# CANADIAN bridge CANADIEN

CHARLES CONTRACTOR

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#### SPOTLIGHT ON

Richmond Trophy 1997 Winner Hans Jacobs

> Top 100 All Time MP Holders

> CBF Board Members Historic Listing

## AND ALL YOUR FAVOURITE FEATURES

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

#### Bernard Marcoux

12129 Taylor, Montreal, PQ. H3M 2K1 514-333-6589 (h) 514-333-0502 (f) e-mail: bmarcou@ibm.net



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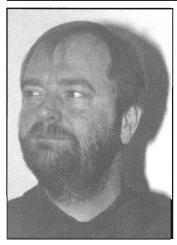
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#### SPOTLIGHT • 1997 RICHMOND TROPHY





Ans Jacobs, known as Jake, lives in Aurora, Ont, just outside Toronto. In an interview for the ACBL Bulletin, Jake calls himself a "semi-retired businessman who plays a lot of bridge." Jake is no stranger to the Richmond Trophy Race. His stats go: 1993 4th 659; 1994 6th 623; 1995 9th 528; and 1996 3rd 633. (AND I read an interview with The Kibitzer that discussed his winning nearly 700 mps in 1992...ed) Jake's 1997 total also won the ACBL's Gold Life Master of the Year Race.



### **MASTERPOINT RACE**

1. Hans Jacobs, Aurora ON	1145
2. Debbie Bennett, Scarborough ON	
3. Cameron Doner, Richmond BC	608
4. Ken Gee, Regina SK	599
5. Martin Caley, Montreal PQ	595
6. Doug Deschner, Red Deer AB	565
7. Boris Baran, Montreal PQ	564
8. Darren Wolpert, Thornhill ON	539
9. John McAdam, Ottawa ON	488
10. Gordon McOrmond, Delta BC	468
11. Jerry Richardson, London ON	455
12. Michael Yuen, Winnipeg MB	453
13. Alice Anderson, London ON	452
14. Jonathan Ferguson, Ottawa ON	445
15. Robert McPhee, Belleville ON	433
16. Allan Graves, Vancouver BC	432
17. R Elwin Brown, Gloucester ON	431
18. Claude Laberge, Longueuil PQ	427
19. Bill Anderson, London ON	420
20. Colin Revill, Burlington ON	413
21. Anna Boivin, Chomedy Laval PQ	412
22. Mark Stein, Ottawa On	405
23. Richard Anderson, Regina SK	404
24. Dan McCaw, Thomhill ON	396
25. Douglas Heron, Ottawa ON	395
26. Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON	389
27. Gordon Campbell, Calgary AB	383
28. Joan Priebe, Mississauga ON	373
29. Heather Peckett, Nepean ON	371
30. Dudley Camacho, Toronto ON	370
31. Mark Liberman, Don Mills ON	368
32. Patrice Roy, Sherbrooke PQ	364
33. Christian Houle, Ville St Laurent PQ	363
34. Martin Hunter, Mississauga ON	361
35. Helene Beaulieu, Sherbrooke PQ	356
36. Stephen Willard, Edmonton AB	356
37. Jeff Smith, Gloucester ON	354
38. Sandra Fox, Sackville NB	352
39. John Laufer, Montreal PQ	351
40. Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Montreal PQ	347

#### SPOTLIGHT • 1997 RICHMOND TROPHY

Debbie Bennett made her first appearance in our Top 100 in 1996 with an impressive 11th place and 460 mps. Debbie Bennett was raised and currently lives in Scarborough, Ontario, also near Toronto. She grew up in a card-playing gamily. her parents taught her how to play bridge as a teenager but she didn't start playing duplicate until approximately 1980. Being a stay-at-home mother of four children left her little time to play bridge. Now that they are adults she is able to devote more time to the game and has more time to travel

Hans Jacobs (Jake) and Debbie have been together for about four years and during that time have developed a regular partnership. Last year Jake suggested that they leave the Canadian winter behind and head south. Debbie was reluctant at first, but through his encouragement, decided it was an opportunity that couldn't be passed up.

Debbie writes: "The first stop on our two month trip, which would include seven tourna-

41. David Baker, Kitchener ON 345 42. Don Brock, Brampton ON 342 43. Jeny Aceti, Sudbury ON 340 44. Maureen Beyrouti, Westmount PQ 338 337 45. Jurek Czyzowicz, Alymer PQ 46. Michael Efraim, Montreal PQ 332 331 47. Duncan Smith, Victoria BC 48. Kathy Adachi, Delta BC 330 49. Waldemar Frukacz, Ottawa ON 398 50. Roland Brunet, Laval PQ 327 51. Fran Chivers, Kitchener ON 326 52. Leo Weniger, Halifax NS 323 53. Dan Jacob, Burnaby BC 323 54. Thomas Gandolfo, Edmonton AB 322 55. Jean Boucher, Chicoutimi Nord PQ 320 56. Nichołas Gartaganis, Calgary AB 319 57. Henry Unglik, Ottawa ON 319 58. James Priebe, Mississauga ON 313 59. Juliette Fajgelszon, St Laurent PQ 307 60. Rick Delogu, Waterloo ON 306 61. John Duquette, Oshawa ON 305 301 62. Raymond Moreau, Ile Des Soeurs PQ 63. Jacques Fradette, Gatineauy PQ 300 64. Rene Pelletier, Quebec PQ 299 65. Piotr Klimowicz, Edmonton AB 298 66. Rashid Khan, Fredericton NB 298 295 67. Paul Thurston, St. Catharines ON 68. Roland Galichand, Ste-Foy PQ 293 69. Barry Onslow, London ON 292 70. John Kania, Etobicoke, ON 987 ments, was Savannah, Georgia. It was one of my favourite cities. There are many parks and we went for several walks. It was such a treat to see flowers in mid-January. San Destin, Florida was another Town that we visited. It has miles of white, sandy beaches. Unfortunately, it was a little too chilly to go swimming.

The last destination of our trip was Dallas, Texas with its fabulous skyline. We won the Open Swiss on the final day of the tournament. What a grand finale to a super trip!"

For the balance of the year, the two traveled to about two tournaments per month. In all, they went to about twenty regional tournaments during the year. They say they saw beautiful cities, met many wonderful people and did a lot of sightseeing when time permitted.

As Debbie writes, "It was an exciting year, one that I will never forget."

71.	R. F. Smith, Don Mills ON	287
72.	Andre Hebert, Montreal PQ	287
73.	Jeffrey Blond, Montreal PQ	280
74.	Adrien Boisclair, Montreal PQ	278
75.	Moe Gross, Cote St Luc PQ	274
76.	Danny Schamehorn, Orilla ON	273
77.	Gavin Wolpert, Thomhill ON	272
78.	June Pocock, Coquitlam BC	270
79.	Czeslaw Kepa, Mississauga ON	268
80.	Dann Kramer, Calgary AB	268
81.	Lino D'Souza, Burlington ON	267
82.	Hayk Bosnakyan, Montreal PQ	267
83.	Jennifer Swimmer, Toronto ON	266
84.	Peter Jones, Edmonton AB	262
85.	Jean Louis Provost, St. Hyacinthe PQ	261
86.	Loma Deschner, Red Deer AB	259
87.	Ruth Browning, Plainfield ON	255
88.	Terry Tack, London ON	254
89.	P Drew Cannell, Winnipeg MB	253
90.	Luc Perras, Laval PQ	252
91.	Marc-Andre Fourcaudot, Montreal PQ	251
92.	Norma Ingram, Kitchener ON	251
93.	Linda Wynston, Toronto ON	251
94.	Martin Newland, Ottawa ON	247
95.	Denis Lesage, Longueuil PQ	247
96.	Craig Symington, Ottawa ON	246
97.	Marc Poupart, Longueuil PQ	246
98.	Paul Graham, Calgary AB	245
99.	Dick McKinney, Edmonton AB	243
100.	Janet Miller, SIt St Marie ON	243

## 1997 FALL ROOKIE-MASTER CHAMPIONS Claude Laberge

**Rita Prince** 

Master Claude Laberge and Rookie Rita Prince scored a huge 71.43% game in the Annual Fall Rookie-Master pairs game.

