

CANADIAN

bridge

CANADIEN



MARYLOU BERT - KATHY ADACHI - JUNE POCKOCK - LESLIE GOLD

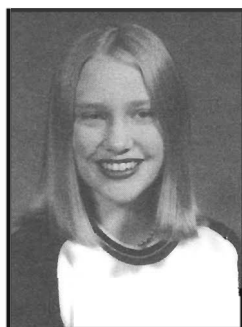
1997 Canadian Women's Team Champions!

It was an all westcoast final this year. p. 12

Congratulations Canada

A successful World Junior Team Championship

p.3



ERIN ANDERSON

**CANADA'S YOUNGEST
FEMALE LIFE MASTER**

At the Saskatoon Regional, Sept. 23, 1997, Erin Anderson became Canada's youngest female Life Master. She was 14 years, six months and 28 days old, just 9 days older than Gavin Wolpert, Canada's youngest LM. Erin took up the game of bridge at the age of 11 when she took the Club Series of bridge lessons. She continued on with the D series, H series and a 2/1 class. She began playing regularly at the Regina DBC when she was 12. Even before taking lessons she liked to kibitz when her parents had bridge players over. Her main partner is father, Dick Anderson. Dick is ACBL President, but when he is away

mother, Jan (CBF Coordinator), fills the gap. Some of Erin's fondest memories are: her first Toronto Regional in 1997 when she finally got to meet other bridge players her own age; Albuquerque NABC where she and three friends - Josh Heller, Gavin Wolpert and Charles Halasi - had the distinction of being the youngest-ever team to play in the Spingold; and attending the 1997 World Junior Team Championship in Hamilton. Erin is looking forward to being old enough to attend the Junior Camps and looks forward to perhaps one day playing on Canada's Junior Team.



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Left to Right: Dick Anderson, ACBL District 18 Director - John Carruthers, Tournament Chairman - Katie Thorpe and Maureen Culp, Volunteers & Organizers - Doug Heron, CBF Vice-President

Last summer the CBF and a committee of volunteers, spearheaded by John Carruthers, played host to the world - and it was a grand success!

Congratulations to Denmark on becoming the new world champions of Junior bridge. The silver medal went to the European champions, Norway, and the bronze to Russia. This meant the medal winners were the same as at the European Championships in Cardiff last year, though in a different order. Canada Red was the other semi-final qualifier.

DENMARK

Fred Brøndlum
Mik Kristensen
Lars Lund Madsen
Morten Lund Madsen
Mikkel Nørh
Jacob Røn
Kirsten Steen Møller (npc)
Nicolai Kampmann (coach)

NORWAY

Boye Brogeland
Thomas Charlsen
Espen Erichsen
Christer Kristoffersen
Bjorn Morten Mathisen
Oyvind Saur
Sten Bjertnes (npc)
Harals Skjaeraen (coach)

RUSSIA

Arseni Chour
Youri Khicuppenen
Youri Khokhlov
Dmitry Lobov
Alexandre Petrounine
Boris Sazanov
Michael Rosenblum (npc)

CLOSING SPEECH

by the Chairman of the World Bridge Federation's Youth Committee

*Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Friends and Colleagues,*

The 6th World Junior Bridge Team Championship has come to an end but many happy memories and positive conclusions will remain after we have left Hamilton. There is no doubt that Junior Bridge scored a great success here. Ten years after its inauguration, our top team championship attracted a record entry with participants from all over the world. The level of play was very high, and so was the ethical behavior of the players. A number of ethical instances will be recorded in the history of the game.

You, the young players, are to be warmly congratulated for leading this tournament to such a success. The world of bridge is proud of you - and benefits from your example. What happened here is in direct support of Junior Bridge - which means that thousands of other young players will be able to enjoy bridge events held

CONGRATULATION CANADA
6TH WORLD JUNIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS • HAMILTON ON • AUGUST 4-14, 1997
from the World

Continued from page 3

because of this success. It is also in direct support of the game as a whole because only Junior Bridge can offer the elements of freshness,, future and development which are necessary to present a correct image of our game to the outside world and the potential new members.

There is indisputable evidence that bridge development and Junior Bridge cannot exist without each other. Wherever this simple understanding was appreciated, the game flourished - wherever it was not, the game went into decline. There is, therefore a clear message to be received by administrators all over the world. We are aware, of course, that nobody speaks up against Junior Bridge. However, what counts more is what people do when the various proposals and budgets are put on the table. Some happen to believe that supporting Junior Bridge is an act of philanthropy - like giving out a gift to somebody they like. It is not so. Junior Bridge needs to be supported because without Junior Bridge the game cannot develop.

This is the main reason why Junior Bridge has been going from strength to strength in recent decades. Following the successful European example, the World Bridge Federation founded the World Junior Teams ten years ago, and in 1995 the World Junior Pairs was inaugurated. This is optionally combined with the World Junior Camp - an event of tremendous value, as it is the only one to typically address the ordinary players rather than the elite. Many of today's top players started their careers as shy participants at Junior Camps, and many others remained close to the game because they saw that the world of bridge cares about all players - not just the privileged ones. We are happy that a most beneficial tradition was built in a short time: following Belgium '95, the ACBL listened carefully to their young members and - most wisely - last year they organized a Camp

in North America. The European Zone wholeheartedly supported this effort, and this year Junior Bridge flourished in yet another Camp, held in Italy. This is the way to go forward - and the World Bridge Federation is very much looking towards the next ACBL Camp, next summer.

Dear friends,
As we prepare to salute the winners, it is proper to pause for a moment and say a warm word of thanks to the people who made this championship possible

The Hamilton championship was mainly the dream of one person: John Carruthers. John devoted a part of his life to Junior Bridge, captaining Junior teams and supporting young players for many years now. The highlight of his involvement was the ambition of holding the tournament in his country. In this way, he gave Canada the opportunity to host a World bridge tournament for the first time ever - but he also gave all of us the opportunity of getting to know a most wonderful country: Canada. John was fortunate enough to have a fantastic team of volunteers to help him; mentioning them in no particular order: Katie Thorpe, Margaret and Doug Drew, Maureen Culp and Tom Brandl, Valerie Hough, Steven and Evelyn Cooper, Susan Cooper, Karen Levy, Ruth Gold, Joy Phillips, Ray Lee, John Armstrong and Jack McFadden. We thank them all very much indeed.

Continued from page 4

I would also like to thank, most heartily, the Canadian Bridge Federation for inviting us to their beautiful country and doing so much to make us happy.

Let us thank these experts who have come here to work for us and given us the benefit of their excellence:

- The Tournament Directors, headed by Chief Gary Blaiss, with Marc van Beijsterveldt, Karl Hicks and John McGregor;
- The Chairman of the Appeals Committee, and good friend and colleague Joan Gerard, and all those who have helped in the hearings;
- The Vugraph team, with Chief Commentator Barry Rigal, and all those who volunteered to comment during the week;

• The Daily Bulletin and Internet staff, headed by Editor Mark Horton, with Ray Lee, Costas Economopoulos and Thanassis Matziaris;

• The Director of Operations Dimitri Ballas.

My last word naturally goes to the Juniors. There are some of you who are now leaving our world, as you are passing the age limit. To you I say that it has been a great pleasure being together so often, and hope that you will carry the great spirit of Junior Bridge into the world of grown-ups you are about to enter. The rest of the Juniors should stand by: many exciting new events are planned for the future, including the Camp next year in North America, and also a special event for Junior players to be held within the framework of next year's World Championships in Lille, France.

Goodbye and good luck.
Panos Gerontopoulos

CANADIAN JUNIORS AND YOUTH STANDINGS IN THE ACBL MASTERPOINT RACES

JUNIOR MASTERPOINT RACE

(Under 26) As at November 13, 1997

4. Darren Wolpert, Thornhill ON	429
10. Jonathan Ferguson, Ottawa ON	331
16. Jeff Smith, Gloucester ON	276
17. Jeffrey Blond, Cote St-Luc PQ	271
24. Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON	212
25. Erin Anderson, Regina SK	203
39. David Brower, Downsview ON	148
40. David Halasi, Toronto ON	140
45. Erin Berry, Regina SK	128
46. Craig Barkhouse, Barrie ON	124

YOUTH MASTERPOINT RACE

(Under 20) As at November 13, 1997

7. Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON	212
8. Erin Anderson, Regina SK	203
11. David Halasi, Toronto ON	140
13. Erin Berry, Regina SK	128
15. Isabelle Brisebois, Candiac PQ	117
16. David Sabourin, Ottawa ON	105
26. David Grainger, Etobicoke ON	61
28. Charles Halasi, Toronto ON	57
32. Tara Gokavi, Saskatoon SK	48
35. Vincent Demuy, Montreal PQ	44
39. James McCahill, Samia ON	39
41. Chris Lo, Mississauga ON	37
50. Eugene Lo, Mississauga ON	27

UPCOMING JUNIOR EVENTS TO NOTE • From CYBONews, October 1997

International Youth Bridge Festival	Den Bosch, Netherlands	Jan 5-9, 1998
Junior Sectional	Kingston, ON	Jan 23-25, 1998
Junior Bridge Month	ACBL	February
Hart House Sectional	Toronto, ON	Mar 6-8, 1998
Canadian University Bridge Teams Championships	Hart House, U of Toronto	(tentative) Feb-Mar, 1998
Junior Bridge Camp	Chicago, IL	(tentative) July 1998
1998 Junior Team Trials	Kingston, ON	(tentative) August 27-30, 1998
Canadian Youth Team Championship	Kingston, ON	(tentative) August 27-30, 1998

by Ray and Linda Lee

18 teams, representing 16 countries and every zone of the WBF, arrived in Hamilton, Ontario on August 4th to begin play in the 6th and largest World Junior Bridge Team Championship. Hamilton Convention Centre turned out to be a perfect venue with excellent playing conditions and lots of space. The teams played a complete round-robin of 16-board matches, with the top four qualifying for playoff action. The tournament attracted world-wide attention when Israel and Pakistan played against each other in Round 15, as this was the first time that the two countries had met in any sporting encounter, and was covered on CNN as well as Israeli television.

As host country, Canada had been allowed two teams in this year's competition; they were labelled Canada Red and Canada White by the organizers (the USA also fielded two teams). Canada Red was the more experienced team, but from the very first match Canada White served notice that they were not to be ignored. Traditionally the host country appears on the opening match on VuGraph, so Canada Red and Canada White squared off against each other. Both teams played good bridge and the final score after 16 boards was a low 34 IMPs to 25 in favour of Canada Red. This turned out to be one of the lower scoring matches in a week where it was common to see more than 100 IMPs change hands in a set. Board 12 (top of next column) of the session featured a pretty defence by Mike Nadler and Ben Zeidenberg of Canada White.

Both East-West pairs bought the hand in 2♥ after opening a weak two bid. Colin Lee of Canada White played the hand from the short side after a Multi 2♦ auction, while Darren Wolpert of Canada Red declared from the West hand. With the East hand concealed, the defence had trouble getting

Board 12

DLR: West

Vul: N/S

♠ Q 9 7

♥ Q 4 2

♦ A 8 6 4

♣ K 9 4

♠ K 6

♥ K T 9 6 5 3

♦ 9 3

♣ 8 7 5

♠ A T 5 4 3

♥ 7

♦ K Q 7 5 2

♣ Q J

♠ J 8 2

♥ A J 8

♦ J T

♣ A T 6 3 2

together on their strategy and as a result, Lee was able to bring home eight tricks. At the other table, Nadler made the excellent start of the ♠4 which went to Zeidenberg's ace. South shifted to a low heart won by West's king. When Wolpert now led a small diamond towards dummy, Nadler rose with the ♦A and persisted with the ♠K and the ♣9, carefully overtaken by South with the ♣10. Now, when South continued clubs, North could overruff declarer and South still had to score the ♥A and ♥J.

After 12 rounds and four days, the contenders had narrowed to seven teams. Leading the field was Russia, who would end the round robin still in first place. The remaining contenders in order were Denmark, USA2, Canada Red, Norway, China and yes, Canada White. One of the most entertaining hands of the tournament occurred in Round 9 when Canada Red met Denmark, then leading the field in a critical match for both teams.



