦ 73	♦ -
♣ A10	♣ R7

Voyez la position insoutenable d'Est quand le déclarant joua un carreau vers le 10 du mort. Il doit soit assécher son ♠R, soit conserver un seul coeur, ce qu'il fit d'ailleurs. André Laliberté le plaça en main à coeur pour le forcer à ouvrir les trèfles.

Un Laliberté spécial!

JACQUES LALIBERTÉ

La Nouvelle-Zélande termina en sixième place lors du round robin du Bermuda Bowl. Une expérience unique

est de jouer contre la paire Cornell-Taylor, qui sont des farouches adeptes des 'Ferts', soit des enchères purement destructrices. Tous les jeux de 0 à 9 points sont ouverts d'une façon artificielle, soit à 1 ♠ si non vulnérable, soit à 1 ♥ si tous sont vulnérables, soit à 1 ♦ (les peureux!) si les conditions de la vulnérabilité sont défavorables. Si vous croyez qu'il est facile de jouer contre cela, je vous invite à prendre quelques revues de bridge et, à partir d'exemples réels, essayer de deviner ce que votre partenaire préféré et vous-même auriez fait après de telles ouvertures.

Le main d'aujourd'hui n'a rien à voir avec les 'Ferts', mais elle fut jouée lors d'un duel Laliberté-Larochelle versus Cornell-Taylor.

Dites-moi d'abord ce que vous auriez fait à la place de Jacques Laliberté en Nord à votre deuxième tour d'enchères avec ce jeu, les deux camps étant vulnérables.

NORD	N	E	S	O
♠ 1082	1♥	1♠	4♥	4♠
♥ ARD543	?			
♦ -				
♣ A542				

La Solution de Jacques Laliberté

Nord gagea 5 ♦ pour diriger éventuellement l'entame, si les adversaires voulaient continuer les enchères. Voyons maintenant les 4 jeux. (page suivante)

Sur 5 ♦, Est passa, Sud donna 5 ♥, et Ouest, croyant sans doute que Nord voulait montrer une suite carreau par son annonce précédente, gagea 5 ♠. Ce fut sa fête!

Nord contra et Sud entama d'un carreau, qui fut coupé. Nord rejeta sous A-R-D de coeur, puis coupa un deuxième carreau. Enfin A-R de trèfle et un autre

♠ 1082
 ♥ ARD543
 ♦ -
 ♣ A542

♠ RD9
 ♥ 2
 ♦ ARV76
 ♣ 10976

	N	
O		E
	S	

♠ AV764
 ♥ 8
 ♦ 109854
 ♣ D8

♠ 53
 ♥ V10976
 ♦ D32
 ♣ RV3

♠ 9
 ♥ A10754
 ♦ D105
 ♣ R543

♠ 7653
 ♥ V832
 ♦ 9432
 ♣ 7

	N	
O		E
	S	

♠ RDV82
 ♥ 96
 ♦ 87
 ♣ DV98

♠ A104
 ♥ RD
 ♦ ARV6
 ♣ A1062

carreau coupé, le tout pour 1100 points. Cela donnait un gain de 6 IMPs seulement, puisque les Nouveau-Zélandais en Nord-Sud à l'autre table réussirent leur contrat contré de 5♥.

UN JEU FACILE, LE BRIDGE

Quand on analyse de tels tournois de près, on peut être surpris par le grand nombre d'erreurs majeures commises même par les meilleurs joueurs. Il faut être passé par là pour comprendre que la pression peut devenir étouffante. Cette donne, jouée en demi-finale est une illustration de ce que j'avance.

J'ai assisté sur écrans géants au début de la demi-finale, alors que David Lilley et Ron Klinger d'Australie, respectivement en Nord-Sud, affrontaient les Américains Lew Stansby et Chip Martel en Est-Ouest.

Après un séquence d'enchères que j'ai depuis longtemps oublié, les Australiens aboutissaient à l'excellent contrat de 6♣ par Sud. Sur l'entame d'un pique, le déclarant gagna, encaissa ♣R, puis joua un trèfle pour le valet et... Tous les spectateurs étaient certains que Klinger allait duquer, qu'il allait gagner tout retour,

puis qu'il allait couper un pique en Nord, avant d'éliminer les atouts et de réclamer le contrat.