Claude Laberge is a retired school teacher and plays bridge six or seven times a week at various clubs in the Montreal region. He has been playing bridge for 30 years learning with Francois Gauthier, Paul Godin and Sam Gold. He has more than 3400 master points and has won the Ace of Clubs trophy in the Gold Life Master category for three years running. He has given bridge lessons to Golden Age citizens and one year taught bridge to young students at the Michelle Provost Academy. His partners are well-known bridge players in Montreal including Gus Duchesne, Jean-Louis Provost, Alain Brisebois, Christian Chantigny, Raymond Moreau, Moe Gross and Eva Marcovici. He has won many sectional and regional tournaments. Claude is a real gentleman and a very well liked bridge player - the type of player that every director likes to have in his club.

Mrs. Rita Prince is a newcomer to bridge. A retired school teacher, she loves to paint and play bridge; she also sings in a choir. Rita has been playing bridge for a couple of years at Saint-Lambert and Longueuil. She plays once or twice a week.

by Roland Cote Manager Le Club De Bridge De Saint-Lambert, Inc



#### NATIONAL WINNERS (786 PAIRS)

1.	Rita Prince & Claude Laberge Cl. de Br. St. Lambert	71.43%
2.	Elisabeth Giaro & Bemard Mongeau Cl. de Br. Brossard	70.64%
3.	Bill Treble & June Black Tuxedo Br. Studio	69.47%
4.	Charlotte St. Amant & Hesham Abdelrahman Belleville DBC	68.76%
5.	Lee Von Hagen & Laurie Danyluk Saskatoon DBC	67.80%
6.	Anne Wood & Eleanor Erickson Kingston DBC	67.50%
7.	Raymond Cazabon & Harold Firemen Highlands DBC	66.76%
8.	Brian Rankin & Bruce Steele Cariboo Br. Club	66.67%
9.	Ronald Gagnon & Roy Underwood Cariboo Br. Club	65.97%
10.	Winston Gokavi & Shirley Porter Saskatoon DBC	65.91%

29 clubs took part in our third Fall Rookie Master Game. Edmonton Bridge Centre had the highest turn out with 70 pairs (35 tables).

The Saskatoon DC came in 2nd with 58 pairs followed by the Vancouver Bridge Centre and the Ottawa Bridge Centre with 57 pairs each. Shakespeare's Elbow Bridge Club had 56 pairs and completes the list of top clubs.

It was disappointing that 7 of the clubs that applied for the game either cancelled or failed to submit results.

#### CANADA-WIDE ROOKIE-MASTER GAME • MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1997

#### ZONE ONE (37 PAIRS)

- 1. Marion Keefe & Hubert O'Hanley 65.28 Charlottetown DBC
- 2. R. Turtle & P. Ellis 64.81 Kensington DBC
- 3. Joyce Gallant & Kathleen Murphy 60.65 Charlottetown DBC
- 4. C. Mann & N. Gamble 59.79 Kensington DBC
- 5. R. Aves & D. Nicholl 57.14 K.V. DBC

#### ZONE TWO (275 PAIRS)

1.	Rita Prince & Claude Laberge	71.43
	Cl. de Br. St. Lambert	
Ω.	Elisabeth Biaro & Bernard Mongeau	70.64
	Cl. de Br. Brossard	

- 3. Anne Wood & Eleanor Erickson 67.50 Kingston DBC
- 4. Raymond Cazabon & Harold 66.76 Fireman, Highlands DBC
- 5. Michele Shahrabani & Laura 65.87 Gabbay, Shakespeare's Elbow

#### ZONE THREE (110 PAIRS)

1.	Charlotte St. Amant & Hesham	68.76
	Abdelrahman, Belleville DBC	

- 2. Ragmar Paulson & Ben Vieira 65.49 Barrie DBC
- 3. David McCrady & Joan Baker 63.83 Joe Seigel's
- 4. Paul Temple & Hugh Cooke 62.84 Belleville DBC
- 5. Gwynne Schwartz & Lynda Marks 62.63 Kate Buckman's

ΖO	NE FOUR (65 PAIRS)	
1.	Bill Treble & June Black	69.47
٤.	Tuxedo Br. Studio Allan Cooke & Helen Maxwell	65.56
~	Tuxedo Br. Studio	15 54
3.	T. Mayes & Al Nelson Seniors DBC	65.51
4.	Edith Jacklin & Connie Sprague Elliot Lake DBC	60.32
5.	Jack Fonger & Vern McComas Tuxedo Br. Club	59.45
	NE FIVE (163 PAIRS)	(7.00
1.	Lee Von Hagen & Laurie Danyluk Saskatoon DBC	67.80
2.	Winston Gokavi & Shirley Porter Saskatoon DBC	65.91
3.	J. Fernandes & D. Bourbannais Flin Flon DBC	65.50
4.	Anne Rabik & Bruce Robson Edmonton Br. Centre	64.29
5.	Glen Andersen & Hillary Kay Edmonton Br. Centre	63.69
70	NE SIX (136 PAIRS)	
1.	Brian Rankin & Bruce Steele	66.67
	Cariboo Br. Club	
2.	Ronald Gagnon & Roy Underwood Cariboo Br. Club	65.97

- 3. Maggie Warren & Pauline Elliott 64.06 South Surrey BC
- 4. Duncan Smith & Debbie Wastle 64.02 Victoria DBC
- 5. John Boyes & Sylvia Espey 63.83 Hub City DBC

#### THE NEXT FALL ROOKIE-MASTER EVENT WILL BE OCTOBER 27, 1998

Results of the April 1st Helen Shields Rookie Maser Game will appear in the September Issue of Canadian Bridge Canadien.

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#### IN THE SPOTLIGHT . CANADA'S TOP 100