Canada White - David Halasi, Colin Lee, Danny Nadler, Mike Nadler, Barry Piatfsky, Ben Zeidenberg, John Gowdy (npc)

1997 WORLD JUNIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP IN HAMILTON

DLR: North
Vul: None

♠ Q 9 7 4 2
♥ J
♦ A Q 9 7 5
♣ Q 6

♠ ---
♥ 8 5 4 2
♦ K T 8
♣ A K 7 5 4 2

♠ J T 6 5 3
♥ 9 7 6 3
♦ 4 2
♣ J T

♠ A K 8
♥ A K Q T
♦ J 6 3
♣ 9 8 3

least a tie against Russia to ensure a playoff position. At this stage Russia was a lock, but Denmark, Norway, Canada Red and China were all fighting it out for the remaining three playoff positions. USA2 still had a mathematical chance but it would take a miracle to move them up. The first board of the match showed off the star Russian's declarer play.

DLR: North
Vul: None

♠ T 8 6 5
♥ A J 7
♦ Q 8 3
♣ Q 8 4

♠ 7 2
♥ Q T 5 4
♦ A K J 9
♣ J 6 5

♠ 9
♥ K 8 2
♦ T 7 6 5 4
♣ 9 7 3 2

♠ A K Q J 4 3
♥ 9 6 3
♦ 2
♣ A K T

Both North-South pairs arrived in 4♠ without opposition bidding. The defence at both tables started off the same way with three rounds of clubs. The Danish declarer was unfortunate to go down when he took the correct line of discarding on the third club. Roberts, failing to notice that the ♣9 was high, ruffed the third club with the ♠7, choosing a perfect moment to have a blind spot. Obviously the Rueful Rabbit was watching over him, for he now demonstrated brilliantly how to make the hand from this position. He played a spade to the ace and cashed four rounds of hearts and the ♦A. He then led a spade towards the king, and Kristensen was forced to split. Now when "Rueful" Roberts led a diamond, Kristensen was forced to ruff and was end-played in trumps. 10 IMPs to Canada, who went on to win the match by 22 IMPs.

The last match of the round robin was one of the most exciting of the tournament for Canadian supporters. Canada Red needed at

West	North	East	South
Wolpert	Petrounine	Pollack	Khiuppenen
-	Pass	Pass	1♣*
1♦	1♠	3♦	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

*Polish Club - 12 - 14 bal. or strong, artificial

In the Closed Room, Blond and Levy bid the North-South hands to 4♠, which made comfortably. The Open Room auction, though, moved dangerously high as the Russians probed for a slam. The trick for the defence against 5♠ was to collect two heart tricks to go with their diamond. Pollack started off with a diamond and Wolpert shifted to the ♥5. Ducking this to dummy's ♥9 seemed clear, but declarer, giving Wolpert credit for possibly having underled the ♥KQ, played the ♥J. It was now up to Pollack to find the heart continuation that would have ended any chance for declarer to make the hand, but he



Canada Red- Sheri Winestock & Fred Gitelman (co-npcs), Jeff Blond, David Levy, Fred Pollack, Eric Sutherland, Mike Roberts, Darren Wolpert

1997 WORLD JUNIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP IN HAMILTON

led back a spade which was won by declarer with the ♠A. Declarer now cashed four more spades, to arrive at this position with the lead in dummy:

	♠ ---	
	♥ A	
	♦ Q 8	
	♣ Q 8 4	
♠ ---		♠
♥ Q T		♥ irrelevant
♦ K J		♦
♣ J 6		♣
	♠ 3	
	♥ 9 6	
	♦ ---	
	♣ A K T	

There were several squeezes available, but Petrounine picked the artistic trump squeeze: West is embarrassed when declarer cashes clubs ending in the North hand. If he pitches a diamond, declarer can ruff out his ♦K. If he throws a heart, declarer can cash the ♥A establishing dummy's ♥9.

Canada Red played an excellent match, getting a lot of tough decisions right at both tables, and winning 40 IMPs to 10. This was good enough for third place, ahead of Denmark, and behind Russia and Norway. Canada White finished a very creditable seventh, having stayed in contention until late round losses to Norway and Russia knocked them out of the race.

Doubtless wishing to avoid a tougher-than-expected Canada Red, Russia selected Denmark as their semifinal opponents, leaving Canada Red to face Norway. After an early lead, Canada was gradually overtaken, and the Norwegians had a 37-IMP lead at the half (32 boards); Russia, meanwhile, still had their 12-IMP carryover margin against Denmark. The third quarter turned out to be decisive. The hands were tough, and the Scandinavians handled them better in both matches. Norway

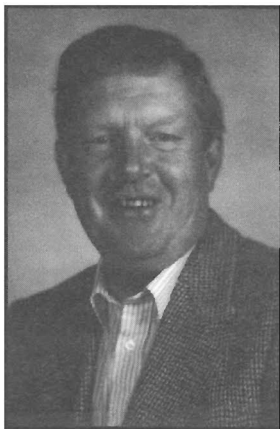
took a 69-IMP lead in this set, while Denmark went ahead by 25. The Russians staged a rally in the last quarter, took the lead briefly with a few boards to go, and then saw Denmark move ahead for good with three boards left. The final margin was only 5 IMPs.

After this, the final and third-place playoffs were almost anti-climactic. Norway showed some fight early, and were tied after 32 boards, but Denmark continued to apply pressure, and pulled away steadily thereafter. The final score was 248 IMPs to 178 over 96 boards. Fatigue was becoming a factor for Canada Red, who were having difficult fielding two pairs who could both play well at the same time. Russia overcame the 10-IMP carryover in the first quarter, and Canada never took the lead again, despite some heroics towards the end of the match. Russia won 193 IMPs to 152 over 64 boards, and took the bronze medal.

So for the second time in two Junior Championships, Canada made the four-team playoffs and came away empty-handed. But unlike many other countries, we did make the playoffs, and we did place two teams in the top seven. Given their lack of coaching and practice time, Canada Red have little to be ashamed of, while the excellent performance of the much younger Canada White squad suggests that we shall continue to be a force in Junior Bridge for the next few years.

PAKISTAN DEFEATS ISRAEL IN HISTORIC ENCOUNTER

The match between Pakistan and Israel in the World Junior Teams in Hamilton was the first sporting encounter of any kind between the two countries. This attracted world attention to Hamilton, and was covered by CNN as well as Israeli television. The match was won by Pakistan 55-23 IMPs (23-7 vps).



DICK ANDERSON

CANADIAN ELECTED NEW ACBL PRESIDENT

For only the second time ever, a Canadian has been elected ACBL President. Dick Anderson, District 18 ACBL Director and former CBF Board member and President, was elected as President of the ACBL for 1998 at the ACBL meetings in November. The other Canadian to have been ACBL President was Doug Drew of Toronto. Dick served on the CBF Board from 1981 - 1991 and was CBF president from 1982 - 1984. Dick has been the ACBL Director of District 18 since 1992.

Dick lives with wife Jan, the CBF Coordinator, in Regina Saskatchewan. He is a former COPC Champion (1994) and the proud father of Canada's youngest female Life Master (see cover story).

Thank You JOHN CARRUTHERS

The CBF Board would like to extend a great big thank you to John Carruthers for spearheading the hosting of the 1997 World Junior Team Championship. John did an unbelievable job and put on an excellent event (for stories see page 3).

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GEORGE HOLLAND STEPS DOWN

Elections for CBF zone Director for Zones I and IV were conducted during the fall of 1997. In Zone I only one candidate put forward his and thus was declared elected by acclamation. Beginning January 1, 1998, the Zone I director will be Leo Weniger of Halifax, NS. The CBF would like to thank previous director George Holland for his tireless work during the six years that he was CBF Zone I director and all wish him the best in the future.

In Zone IV incumbent Bill Treble was unopposed and thus declared re-elected by acclamation.

Director of Zone V, Gary Mitchell, has resigned his position on the board. The Board welcomes Jerry Mamer of Stoughton, SK as the new Zone V director.

TRAGIC MACCABIAH TOURNAMENT

The 15th Maccabiah games were held in Israel under tragic circumstances. A pedestrian bridge collapsed just before the starting ceremonies, injuring some fifty athletes, resulting in the eventual tragic death of three participants, including the brave Elizabeth Sawicki, one of the finest Australian bridge players.

The tournament was held in Jerusalem with ten bridge teams participating. Israel, Canada, Argentina, and Great Britain advance to the semi-finals. Israel beat Canada in the 96-hand finals. Britain beat Argentina for the bronze. Fred Gitelman was voted by the Israeli press as the best single player of the Maccabiah tournament.

VENICE CUP BERMUDA BOWL 1997

USA 1 WINS VENICE CUP

Randi Montin - Jill Meyers
Lisa Berkowitz - Marinese Letizia
Tobi Sokolow - Mildred Breed

VENICE CUP

Final Rankings Round-robin

1 FRANCE	298
2 U.S.A. I	291.5
3 U.S.A. II	289
4 CHINA	288
5 GREAT BRITAIN	287
6 CANADA	283
7 NETHERLANDS	272
8 ITALY	259
9 GERMANY	257
10 INDIA	254
11 AUSTRALIA	254
12 NEW ZEALAND	253
13 ARGENTINA	238
14 SOUTH AFRICA	224
15 TAIWAN	217
16 COLOMBIA	206
17 BRAZIL	205
18 TUNISIA	169

FRANCE WINS BOWL

Paul Chermia - Michel Perron
Hervé Moujil - Franck Multon
Christian Mari - Alain Lévy

BERMUDA BOWL

Final Rankings Round-robin

1 U.S.A. I	323
2 U.S.A. II	315.4
3 FRANCE	296
4 NORWAY	294
5 ITALY	290.1
6 POLAND	285
7 CHINA	278
8 TAIWAN	277
9 BRAZIL	274
10 DENMARK	264
11 AUSTRALIA	256
12 CANADA	233
13 INDIA	226
14 VENEZUELA	223
15 NEW ZEALAND	205
16 CHILE	189
17 SOUTH AFRICA	174
18 TUNISIA	154

CANADIAN WOMEN QUALIFY FOR THE QUARTER-FINALS IN THE VENICE CUP

THEN LOSE QUARTER-FINALS BY A HEARTBREAKING 2 IMPs

The Canadian Women's team of Rhoda Habert, Beverly Kraft, Dianna Gordon, Sharyn Reus, Francine Cimon, and Mary Paul played strongly and consistently throughout the round robin at the 1997 Venice Cup, qualifying for the quarter-finals only 15 VPs behind first. Again in the quarter-final match against USA II the women thrilled us with winning session after session. We were up by 51 over the US II squadron going into the final 32 boards. The Americans gained 29 IMPs over the next 16 boards however and were then only 22 behind. After the last 16 they had gained another 24 IMPs. Canada lost the lead on Board 94 (out of 96 boards) and failed to recover, losing the match by a 2 IMP margin. What a disappointment for our Canadian team. USA II went on to lose to USA I by 5 imps in the semifinals. USA I (see left) eventually won the Venice Cup.

CANADIAN OPEN TEAM IN TUNISIA

The team of Nader Hanna, Doug Fraser, Michael Roche, Jim Green, Paul Thurston and Rick Delogu hovered around average for most of the round robin but never could get on a winning streak. The team finished 12th, 44 VPs behind the 8th and final qualifying spot in the Round Robin.

11th WORLD TEAM OLYMPIAD PLANNED FOR NETHERLANDS, THE BERMUDA BOWL GOES HOME

The World Bridge Federation's Executive Council, at its final meeting in Hammamet, confirmed the dates of the 11th World Teams Olympiad and the 2nd World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship which will be held from 26th August through 9th September, 2000 in Maastricht, Netherlands. The Council then approved the venue and dates for the next Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup - the Southampton Princess Hotel in Bermuda. The dates are from 8th to 22nd January 2000. Although these dates are not at the usual time, the reason behind this decision is that the year 2000 marks the 50th anniversary of the Bermuda Bowl - it was first played in Bermuda in 1950. The 25th anniversary Bowl also was played in Bermuda - in fact it was at the Southampton Princess.

DEAS WINS IBPA SPORTING AWARD - Lynn Deas of the United States II team was presented with the Sporting Award sponsored by the International Bridge Press Association -- the first time this award has been given in many years. IBPA President Henry Francis, who made the presentation, said this award is seldom given -- only when there is a clear candidate. He told of the outstanding courage shown by Lynn in playing top-level bridge despite being confined to a wheelchair and being stricken with myasthenia gravis, an incurable debilitating disease. Lynn thanked Damiani for making everything as accessible as possible during her stay here.