Mais non. Klinger monta de l'as! Il encaissa ♥R-D, traversa au mort à carreau et appela ♥A, sur lequel Est fit bien attention de se défausser d'un carreau au lieu de couper. Le contrat ne pouvait plus être fait. Bien des spectateurs ne pouvaient comprendre que le déclarant ait fait une telle erreur. Pourtant, à l'autre table, l'Américain Peter Pender fit exactement la même chose. Lui aussi encaissa ensuite R-D de cœur, traversa au mort à carreau et appela ♥A.

La différence ici est que l'Australien, Stephen Burgess, fit à son tour l'erreur de couper. Le déclarant surcoupa évidemment et le contrat était maintenant tout cuit, puisque les deux piques perdants pouvaient être coupés au mort.

Maintenant que vous êtes convaincu que vous n'auriez jamais fait de telles erreurs, prouvez-moi que le contrat est encore réalisable contre tout défense quand le déclarant a fait l'erreur de couvrir le deuxième trèfle.

Il s'agit tout simplement d'encaisser un deuxième carreau avant d'encaisser ♥A, ce qui donne la situation suivante:

♠ —
 ♥ A107
 ♦ 5
 ♣ 54
 ♠ 65
 ♥ V8
 ♦ 94
 ♣ —
 ♠ RD82
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ D9
 ♠ 104
 ♥ —
 ♦ AR
 ♣ 106

Est n'a encore rien à gagner de couper
 ♥A et jète un pique, après quoi le
 déclarant se défausse d'un honneur de
 carreau, avant de couper un cœur.

Il coupe à son tour un pique au mort et
 appelle le treizième cœur. Si le flanc
 droit coupe petit, l'autre surcoupe et la
 coupe d'un pique en Nord représente le
 douzième pli. Si Est préfère couper haut,
 le déclarant jète son dernier pique, après
 quoi l'autre doit accorder coupe et
 défausse ou donner la main à l'atout à
 Sud qui a un carreau maître. Enfin, s'il ne
 coupe pas, Sud jète son dernier carreau,
 puis appelle le ♦5 du mort, ce qui lui
 permettra de faire le ♣10 en passant.

Comme le bridge est un jeu facile... en
 dehors de la table!

CALL FOR ELECTIONS

CBF terms for Zone III (Katie
 Thorpe) and Zone VI (Aidan
 Ballantyne) expire December 31,
 1990. Candidates wishing to run
 for these positions must declare
 themselves to Jan Anderson, the
 CBF Co-ordinator, by that date.

Jan's address is: 107 Scrivener
 Crescent, Regina, Saskatchewan.
 S4N 4V6



A NEW MAGAZINE FEATURE

The Bidding Contest is being
 replaced by another feature which will
 also combine education, entertainment,
 and competition.

The new feature, as yet unnamed,
 will allow readers to consult Canada's
 best players on any type of bridge prob-
 lem, including questions about bidding
 systems, defenses to unusual conven-
 tions, best tactics, percentages, best line
 of play, best defense, etc. We hope to
 have questions from a wide range of
 players, from beginner to expert.
 Interested readers should simply send
 their questions to this Editor, who will
 then canvas several of the best in the
 country for their opinion. The expert
 panel will change from issue to issue
 depending on who happens to be willing
 and able. We cannot indulge readers who
 ask for a specific expert's opinion. This
 policy should prevent a few, well-known
 personalities from being swamped with
 requests.

Those whose questions are selected
 will receive a prize. The winning ques-
 tions, together with responses, will be
 published in the magazine. Participants
 should indicate their approximate level
 of experience, so that responses can be
 appropriately tailored.

The first edition of the new feature
 will appear in next spring's magazine.
 Deadline for submission of queries is
 December 31, 1990.

B | A | N | D | A | D | I | N | G

FINAL CONTEST

Conducted by Sandy McIlwain

JANUARY HONOUR ROLL

1/2.	Milton Brody	Toronto	560
1/2.	Brenda Murchison	Calgary	560
3.	Mike Hartop	Moncton	530
4.	David C. Baker	Kitchener	520
5.	Gregoire Garinther	Montreal	510

The previous contest ended in a tie, a first as far as I am aware. The co-winners duplicated each other's answers on every problem. Both are to be congratulated and were invited to guest on the final panel. They will be receiving a bridge book as a prize (eventually). Thanks again to the people from all over who took the time to respond.