1.	Boris Baran, Montreal PQ	10,787
2.	Cliff Campbell, Thunder Bay ON	10,066
		•
3.	Ken Warren, Ft Frances ON	9673
4.	Eric Murray, Toronto ON	9224
5.	Martin Caley, Montreal PQ	8270
6.	Joseph Silver, Hampstead PQ	8174
7.	Doug Fraser, Mount Royal PQ	8168
8.	Eric Kokish, Toronto ON	8050
9.	Cameron Doner, Richmond BC	7958
10.	Anna Boivin, Chomedy Laval PQ	7093
11.	Allan Graves, Vancouver BC	6797
12.	George Mittelman, Toronto ON	6624
13.	Sami Kehela, Toronto ON	6370
14.	Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver BC	6348
15.	Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON	6241
16.	Douglas Heron, Ottawa ON	6232
17.	John Carruthers, Toronto ON	6115
18.	David Stothart, Ottawa ON	6075
19.	Duncan Smith, Victoria BC	6030
20.	Mark Stein, Ottawa ON	5992
21.	Helene Beaulieu, Sherbrooke PQ	5965
22.	Jerry Aceti, Sudbury ON	5956
23.	Patrice Roy, Sherrooke PQ	5952
24.	Jim Riegle, Ottawa On	5838
25.	Dudley Camacho, Toronto ON	5796
26.	David Curry, Gloucester ON	5778
27.	Ken Gee, Regina Sk	5676
28.	Ted Horning, Mississauga ON	5627
29.	Robert Lebi, Toronto ON	5559
30.	Mary Paul, Toronto ON	5507
31.	Laurence Betts, Burnaby BC	5476
32.	Hans Jacobs, Aurora ON	5475
33.	F. E. Gauthier, Montreal PQ	5426
34.	John Currie, Halifax NS	5321
35.	,	5311
35. 36.	Adolph Feingold, Edmonton AB	
	Colin Revill, Burlington ON	5279
37.	Jerry Richardson, London ON	5221
38.	James McAvoy, Victoria BC David McLellan, Thunder Bay ON	5212
39.		5141
40.	Keith Balcombe, Brooklin ON	5062
41.	Dan Jacob, Burnaby BC	4923
42.	Stephen Brown, Nepean ON	4914
43.	Ron Borg, Surrey BC	4905
44.	Peter Herold, Surrey BC	4902
45.	Gordon McOrmond, Delta BC	4799
46.	David Lindop, Toronto ON	4697
47.	Don Brock, Brampton On	4664
48.	Barbara Saltsman, Montreal PQ	4649
49.	Pierre Daigneault, Montreal PQ	4615
50.	John Duquette, Oshawa On	4601
51.	Ed Bridson, Unionville ON	4531
52.	Heather Peckett, Nepean ON	4519
53.		
	Peirre Treuil, Ottawa ON	4516
54.	Duncan Phillips, Toronto ON	4508
55.	John McAdam, Ottawa ON	4476
56.	Marc Poupart, Longueuil PQ	4461
57.	Joan Lupovich, Montreal PQ	4439





You may not recognize the names of all these fine bridge players but you can bet they are well known where they play and compete! In the spirit of "due acknowledgement", let's honor Canada's top 100 Masterpoint holders. Many of our brightest and our best are listed here. (As of February 1998)

58.	Michaet Roche, Don Mills ON	4426
59.	Fred Hoffer, Montreal PQ	4418
60.	Dick McKinney, Edmonton AB	4418
61.	Kai Cheng, Winnipeg MB	4415
62.	Mrs. D. M. Cole, Brockville ON	4388
63.	Paul Hagen, Vancouver BC	4388
64.	John Landeryou, Lethbridge AB	4372
65.	Nicholas Gartaganis, Calgary AB	4369
66.	Michael Cafferata, Scarborough ON	4363
67.	Bogusław Lagowski, Ottawa ON	4359
68.	Solange Bouchard, Jonquiere PQ	4341
69.	Leo Glaser, Winfield BC	4336
70.	Richard Hart, Cobourg ON	4230
71.	Mark Liberman, Don Mills ON	4215
72.	Erik Vires, Montreal PQ	4210
73.	James Pritchard, Edmonton AB	4208
74.	Sadru Visram, Toronto ON	4206
75.	Edward Zaluski, Ottawa ON	4148
76.	Don Lindhorst, Cambridge ON	4140
77.	Ken Murray, Pickering ON	4128
78.	Richard Anderson, Regina SK	4113
79.	John Guoba, Toronto ON	4102
80.	Helen Roche, Calgary AB	4098
81.	Andre Laliberte, Neufchatel PQ	4072
82.	P. Drew Cannell, Winnipeg MB	4058
83.	Doreen Jaskela, Kelowna BC	4044
84.	Ray Jotcham, Scarborough ON	4042
85.	John Ross, Brampton ON	4011
86.	John Gowdy, Toronto ON	3974
87.	Laurie McIntyre, Ottawa ON	3969
88.	Ron Bishop, Willowdale ON	3957
89.	Michael Hargreaves, Victoria BC	3942
90.	Linda Wynston, Toronto ON	3938
91.	Evelyn Hodge, Burnaby BC	3921
92.	Barry Harper, Kelowna BC	3907
93.	Kathy Adachi, Delta BC	3864
94.	Andrew Tylman, Toronto ON	3857
95.	Gerry Marshall, Calgary AB	3843
96.	John Rayner, Oakville ON	3837
97.	Gary Whiteman, London ON	3834
98.	Allan Smith, Peterborough ON	3821
99.	Gary Mitchell, Regina SK	3810
100.	Don Cowan, Toronto On	3806

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Katie Thorpe, Toronto
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George Holland, Dartmouth
Bill Treble, Winnipeg

#### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES**

1966 - 1968	Henry Smilie, Vancouver
1968 - 1971	Albert M. Lando, Toronto
1972 - 1974	Douglas Drew, Toronto
1975 0 1981	Alvin Baragar, Edmonton
1982 - 1986	Irene Warner, Toronto
1987 - 1989	Barbara Tench
1990 -	Janice Anderson, Regina

#### TREASURERS

1966 - 1968	Henry Smilie, Vancouver
11969 - 1985	Aaron Goodman*, Montreal
1986 - 1989	Dick Anderson, Regina
1990 -	Janice Anderson, Regina

#### CHAIRMAN OF THE CANADIAN CHARITABLE FUND

1963 - 1968	Eric R. Murray, Toronto
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1976 - 1985	MaUrice Gauthier*, Montreal
1986 - 1989	Moise Deschamps, Ottawa
1990	Wolf LeBovic, Toronto
1991 - 1996	Katie Thorpe, Toronto
1997	George Holland, L. Sackville
1998 -	Marilyn White, Toronto



Join us in recognizing all the great people who have worked for bridge in Canada through service on the CBF Board. The list here joins our Canadian Trophy Races and Masterpoint Lists to complete the slate of Who's Who in Canadian Bridge.

\* indicates deceased.

#### **EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS OF CBF**

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	ACBL District 2
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	ACBL District 2
1992 -	Richard G. Anderson, Regina
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ZONE II	
1966 - 1969 1970 - 1974 1975 - 1976 1977 - 1980 1981 - 1982 1983 - 1985 1986 - 1989 1990 -	Aaron Goodman*, Montreal Sam Maltin, Montreal Jean La Traverse, Montreal Eric Kokish, Montreal Anna Boivin, Montreal Michael Kenny, Montreal Douglas Fraser, Mount Royal Doug Heron, Ottawa
ZONE III 1965 - 1969 1966 - 1967 1969 - 1975 1976 - 1978 1979 - 1981 1982 - 1984 1985 - 1987 1987 - 1993 1994 - 1996 1997 -	Eric R Murray, Toronto Charles D. Jane, Woodstock William A. Robinson, Toronto Alex F. Kisin, Toronto Andy Altay, Toronto Karen Alison, Toronto David Lindop, Toronto Katie Thorpe, Toronto John Carruthers, Toronto Eric Sutherland, Toronto
ZONE IV 1965 - 1975 1976 - 1984 1985 - 1988 1989 - 1994 1994 1995 -	Douglas J. Cannell, Winnipeg Helen Shields*, Thunder Bay Douglas J. Cannell, Winnipeg Gim Ong, Winnipeg Lloyd Harris, Sudbury Bill Treble, Winnipeg
ZONE V 1971 - 1980 1981 - 1991 1991 - 1992 1993 - 1997 1997 -	Jack Murphy*, Calgary Richard G. Anderson, Regina Allan Simon, Calgary Gary Mitchell, Regina Jerry Mamer, Stoughton
ZONE VI (British 1966 - 1976 1977 - 1980	Columbia) Henry Smilie, Vancouver Sandra Borg, Vancouver



This hand was dealt and played in the duplicate section at the Senior Game trials in Revelstoke on May 20, 1994.