UNITS, CLUBS AND INDIVIDUALS DONATE TO THE 1997 WORLD JR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

The CBF would like to thank the following for donations to the 1997 World Junior Team Event:

Montreal Bridge League Unit 151
Eastern Ontario Unit 192
St-Laurent Sag-Lac Unit 199
Ontario Unit 166
Trent Valley Unit 246
South Western Ontario Unit 249
North Western Ontario Unit 228
Calgary Unit 390
Northern Alberta Unit 391
South Saskatchewan Unit 573
North Saskatchewan Unit 575
Vancouver Unit 430
Kootenays Unit 574
ACBL District 2
Kate Buckman Bridge Studio
John Armstrong, The Kibitzer

FEBRUARY IS JUNIOR FUND MONTH



Once again the month of February will be Junior Development Fund Month. All clubs are encouraged to hold at least one game in support of this worthwhile cause. Club managers received information and report forms for the Junior Development Fund games in their club sanction renewal packages.

Last year 39 clubs held 137 games and raised \$4,692 (\$3,085 in 95). This represents about 10% of Canadian bridge clubs.



CANADIAN BRIDGE WEEK

All our National Finals in one place
during one great week!

This year the CNTC, CWTC and COPC National Finals will all be held during Canadian Bridge Week. Participants failing to advance from the Round Robins, Quarterfinals or Semifinals of the CNTC or CWTC, may drop into the COPC event, guaranteeing all participants maximum playing time during the week.

LAVAL, QUEBEC
JULY 12-18, 1998

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ROOM RATES TO PLAYERS

\$84.00 (+ taxes) per night, single or double

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JULY 12

CNTC Rounds 1-6, Round Robin

MONDAY, JULY 13

CNTC Rounds 7-13, Round Robin

CWTC 1st Day, Round Robin

TUESDAY, JULY 14

CNTC Rounds 14-20, Round Robin

CWTC 2nd Day, Round Robin

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

CNTC Rounds 21-27, Round Robin

CWTC 3rd Day, Round Robin

THURSDAY, JULY 16

CNTC Quarter Final

CWTC Quarter Final

FRIDAY, JULY 17

CNTC Semi-Final

CWTC Semi-Final

COPC Qualifying

SATURDAY, JULY 18

CNTC Final

CWTC Final

COPC Final

TWO HANDS FROM THE CWTC

By Glen Ashton

The national final for the 1997 Canadian Women's Teams Championship was held in Winnipeg in August. Thirteen teams played a three day round robin to qualify the top four teams to a playoff.

The final was an all British Columbia affair with the mainland POCOCK team against Victoria's McAVOY team. Here are two interesting hands from the final. First look at the layout below and decide what East-West contract you would want to be in.

Board 29 (First Half)

Vul: Both

DLR: North

POCOCK

♠ AJT4
♥ Q42
♦ 8653
♣ A4

NORTH

♠ 8752
♥ KJ875
♦ QT
♣ 72

BERT

♠ KQ
♥ AT63
♦ J2
♣ KQJ83

SOUTH

♠ 963
♥ 9
♦ AK974
♣ T965

POCOCK	NORTH	BERT	SOUTH
-	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

In my opinion, this is the bidding auction of the year, all done naturally, without relays, mirrors, or any other special bidding tools. However the Victoria pair counteracted this with a defense that painted a false picture in declarer's mind. The queen of diamonds was led and overtaken by the king for a shift to the club ten. Now it looked like clubs could well be five-one, so

declarer won the club ace, drew trump, and played a club to the eight for down one.

Board 31 (First Half)

Vul: N/S

DLR: North

NORTH

♠ A632
♥ Q2
♦ AT974
♣ Q5

WEST

♠ 985
♥ JT97653
♦ Q
♣ 97

EAST

♠ Q7
♥ -----
♦ KJ32
♣ AKJ8643

SOUTH

♠ KJT4
♥ AK84
♦ 865
♣ T2

WEST	ADACHI	EAST	GOLD
-	-	-	1♦
3♥	Dbl (Neg.)	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	5♣	Dbl
All Pass			

POCOCK	NORTH	BERT	SOUTH
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♦	3♣	Dbl (Neg.)
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Both contracts of five clubs doubled and four spades failed, the POCOCK team winning 7 IMPs. POCOCK won the final 168 - 126.

The winning team members are all active in their local unit. June Pocock was tourney chairman for the 1997 CNTC and COPC in Surrey BC, and Leslie Gold and Kathy Adachi were on the organizing committee. Marylou Bert, who lives in Washington State but is a BC unit member, assisted as well. Knowing their experience, one knows it means a lot when all the team members wanted to say how superbly run the championships were in Winnipeg.

CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

1997 CWTC CHAMPIONS

June Pocock, Coquitlam, BC
Marylou Bert, Bellingham, WA
Kathy Adachi, Delta, BC
Leslie Gold, Richmond, BC

RUNNERS UP

Connie McAvoy, Victoria, BC
Carol Waters, Victoria, BC
Karen Billett, Victoria BC
Karen Turner, Victoria BC

TIED 3RD/4TH

Doreen Bruce, Thunder Bay, ON
Evelyn Barnes Fedoroniak, Thunder Bay, ON
Alice Ainsworth, Thunder Bay, O
Lois Lagadin, Thunder Bay, ON
Maureen Barnes, Winnipeg MB
Donna Pratt, Brandon, MB

Doug Thomson, Winnipeg, MB NPC
Marilyn Walder, Winnipeg, MB
Maureen Marsch, Winnipeg MB
Caroline Levi-Sokolow, North Vancouver, BC
Doris Lowrey, Winnipeg, MB
Lana Blackett, Winnipeg, MB
Lorraine Serlin, Winnipeg, MB

ROUND ROBIN FINAL STANDINGS

1. POCOCK	695
2. BRUCE	594
3. THOMPSON	578
4. MCAVOY	553
5. HODGE	526
6. NEAT	499
7. POSCH	490
8. KRAMER	485
9. MALKIN	463
10. ISFELD	423
11. DUNBAR	400
12. GALLER	267
13. BUTLER	267

ADACHI WINS HER 2ND CWTC TITLE

BC WINS THIRD CWTC IN ALL WEST COAST FINAL

Kathy Adachi has won the CWTC Championship for her 2nd time. She won her first in 1989 with a different team. Kathy is well-known for her many years of involvement with the bridge world, as a player and as one of the tireless workers (mostly in BC but 5 years in Toronto as well).

June Pocock has been a staunch supporter of the women's teams for a decade or so through both participation and volunteering. She has placed 2nd or 3/4 almost every time she has entered the event. This 1st is a well earned triumph for her. Kathy and June have both served on the Vancouver Unit Board and helped chair and organize bridge events in BC. Although they didn't play as partners in this year's CWTC, the two do make a daunting pair and have won a variety of sectional and regional events.

Leslie Gold's name is one that is synonymous with CWTC in BC - she was on some of the original planning committees and has been instrumental in the great successes the CWTC Finals have enjoyed in BC. Leslie too has placed 2nd, 3rd and 4th previously in this event. Leslie, Kathy and June are all known and successful BC players.

A newcomer to the CWTC, Marylou Bert originates in Bellingham and brings with her the cagey tactics of northwestern bridge. Not unknown to BC bridge, Marylou has won Vancouver's Edie Bonnell Masterpoint Race (Women's) twice in a row, and won the inaugural Leo Steil (Seniors) race as well.

All four women are semi-retired. June (an RN) and Leslie work part-time in accounting.

A BC Zone VI team has won the CWTC three times, 1989, 1993 and 1997.

FINALS	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q	Final
POCOCK	45	24	63	36	168
MCAVOY	25	27	22	52	126
SEMI FINALS	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q	Final
Pocock	32	12	78	48	170
Thompson	32	36	14	19	100
McAvoy	41	85	49	38	218
Bruce	21	14	34	28	97

COPC

COPC TRAVEL SUBSIDY

Many people are confused as to how the new COPC travel subsidy pool is going to work. \$5 of the \$10 per table sanction fee collected at all COPC club round games will go into a COPC travel subsidy pool. After the COPC National Final, when all participants are known, calculations will be made and the subsidy pool will be divided up amongst all COPC participants that are eligible for travel subsidy money. All money in the subsidy pool will be returned to the participants in the event. A formula that takes into account the size of each Unit and the level of participation in the COPC club games will be used to determine how many subsidized pairs a Unit gets. Every Unit (except the host Unit) that holds COPC club qualifying games will be eligible for at least one subsidized pair. Since no Unit Finals are being held this year, the CBF will use the highest percentage score(s) in a club qualifying game in the Unit to determine which pair(s) will be the subsidized pair(s). In January the CBF Coordinator will notify each Unit President as to how many pairs in their Unit will receive subsidy and what the highest percentage scores in the Unit were. In the event that a pair eligible for subsidy does not play in the COPC National Final, the subsidy will drop down only to the next eligible pair. Thus if a Unit were allowed two subsidized pairs and neither attends the National Final, the subsidy will drop down only to the 3rd and 4th highest percentage scores (3rd next eligible for Pair 1

and 4th next eligible for Pair 2). If no one from the 3rd or 4th place pairs attends the National Final - that Unit will have no subsidized pairs. Since Players qualify as individuals, pairs eligible for subsidy do not have to stay intact to receive subsidy. Subsidy is paid out to the individual and not the pair. Thus if a pair has the highest percentage score in a Unit, both players receive subsidy as long as they play in the National Final - they do not have to play with each other in the National Final. If only one member of a pair eligible for subsidy plays in the National Final then only that player receives subsidy. Once all participants are known, a formula that takes into account the distance from the national Final and the participation in the COPC in that Unit will be used to distribute the subsidy pool among all the players that were eligible for subsidy and played in the National Final. Cheques will be mailed to those players receiving subsidy money once the National Final is over.

CHANGES TO THE COPC

After receiving the comments made by many of the players that played in the last two COPC National Finals, the CBF Board of Directors has made a change to the Conditions of Contest of the COPC. The COPC National Final has been reduced from a three day event to a two day event. The first day of the event will be a two session qualifying round and the second day of the event will be a two session final. Players eliminated from the CNTC and CWTC Semi-finals will be allowed to drop into the COPC Final with a one board carryover. All other rules remain the same, we have just dropped the first day two session qualifying round.

CBF NATIONAL COACH ERIC KOKISH MOVES TO INDONESIA - Eric Kokish, Canada's team coach, has moved to Indonesia for two years. Eric will be unable to continue as our national coach while he is gone from the country. The CBF has made arrangements to purchase the rights to use Eric's coaching material and alternative arrangements for the coaching of our Open and Women's teams are currently being discussed by the CBF Board. Eric coached all our teams, including the Juniors, setting up coaching weekends and other workshops. Eric is widely known for his excellent coaching techniques and materials.



CNTC *Report*

by Glen Ashton, Toronto

After qualifying through club, unit, and zonal finals, in June of this year 20 teams from across

Canada gathered in Surrey, British Columbia, just outside of Vancouver, to compete for the Canadian National Team Championship. The CNTC would be decided by a three day round robin to reduce the field to eight teams, then single day knockouts for the quarter finals, semifinals, and finals.

While the US team trials and European team championships, also in June, were determining their teams for the world championships in Tunisia, Canada's entry was already awarded to the previous year's CNTC winners. Selecting the team a year in advance provides considerable time to prepare for the tri-country playoff (Canada, Bermuda, Mexico), for the single Bermuda Bowl spot available. However a disadvantage is a team can lose momentum, and Canada's Bermuda Bowl representatives, after winning last year's CNTC and the tri-country playoff this winter, failed to qualify out of the round robin of this year's CNTC.