THE CURRENT HONOUR ROLL

1.	Gilles Langois	Ste-Foy P.Q.	580
2.	Pierre Stewart	Montreal	555
3.	David Baker	Kitchener, ON.	550
4.	John Zaluski	Ottawa	540
5/6.	François Falardeau	Repentigny, P.Q.	535
5/6.	François Girardeau	Montreal	535
7.	Wilfred Aziz	Chicoutimi, P.Q.	525
8/9.	Syed Ahmad	Hamilton	515
8/9.	S.E. Boughner	Ottawa	515
10/13.	P.M. Banks	Bright's Grove, ON	505
10/13.	Bruce Cameron	Mississauga	505
10/13.	Sandra Fox	Sackville, N.B.	505
10/13.	Aurelia Vanguard	Peace River AB	505
14.	Rashid Khan	Sackville, N.B.	500
15.	Hélène Bellerose	Montreal	495

Congratulations to Gilles Langois, our winner with a very fine score. He will be receiving a bridge book at a later date. Unfortunately, I can't invite him to be a guest panelist, since this is the last edition of the competition. But well done all the same! Our list of also-rans is a little longer this time. You all deserve congratulations, as well as my sincere thanks for taking the time to read and answer.

DEAR READERS

This is the final installment of the Canadian Bidding Contest. I would like to thank everyone for putting up with my diatribes, and all of you who wrote in with your comments and suggestions. It was a great pleasure to hear from places as diverse as Chicoutimi, Prince George, Sydney, Timmins, Saskatoon, and so many others, and to know that we could all communicate through this strange and sometimes illuminating code of bridge. Au revoir, mes amis. Best of luck to you all.

THE PANEL

DOUG BAXTER (Thornhill, ON.): is one of the three best bridge players at 'Hotel Haig'. He has been to the NAOP Finals and to two COPC Finals, has been on the Richmond Trophy list every year, has won the Toronto Senior IMP League, and been a guest panelist for the Bridge World. Get him on lead.

MILTON BRODY (Toronto): is one of our two guest panelists. He has been one of our most energetic respondents and has put his usual strong effort into his answers here.

DENNIS DOHL (Vancouver): has been a finalist in both the GNP and GNT, it says here. His best regional was Penticton '87, where he won two events and collected 105 masterpoints. Has an uncanny knack for picking home run hitters.

CHRIS HOUGH (Oakville): is a transplant from Michigan. He has been playing bridge for fifteen years, successfully it appears, as his name keeps popping up wherever I look.

CAM LINDSAY (Surrey, BC): once defeated the number one seed Kaplan (who eventually won) in the Vanderbilt KOs when it was a double knockout event, for which Charles Goren wrote his lads up in Sports Illustrated. He was twice a runner-up in the Canadian Team Trials (forerunner to the CNTC), and he has won "15 or 20" regional events.

BRENDA MURCHISON (Calgary): is our other guest panelist. She has been directing and teaching bridge around Calgary since the early 1980s. Has won two regional team events.

BROOKE NELLES (London, ON): has won six regionals and numerous sectionals. Enjoys all forms of bridge but prefers Knockout Teams. Brooke would like to see the Digest (oops) include more features on tournament results and players around the country.

COLIN REVILL (Burlington, ON): comes to us from Yorkshire, England. He has about 2500 masterpoints and many regional and sectional victories. He made the Barry Crane list in 1989, played for Canada in the Mixed Pairs in Miami in 1986, and hopes to play this fall in Geneva.

Thanks to these folks and other fine panelists over the years who have made the Bidding Contest what it has been. If you look back through your old issues, you will see the closest thing to a cross-section of our hard-working, successful players as we were able to attain. I even agreed with their bids, sometimes.

THE SOLUTIONS

A) IMPs, N-S vul.

♠ – ♥ K5 ♦ AQJ10 ♣ AQJ10743

West	North	East	South
2♥*	2♠	4♥	?

* Weak

We've barely sorted our cards and already the opponents are putting it to us. How far are we prepared to go to defend what is ours?

BRODY: 6♣. Partner must have at least one minor suit king for his overcall. How would partner take 4NT? (see below – SM)

BAXTER: 6♣. Favour the overbid to the underbid. Thought about 4NT, but slam would be played from the wrong side. Better to hope for the ♠ Kx in the pocket.

MURCHISON: 6♣. The opponents have done a fine job preempting; I'll bid what I think I can make.

HOUGH: 6♣. They'll save for sure!