DLR: East VUL: EW		KQJX KQJXXXX id	
WEST		EAS	ST
♠ Txxxx	XXX	ي 🔶 ۷	roid
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♦ JXX		♦ <i>F</i>	QTxxxx
📥 XX		ي 🛃 🗸	void
	SOU	ſH	
	🔶 VO	id	
	♥ vo	id	
♦ K×			
♣ AKQJTxxxxx			
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
-	1♦	64	Р
6♥	DPI	7秦	Р

Dbl

7♥

Result: 7♥ down One. I think most tables bid as above which was the bidding at our table. If North can Pass with 20 points and no Clubs, then 6 makes (with a non-club lead ... ed), but given the North hand who could pass? 6♥ makes as East will lead the diamond Ace and can only get the heart Ten and then must return a Diamond to the King allowing declarer to discard the losing spade. A lead of a low Diamond might succeed as declarer has nothing to lose by putting up the King. Then he may try to ruff a club giving East an overruff, but if he ruffs a Diamond 6 rolls home. fortunately I sat West and had no tough decisions to make.

All Pass

Ken McKee, Salmon Arm DBC

- 1980 1984 Douglas Andrews, Vancouver
- 1984 Leslie Gold, Vancouver
- 1985 -Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver

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Edited by Sally Brock Consulting editor mark Horton

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#### A STUDY IN SILVER

A SECOND COLLECTION OF BRIDGE STORIES by David Silver

This is a second collection of humorous bridge stories from the author of Tales out of School This time Silver turns his satirical eye on the classics of film and literature. Sherlock Holmes, Moby Dick, and even Dracula cannot escape involvement in Professor Silver's adventures. As always, a wide selection of fascinating bridge hands makes the stories even more enjoyable. Can \$ 12.95

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## **PEOPLE & NEWS**

#### **BLUE RIBBON EXCITEMENT**

FALL NABC, ST. LOUIS, DAILY BULLETIN, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 27, 1997 - The pair who finished in the last qualifying spot of the Blue Ribbon Pairs are no doubt the youngest competitors to make it this far in one of bridge's most prestigious pairs events.

Ari Greenberg, 16, and Canadian Gavin Wolpert, 15, were 74th in the field with two rounds to go, but they had two excellent boards -- including a +1400 ---to make it to the final.

Wolpert, who lives in Thomhill ON, was a member of what many considered to be the youngest team ever entered in the Spingold Knockout Teams at the Summer NABC in Albuquerque. The average age of the four-person team was 14.5. Greenberg, of Malibu CA, is an active Junior player and a member of the ACBL Junior Corps.

Greenberg and Wolpert decided a couple of months ago to play in the Blue Ribbon but had not played together before Tuesday. They agreed to play a 2/1 game force system with lots of gadgets.

Greenberg said the Blue Ribbon Pairs is the toughest event he's ever played in. There are lots of expert players," he said.

#### OVERALL RESULTS FOR CANADIANS

65.63	7	Biller Miller, las Vegas NV; Dan Jacob, Burnaby BC	730.70
29.17	27	Jurek Czyzowicz, Aylmer PQ; Darren Wolpert, ON	671.31
19.09	46	Fred Gitelman - Sheri Winest Toronto On 582.88	ock,
17.21	52	Gavin Wolpert, Thomhill ON Ari Greenberg, Malibu CA	476.50

#### CANADIAN JUNIOR BRIDGE

A Junior Bridge camp is a gathering of young people who not only enjoy their common hobby of bridge but also lots of other activities. Camps do not exist just for the young experts, but for the new players as well. The purpose of the camps is to help young bridge players make new friends and get together with friends made at previous camps.

The camp's daily program includes lectures, physical sports, picnics, and numerous bridge tournaments.

The cost will be approximately US \$400 plus air fare. The ACBL Educational Foundation has generously agreed to subsidize all successful ACBL applicants with #200 so your cost will be about \$200 plus air fare.

## Junior Bridge Camp

August 3 - 9, 1998 St. John's Northwestern Military Academy, Delafield WI

Contact Charlotte Blaiss, ACBL (901)332-5586 ext 214 email <cblais@acbl.org>

The target age group is 16 to 23 but younger and/or older applicants will be considered. If past experience is any guide, the 1998 Bridge Camp should be a fabulous experience for anyone who is fortunate enough to be able to attend.



## THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE

#### **BY JOSH HELLER**

Junior bridge camps are a unique experience within the bridge community. Nowhere else can you have so much fun with what some people call "a grandmother's game". Bridge camps are designed to allow junior bridge players to have fun with the game away from the serious tournament scene.

This summer the second ACBL junior bridge camp will be taking place in Wisconsin beginning the day after the Chicago Nationals. Bridge camps are designed to make bridge fun and to bring junior players from around the world together for a week of new experiences, fun, and, of course, bridge. The camps encourage international juniors to make friends with each other by requiring everyone to play with people from different countries.

Bridge events include an individual the first day to get everyone acquainted, a pairs tournament where you must play with at least three partners from different countries, a Swiss teams, and finally the infamous crazy pairs.

Crazy pairs is an event where the rules of bridge are twisted by creating instructions on every board. These instructions include pass your hand to the left, reverse the rank of cards (2's are high then 3's etc.), and change the trump suit half way through the hand. This event comes last and is always a memorable send off.

You may now be thinking "hmmm - all they do is play bridge all day", well that couldn't be further from the truth. Previous bridge camps have had events such as volleyball tourna-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

#### **CANADIAN JUNIOR BRIDGE**

#### CONTINUED FROPM PAGE 11

ments, treasure hunts, crazy decathlon (10 very interesting and strange events), and a boat building contest. These scheduled events are just the beginning as the juniors take the initiative and create their own events such as a Duplicate Barbu tournament, a midnight Swiss teams and theme days.

Finally, for those of you who want to improve your bridge knowledge, lessons and lectures are scheduled every day, taught by well respected bridge teachers and players. The organizers of the bridge camps put months of work into these camps to make it a great experience for all who attend. I've been to two of these camps and have enjoyed every minute of it. If you are interesting in attending this year's camp email Charlotte Blaiss at colaiss@aclb.org or if you don't have email you can call me at 416-482-9264 and I'd be glad to email Charlotte for you. Hope to see you there!

### JUNIORS GATHER IN KINGSTON FOR "SUPER SECTIONAL"

by Danny Miles

The weekend of January 23-25, 1998 was dubbed "Super Sectional" weekend in Kingston. Included for the first time was a separate section for junior players who were fairly new to the game. The weekend got off to a rocky start as a Friday morning snowstorm created havoc on the 401. I traveled with David Halasi, David Brower and Darren Wolpert, We left Toronto before 10 am and made it to the playing site at 1:45 just in the nick of time!! Friday afternoon featured an open game and Friday night saw the debut of the junior section in addition to the regular open game. About five or six tables were in play in each of the junior sections throughout the weekend. The tournament organizers treated the juniors very well, helping them with scoring and movements as well as providing treats (pizza and ice cream) after each session. A big "Thank You" to Ed O'Reilly without whom the junior aspect of the tournament would not have taken place.

David Halasi and Darren Wolpert demonstrated their tremendous ability by winning the Friday open game with a 66%. Friday also featured a six team midnight knockout, won by three juniors (David H., Darren and myself) who played with an "older" fourth.

Saturday morning was the first match of a potential three session knockout. I had agreed to play with David Brower, but our hotel had failed to send the "wake-up" call we had requested! After struggling out of bed four minutes before game time, I did not play the best bridge of my life. Luckily, David Brower and our teammates kept us in it, and we ended up winning the bracket 2 knockout. There were other juniors that attended the tournament as well. They included groups from Ottawa, Queen's and the University of Waterloo. And of course there were the juniors who have been leaming how to play bridge in school in Kingston.