This still left eight very solid teams for the knockout stage, many containing former CNTC champions. The match-ups for the 64 board quarter finals, with the final positions and victory point totals from the round robin in parentheses, were:

QUARTER FINAL MATCH-UPS

HIGHER FINISHING TEAM

Harmon EDGAR, Michael Schoenborn, David Turner, Greg Carroll, Raymond Fortin, Kamel Fergani (1st - 952 VPs)

Denis LESAGE, Richard Lesage, Dave Willis, John Valliant, Andre Laliberte, Peter Schwartz (2nd - 935 VPs)

Ken PENTON, Allan Simon, Don Gladman, Bob Santa, Ken Gee, Cliff Campbell (3rd - 909 VPs)

Michael CAFFERATA, David Colbert, Andy Altay, Ian McKinnon, Darren Wolpert, Jurek Czyzowicz (4th - 866 VPs)

LOWER FINISHING TEAM

Nicolas LECUYER, Xavier Combey, Ronald Camiere, Jeffrey Blond, Nick Krnjevic (6th - 842 VPs)

James MCAVOY, Ken Scholes, Duncan Smith, Peter Herold (5th - 845 VPs)

Laurie MCINTYRE, Stephen Brown, John Bowman, Bill Bowman, Włodzimierz Grodecki, Waldemar Frukacz (8th - 815 VPs)

Mike HARGREAVES, Gordon McOrmond, Allan Graves, Joey Silver (7th - 828 VPs)

In the quarter-finals EDGAR edged out LECUYER 160-156, LESAGE got by MCAVOY 134-120, MCINTYRE had a 1 IMP win over PENTON 138-127, and HARGREAVES won 190-94 over CAFFERATA. In the 64 board semifinals it was Toronto based EDGAR vs Ottawa's MCINTYRE team, and the mostly British Columbia HARGREAVES team against the Quebec/Ottawa combination LESAGE team.

Near the end of the first half of the semifinals, these hands caused a swing in both matches:

WEST

♠ AJT863
♥ 96
♦ AK962
♣ ---

EAST

♠ K975
♥ T4
♦ J85
♣ T752

Neither side was vulnerable. In the McINTYRE vs. EDGAR match, the McINTYRE's Poles, Frodecki and Frukacz, bid and made four spades. The other table featured this bidding:

WEST

Fergani
-
1♠
4♠
5♠

NORTH

McIntyre
-
Dbl (Neg.)
5♥
Dbl

EAST

Fortin
-
3♠ (weak)
Pass
All Pass

SOUTH

Brown
1♣
4♥
Pass

Against Fergani's five spade contract, a low club lead to the ace was ruffed, and two rounds of trumps ending in dummy revealed North had started with the queen and another. The jack of diamonds was led, covered by the queen, and ace, and dummy was returned to with a trump. Next the diamond eight was advanced and, when not covered, was sent around to North who won her now singleton ten. Two hearts were then cashed for down one and 11 IMPs to McINTYRE for a bare 1 IMP lead at half time.

In the HARGREAVES vs. LESAGE match, at one table the Lesage brothers sacrificed in six hearts against five spades going down three. At the other table declarer for LESAGE, in five spades undoubled, after two hearts were cashed early, tried diamonds from the top and finished down one for 11 IMPs to HARGREAVES and a half time lead of 38 IMPs.

In the third quarter this deal tested the East-West pairs, not vul. against vul.:

WEST

♠ AKQJ8
♥ AKJ93
♦ A
♣ AK

EAST

♠ 62
♥ Q2
♦ KJT964
♣ 764

HARGREAVES

2NT*
4NT
5♠
7NT

* hearts ** bad hand, but Hx or xxx in hearts
*** no aces or king of hearts
**** queen of hearts and king of diamonds

MCORMOND

2♣
3♥**
5♦***
6♣****
Pass

SCHWARTZ

2♠
6♥*

* intended as asking partner to bid 7 with an honour in the suit

LALIBERTE

2♦
2NT
6♠

BILL BOWMAN

3♠
7♠

JOHN BOWMAN

3♦
4♠
Pass

FERGANI

2NT
6♦

* minor preempt

FORTIN

2♠*
3♦
Pass

Spades split 4-2 so seven was cold. 11 IMPs to HARGREAVES and McINTYRE. Another test in the fourth quarter, both vul.:

WEST

♠ AKQJT74
♥ 8
♦ A9
♣ AT2

EAST

♠ 3
♥ AKJT974
♦ 74
♣ 654

HARGREAVES

2♠
3NT
5♠
5♥

MCORMOND

3♥
4♠ (KC for ♥s)
5♦
6♥

SCHWARTZ

2♣
2♠
4♠

LALIBERTE

2♥
3♥

GRODECKI

1♠* (1♦)

4♠

* modified Polish style, either standard club opening or any 18/19 points or better hand

FRUKACZ

4♥

5♥

WEST**EDGAR**

1♠** (1♦)

3♠

7♠

** strong club, 16/17 points

** 3 controls (A=2, K=1), says nothing about spades

NORTH**EAST****SOUTH****SHOENBORN**

1♠*** (2♦)

5♥

Hearts were queen third offside with the hand holding the long hearts having three spades as well. Six hearts made six, four spades made five, 13 more IMPs to HARGREAVES. In the other match five hearts made five (make what you can bid) and seven spades went down two, 13 IMPs to McINTYRE.

The semifinals ended McINTYRE 178, EDGAR 141 and HARGREAVES 222, LESAGE 126. It would be the talented six pack of McINTYRE against the fearsome foursome of HARGREAVES in the 72 board final.

The finals opened up with some part score swings, first 5 IMPs to McINTYRE, then after a push, three consecutive 6 IMP swings to HARGREAVES, in the lead 18 - 15.

6 IMPs swung back to McINTYRE, on this non-vulnerable game swing on board 6.

NORTH

♠ KQ3

♥ 96532

♦ 6

♣ 9764

SOUTH

♠ J82

♥ AKT4

♦ QJ43

♣ A5

FRUKACZ

4♥

GRODECKI

1♥ (2♦)

SILVER

2♦ (to play!)

GRAVES

1NT(15-17)

11 IMPs to McINTYRE, when Silver-Graves bid a bad luck slam and after a few small swings the quarter ended HARGREAVES ahead 39 to 32.

Among the more interesting boards in the second quarter was this hand held by East:

♠ K3 ♥ AQ ♦ K872 ♣ A9653

Partner, West, opened three hearts in first seat, and North passed. McOrmond, East at one table, bid three notrump and after two passes, North reopened with four diamonds. McOrmond now tried four hearts, and South came in with four spades, sent back to McOrmond, who doubled. At the other table Brown, East, raised to four hearts directly over three hearts, Graves, South competed with four spades and was left to play there. Four spades doubled and undoubled both made five, for 6 IMPs to McINTYRE, on this layout:

NORTH

♠ 98654

♥ J8

♦ AQJT95

♣ ----

SOUTH

♠ AQJT72

♥ 95

♦ 6

♣ QT74

This provided 7 needed IMPs to McINTYRE, as most of the IMPs had swung the other way with some very accurate HARGREAVES team bidding. At the half it was HARGREAVES 92, McINTYRE 54.

Board 6 of the second half saw the two teams playing a cold four spades in contracts of three spades and five spades.

WEST

♠ QJ7

♥ 8653

♦ T532

♣ K4

EAST

♠ K986543

♥ 9

♦ AKJ8

♣ A

McINTYRE

1NT (Dbl)

BROWN

1♠

3♠ (All pass)

HARGREAVES**McCORMOND****McINTYRE****SILVER****BROWN****GRAVES**

2♠ (Dbl)
5♦

1♠
4NT
5♠

1♦
4♣
5♣

2♠
Pass
Pass

Dbl
4♠
6NT

Pass
Pass
All Pass

Brown, in three spades, made five.

McOrmond, in the possibly more rewarding five spades, got a spade lead to the ace, a king of hearts cash, and the seven of diamonds switch. He won the ace (nine of diamonds from left hand opponent), and cashed the king of spades getting the queen of clubs discard from the doubler. Next he unblocked the ace of clubs, crossed to dummy on a spade, took the king of clubs (the doubler discarding or following with the eight, nine, and ten of clubs to these last three tricks) and finally, when he led the diamond ten, the doubler played the four. McOrmond tried the finesse, losing to the now stiff queen for down one and 7 IMPs to McIntyre.

Shortly after a Silver-Graves auction went right off the rails:

SILVER

♠ AQT92
♥ A742
♦ Q8
♣ K9

GRAVES

♠ K8
♥ K
♦ A963
♣ QJ7632

1♠
2♥
2NT

1♣
2♣
2♠
Pass

This made six, with three notrump at the other table also making six for 10 IMPs to McIntyre. This helped cause the next board to be extra wild.

WEST

HARGREAVES

NORTH

B. BOWMAN

EAST

McCORMOND

SOUTH

J. BOWMAN

1♦
2♦
5♦

Pass
3♦
All Pass

2♣
Dbl

1♠
Pass
3♥

Board 11, 2nd half
Vul: None

NORTH

♠ T87543
♥ T9862
♦ 7
♣ 8

WEST

♠ J2
♥ ---
♦ AQ8432
♣ A9732

EAST

♠ AK6
♥ AKJ8
♦ T65
♣ Q42

SOUTH

♠ Q9
♥ Q543
♦ KJ9
♣ KJT5

Against Hargreaves's five diamonds contract, Bill Bowman led the eight of clubs to the ten and ace. Hargreaves played a spade to the ace, a diamond to the queen, cashed the diamond ace to find out he had a trump loser, played a spade to the king, ruffed a spade, and then ended play South with a diamond.

After the previous board, Silver attempted to regain momentum by making an aggressive weak jump overcall. We all have seen bids like this work, but not this time. Against Brown's ambitious slam, Graves led the queen of his partner's "suit". Brown won the ace, played a diamond to the queen, the diamond ace, the spade jack, stripping Graves of spades, then a diamond to Graves's king for an endplay in both clubs and hearts to obtain his twelfth trick: making six and 10 IMPs to McIntyre.

McIntyre was right back in the match and with one quarter to go, it was HARGREAVES 116, McIntyre 103.

The fourth quarter was extra wild. First this board, which is quite an advertisement for four card majors.

Board 19
E/W Vul

NORTH
♠ AT
♥ 97532
♦ ---
♣ KQJT95

WEST
♠ KQ6
♥ J4
♦ KQJT42
♣ A3

SOUTH
♠ J754
♥ AKQ6
♦ A75
♣ 72

WEST Hargreaves	NORTH Frukacz	EAST McOrmond	SOUTH Grodecki 1NT (11-14) Rdbl
Dbl All Pass	Pass	Pass	

McIntyre	Silver	Brown	Graves
2♦	3♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			6♥

1NT redoubled made one on a diamond lead, while six hearts made using the ace of diamonds to dispose of the losing spade. 10 IMPs to HARGREAVES.

NORTH
♠ 75
♥ 853
♦ A752
♣ AKQ6

SILVER
1♦
3NT
4NT

FRUKACZ
1♦
3♦
5♦

SOUTH
♠ AK8
♥ AQ
♦ KQJ3
♣ 8732

GRAVES
2NT
4♦
6♦

GRODECKI
2♦ (forcing)
4♦
6NT

The next board was mostly in the bidding. With both minors splitting six diamonds presented no problems. With the king of hearts offside, and the expert defenders careful not to allow a spade endplay, there was no twelfth trick for six notrump. 10 IMPs to HARGREAVES.

McINTYRE came storming back on board 22:

Board 22
E/W Vul

NORTH
♠ 9542
♥ AQJ82
♦ A2
♣ 73

WEST
♠ Q6
♥ 9765
♦ T9853
♣ 94

EAST
♠ AT8
♥ KT4
♦ K
♣ AKQT82

SOUTH
♠ KJ73
♥ 3
♦ QJ764
♣ J65

WEST Hargreaves	NORTH Frukacz	EAST McOrmond	SOUTH Grodecki
Pass	2♣	1♣	1NT*
Pass	3♥	3♣	Pass
All Pass		Pass	3♠

* 5+ ♦s & 4♥s or 4♠s

McIntyre	Silver	Brown	Graves
Pass	1♥	1♣	Pass
		3NT	All Pass

Grodecki's one notrump overcall is now called "Raptor" in Canada, showing eight plus high card points, and in this case, five or longer diamonds and a four card major. Two clubs asked for a description, and three hearts said to pass or correct depending on the four card major held. Against three spades Hargreaves led a club to the queen and McOrmond switched to the king of diamonds. Grodecki won the ace to play a spade, but McOrmond hopped up with ace, cashed a high club, gave his partner a club ruff with the queen of spades, and got a diamond ruff in return for down one. Brown took a shot at three notrump. A heart

lead or a low diamond gets the defense off to an excellent start, but Graves selected the queen of diamonds instead. Silver had no really good choice now, and ducked this to the king, but this gave Brown his eighth trick, and a spade up later provided nine. He finished with ten thanks to the diamond blockage. 11 IMPs to McIntyre.