Unfortunately, there is no next round to find out about a save, but our panel liked the potential of this three-loser mitt.

Not all, though, were ready to leap to slam:

LINDSAY: DBL. Why do people use pinochle decks for bridge? I like this double to be responsive, and will pull partner's 4♠ to 5♠. If he converts, the penalty should be significant, but we'll probably be cold for 6♣.

DOHL: DBL. I'll pay off to 6♣, etc., but take +800 against a possible minus in 5♠.

It is quite reasonable for a double here to have responsive connotations, though partner is unlikely to want to play in any suit but spades. The chance of a misfit is reduced by the opponents' bidding, suggesting that they are short in clubs and may scramble for eight or

nine trump tricks. +800 seems remote.

NELLES: 5♣. Double may be the last plus, but there is too much chance for slam. I don't think 4NT would be for takeout here.

4NT here should be Blackwood, more useful in the long run. 5♣ will probably score better than 4♥ doubled, but partner may be unable to move towards slam (e.g. doubleton heart, lousy hand). Moral: If you think there's a slam here, bid it. Besides, maybe they will save and you'll get your +800.

Action	Votes	Score
6♣	5	100
DBL	2	70
5♣	1	60
4NT	0	30
5♥	0	10

B) IMPs, Both Vul

♠ QJ84 ♥ AKQ5 ♦ KJ983 ♣ –

West	North	East	South
-	-	1♠	DBL
2NT*	DBL**	5♣	?

* Preemptive club raise

** Responsive (value showing)

Flush with success, our troops felt the cards were now at their mercy.

LINDSAY: 6♣. If partner holds three of the missing pointed-suit honours, slam is a near certainty. Even the ♠K and ♦A give us an excellent chance.

BAXTER: 6♣. This bid gets us to the best small slam, and invites seven. (seven! - SM)

HOUGH: 6♣. When in Rome ...

Not everyone had visions of grand slam after East's vulnerable opener. Our loser count here is higher than on the first hand, and partner has shown less, and the opponents more. We also have the luxury of another, perhaps better, bid:

MURCHISON: Pass. Forcing. We could easily have the tickets for slam. This shows extras, and I'll pass partner's response.

DOHL: Pass. My style when playing responsive doubles is to guarantee four in one major.

The pass at the five level shows first round control.

While Dohl's treatment may be more specific than most, I think most of our 6♣ bidders would have passed if they were sure it was forcing. A pass followed by a pull of a double to 5♦ should give partner as good a picture of our holding as possible, while 6♣ gives him no chance to show his hand. What if he is stuck with the ♠K?

Taking the middle course were:

BRODY: 5♦. Partner can't have a great deal here. Forcing pass won't help as he has no suit to bid, and 6♣ may get us too high. He will raise to six with the ♠K,♦A and three or four little clubs.

REVILL: 5♦. Partner may have wasted club values, but you have little defense to double with.

Partner may have the right hand to bid again.

Other than overemphasizing our tatty diamond suit, this bid will have much the same effect as the pass. I hope everyone plays a pass here as forcing, so the opponents can't push us around (and also so our tempo can't create a problem for partner).

ACTION	VOTES	SCORE
6♣	4	100
Pass	2	80
5♦	2	70
6♦	0	30
DBL	0	10

C) IMPs. Both Vul

♠ 763	♥ J86	♦ AQJ732	♣ Q
West	North	East	South
—	1♣	DBL	RDBL
1♥	1♠	2♥	?

Having alienated most of the voting members, I must slog on. Not looking forward to this one, either.

HOUGH: 3♦. Why didn't I bid diamonds the last round? Redouble is laughable.

BRODY: 3♦. If he rebids spades, I'll raise. Double could yield +200 or +500, but would be better here if I'd already bid diamonds.

LINDSAY: 3♦. Non-forcing. This hand would make an unsuitable dummy for partner, but his black suit controls will help out in diamonds. 2♠ risks a 4-3 fit and potential loss of control.

I expected a certain amount of flack over the redouble, as 1♦ at our first turn was a reasonable, perhaps better, option. Lindsay says 3♦ here is non-forcing, but if we had bid 1♦ at our first turn and now bid 3♦, wouldn't that be non-forcing and about this point count? In practice, partner may feel compelled to bid again.

DOHL: Pass. Speaking as a person who has a reputation for occasionally making a bad bid, "Boy, does my redouble suck."