All in all, everyone had a really great time in Kingston. Hopefully the next junior sectional in Kingston will be even bigger, drawing even more juniors from Kingston and abroad. Scholarships were give to the top four masterpoint winners:

- 1. Danny Miles
- 2. David Brower
- 3/4. David Halasi
- 3/4. Darren Wolpert

#### CANADIAN JUNIOR BRIDGE

## Saskatchewan Sadness ERIN COLLEEN BERRY

February 2, 1981 to January 30, 1998

Erin was bom in Cold Lake, Alberta. She also lived in Sydney, Nova Scotia and Moncton, New Brunswick before moving to Saskatchewan to live in Moose Jaw and then Regina. Erin was a grade eleven student at Campbell Collegiate Institute in Regina. She was an excellent student with special interests in math, writing, music and acting.

Erin was an avid bridge player. In August of 1997 Erin became a Life Master. She shared this passion with her mother, Carole. In June of 1997 Erin attended the World Scholar Games in Rhode Island. It was in Rhode Island that Erin met her boyfriend, Aaron Papst, who also died in the tragic single vehicle accident that took Erin's life.

Although Erin had never attended a Junior Camp or Junior Trials, her interest in Junior Bridge was beginning. This past fall she took part in the trials to select a team to represent Canada at the International Youth Festival in Holland. Erin had already put her name in to the ACBL to attend the 1998 Junior Camp and was planning to play in the Canadian Junior Trials in August.

It is with deep sadness that we mourn the loss of such a talented and gifted junior.

As an expression of sympathy, contributions to The Canadian Bridge Federation Inc. Junior Development Fund, 2719 Jolly Place, Regina, Sask. S4V 0X8 would be appreciated by the family.

#### 1997 ACBL MASTERPOINT RACES FINAL STANDINGS

#### YOUTH

8.	Gavin Wolpert, Thomhill ON	272
9.	Erin Anderson, Reginal SK	231
11.	Josh Heller, Toronto ON	205
12.	David Halasi, Toronto ON	190
14.	Isabelle Brisebois, Candiac PQ	152
16.	Erin Berry, Regina SK	144
17.	David Sabourin, Ottawa ON	144
25.	Vincent Demuy, Montreal PQ	96
28.	Brian Hardy, Ottawa ON	78
31.	David Grainger, Etobicoke ON	70
32.	lan Boyd, Calgary AB	67
36.	James McCahill, Samia ON	53
38.	Tara Gokavi, Saskatoon SK	50
45.	Chris Lo, Mississauga ON	40

#### JUNIORS

5.	Darren Wolpert, Thomhill ON	539
8.	Jonathan Ferguson, Ottawa ON	445
13.	Jeff Smith, Gloucester ON	354
23.	Jeffrey Blond, Montreal PQ	280
24.	Gavin Wolpert, Thomhill ON	272
29.	Erin Anderson, Regina SK	231
35.	Josh Heller, Toronto ON	205
37.	Craig Barkhouse, Barrie ON	192
28.	David Halasi, Toronto ON	190
49.	Isabelle Brisebois, Candiac PQ	152

#### **UPCOMING JUNIOR EVENTS**

#### JUNIOR BRIDGE CAMP

August 3-9, 1998

St. John's Northwestern Military Academy, Delafield W1 Contact: Charlotte Blaiss, ACBL (901)332-5586 ext 214 email <cblaiss@acbl.org>

**1998 JUNIOR TEAM TRIALS** August 27-30, 1998 Kingston, ON

CANADIAN YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP Kingston, ON

August 29, 1998

Playing tough

• by Ray Lee, Toronto

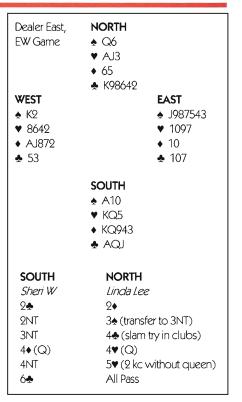
With the rapid proliferation of on-line bridge, we journalists are being afforded both a problem and an opportunity. Suddenly, hundreds of hands are being

played daily, many of them involving top-flight players, and the vigilant observer can usually find plenty to write about. The following hand is a case in point. Had it been played in a major tournament it would undoubtedly have been a "best played hand" candidate, as it was, it occurred in a late-night pickup game on OKbridge, and I was the only lucky kibitzer.

Sheri Winestock, of Toronto, playing with Linda Lee, also of Toronto, made her first good decision on this hand (top right) by treating her good 21-count as 22, and opening 24. The result allowed the partnership to arrive at 64 played by South, by far the best contract on these cards.

Proponents of leading aces against slams might have found the quick kill with ace and another diamond (although upside-down carding addicts might also have had difficult reading partner's 10). Those who, on similar grounds, led the A against the popular 6NT contract were certainly disappointed, though. This West chose a passive trump.

Sheri drew trumps in two rounds, played the heart king to the ace (far-sightedly retaining options in hearts) and led a diamond up. West won and exited with a heart, which was again carefully won in dummy. A second diamond revealed the bad news, but declarer was not yet out of options. The diamond position made a straightforward diamond-spade squeeze impossible, but there was another chance.



"This could be cool" announced Sheri to the table, in the chat area, as she ruffed a diamond and ran off two more trumps (throwing the \$10 from hand on the second) to arrive at this ending:

	NORTH ♣ Q6 ♥ 3 ♦ ♣ 9	
WEST	🕿 Y	EAST
-		
★ K2		irrelevant
¥		
♦ J8		
🌲		
	SOUTH	
	♠ A	
	♥ Q	
	♦ 94	
	🍝	

#### Continued from page 14

Now the ♥Q closed the vise and West was caught in a pretty trump squeeze. Unable to let go a diamond, since a diamond ruff would set up declarer's hand, West reluctantly disgorged a spade, and now the ace of spades established dummy as the high hand.

Who says women can't play tough?

(Sheri Winestock was a silver medallist in the 1997 Maccabiah Games; Linda Lee has also represented Canada in international competition.)



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## CANADIAN BRIDGE WEEK

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CNTC Quarter Final CWIC Quarter Final FRIDAY, JULY 17 CNTC Semi-Final CWTC Semi-Final COPC Qualifying SATURDAY, JULY 18 CNTC Final CWTC Final COPC Final

## BIDDING, PLAY, DEFENSE AND PSYCHOLOGY!

by Prent Glazier, Toronto

seems strange that so little has been written about the HUMAN aspect of competitive bridge. Most of us put great effort into trying to improve by learning evermore esoteric details about the first three sectors of bridge - bidding, declarer play, defense - but PAY relatively little attention to the FOURTH sector of the game, that of PSYCHOLOGY. As a result many people who are better technically than I am are shooting themselves in the foot routinely by all manner of counterproductive behavior. This betrays a real lack of understanding that personal management is a huge factor in separating the winners from the losers.

For example, ATTENTION is an issue to which we do not pay enough - well - attention. We acknowledge, as a truism, that attention skills are to bridge what physical conditioning is to performance in sports. Yet there is as much difference between the level of concentration and focus between different players as there is in knowledge and "skill". And the two forces are co-related! You cannot learn past a certain point, nor apply what you have learned, or even have it matter, if your powers of concentration are below industry standard. Many ACBL players are in denial about the importance of this, but carelessness and inattention are a factor in probably 80% of all the obvious mistakes most of us will ever make. It's hard to push oneself to greater levels of focus, to be sure, and tempting to try to get around it by doing more reading, more playing, more recruiting of strong partners. But in the end, not only do people with excellent attention skills show up as decent players on rather limited experience, but they are the ones who improve. The rest of us are reluctant to admit we have a problem, and probably have no idea what it is like to be the sort of person who can focus spontaneously and easily. But who of us has not, on a bad night, been able to attribute a board or two of lost matchpoints as part of the result of a series of "lapses"? Can you do anything about this yourself? Each person who improves in this area has his own way of gaining this important form of cerebral self-control. If you make strides in this way, you'll do more for your game than any amount of obscure conventions, specialized coups and double-dummy problems could ever do.