Board 24
None Vul

NORTH

♠ AK5
♥ KT2
♦ 92
♣ JT752

WEST

♠ 8632
♥ 9854
♦ 6
♣ KQ93

EAST

♠ QJT
♥ Q76
♦ QJ854
♣ A8

SOUTH

♠ 974
♥ AJ3
♦ AKT73
♣ 64

WEST

Hargreaves
Pass
All Pass

NORTH

Frukacz
1NT (11-14)

EAST

McOrmond
Pass

SOUTH

Grodecki
3NT

McIntyre

Pass
1♥
Pass
Pass

Silver

Pass
Pass
2♣
2NT

Brown

1♦
Pass
Pass
All Pass

Graves

Pass
1NT
2♦

Yes another swing board here. Graves/Silver were unlikely to get to 3NT after Silver's initial pass and the opposition's bidding, and would have faced an uphill battle to make it even if they had. Two notrump made two. Against Frukacz's three notrump, McOrmond led the five of diamonds, which went around to the nine. Frukacz played a diamond to the queen and king, West discarding a spade, then a club to the ten and ace. A small heart return was won by the jack, and another club off dummy was won by the queen. When West returned a spade, Frukacz ducked once, then won the next spade, cleared the majors ending in dummy, and endplayed East with a small

diamond into returning a diamond into the ace-ten for his ninth trick. 7 more IMPs to McIntyre.

Another slam decision with both sides vulnerable resulted in HARGREAVES going set in 6♠s while 4♥s made 5 at the other table. 13 more IMPs to McIntyre, now just 9 IMPs behind HARGREAVES. HARGREAVES regained some lost ground on the next few boards to put them ahead by 20 IMPs. The 'grande finale' of the fireworks showed up three boards from the end:

NORTH

♠ AQT764
♥ A3
♦ KJT7
♣ 5

SOUTH

♠ K3
♥ KQJ96
♦ A5
♣ AKJ3

Frukacz-Grodecki reached seven spades played by Frukacz, North. East led the diamond two (3rd and 5th leads) to the five, nine and jack. Declarer cashed two high spades ending in hand, to see East, his left hand opponent show out, discarding a small club. What line do you favour now? Declarer played a club to the ace, cashed the king throwing the seven of diamonds, ruffed a club, played a diamond to the ace, and led another club. West, his right hand opponent discarded a heart, Declarer ruffed, played ace and another heart but West ruffed for down one, having started with a 4-2-4-3 shape.

Declarer's line of play was well thought out based on the lead being likely from five diamonds. An alternate line of play, very hard to find at the table, is to discard the ace of hearts on the king of clubs (instead of the diamond seven). Now club ruff, diamond seven to the ace, club ruff, heart to the king and continue high hearts. If West can ruff in, East only started with three diamonds to the queen, so after overruffing West's trump, drawing the other trump, then the king of diamonds can be played to drop the queen. If West cannot ruff, discard diamonds and catch West in a trump coup.

At the other table Silver-Graves finished in six notrump, making seven, so that was 17 IMPs to HARGREAVES. The penultimate board was not a grand, but still yet another tricky slam, doubled for extra fun:

WEST

♠ KQJ7
♥ AQ54
♦ AQ75
♣ 5

EAST

♠ A5
♥ KT82
♦ J
♣ KJ9763

MCINTYRE

1♦
2♥
4NT
6♥
All Pass

BROWN

2♣
3♥
5♥
Pass (Dbl)

The eight of clubs lead (3rd and 5th) went jack, ace, five, and the two of diamonds returned. Declarer went up ace (the king was offside), and then played a small heart to the king, the Doubler, right hand opponent, following with the jack. Declarer used the king of clubs to pitch a diamond, and ruffed a club, with the Doubler showing out. Now after such an excellent start, Declarer ruffed a diamond in dummy and ruffed another club to hand and could no longer pick up North's (left hand opponent's) remaining heart holding of nine-seven-six. Declarer almost had this nailed; to make, after ruffing the third club, cross to dummy with the spade ace, ruff the clubs good, cash the last high heart in hand, then run spades (until ruffed by North, who started with two spades, then overruff, draw trumps and claim). At the other table they played in four hearts, making four, so 13 IIMPS to HARGREAVES. Graves had cleverly doubled six hearts on:

♠ T9842 ♥ J ♦ T6432 ♣ A4

The final board of the final was a three notrump that could have been beaten with a lot of work at either table, but with both teams very tired after such wild hands, it made at both tables for a push.

It was a highly entertaining final with some wonderfully complex bidding and play problems. A really strong effort by Laurie McIntyre's team gave the winners all they could handle; we can expect to see them back as one of Canada's top teams next year, albeit without Włodzimierz Grodecki who is moving his medical practice to the US.

Congratulations to Mike Hargreaves, Gordon McOrmond, Joey Silver, and Allan Graves for the truly amazing effort of playing as a four-some throughout the six grueling days. Joey Silver has a Silver Medal from the 1995 Bermuda Bowl in China, Allan Graves has a Bronze Medal from the 1982 Rosenblum, and after adding in the solid pair of Hargreaves and McOrmond, Canada has a team quite capable of winning the gold Medal next year in France.

MILLENNIUM GAMES

At the recent world Championships in Tunisia, WBF President Damiani told of the upcoming Super Bowl of bridge. "It won't be called that, but it will be something like that." The event will take place in China in December 2000 - perhaps it could be called the Millenium Games. The contestants will be the 1998 Rosenblum winner, the 2000 Olympiad winner and the Bermuda Bowl winner plus the Zonal champions -- probably 10 teams. China plans to pick up the team's expenses.

PRESS ROOM VIRUS SCARE

A computer virus was suspected in both the Bulletin and Press Room at the World Junior Championships in Hamilton last August. There can hardly be a more likely or dangerous place for a computer virus than a Press Room where journalists frequently move diskettes between their own portables and the Press machines. "It's almost inevitable" said Ray Lee, member of the Daily Bulletin staff, "with all kinds of people coming in and using the machines, bringing their own disks, and having Internet access. We were able to quarantine the Bulletin room though, and keep it out of there."



CANADIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS • QUESTIONNAIRE

At the 1997 CNTC/COPC National Finals in Surrey, BC, 54 questionnaires were returned out of a possible 135. At the 1997 CWTC in Winnipeg, MB, 26 questionnaires were returned out of a possible 60. Thank you to both groups for taking the time to complete the questionnaire.

The CBF is planning to conduct a BRIDGE WEEK beginning in 1998 whereby the CNTC, CWTC and COPC will all be held concurrently in one location. We would like to know your feelings on this plan (1-5 Most Preferred - Least Preferred)

Bridge Week should include the CNTC, CWTC and COPC.

CNTC	35	6	1	1	3
CWTC	2	3	0	0	8

Bridge Week should include only the CNTC and COPC.

CNTC	14	21	6	0	0
CWTC	2	1	3	4	3

Bridge Week should include only the CWTC and COPC.

CNTC	0	2	8	18	7
CWTC	0	4	3	4	2

Bridge Week should include only the CNTC and CWTC

CNTC	0	8	20	6	2
CWTC	1	3	3	1	4

Bridge Week should not be implemented (CNTC, CWTC and COPC held separately)

CNTC	3	1	1	8	24
CWTC	16	1	1	0	1

Assuming that the CBF goes ahead with the plan to conduct a BRIDGE WEEK in future years, we would like to know your preference as to the specific time of year you feel that this event should take place.

	CNTC (Most preferred to least)						CWTC (Most preferred to least)					
	1	2	3	4	5	L	1	2	3	4	5	L
Jan	4	1	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	3	5	3	1	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
Mar	1	7	5	1	5	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Apr	8	2	11	6	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	5	13	6	4	4	0	5	6	0	0	0	0
Jun	21	4	5	4	5	2	5	2	2	0	0	0
Jul	4	6	4	1	2	3	2	3	2	0	0	0
Aug	0	4	3	5	3	3	3	3	1	2	4	1
Sep	3	1	3	7	8	2	1	2	2	2	2	0
Oct	1	4	3	5	8	0	1	0	2	2	1	0
Nov	1	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dec	0	0	0	1	1	17	0	0	0	0	0	11

One of the goals of Bridge Week is to determine teams that will represent Canada in international competition. The time between the Bridge Week and the International Event is used for Tri-Country Playoffs (if necessary), fundraising and coaching. Please rank your preference for the following three schedule scenarios. Note International Events usually take place anytime from late August to end of November.

Scenario 1: Bridge Week held during the summer. - the status quo (Club level stage during the fall, intermediate stages during winter and spring). This scenario gives approximately 14 months between Bridge Week and the International Event.

Scenario 2: Bridge Week held during early spring. (Club level stage during summer, intermediate stages during fall and winter). This scenario gives approximately 6 months between Bridge Week and the International Event.

Scenario 3: Bridge Week held during mid winter. (club level stage during spring, intermediate stages during summer and fall). This scenario gives approximately 8 months between Bridge Week and the International Event.

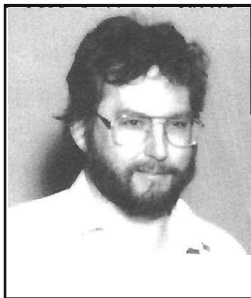
	CNTC			CWTC		
	1	2	3	1	2	3
Scenario 1	16	9	16	5	3	5
Scenario 2	15	17	7	10	3	3
Scenario 3	15	8	11	0	8	7

The CBF's International Fund is having increasing difficulty in supporting our international teams financially. Starting with Bridge Week in 1998, the CBF is planning to charge an entry fee surtax to National Final team events with the resulting extra revenue going to the International Fund to help pay the expenses of the event winners to their subsequent international competition. Do you agree with this concept?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure/indifferent	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
CNTC	7	18	7	11	6
CWTC	2	10	3	3	7

How much would you think the entry fee surtax per team should be?

	\$0	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800	\$900	\$1000	>\$1000
CNTC	14	6	8	6	5	7	4	0	0	0	0	0
CWTC	11	4	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0



“BIG D”

BY AIDAN BALLANTYNE

In 1997 Gord McOrmond and I traveled to Dallas, Texas to represent District 19 in the North American Open Pairs Final (Flight A), part of the 40th Spring North American Championships. We went south with high expectations having shown early speed in winning each preceding stage (club, unit, and district). In Dallas we kept up the pace and led after the first two qualifying sessions. Then came the final day. We battled gamely in the stretch and, lo and behold, hit the wire in first place by over a length (er, board). Months later we are still a bit stunned but very proud to have earned Vancouver only its second unrestricted NABC championship (to my knowledge the only other was by the late, great Jim Donaldson who won the Fall NABC Open Swiss Teams in 1977).

This article provides a few hands from the Dallas NAP final day presented in quiz format. The deals illustrate that for us, "D" was for defense, not just Dallas. For convenience you are South in all deals. Your side is playing upside down signals.

PROBLEM 1

DLR: East Contract: 3♥ (E)
Vul: N/S Lead: ♠K

♠ Q4
♥ K3
♦ K6543
♣ K873

♠ AKT
♥ T72
♦ A98
♣ A642

NORTH

-
1♠
2♠
All Pass

EAST

1♥
2♥
P

SOUTH

DBL
P
P

WEST

RDBL
P
3♥

You are on lead against 3♥ after the given auction. You try the ♠K (you lead K from A-K at the 3-level and higher). Dummy plays low, partner contributes the 7 (high = odd number) and declarer the 6. What next?

PROBLEM 2

You hold, none vul. as dealer:

♠ -
♥ AQT952
♦ AJT85
♣ 52

You open 1♥, it goes double on your left, partner bids 2♠, a weak jump shift. It goes a responsive double on your right. do you bid or pass?

PROBLEM 3

You hold, both vul.:

♠ T6542
♥ K862
♦ A
♣ AJ3

Your partner passes and RHO opens 3♦. Do you bid?

Let's say you pass. It goes all pass. What's your lead against 3♦?

PROBLEM 4

You find yourself on lead after RHO opens a strong notrump, passed out. You lead the ♠3 and discover that, as usual, you have struck one of dummy's long suits.