BAXTER: Pass. I prefer a redouble to show defense to two suits, so a double here would suggest a more balanced hand. My (forcing) pass will allow partner to finish describing his 10+ black cards.

Q: If a pass is forcing and the next bid is 3♣ (likely), what next? Would 3♦ now be forcing?

NELLES: Pass. I can't imagine why I didn't bid diamonds before, but there's no reason to bid them now. Partner should know my whole hand after this sequence.

What else could you have, in fact? No raise of a black suit, no double, no NT bid. Partner now gets to rebid any five-card spade suit at the two level, allowing us to raise without overbidding too much.

Finally, we hear from:

REVILL: 2♠, even though spades should be badly placed. At match points, I would give some thought to a penalty double (partner really needs only two black aces).

Partner may expect better trumps here and take more encouragement in this bid than is available in your holding. Giving partner a chance to show five spades cheaply seems better than limiting the options so severely.

ACTION	VOTES	SCORE
3♦	4	100
Pass	3	90
2♠	1	60
DBL	0	30
3♥ / 3♠	0	10

D) IMPS. N-S Vul

♠ QJ765 ♥ J2 ♦ KQJ10 ♣ A4

West	North	East	South
—	1♠	Pass	2NT*
3♠	4♠	5♠	?

* Jacoby 2NT

Once again the opponents are making life tough for us.

MURCHISON: Pass. Another hand for the forcing pass. If pard bids 5♦, I'll bid 5♠, denying a heart card. Then he'll know all.

HOUGH: Pass. Bidding slam over partner's 5♦ and 5♠ over double. *(Perhaps he means slam over 5♥ by partner. - SM)*

DOHL: Pass. Showing first round control, as above.

The forcing pass finally finds a plurality here, possibly because it is the most obviously forcing of the lot. I wonder if I could convince Hough to bid 5♦ over a double. A couple of panelists thought the diamonds were worth mentioning:

LINDSAY: 5♦. Cheapest available cuebid, shows partner where my outside values are concentrated. Second choice, a forcing pass, frequently employed to show first

round control of the opponent's suit.

BAXTER: 5♦. I have a good play for slam opposite any six controls. If I pass and hear 5♦ from partner, I won't know what to do. Over 5♦, partner should bid on with sufficient controls.

His bid will work out best when partner has the ♦A, but may risk seven off an Ace when partner can't hold back.

REVILL: 5♠. Put the pressure on partner for a change. Did he show extras or a void with 4♠?

NELLES: 5♠. Should be safe, and should tell partner I have a good hand, lots of spades, and no ace to cuebid.

What about that 4♠ bid? A double of interference here usually suggests your opponent stole your bid (i.e. singleton), so 4♠ should show a void. With slam interest and a singleton, why not launch into Blackwood before it's too late, or show a side-suit at the four-level? Bidding 5♠ should show nothing wasted in clubs, which is surely misleading opposite a possible void.

BRODY: 6♣. Trouble. Too much for Jacoby 2NT, yet partner is slam-bitious, giving him a minimum AKxxx, AQx, Axxx, x or similar. 6♣ allows him to bid seven with the heart AK and a stiff club.

Brody's partner practically has slam in his hand opposite an opening bid. He could have less with a void, but how much less might depend on your partnership agreements about the 2NT bid. Axxxxx, AKQx, xxx, void might look pretty slammish on this auction. Might even make it.

ACTION	VOTES	SCORE
Pass	3	100
5♠	2	75
5♦	2	75
6♣	1	60
6♠	0	40
DBL	0	20

E) Matchpoints. Both Vul

♠ A5 ♥ AK43 ♦ 3 ♣ KJ10643

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♣
DBL	Pass	1♥	2♣
2♣	3♣	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	?

LINDSAY: DBL and lead the ♥K.

Partner requires one of three missing cards to give 5♣ a play. If he has one plus nuisance values in spades and diamonds, opponents might be in the toll-free (800) range.

BAXTER: DBL. With xxx, x, Jxxxx, Qxxx, partner should have preempted at some point, so he should have a card somewhere for defense.

MURCHISON: DBL. I'm sure my opponents are in "800 Country".

I'll lead a club to begin the tap and expect a good result here.

NELLES: DBL. I don't think 5♣ will make and I think I can beat 4♥. I could certainly make 4♣, and -620 and -790 should be the same score, as the field doesn't rate to be in 4♥.