Another issue is **PARTNER SELECTION**. Do you look at the kind of vibes you are getting from a potential partner or at how "good" he or she is (or worse, the masterpoint holdings). The next time you play in a large stratified (1000+, 300-1000, 0-300) game, note that the average results for the Flt B players will be right around 50%, and the average result for the Flt C players will be about a board less. That's half a board per player. All other things being equal, a Flt B partner will improve your result by half a board over a Flt C player! Obviously, personal rapport is far more important! Isn't a compatible partner worth at least a board over a so-so partner of comparable skills? Yet many ambitious players think too much about the technical capabilities of their prospective partners and not enough about the personal chemistry, or for that matter, whether this person would really enjoy the session.

I was certainly guilty of this at one time. I asked too many good players for a game. This resulted in many refusals, and I'm afraid I disappointed a lot of people I played with. Nor did my successes highlight me as a 'good' player. On the other hand, I certainly gave myself a chance to be perceived as an opportunist. Today I have no interest in playing with Flt A players other than personal friends with whom I would probably play even if they were just getting their feet wet.

My selection criteria therefore are: Does this person actively WANT to play with me and will she or he probably have the kind of experience she is seeking if we do play? I find that if I can honestly answer yes to both of these questions, and then address myself fully to creating that outcome, my agenda will take care of itself. Under other conditions, I simply will not play. Call it enlightened self-interest, but it beats shortsightedness. Besides, playing with 'coming along' players will help you learn to make the best of things - an indispensible attribute in bridge!

There are a number of other issues that confront the serious player every day and fortunately the great strides made this century in the average person's understanding of human behavior have not made themselves felt in this particular sphere of human activity. Sooner or later its value will be appreciated in what is still a game of and for the people who play it. I hope this and subsequent articles will be a start!

Prent Glazier is a 4-star accredited ACBL bridge teacher working out of Toronto. He has been teaching bridge on a full time basis for a decade.

## WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS LILLE, FRANCE AUGUST 21 - SEPT 4, 1998

Any Canadians planning to play in Lille must submit their entry to Janice Anderson, CBF Coordinator. The entry must contain the following information: Name Address Phone, fax and e-mail address ACBL Player number List of events you plan to play in and the name of your partner or names of teammates. Entry fees may be paid in Lille. It is not necessary to submit these fees to the CBF in advance.

If you are not planning to enter any of the above major events and may play only in the continuous Pairs and Teams, you need not indicate specific events. However, please indicate your intention to apply for nomination to any of these secondary events by sending in your name and ACBL player number to the CBF Coordinator along with the name and ACBL # of any partners or teammates travelling with you.

#### DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION IS MAY 31, 1998.

Upon receipt of your application or request for information, the CBF Coordinator will send you a booklet of information on the 1998 World Bridge Championship.

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Want to explore new bridge sites but tire of wading through lists and lists of lists? One Canadian company has created something new for all you surfing addicts. Positronic Software (Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada) - www3.ns.sympatico.ca/david.positronic/HOME.HTM has constructed a **BRIDGE WEB RING** - click on RANDOM and you will be whisked to any one of the growing number of Bridge Sites connected through the ring. Want to join the ring? If your site has bridge content (the game of cards, that is), sign on, it's free! **BRIDGE IN BC** is a new site featuring links to bridge sites and information in and around

British Columbia - www.cbf.ca/BinBC. While there, be sure to visit the Spring NABC 1999 site - www.cbf.ca/NABC99, with information about the tournament being hosted by Vancouver. The site features links to Vancouver and West Coast City Guides as well as articles by Zone VI Director and NABC Associate Chairman Aidan Ballantyne. Finally, do visit our own **GREAT BRIDGE LINKS** - www.cbf.ca/GBL.html - its links are

updated weekly, and will for sure take you to all that's bridge on the 'net today.

MAY 1998

Fred Gitelman, of Toronto, is well known as a bridge player, writer, software developer and cofounder of the successful bridge: software company Bridge Base Inc. Fred is 32, and in February rumours spread that he was working on a Microsoft bridge project. I emailed Fred at that time and asked for an interview.



"The Microsoft rumor is true. In fact I just got back from a week in Redmond. I have been working full time on this project since early December. it is going VERY well and we expect to release a beta version by April 1st."

#### Before we get into the specifics of this project, can you tell us a bit about how you got into this field?

I got my first computer in 1978 when I was 13 years old. It was a Commodore Pet with 8K of memory but it was more than adequate for teaching myself to program. I spent most of my teenage years sitting in front of computer and writing programs (mostly video games and programs that tried to do "intelligent things"). I went to the University of Toronto to study computer science, math, and philosophy and fortunately during my last year of high school, Mark and David Caplan (brothers from Toronto I was going to school with who have played a few CNTC finals) taught me how to play bridge. I was instantly captivated by the game and spent the next 4 years or so doing nothing but playing.

#### CANADIAN BRIDGE SITES ON THE WEB www.cbf.ca/CWP.html

reading, and talking bridge. As such I was not a very successful student but in spite of bridge, I came close to graduating after 4 years of university. Around that time | was offered a job at Netron, a Toronto software company. This job offer came through bridge. Most of the top executives at Netron were successful bridge players (Alex Kisin, former CBF president, was the boss, Andy Altay, Roy Hughes, and Abe Greenspan, all excellent bridge players were vice-presidents). Netron was a great place to work for me. They had developed a very exciting software technology and there were many brilliant and capable people there. I learned a great deal during my 3+ years at Netron.

Sometime around 1989 | met Sheri Winestock, who later became my wife, business partner, and frequent bridge partner. Sheri managed to convince me that I had potential (I was not very selfconfident before I met Sheri) and was gifted at both computers and bridge and she knew that bridge software was what I was "meant to do". She convinced me to quit my job at Netron and start my own company. By this time Sheri and I were living together and I agreed to start Bridge Base as long as she agreed to be my partner. I knew very little about business but I knew that I lacked the organization, accounting, and some computer skills to do it on my own. Sheri agreed and we formed Bridge Base Inc. in 1991 with me as President and Sheri as Vice-President.

Since that time our business has become extremely profitable. Most Canadian bridge players probably know about my achievements in bridge and software but few of them know how much credit Sheri deserves in all of this. Besides giving me the self-confidence and inspiration to start this business, Sheri has been an integral part of the development of all of our products. She also runs the day to day affairs of our business, something I know I am not capable of doing. Sheri is still my best friend and has also become a very good bridge player over the years - she has always been one of my favorite partners. We both love bridge very much and we are both very concerned about the future of the game. We are hoping that our efforts to develop quality educational bridge software and internet content will help bridge survive and thrive in the "information age".

Another important person in the history of our company has been Koen Gijsman from Amsterdam. Eric Kokish introduced me to Koen about 3 years ago. Eric had been impressed by Koen's character and software skills and thought we would work well together. Eric was right. Koen has become a very close friend and he has done some very good things for our business. He has translated all of our products into Dutch and has done an exceptional job marketing our products in The Netherlands (a huge bridge country). Koen has set up a similar situation for us in Italy and is currently working with Bernard Marcoux to develop a French version of Bridge Master. Koen is also largely responsible for the BridgePlaza web site. Another good thing about Koen is that business skills come naturally to him (they

do not come naturally to me). Between that and his experience in the software business before we met, Koen has been able to teach me a great deal about being a businessman, something I am finally getting the hand of (about 7 years of stumbling along).