DLR: East Contract: 1NT (E)
Vul: N/S Lead: ♠3

♠ J652
♥ T82
♦ A754
♣ Q3

♠ K873
♥ AQ
♦ Q62
♣ 9764

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	1NT	All Pass	

Declarer plays low from dummy, pard puts in the T and declarer wins the ace. Now declarer surprises you by leading the ♥K from hand. You win the ace, partner contributing the three. How do you continue?

PROBLEM 5

More defense! This time you are defending 4H when RHO opens 1H and rebids 4H after your side competes in spades.

DLR: East Contract: 4♥ (E)
Vul: E/W Lead: ♣Q

♠ KT9
♥ 2
♦ QT9763
♣ 752

♠ A8753
♥ J74
♦ K
♣ QJ43

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	1♥	1♠	Dbl(!?)
2♠	4♥	All Pass	

Say you lead ♣Q. Partner plays the 6 (low = encouraging) and RHO wins the Ace. Declarer continues with two top hearts, partner playing 9-Q. Now declarer leads a spade. You grab your ace and partner plays the deuce (low = even number if count). You cash the good heart and partner pitches a spade. You now play ♣J, partner playing the 8 (standard remainder count) and declarer the 10. What next?

PROBLEM 6

You are on defense again, this time against 4♠ doubled in the following scenario:

DLR: North Contract: 4♠ * (W)
Vul: N/S Lead: ♥K

♠ QT942
♥ T985
♦ K85
♣ 6

♠ 87
♥ A2
♦ Q32
♣ AT9843

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	P	P	1♠
2♥	4♠	DBL	All Pass

Your pard leads the ♥K, you play the deuce, declarer the 3. Partner continues with the ♥7 and declarer plays the jack under your ace. Do you attack diamonds or go passive and lead a trump (and in the latter case, do you plan to win or duck your club ace if declarer leads dummy's stiff?).

PROBLEM 7

You hold, none vul.:

♠ K7
♥ AQT62
♦ T32
♣ KQ7

Partner passes in first seat and RHO opens 1♠. you overcall 2♥, LHO bids 2♠, partner contests with 3♥ and RHO goes to 3♠. What do you call?

Say you pass and there is no further bidding. You lead the ♣ K and appreciate your narrow escape when you see:

DLR: North Contract: 3♠ (E)
Vul: None Lead: ♠K

♠ JT3
♥ KJ874
♦ Q754
♣ 6

♠ K7
♥ AQT62
♦ T32
♣ KQ7

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
P	1♠	2♥	2♣
3♥	3♠	All Pass	

Your ♣K wins the first trick, partner contributing the nine. What next?

ANSWERS TO BIG "D"

PROBLEM NO. 1

Vul: N/S
Contract: 3♥ (E)
Lead: ♠K

♠ J7532
♥ 84
♦ 72
♣ QJT5

♠ Q4
♥ K3
♦ K6543
♣ K873

♠ 986
♥ AQJ965
♦ QJT
♣ 9

♠ AKT
♥ T72
♦ A98
♣ A642

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	1♥	DBL	RDBL
1♠	2♥	P	P
2♠	P	P	3♥
All Pass			

Defending against 3♥, Gord led a top spade and I contributed ♠7 (high = odd number of spades). After thoughtful analysis he found the only continuation to beat the contract: a low diamond. Declarer won and was fixed: he could not draw trumps else we would cash 5 top tricks when he next led a club up to the king. So he led a club up early. Gord won the ace and gave me a diamond ruff giving us two spades, one club, one diamond and a trump trick. An elegant down one gave us an average plus.

PROBLEM NO. 2

Vul: None
Contract: 2♠ (N)
Lead: ♥7

♠ T987654
♥ K84
♦ Q7
♣ 52

♠ QJ32
♥ J3
♦ K9
♣ KQT76

♠ AK
♥ 76
♦ 6432
♣ AJ943

♠ -
♥ AQT952
♦ AJT85
♣ 52

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-		1♥	DbL
2♠ (wk)	DbL	All Pass	

I was South and decided to pass 2♠ doubled thinking my hand was poor in the face of a misfit. When West passed also, Gord, who had intended to raise hearts at his next turn, decided to go for it in spades since he had a surprise or two for the opponents (a 7th spade and a heart fit). We achieved a slightly embarrassing bottom when we went down one for -100, cold for five hearts!

A big part of our success was being able to shrug off such occasional disasters (though note it's easier to absorb bad results when you've got the lead!).

PROBLEM NO. 3

Vul: Both
Contract: 3♦ (E)
Lead: ♠A

	♠ A87	
	♥ JT54	
	♦ Q76	
	♣ KQ8	
♠ KQ93		♠ J
♥ A97		♥ Q3
♦ 853		♦ KJT942
♣ 652		♣ T974
	♠ T6542	
	♥ K862	
	♦ A	
	♣ AJ3	

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
P	3♦	All Pass	

My pass of 3♦ was somewhat conservative but Gord was a passed hand and it looked dangerous to bid at that vulnerability. Besides, Gord's never been shy about balancing. On lead against 3♦ I decided to have a look at dummy rather than guess a major so I tried ♠A. Gord played the eight and I continued with a club to his queen. He now found the key switch to the ♥J while he still had the spades under control. Declarer played the queen and I covered with the king won in dummy with the ace. RHO now did well to lead a diamond to the jack forcing my ace. After cashing our winners we had to put him in dummy (the heart nine set up with my eight onside). Declarer took another successful diamond finesse and got out for -200. Still, our accurate defense netted almost all the matchpoints.

PROBLEM NO. 4

(See top of next col) I led a low spade against 1NT (15-17 HCP). Declarer played low from dummy and captured Gord's ten with the ace. The he led the ♥K out of hand and I had to win the Ace. On this trick Gord played his lowest heart in anticipation of my problem. It was obvious that I'd be looking to shift since continuing spades could set up a trick for declarer. Gord's low heart was meant as suit preference

PROBLEM NO. 4

Vul: N/S
Contract: 1NT (E)
Lead: ♠3

	♠ QT4	
	♥ 7543	
	♦ T3	
	♣ KJT2	
♠ J652		♠ A9
♥ T82		♥ KJ96
♦ A754		♦ KJ98
♣ Q3		♣ A85
	♠ K873	
	♥ AQ	
	♦ Q62	
	♣ 9764	

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	1NT	All Pass	

for clubs, the lower ranking of two logical alternatives. I obliged by playing a club and we quickly set up seven tricks. It's true that declarer was unlikely to make his contract on most defenses but helpful carding such as Gord produced here saves brain power, builds trust, and helps a partnership get through four pressure packed sessions.

PROBLEM NO. 5

Vul: E/W
Contract: 4♥ (E)
Lead: ♠ Q

	♠ QJ62	
	♥ Q9	
	♦ 542	
	♣ K986	
♠ KT9		♠ 4
♥ 2		♥ AKT8753
♦ QT9763		♦ AJ6
♣ 752		♣ AT
	♠ A8753	
	♥ J74	
	♦ K	
	♣ QJ43	

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	1♥	1♠	DbI
♠	4♥	All Pass	

You lead the ♠Q against 4♥. Dummy plays low, partner the 6 (low = encouraging) and RHO wins the ace. Declarer now plays off two top hearts, partner playing 9-Q, then leads a spade. You win the ace as partner contributes the 2 (low = even number if count). You cash the good heart, pard pitches a spade. Now the ♣J, partner playing the 8 and declarer the 10. What now?

For a change I'm giving a hand from the perspective of our opponents. In practice South continued a third club. Gord, who was declaring for our side, ruffed in hand and had nothing better to do than play off the ♦A hoping for a miracle. Bingo! When the king fell he had 10 tricks and an average plus. The winning defense is to play another spade instead of a third club. This gives declarer a losing option of winning in dummy and taking a losing diamond finesse. Would Gord have smelled the proverbial rat? We felt lucky not to have been tested!

PROBLEM NO. 6

Vul: N/S

Contract: 4♠* (E)

Lead: ♠K

♠ AK653	♥ J3	♦ T97	♣ KQ7	♠ J	♥ KQ764	♦ AJ64	♣ J52	♠ QT942	♥ T985	♦ K85	♣ 6
♠ 87	♥ A2	♦ Q32	♣ AT9843	♠ 87	♥ A2	♦ Q32	♣ AT9843	♠ 87	♥ A2	♦ Q32	♣ AT9843
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	P	P	1♠	-	P	P	1♠	-	P	P	1♠
2♥	4♠	Dbl	All Pass	2♥	4♠	Dbl	All Pass	2♥	4♠	Dbl	All Pass

We defended 4♠ doubled when West opened 1♠ in third seat and his partner hung him.

Gord led the ♥K after overcalling hearts and I let him hold the trick. He continued with the

♥7. I won and was faced with a problem: should I attack diamonds? There was some risk in that since, in the worst case scenario, declarer could have something like:

♠ AKxxx ♥ Jx ♦ KT9 ♣ QJT

With that layout a diamond shift would allow declarer to pick up the suit. Instead I'd have to protect our diamond winner by exiting passively with a trump and ducking the club lead from dummy (if I rise ace declarer has a ruffing finesse in clubs to get rid of dummy's diamond loser). When faced with this type of problem, look for partner's help. His second heart should be suit preference since count is known and he knows you're going to win the trick and wonder what to do. The ♥7 (a high spot) showed preference for diamonds rather than clubs. I returned a low diamond and we built 2 diamond winners before declarer could establish clubs. Our +500 was a clear top.

PROBLEM NO. 7

Vul: None

Contract: 3♠ (E)

Lead: ♠K

♠ JT3	♥ KJ874	♦ Q754	♣ 6	♠ A82	♥ 53	♦ 96	♣ AJ9542	♠ Q9654	♥ 9	♦ AKJ8	♣ T83
♠ K7	♥ AQT62	♦ T32	♣ KQ7	♠ K7	♥ AQT62	♦ T32	♣ KQ7	♠ K7	♥ AQT62	♦ T32	♣ KQ7
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	1♠	2♥	2♠	-	1♠	2♥	2♠	-	1♠	2♥	2♠
3♥	3♠	All Pass		3♥	3♠	All Pass		3♥	3♠	All Pass	

First of all, the bidding. Did you find the winning 3NT bid over 3♠? I wasn't up to it but at least I didn't bid 4♥!

Against 3♠ I led ♠K. Dummy played the singleton, partner the nine and declarer the three. With that stiff in dummy it looked right to lead trumps but I was reluctant to do so from ♠Kx lest I blow a natural trick. Could partner have the ♠A on the bidding? It seemed unlikely since he was already marked with the ♣A and RHO had opened. As I sat there wondering if Gord had the trump queen it dawned on me that even a switch to the ♠K into declarer's ♠A-Q might not cost. Say partner has a little as 9xx. Declarer uses his ace to win my king, then might have to use dummy's ♠JT to ruff clubs. Now partner's 9 is promoted! After debating myself as to whether I was man or mouse I put the ♠K on the table. It held! We quickly cleared trumps and scored up +50. This turned out to be an average minus since our opponents had stolen one from us. There were other ways of beating the hand but still, -140 would have been a bottom and we salvaged some match-points for the plus score. They all add up!

There's an old saying that it's defense that wins championships. In Dallas it seemed like we were defending almost all the time. Our flexible approach to signaling (did you note all those contexts for suit preference?) and partnership trust was tested on these and many other deals. I think we performed pretty well considering we hardly ever play together. So how do you rate your own performance?