With three obvious tricks staring at us, we might hope to beat 4♥. A diamond ruff is possible, and a trick might materialize in partner's hand. While the size of the penalty is less important at matchpoints, I wonder where our 800 will come from when I'm still looking for the setting trick?

Not quite ready to see a gold mine beneath the shiny surface we had:

HOUGH: Pass. Lead clubs, collect 100. Double is more attractive at IMPs (maybe +500). No real hope of making 5♣.

DOHL: Pass. And lead the ♠ K. 5♣ is possibly down only one, but a club tap should beat 4♥, as partner didn't raise clubs originally. If you bid, though, they might take the push.

No one seems to expect the doubler to be short in clubs, making the talk of a tap somewhat meaningless, or, at best, highly speculative.

Obviously having been left with the shaft on previous expeditions were the doubters:

BRODY: 5♣. Partner has something, but no aces. They are going to make 4♥ doubled, as partner can't get in! Better to bid 5♣ and go -200 than double.

REVILL: 5♣. Usual matchpoint decision. Partner has made a delayed raise, showing little defensive values. If he has Qxxx in clubs you had better not double. Partner may have no hearts and three spades.

Yes, partner could be bidding on a heart void, as the hearts are likely to be three on your left and six on your right. While we're counting to thirteen let's count to forty. LHO: 16 HCP minimum, RHO: 6 HCP minimum. This leaves partner with an absolute maximum of 3HCP, and more likely just one or two, making a heart void more or less a certainty. If you still want to double, you'll have some company, but partner may never try to help you to another save till you get the gold dust out of your eyes.

ACTION	VOTES	SCORE
DBL	4	100
5♣	2	80
Pass	2	70
4♣	0	10

F) IMPS. Both Vul

♠-7 ♥- 632 ♦- AKJ954 ♣- K82

West	North	East	South
-	P	1♣	2♦
DBL*	P	4♣	P
P	P		

*Negative

You lead the ♦A. All follow:

Dummy

♠ —

♥ J1087

♦ Q8763

♣ AJ97

What card next?

Let's start with the minority positions here:

MURCHISON: ♥ 2. We will need a trick in each suit. Since the heart trick might go away, I'll play partner for the ♥ KQ, ♠ 10xx(x), and a spade trick.

While we will almost certainly require a trick in each suit here, an overwhelming majority thought the hearts were more of a threat than the clubs as discard material.

HOUGH: ♠ 2. Play partner for Q10 (xx) of clubs before heart discards.

Since any club lead will work equally well when partner has the Q10, this answer begs the question, what if partner has the queen but not the 10, or the 10 and not the Q?

BAXTER: ♠ K. Club shift is clear as the club loser may go on the hearts. King guards against Qx or 10x in declarer's hand with two spade losers and ♥ Axx.

BRODY: ♠ K. Partner needs a trick in each suit to beat this. Don't give declarer a major-suit finesse.

NELLES: ♠ K. The only time this is a disaster is when declarer has ♥ Ax and ♠ Qxx.

REVILL: ♠ K. Imperative. Partner may have ♠ J9xxx, ♥ AQx..., maybe ♠ Q. Declarer may have singleton ♠ Q.

DOHL: ♠ K. Try to remove the board's entry.

LINDSAY: ♠ K. A two-way shot. Partner may have ♠ Q (10)xx, and I kill the entry to dummy's hearts, or declarer may have ♠ Qx, leaving him with two club winners and a premature decision to make in the heart suit before he finds out the

bad news in spades.

If your choice of suits is clubs, the King is certainly the card which accomplishes the most, keeping declarer from scoring three club tricks with 10xx and discarding a heart, and also removing the board entry on other hands (eg. ♥ KQx, ♥ A9(x)). NELLES points out the only hand the club king loses to, making it the odds-on play.

Note that partner needs the ♥ KQ9 to neutralize the suit, leaving declarer with many more holding which will produce heart tricks. The main idea here is to make sure we don't create tricks in one suit while eliminating them in another.