#### How did you become linked with MS?

I got in the front door at Microsoft largely through my association with Warren Buffett, the Chairman of Berkshire Hathaway corporation and arguably the most successful investor in history. I received a phone call from Warren a few years ago saying that he really liked Bridge Master and wanted to order more software. When I realized whom I was talking to. I asked if it would be OK if I sent him a letter asking for business advice. He said that was fine but I did not imagine at the time where it would lead. Warren gave us a wonderful letter of endorsement that has been extremely valuable. He also went over some of his ideas on the right way to run a business and how we might try to get to that point with Bridge Base. He also started sending copies of Bridge Master to his bridge friends, among them some of the most successful business people in the USA. Warren is not really a "technology person" but he introduced me to some excellent contacts in the software business. Warren and I continue to send each other letters occasionally and he seems to

> have a genuine interest in the fortunes of me and my company.

> When it came to my attention that Warren was friendly with Bill Gates, I asked him to try to help me get in the front door at Microsoft. It was not Warren's style to aggres-





sively try to sell me to Bill Gates but he was more than willing to let my software sell me. He sent a copy of Bridge Master to William Gates Sr, Bill's father who is also a close friend of Warren's and an avid bridge player. Apparently Bill Sr really liked it and showed a copy to his son who was also impressed. A few months later I received a phone call from Microsoft asking me to do some consulting for them with respect to online bridge. I have been told that this opportunity was a direct result of Bill Gates liking Bridge Master but I am not certain that this is really true.

After a year or so of on and off consulting with Microsoft about how they might improve their online bridge game, I was disappointed that my suggestions were not getting implemented. This was mostly due to the large amount of work that the online gaming group at MS had at this time. - bridge was just one of many games to them. I decided to take matters into my own hands. I spent a few months designing a prototype of a new online bridge game and then went to Microsoft headquarters and tried to sell them on the idea of hiring me to develop it. They were auite impressed with my design but I think they were more impressed with my devotion to bridge and my desire to do good things for the game. Kevin Binkley and his manager, Adam Waalkes (also a bridge player), clearly believed in me and convinced the powers that be to give me the contract that I am currently working under.

Here is a funny story - about a year ago I pick up the phone.

"Hello, this is William Gates"

"Get out of here" (I thought it was George or someone pulling my leg).

"No really, do you know who I am?" At this point I became convinced I was really speaking to Bill Gates, and began an impassioned plea to let me come and work for MS and develop bridge software. I did almost all the talking for several minutes which was obviously foolish but it is hard to act rationally when Bill Gates is on the phone (kind of like getting a phone call from the Pope or Bill Clinton - not something you expect).

At some point Mr. Gates said something like, "This is all very interesting, I will talk to my son about it".

Then I realized I was talking to Bill Sr. He had called to order some more software. I felt like a complete idiot of course, but Mr. Gates handled it very well (I suppose it happens to him a lot). We had a good laugh together.

I didn't mention this anywhere else, but Sharon Osberg also deserves quite a bit of credit for helping me establish the relationship with MS that I currently enjoy. Sharon (a World Champion from San Fran area) is also a very successful businessperson who knew Warren Buffett through her job as a Vice President at Wells Fargo. Warren and Bill have both hired Sharon to help teach them to play better bridge. Sharon told Bill about me and suggested I would make a good MS employee. When it came time to present my prototype to MS and to negotiate the contract, Sharon gave me excellent advice and support.

#### OK now, what exactly are you working on?

I am working on taking the existing Internet Gaming Zone bridge game and essentially rewriting it from scratch. Users access the Zone by downloading the software, then play Zone bridge by running their browser and going to www.zone.com.

The Zone has dozens of other games but I am not involved in these (although since MS likes my work very much it would not surprise me if they hired me to rewrite some of their other card games if this project is successful - I would prefer to work only on bridge, of course, but they pay very well and it would be hard to turn down an offer to create a nice new online hearts game (for example) for them.

My main areas of improvement are: a completely new user interface; Getting the bridge stuff right that was missing from the existing Zone bridge game (i.e. claims, alerts, convention cards, deal review, etc); and the introduction of duplicate.

## What would be the system requirements?

You need Windows 95/NT.

#### *Will access be available through Netscape?*

Yes. Microsoft has recently changed their policy in this area. Dozens of potential Zone players who use Netscape e-mailed me on this issue and I told my contacts at MS about this. It is possible that this influenced MS policy in this area. I have heard several suggestions that this "concession" MS is making is a sign of hope that the company may not be up to their usual tricks where online games are concerned.

#### What about other platforms?

I am sorry for the Mac and Unix users but I am sure Microsoft's decision not to support these platforms is largely a matter of economics. If it was just about money, 1 would expect MS to do a Mac version. MS's human resources are the main problem, however. They can only hire so many people to work on free online games. Imagine it takes 4 months to develop a new online game from scratch and 2 months to make an existing game work on the Mac. Apparently there is very good Windows emulation software available for Macs and I know our products work on Macs with such software.

#### I get a lot of people asking where they can play bridge on WebTV. I gather WebTV is a Microsoft baby. Will your bridge engine allow these people to play?

Not immediately but if WebTV takes off I am certain that Microsoft will make the Gaming Zone available to WebTV users. As far as I know there are no technical problems with this and it obviously makes good business sense for MS to make the Zone as widely available as possible.

#### It all sounds fantastic, Fred. Are you able to work out of your home on this?

I do almost all of my work from home on a Toshiba notebook computer. My computer runs Windows NT which allows me to run the bridge "server" (i.e. the software that will eventually run on a machine at MS headquarters that will control the Zone bridge game) as well as several bridge "clients" (i.e. the software that will eventually run on each user's machine when they play Zone bridge) at the same time. This makes it very easy for me to test the software - I can run a "virtual bridge game" with several tables on a single PC! One of the nice features of the Gaming Zone is that there are "robots" that can play when 4 humans are not available to make up a

table. Each night I set up a few bridge tables on my PC consisting of 4 robots and let them play all night long. This is an excellent way to help ensure that the final product is stable. Sheri and I have a large one-room office in our house in downtown Toronto. We have 6 PCs, 2 printers. and a scanner. The walls of our office are covered with posters and other memorabilia I have collected from my bridge travels. As we publish our own software, we generally have 1000s of CD boxes, disks, manuals, etc. in storage space in our office. We have a big window in our office which is very nice and an adjoining washroom. I like our office very much! Please come and visit sometime!

#### How much time have ou been spending on this project? Do you head up a team? Who are your other team members?

I spent 2 weeks in October at MS headquarters designing the new Zone bridge game with their artists, technicians, user interface experts, and some management types. I then had to go and play in the World Championships in Tunisia, an invitational tournament in Denmark, and the Fall NABCs in San Fran. My development contract started December 8th and I have been working about 80% of my waking hours since then. I believe it is vitally important to both my company and to bridge that I do a good job here - I have to do everything in my power to make sure I do not screw up this opportunity.

I am certain that this project would not have gotten off the ground if it wasn't for the tremendous support I have received since day 1 from Kevin Binkley. Kevin was one of the original creators of the Gaming Zone and when Microsoft bought his company, he went to work for MS full time. Kevin was a pretty serious bridge player when he was a student and he was close friends with Rev Murthy, one of the best players of my generation. Kevin was able to see through the fact that I had very little formal training in either business or software. He could see that I was passionate about my work and he was confident I would do a good job, even though I am quite certain that some of his colleagues did not want to hire me. Assuming this project is going to be as good for bridge as I think it is, we all owe Kevin a big vote of thanks - none of this would have happened without his support.

Kevin's original partner in the Zone was Hoon Im who also likes bridge but never played the game seriously. Hoon has been the person that solves any difficult technical problems that I face. As far as I can tell, he knows just about everything about programming for Windows. He is a very brilliant programmer and I have learned a great deal through my association with him.