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 1998

MARCH

- 19-29 ACBL Spring NABC, Reno
- 28-03 European Mixed Championships, Aachen

APRIL

- 10-13 Easter Festival, London
- 17-25 European Union Championships, Salsomaggiore

MAY

- 1-5 English Spring Fours, Stratford-on-Avon

JUNE

- 5-6 WBF Simultaneous Pairs

JULY

- 16-26 European Youth Team Championships, Vienna
- 23-02 NABC Chicago

AUGUST

- 21-04 World Pairs Olympiad and Rosenblum, France

CANADIAN TOP 50 MP HOLDERS

1. J Markland Molson, Cote St Luc PQ	12,849
2. Boris Baran, Montreal PQ	10,710
3. Cliff Campbell, Thunder Bay ON	10,066
4. Ken Warren, Scarborough ON	9535
5. Eric Murray, Toronto ON	9224
6. Martin Caley, Montreal PQ	8191
7. Joseph Silver, Hampstead PQ	8173
8. Doug Fraser, Mount Royal PQ	8100
9. Eric Kokish, Toronto ON	8050
10. Cameron Doner, Richmond BC	7741
11. Anna Boivin, Chomedey Laval PQ	7046
12. Allan Graves, Vancouver BC	6636
13. George Mittelman, Toronto ON	6582
14. Sami Kehela, Toronto ON	6370
15. Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver BC	6330
16. John Caruthers, Toronto ON	6115
17. Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON	6106
18. Douglas Heron, Ottawa ON	6076
19. David Stothart, Ottawa ON	6008
20. Duncan Smith, Victoria BC	5982
21. Helene Beaulieu, Sherbrooke PQ	5926
22. Mark Stein, Ottawa ON	5919
23. Patrice Roy, Sherbrooke PQ	5913
24. Jerry Aceti, Sudbury ON	5886
25. Jim Riegler, Ottawa ON	5816
26. Dudley Camacho, Toronto ON	5734
27. David Curry, Gloucester ON	5726
28. Ted Homing, Mississauga ON	5627
29. Ken Gee, Regina SK	5572
30. Robert Lebi, Toronto ON	5553
31. Laurence Betts, Burnaby BC	5467
32. Mary Paul, Toronto ON	5450
33. F.E. Gauthier, Montreal PQ	5408
34. Hans Jacobs, Aurora ON	5408
35. Adolph Feingold, Edmonton AB	5300
36. John Currie, Halifax NS	5273
37. Colin Revill, Burlington ON	5202
38. James McAvoy, Victoria BC	5197
39. Jerry Richardson, London ON	5126
40. David McLellan, Thunder Bay ON	5107
41. Keith Balcombe, Brooklin ON	5062
42. Stephen Brown, Nepean ON	4900
43. Ron Borg, Surrey BC	4892
44. Peter Herold, Surrey BC	4843
45. Dan Jacobo, Burnaby BC	4699
46. D. A. Brock, Brampton ON	4637
47. Barbara Saltsman, Montreal PQ	4622
48. Pierre Daigneault, Montreal PQ	4615
49. John Duquette, Oshawa ON	4593
50. David Lindop, Toronto ON	4593

The French novelist Honoré de Balzac has enchanted many years of my life: just read *Le Père Goriot*, *Illusions perdues*, *Splendeurs et Misères de courtisanes*, *La Duchesse de Langeais*, *César Birotteau*, *Le Cousin Pons*, *La Cousine Bette*, etc., all astonishing works, riveting novels, worth reading and reading again.

I hear you, I hear you: Balzac? Beurk! Never ending descriptions, pages and pages of details, I would give up after 35 pages.

You don't know it yet, but you're with me. If you give up after 35 pages, isn't it like leaving the bridge table while the cards are being shuffled? Will you quit bridge because shuffling takes too much time? No. Shuffling the cards is the same thing as reading the first 35 pages (ok, sometimes 50) of a novel by Balzac. An expert on Balzac once compared all those descriptions and all those minute details to a spring that you slowly rewind; the spring gets tighter and tighter, and when it gets to the maximum tension, you let go and the reaction just hits you, unavoidable result of an inner necessity. Bridge is the same: once the cards are shuffled and distributed, there is no more luck. Let us be clear: there is no more luck because the distribution of the cards is now fixed, petrified, unchangeable.

On one hand, the good player, anxious for order and harmony, respectful of the environment, will look for this primordial order and try to imagine it; he will build a hypothesis that will let him make his contract like without touching anything, without moving things, without making noise, without even scratching the surface of things. With minimum moves, advocate of ecology, humble before the universe, the good player is like the paleontologist who, upon discovering the smallest hint of a dinosaur, takes out his little brush and sets about to delicately dust off this huge piece. With utter patience, love and persistence, he dusts, brooms, polishes, washes and reveals the original beauty of the structure. On the other hand, the bad player believes that there is luck, not only during shuffling, but also during play. His postulate is then crystal clear: the cards move around during the play. And his



LA COMÉDIE HUMAINE

(OR WHY ZIA ALWAYS WINS)

par Bernard Marcoux, Montreal

experience proves it, day after day: his finesse always fail, he always goes down in cold contracts, always gets nailed for 800 and always sees the opponents pick up his stiff king. "I'm never luck", you can hear him complain to his partner.

In fact, the bad player, by playing without thinking, without counting, without imagining, reintroduces luck where there was none no more; he "modifies" the event, like they say in modern science. His absence of plan, his incoherence, smashes the primordial order, destroys the primary structure that had nothing left to do with luck. It is not surprising that, in these circumstances, the Kings, Queens and Aces seem to change places: the bad player creates anarchy. By the way, the most recent bridge softwares imitate this disorder created by a bad play. With these softwares, if you don't make the right play, the cards really change places, strongly suggesting the existence of an inner order, or a primordial structure, of an original "necessity", unique and unchangeable.

DUMMY

♠ xx
♥ Q10x
♦ KJ10642
♣ K7

YOU

♠ AQxx
♥ ---
♦ 73
♣ AJ109842

You're in 5♣, after LHO overcalled 1♥, raised to 2♥ by RHO. The lead is a small heart. First question: where are all those hearts? The opponents, with ten of them, were quite tame in the



bidding. You call the 10 from dummy, East plays the Jack. What do you know? East probably has AJ of hearts (West probably did not underlead his Ace). How many hearts has East? Probably 4. With 5, he would have bid more. West thus has 6 hearts to the King and East has AJxx.

Where is the Ace of diamonds? Again, take out your little brush and continue your dusting: with AJxx in hearts and the Ace of diamonds, East would probably have found a cue-bid. Therefore, the Ace of diamonds is probably with West. After ruffing the first heart (did you see far or did you suffer from myopia?), you play a diamond, West plays low and backing your brooming and dusting, you go up with the King which holds. You play back a diamond and East wins with the Queen. East thus has AJxx in hearts and Qx in diamonds; West has Kxxxx in hearts and Axx in diamonds; you know 9 of his cards. One question immediately jumps out: why did West, with 6 hearts to the King, a raise from his partner and 3 diamonds to the Ace, give up so early? Which weakness has his hand to make him decide to pass? With a singleton somewhere, he might have bid more. Your little paleontologist's broom goes back to work and you extrapolate that he probably has 2 spades and 2 clubs. East plays back a heart and you ruff.

You can consider two lines of play: diamonds or spades. Can you establish dummy's diamonds? First, you have to go to dummy in order to ruff one diamond, and then you have to go back to dummy to enjoy those diamonds; where are your two entries? The first entry could be the 7 of clubs (did you see far or did you suffer from myopia back there? Did you ruff with the 2 and 4 or with the 8 and 9?), placing the Queen with West, and the second entry is the King of clubs (with clubs 2-2)

Let's examine the spades now. Where is the spade King? Probably not with East; that would give him 10 points and, with 4 trumps AJxx, he probably would have made a cue-bid. You are thus practically sure that West has the spade King. And since clubs have to be 2-2 to make

your contract (you have to ruff one spade in dummy and then pick up the trumps), West has to be 2632; if you play Ace of spades and another spade, the King will fall and you still will be able to ruff your losing spade in dummy (even if West switches to a trump) and pick up the trumps.

The East-West dinosaurs should therefore look like this:

West	East
Kx	xxxxx
Kxxxx	AJxx
Axx	Qx
?x	?x

You play Ace of spades, spade; like you had visualized, West's doubleton King wins and you make 5♣.

At the heart of *Le Père Goriot* and of *La Comédie humaine*, we find Vautrin's famous speech (that you did not read because you gave up before) to Rastignac, the young man recently arrived in Paris. In this piece, Vautrin, the outlaw, explains life in society, the lies, the intrigues, the betrayals, the me-myself-and-I rule:

"There are no principles, says Vautrin, there are only events; there are no laws, only circumstances." The superior man in the one who "follows events and circumstances in order to guide them".

The superior player, profoundly political, accepts reality as it is and tries to take advantage of it. The superior player does not believe in luck, nor in error; luck is the science of the bad player and error, the excuse of the incompetent. The superior player hates mistakes more than he likes luck; luck can defeat him, but he believes he will never lose because of a mistake.

In the end, the superior player, emulating gods, plays in order to marvel at his own perfection. Junkie of the intelligence, the superior player plays in order to be able to say, like Paul Valéry: "Day after day, I enjoy the power of my own brain."

Ascoli Satriano

Par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

Hélas! Jamais vous n'irez à Ascoli Satriano. Ce n'est pas de votre faute, direz-vous, mais je n'en suis pas certain. Vous êtes né au Québec, et non en Italie, et vous croyez que c'est une bonne raison. De plus, vous ne voyagez pas; ou alors, si vous voyagez, pour l'exotisme à votre avis, vous vous fiez uniquement aux voyagistes, aux destinations "sûres": vous prenez des forfaits avec guide pour Rome, Florence, Venise. L'hiver, vous allez à Cuba ou en République, toujours avec des forfaits tout compris, parce c'est moins de "trouble". Vous n'aimez pas le "trouble". En fait, lorsque vous voyagez, vous voyagez "accidentellement", comme si vous restiez chez vous: vous recherchez les Holiday Inn et vous mangez du steak, comme à la maison.

Pour aller à Ascoli Satriano, il faut prendre une carte, faire un trajet, s'éloigner des routes principales et s'enfoncer dans l'inconnu. Vous n'aimez pas l'inconnu, vous préférez les autoroutes, ou alors la sécurité pépère de votre maison.

En fin de compte, vous êtes un peu (beaucoup) peureux, vous n'osez pas aller vraiment voir ailleurs, vous aimez mieux rester chez vous en vous disant que voyager coûte trop cher, mais, au fond, vous envie quand même ceux qui voyagent.

En quatrième position, vous avez:

♠ AVT3

♥ R6

♦ AR2

♣ RD63

Que vous aimez donc avoir de grosses mains! Vous vous sentez en sécurité avec ces As et ces Rois. Adg passe, votre partenaire passe et Add vient troubler votre euphorie en ouvrant de 3♠.

Voulez-vous vraiment voyager, comme vous dites toujours que vous le feriez, si vous en aviez les moyens? Je vous les donne ici. Ou avez-vous peur? Si vous avez peur, vous allez passer et espérer que votre partenaire contre, afin de les "pincer"!! Vous aimez tellement les pincer, ces joueurs qui gagent, trop à votre avis, qui prennent la vie à bras le corps (au fond, vous en êtes un peu jaloux: vous vous dites qu'on n'a pas le droit d'aimer autant la vie et d'en jouir); lorsque vous les pincez, vous êtes donc content. Lorsque vous ne les pincez pas, ce n'est pas de votre faute, vous êtes malchanceux, vous n'aviez pas d'enchère, votre partenaire n'a pas contré, etc. C'est bien vous: vous voulez tout, en restant tranquillement chez vous, devant votre TV.

Vous rêvez en couleurs évidemment, votre partenaire ne contrera jamais (il a aussi peur que vous), vous prendrez un mauvais score et vous vous plaindrez de votre malchance, de ces adversaires qui ne vous laissent pas tranquillement jouer au bridge.

Vous pouvez évidemment plonger, sauter, oser, et mettre 3SA, comme un grand hermaphrodite (i.e. garçon et/ou fille), et vous vous sentirez comme au départ de l'avion qui s'élance sur la piste: cette poussée irrésistible, qui vous grise chaque fois, ce vide au creux de l'estomac qui vous confirme que vous partez, que vous vous envollez, que vous planez, que vous "vivez" enfin.

Votre ceinture bien attachée, vous décidez cette fois de m'écouter, de foncer, de partir, et adienne que pourra: vous prenez une grande respiration et vous sortez le carton 3SA. Personne ne contre et vous respirez déjà un peu mieux.

Adg entame petit pique.

MORT

- ♠ 5
- ♥ V9843
- ♦ V643
- ♣ V95

VOUS

- ♠ AVT3
- ♥ R5
- ♦ AR2
- ♣ RD63

La vue de mort vous fait déjà regretter votre enchère : où allez-vous trouver des levées ? Vous étiez si bien, vous auriez dû passer, n'est-ce pas ? toutes ces petites cartes au mort vous donnent le frisson ; ce que vous aimez au bridge, ce sont les As et les Rois, ces valeurs sûres que personne ne peut vous enlever, Rome, Florence, Venise. Lorsqu'on arrive en bas de la Dame, vous commencez à moins aimer le bridge ; les petites cartes vous intimident en fait ; vous ne savez pas quoi faire avec ces 7, ces 6, ces 8 ou ces 9 : ils sont comme ces endroits inconnus sur les cartes routières où personne ne va, comme Ascoli Satriano, et tous ces noms mystérieux : Bitonto, Corato, Canosa, Cerignola ... Tout à coup on se perdrait ...