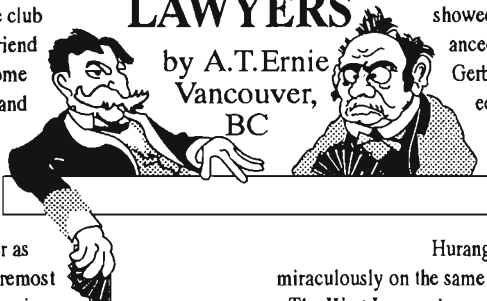
ACTION	VOTES	SCORE
♠ K	6	100
♠ 2 (8)	1	60
♥ (2)	1	50
♠, ♦	0	0

The next issue of Canadian Bridge Canadianien will focus on bridge promotion and education. Readers with any ideas and experience in these areas are invited to submit material.



HURANG and the LAWYERS

by A.T.Ernie
Vancouver,
BC



The other day, in search of afternoon entertainment, I dropped into the bridge club to kibitz Hurang. My friend originally hails from some faraway third world island but has lived most of his life here as a

Canadian citizen. He recently retired following a brilliant career as one of our country's foremost authorities on the economics of timber-harvesting. Paradoxically, for someone with such a nimble mind, Hurang is entirely lacking in card sense. He is nevertheless popular with club members, being that near extinct breed that plays bridge simply for the fun. Always polite, he routinely congratulates the opponents on their good play. Whenever he himself succeeds in making a contract, a rare feat indeed, he claps his hand in delight and giggles unreservedly. Even his victims are apt to smile at these childlike expressions of joy.

I seated myself on Hurang's right just as the round was called. The next pair was one of the club's most fearsome, a couple of suit-and-tied lawyers who had stolen away from the office, probably at a client's expense, for a quick fix of duplicate. I settled in for some fun. This was the first deal:

DLR: N
VUL: None

♠ AKJ
♥ K86
♦ QJ109
♣ A108

♠ 10985
♥ Q10543
♦ 5
♣ J92

N		E
W		
	S	

♠ 642
♥ 92
♦ A8743
♣ 765

♠ Q73
♥ AJ7
♦ K62
♣ KQ43

N	E	S	W
1♦	P	2NT	P
4♠	P	4♦!	P

I interpreted the auction as follows: Hurang's 2NT showed 13-15 HCP, balanced distribution; 4♠ was Gerber; 4♦ was a misguided response, Blackwood style, showing one Ace; the 6NT signoff demonstrated that

Hurang and partner were miraculously on the same wavelength.

The West Lawyer began a neutral defense by leading the ♠10. Without stopping for thought, Hurang won in hand, played the ♠K, and led a club to the 10. He had obviously been reading the book on finesses which I had recently leant him. Still on play, Hurang tried the 'two way finesse' in hearts, playing the ♥A followed by the ♥J. Perhaps Hurang had read only the first few pages of that book. West covered smartly and declarer had to win the King. Anxious to cash his winners, Hurang led out all his spades and clubs, pitching a heart from dummy. Needing more tricks, he finally turned his attention to the diamonds, leading low to dummy's Queen. The East Lawyer ducked, shaking his head in wonder. These developments must have confirmed what he already suspected from professional experience, that the scales of justice did not always tip in favour of the deserving party. Why, oh why, had his partner not been dealt the ♦A? Why had he himself not been dealt the ♠J? Hurang continued with diamonds and eventually made the twelve obvious tricks to which he was entitled. His pleasure was much in evidence as he jubilantly congratulated his partner on a courageous drive to slam. The two lawyers were sullenly reaching for the next board.

The next deal featured one of Hurang's patented compression plays. (see opposite))

East, in first seat, chose to open his marginal hand with 1♥, a move which surprised me given the conservative nature of his profession. Hurang overcalled an unusually unusual 4NT.

DLR: E
VUL: N/S

♠ AJ865
♥ 8
♦ 943
♣ 7432

♠ KQ1074
♥ 7642
♦ AKQ
♣ K

N		E
W		
	S	

♠ -
♥ KQ
♦ J108652
♣ Q10986

N E S W
- 1♥ 4NT 6♥
P P P

At this juncture the West Lawyer subjected North to a gruelling cross-examination on the meaning of South's bid. I guessed that West's primary intent was to get North to publicly acknowledge the minor-suited nature of Hurang's call so that he could then cue-bid clubs or diamonds as an unambiguous move towards a heart slam. He certainly had a problem now that Blackwood was forever lost to him. It so happened that North was a retired municipal official who had once been implicated in some sort of zoning scandal. Though pressed, the cagey North stubbornly denied any particular partnership agreement. West eventually tired of the verbal jousting and bid a direct 6♥, hoping for the best. The dummy hit and I peeked into East's hand. Secretly pleased, I was looking forward to the apportionment of guilt following the inevitable defeat of the slam. I wondered what past transgressions might be cited as precedents.