Vous commencez à avoir le souffle court : vous ne savez pas du tout quoi faire avec ce mort. L'angoisse vous noue l'estomac et la panique n'est pas loin. Ne paniquez pas, comptez !! Compter, au bridge, est le meilleur antidote de l'angoisse ; compter, compter, compter. Compter quoi ? Vos levées, évidemment. Vous avez donc 1 levée à pique, 2 à carreau et ... Bon, ne paniquons pas. La Dame de carreau pourrait tomber en deux ? C'est ça, recommencez à rêver. Comptez, je vous ai dit, ne rêvez pas, ne regrettez pas votre enchère, ne m'en voulez pas, vous avez plongé, vous êtes dans le bain, c'est la vie, la vraie vie. Vous êtes maître à bord.

Comptons autre chose alors : Add a probablement 7 cartes de pique, voilà au moins une information qui peut servir. Il lui reste donc 6 cartes dans les 3 autres couleurs. Vous voyez, on avance quand même.

MORT

- ♠ 5
- ♥ V9843
- ♦ V643
- ♣ V95

VOUS

- ♠ AVT3
- ♥ R5
- ♦ AR2
- ♣ RD63

Vous pouvez développer probablement 3 levées à trèfle, si vous les trouvez évidemment. Ça vous rassure ? Non ? allons-y quand même. Add joue la Dame de pique, vous prenez de votre As et jouez petit trèfle. Adg joue petit et c'est à vous : résistez à tentation de mettre le Valet. Vous ne croyez tout de même pas que les trèfles divisent 3-3, après le barrage à 3♠ ? Soyez sérieux. De plus, au bridge, on doit s'arranger pour que nos petites cartes fassent tomber les grosses cartes adverses. Ce 9, cette carte que vous ne regardez jamais habituellement, deviant tout à coup intéressant ; vous décidez de le jouer, ... et Add joue l'As !!! Vous sentez-vous mieux ? J'espère. Moi, en tout cas, je respire plus facilement. Add revient du 10 du carreau, indiquant probablement un doubleton. Vous prenez de votre As, jouez petit trèfle vers le Valet, puis RD de trèfle, Add défaussant pique et pique sur les deux derniers trèfles. Vous savez donc qu'il avait 7 piques et 2 trèfles ; il a probablement aussi 2 carreaux. Sa main est donc celle-ci :

- ♠ RD98xxx
- ♥ xx
- ♦ Tx
- ♣ Ax

Voyez comme on a fait des progrès, à partir de rien. Il suffit de compter. Ouest a donc probablement une main 1444. S'il avait eu une couleur cinquième, il l'aurait peut-être entamée. La main d'Ouest doit ressembler à ceci:

♠ x
♥ A(D)xx
♦ Dxxx
♣ Txxx

Comptez encore: vous avez 1 levée a pique (éventuellement 2, mais on ne doit compter que les levées sûres), 3 à trèfle, 2 à carreau, ce qui fait 6 levées; c'est tout de même mieux qu'au début, non? Il vous en manqué 3, et la position de l'As de coeur vous permet de voir que vous ne ferez pas de levée avec le Roi. Ne vous découragez pas, n'abandonnez pas, réfléchissez et comptez, c'est la seule issue possible: compter, compter, compter. La position est donc probablement celle-ci:

Mort
♠ ---
♥ V984
♦ V64
♣ ---

Ouest
♠ ---
♥ A(D)xx
♦ Dxx
♣ ---

Est
♠ R98x
♥ (D)x
♦ x
♣ ---

Vous
♠ VT3
♥ R5
♦ R2
♣ ---

Vous êtes assis sur le bout de votre chaise, tous vos sens sont en éveil, vous êtes concentré à 100%, voilà la vraie vie (Dites-moi merci maintenant de vous avoir poussé à vaincre votre peur). Voyez-vous la solution? Ouest n'a plus que des coeurs et des carreaux ... La lumière point tout à coup dans votre esprit. Si

vous jouez le Roi de coeur ... Ouest prendra et ne pourra pas jouer carreau, car il vous donnera 3 levées. Il devra revenir coeur et, à moins qu'Est ait la Dame, vous serez au mort. Est peut-il avoir la Dame? Peut-être. Mais elle est peut-être sèche. Si elle est doubleton, que va-t-il se passer? Ouest gagnera votre Roi de son As, jouera coeur pour la Dame de son partenaire qui encaissera son pique et reviendra carreau: vous ne ferez alors que 3 piques, 2 carreaux et 3 trèfles, pour un de chute. Cette solution est donc à rejeter. Rendu à ce point dans votre contrat, une considération prime avant tout: quelle position adverse vous permettra de réussir votre contrat? Ouest doit avoir AD de coeur, si vous voulez réussir 9 levées.

Vous ne voyez pas clairement la suite (comme lorsqu'on décide de prendre la route d'Ascoli Satriano), mais vous décidez de sacrifier ce Roi de coeur. Ouest prend effectivement de son As, Est fournissant petit, et revient petit coeur. Vous êtes à la croisée des chemins: quelle carte jouez-vous du mort? Révérant dans votre esprit votre hypothèse de nécessité, vous jouez finalement le Valet et Est produit le ... 10. Votre coeur fait un bond. La position est celle-ci:

Mort
♠ ---
♥ 98
♦ V64
♣ ---

Ouest
♠ ---
♥ Dx
♦ Dxx
♣ ---

Est
♠ R98x
♥ ---
♦ x
♣ ---

Vous
♠ VT3
♥ ---
♦ R2
♣ ---

Vous y êtes Presque. Vous êtes au mort, alors que vous croyiez ne jamais pouvoir y accéder.

Comptez encore vos levées: vous avez 1 pique (éventuellement 2), 1 cœur, 2 carreaux et 3 trèfles. Vous pouvez faire une autre levée de cœur avec ces 89 du mort. Incroyable, n'est-ce pas?

Vous voyez maintenant la suite très clairement. Si vous jouez le 9 de cœur, vous défausserez le petite pique, Ouest sera encore en main avec la 3e levée de la défense: s'il revient carreau, vous mettrez le Valet, réalisant 3 levées dans la couleur, en plus du 8 de cœur. Vous rentrerez en main avec le R de carreau, enlevant le dernier carreau d'Est et vous jouerez le V de pique, Est prendra, 4e levée de la défense, et devra vous redonner la main à pique pour votre 9e levée.

Si Ouest revient cœur, vous ferez le 8 du mort, défaussant votre carreau, vous rentrerez avec le R de carreau et le reste est facile. Grisant, n'est-ce pas?

Ces 8, 9, 10 et Valets, comme ils apparaissent soudain sous un jour nouveau; en fait vous avez fait presque la moitié de vos levées avec ces cartes que vous ne regardez jamais habituellement: V9 de cœur, V de trèfle et vous ferez, soit le V de carreau, soit le 10 de pique.

Ce sont toutes ces combinaisons V10, V98, V9 qui ont assuré le succès de votre contrat.

Pendant que vous flottez, vos adversaires s'impatientent (comme ces gens pressés qui veulent arriver dans les grandes villes au plus vite, et qui snobent les petits villages); vous les laissez piaffer, vous savourez le plaisir. Ascoli Satriano se profile à l'horizon, parmi les plaines verdoyantes et les pâturages dorés du cœur de l'Italie. Juché sur sa butte de roche, au loin, il ressemble à ces V98xx de cœur au mort, apparemment sans intérêt, au milieu de nulle part, inaccessibles.

Pourtant, il existait bien une route, il suffisait de la chercher, et vous l'avez trouvée

Vous jouez donc le 9 de cœur, défaussant votre petit pique. Ouest gagne et revient cœur. Vous gagnez le 8 du mort, jetant votre petit carreau. Vous jouez carreau vers votre R, déposez le V de pique sur la table. Est gagne et revient pique, votre 10 est maître: 9 levées et une sensation de flotter, de planer, de vivre, que vous n'avez jamais connue.

Au bridge, toutes les cartes comptent et, pour réussir son contrat, on ne peut pas se permettre d'être snob, pressé ou négligent: toutes les cartes sont importantes, et il faut souvent sacrifier Rome, Florence et Venise si l'on veut découvrir le vrai plaisir de voyager, la vraie griserie, le vrai monde, ces 8, ces 9 et ces 10 dont on ne parle jamais dans les guides de voyage.

Si vous allez un jour à Ascoli Satriano, vous verrez, rien n'a changé. On pénètre dans le village par la droite, par l'unique rue. La maison des grands-parents d'Arturo est juste là, troisième sur la droite, avec cette veranda au-dessus du deuxième étage dont il se souvient très bien, même s'il n'est allé là qu'une seule fois, il y a 70 ans. Plus loin, on arrive sur la place. On s'arrête au bar et Arturo demande si le village compte encore des Rolla, son nom de famille. On lui dit: "Certainement, le maire s'appelle Rolla".

Je vous l'ai dit: rien n'a changé.

Hélas, ce n'est pas tout à fait exact, une chose a changé: si vous allez à Ascoli Satriano, ce ne sera plus jamais en même temps que mon ami Arturo, et vous ne pourrez pas l'entendre raconter comment, lorsqu'il était petit, les paysans passaient dans les rues de son village, et s'arrêtaient à toutes les maisons afin de traire le lait de leurs chèvres pour les ménagères. Bon voyage, cher ami*.

*En souvenir de mon très cher ami Arturo Rolla, de Trieste (Italie), amant de la vie, décédé le 28 septembre 1997.

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WEB SPIN



During the August World Junior Championship the WBF put up a nice web site where daily results and bulletins were posted. However, as can happen with WBF and other international web sites, accessing the pages could be slow and sometimes impossible. As well, there were no text or pdf bulletins available. Luckily, there is a behind-the-scenes international internet team. This team, made up of bridge webmasters from around the world, took every bulletin and converted it into text, pdf files, working post script files, and original html, and posted everything on two alternative sites. As a participant in this project, I learned what a huge amount of volunteer work goes into the web side of these tournaments! Was it all worth it? Does anyone really read the text files? Download the pdf files? Lets look at the number of visits to these alternative sites during the World Junior Team Event.

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(This page linked to the ACBL Main Page)	

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DENMARK SITE	August 6-17
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GREAT BRIDGE LINKS

www.cbf.ca/GBL.html

for links to everything that is bridge on the internet today.



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The Canadian Bridge Canadien is published three times a year as a supplement to the ACBL Bridge Bulletin. **E-mail, modem, fax, snail mail - feel free to submit!**

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A CALENDAR

BRIDGE WEEK

NATIONAL FINALS
CNTC, COPC, CWTC
July 12 - July 18, 1998
Laval, PQ
SEE PAGE 11

CWTC

Zone representatives must be reported no later than
June 1, 1998

CNTC

Club Qualifying Rounds
Sept 1, 1997 - Jan 10, 1998
Unit Finals
Completed by March 10, 1998
Zone Finals
Completed by May 11, 1998

COPC

Qualify at Club level Fall 1997
No Unit or Zone Finals

ROOKIE-MASTER

April 1, 1998
October 27, 1998

INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

Jan 24, 1998 ACBL Wide
Mar 10, 1998 Canada Wide
May 14, 1998 ACBL Wide
July 24, 1998 ACBL Wide
Oct 22, 1998 Canada Wide

CHARITY FUND GAMES

March 25, 1998
November 23, 1998

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

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LAST ISSUE!

ATTENTION CBF MEMBERS WITH US POSTAL ADDRESSES

Due to US Postal regulations, this is the last publication that can be mailed to your US address with the ACBL Bulletin. Beginning May 1998 any paid up Canadian Bridge Federation (CBF) member wishing to have their CBC magazine mailed to a US Postal address will need to pay an extra \$6.00 (Can Funds) per year to cover the expense of mailing under separate cover. If you want this service please send a cheque payable to the CBF for \$6.00 along with your US address and ACBL player number to the CBF Coordinator, address at left.

DEADLINE

For May 1998 Supplement
FEBRUARY 25, 1998

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- Current Calendar
- CBF information
- News, History, Articles, Stats