Hurang led the ♦ J, won with the Ace. East led a heart to the Ace, followed by a low spade towards the dummy. Declarer hoped to steal this trick and throw his remaining spade losers on the two good diamonds. Since North held the ♠ A, the plan was doomed. Or was it? To my consternation, Hurang ruffed in with his natural trump trick and that was that. My poor friend was in obvious misery once the hand was over and he had realized his gaffe. The lawyers managed practiced expressions of sympathy while Hurang apologized to the table at large for his stupidity.

The third and last deal of the round is shown at right. This time the West Lawyer did not bother

enquiring whether or not Hurang's 2NT balancing bid had any special meaning. No doubt he felt this would open up a line of questioning that could advantage his adversaries.

Against 3♠, North led his top club and declarer went up with the Ace. West now led a spade to the Queen which held the trick. The West Lawyer played off the ♠A and went into a long huddle, probably wondering whether or not to risk the heart finesse in order to dispose of a losing diamond. His highly trained, logical mind was probably reasoning along these lines: "The opening lead marks South with the ♠K. The successful spade finesse labels South with that King also. North did not lead a high diamond which he might well have done had he held a strong sequence in that suit, so South probably has at least one high diamond honour as well. Assuming South holds all these cards, wouldn't he have opened the bidding if he also held the ♥K? It follows that North must have the ♥K and I can finesse with complete assurance..."

Greed proved an irresistible motivator for West and he led a heart to the Queen. The defense collected down one for a close to average round.

DLR: S
VUL: E/W

♠ J10
♥ 9765
♦ AQ1043
♣ 107

♠ AQ8652
♥ 8
♦ 86
♣ 9852

N		E
W		
	S	

♠ 73
♥ AQ102
♦ J9
♣ AQJ43

♠ K94
♥ KJ43
♦ KJ75
♣ K6

N E S W
- - P! 2♠
P P 2NT P
3♦ 3♣ all pass

Beginning his discovery, the East Lawyer asked Hurang why he had not opened the bidding with such a good fourteen.

"Well, I like to have a little extra against the very good players," was Hurang's sincere reply.

The lawyers left in good spirits, their self-esteem much buoyed by Hurang's tactful flattery.

OTHER 1991 EVENTS

January 26

ACBL-Wide

**International Fund Game
with hand analyses**

March 14

ACBL-Wide

**Charity Game
with hand analyses**

April 4

**Rookie-Master Game
with selected hands
analysed by
Aidan Ballantyne.
One member of each
partnership must
have less than
20 masterpoints.**

April 16

Canada-Wide

**Olympiad Fund Game
with hand analyses**

May 15

ACBL-Wide

**International Fund Game
with hand analyses**

CHARITY NOTE

Charity game funds raised in Canada go to the CBF Charitable Fund for disbursement to Canadian Charities. Funds generated in Canada from ACBL-wide International Fund Games and Canada-wide Olympiad Fund Games go to the CBF International Fund to assist our national teams and pairs in international competition.

THE events CALENDAR

CNTC

Club Qualifying

Aug 15 - Dec 31

Unit Finals

completed by Feb 28

Zone Finals

completed by April 14

National Final

June 1-5

Winnipeg

**1991 CNTC Winners
qualify for 1992 Olympiad.
*Note to club managers and
units - the CBF has
lowered CNTC sanction
fees to encourage grass-
roots participation.***

FOR ALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Participants at the unit, zone, and national finals, must be CBF members. CBF membership is feasible through payment of a \$3.00 surcharge on ACBL membership. Non-ACBL members may join the CBF directly through a \$10.00 payment which may be sent directly to Jan Anderson, CBF Coordinator.

CWTC

**Each zone will decide its
own format for determin-
ing its representatives to
the National Final.**

National Final

Ottawa

August 22-26

**The 1991 CWTC winners
earn a berth in the 1992
Olympiad Teams.**

COPC

Club Qualifying

September 1 - October 31

Unit Finals

completed by January 31

National Final

Toronto Regional

March 29-30

**Winners of the 1991, 1992,
1993, and 1994 COPC
qualify for CBF subsidies to
the 1994 World
Championship Open Pairs.
Subsidy may be granted to
other pairs depending
on their cumulative
performance in these four
COPC championships.**

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