I have also had access to first rate artists and sound engineers (the new game will have optional sound effects). I never really appreciated the value of artists as far as programming went until I spent some time with these people. I did most of the original design but they made my design look beautiful and easy to use.

Without exception, every MS employee that has worked on this project has been very talented and helpful. They have also become my friends. They are all willing to defer to my judgement on "bridge design issues" and they are all willing to listen to my opinions on other issues in which they have much greater expertise than I do.

#### Thanks for the great story Fred. Good luck on your project!

## VIVE LA FRANCE ... ET LE BON BRIDGE!!

Par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

a victoire de la France (Chemla-Perron; Mouiel-Multon; Lévy-Mari) lors du dernier Bermuda Bowl, contre le États-Unis (Hamman-Wolff; Meckstroth-Rodwell, ou Meckwell; Freeman-Nickell) est sûrement un événement marquant dans le monde du bridge. Cette victoire confirme la supériorité incontestable de la France sur le reste du monde, États-Unis compris.

La feuille de route des Français est très impressionnante: premiers aux Olympiades de 1992; premiers lors des denieères Olympiades 1996 à Rhodes; et premiers au Bermuda Bowl 1997. Et Alain Lévy, member de l'équipe française, a bien raison de comparer cette performance aux doublés réussis par des athlètes comme Carl Lewis ou Michael Johnson, et aux exploits inoubliables de la Squadra Assura des années 60-70. Et il s'étonne avec raison, avec un peu beaucoup d'amertume, de la maigreur des récompenses qu'on leur accorde, à comparer à ces athlètes: «un badge de leur sponsor» (après tout, on est en France, pourquoi parler français?) et une somme de 10 000\$ par joueur. Le champion du monde des échecs recevra, quant à lui, ... 9 millions de dollars!!!

D'autre part, ceux qui avaient pu mettre en doute la valeur de la victoire des Français lors de Olympiades 1996, sous le prétexte fallacieux que les États-Unis n'étaient pas représentés par leurs meilleurs joueurs (l'équipe mentionnée plus haut ne s'était pas qualifiée pour les Olympiades), doivent ravaler leurs paroles. L'équipe française avait battu Hamman-Wolff; Meckwell; Freeman-Nickell par 80 Imps en 1992, et les a encore sérieusement battus en 1997 (une cinquantaine de Imps avant les dernières 16 donnes, jouées prudemment). De cette splendide victoire, on peut tirer deux faits marquants. Premièrement, la nette supériorité des systems naturels sur les systems artificiels (trèfle fort). Les trios pairs françaises pratiquent le SA 15-



17, la majeure 5<sup>e</sup>, etc., et un arsenal naturel que tout un chacun peut adopter immédiatement sans grande difficulté.

Les Français ne jouent pas pour autant un système papa-maman; ils ont évidemment ajouté plusieurs raffinements, plusieurs «agréments» (quell horrible anglicisime!) comme le dit la revue le Bridgeur, et ils n'ont pas peur d'enchérir. Voyez cette main:

**▲**∨1097

- ♥ A65
- ♦ 108
- 🛧 D1095

Votre partenaire ouvre 1SA, 15-17. Que faites-vous? Vous passez? Eh! bien, on voit immédiatement pourquoi vous n'êtes pas champion du monde, vous ne comptez que des points. Cette main vaut 7 points, ditesvous? Vous comptez comme tous les joueurs (huit tables) qui se sont retrouvés en quart de finale du dhampionnat du monde, qui n'ont même pas fait de proposition de manche, qui on passé ... et qui ne sont pas champions du monde aujourd'hui, comme vous. Tous le joueurs, sauf Hervé Mouiel, qui a bien su évaluer cette main. Comme le dit Tony Forrester dans son livre Secrets of Success. V1097 dan une couleur équivaut à VVV7; ces V109 valent donc 3 points et non pas 1; il suffit de comparer à V742 pour comprendre immédiatement la difference. Même chose pour D1095 de trèfle, et même ces 108 de carreau. Mouiel a donc réévalué cette main à

#### MAY 1998

au moins 9 points et a force à la manche. Et nous découvrons ici 2 autres principes du jeu en équipe.

Premier principe: on ne doit pas négliger le fait que les adversaries peuvent se tromper d'entame. Et s'ils ne se trompent pas d'entame, ils peuvent se tromper pas la suite. Et même s'ils ne se trompent pas, les cartes peuvent vous donner le contrat d'elles-mêmes. CELA FAIT PARTIE DU JEU.

Second principe: on ne gagne pas au bridge en craignant toujours le pire, il faut enchérir. Devise dela Squadra tricolorE: «gagner des points».

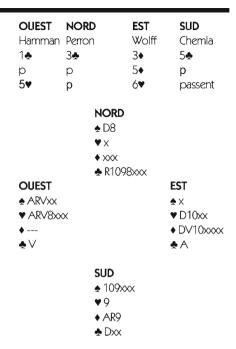
Autre caractéristique du système français que je suis fier de noter ici(mon partenaire Serge et moi jouons de la sorte depuis au moins 3 ans): tous les contres de partielles sont **d'appel**, à moins qu'ils ne soient répertoriés comme punitifs. C'est la façon la plus souple et la plus profitable de jouer au bridge. Cette approche équivaut à, comme on dit en anglais, «to have your cake and eat it»: avec cette méthode, on peut *toujours* trouver le fit et on se garde *toujours* l'option de la pénalité (le contre est converti par le partenaire).

Revenons à notre opposition systèmes naturels vs systèmes artificiels. Du côté des Américains, Hamman-Wolff et Meckwell pratiquent le trèfle fort et ils se sont souvent retrouvés dans le noir, au niveau de 5 ou 6, à devoir trouver leur fit. Exemple:

#### Enchères (E-O vul.)

OUEST	NORD	EST	SUD
Mari	Meckstroth	Lévy	Rockwell
1♥	1SA	2SA	3♦
3♠	4 <b>♠</b>	4♥	5♠
5♦	р	6♥	р
7♥	passent		

France: +2210



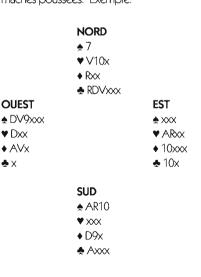
#### É.-U.: +1460 et mains 13 imps

Un conseil en passant: n'ouvrez jamais (presque!!) de 24 des bicolores forts. Les enchères montent trop vite et vous serez peutêtre rendu très haut avant de pouvoir announcer vos deux couleurs. Voyez ici Mari qui a ouvert tranquillement d'un coeur. Le 1SA de Meckstroth était comique: SA réel ou une longue suite, main faible. 2SA de Lévy montrait un fit forcing à coeur (ie vous l'ai dit: ils n'ont pas peur de gager). Lorsque Mari a cue-bidé carreau, Lévy a pu placer 6♥; et lorsque Lévy a mis 6♥, Mari savait qu'il trouverait l'As de trèfle en face. Logique et simple. L'immense avantage de ces enchères naturelles est le suivant: dès 2SA, Mari-Lévy avaient trouvé le fit à coeur et rien ne pouvait les empêcher de rejoindre 7♥.

Voyez maintenant Hamman qui commence lourdement avec son trèfle fort, vague et imprecise; quand le plateau de enchères lui des adversaries. Pauvre excuse et déplorable «master minding» (attitude du joueur qui décide tout seul de l'issue de la main). Une fois que Mari a parlé de ses piques, les adversaries peuvent ils donc sacrifier à 8 ? Avec cette donne, les Française augmentèrent leur avantage à 63 Imps avec 32 étuis à jouer. Deuxièmement, ce Bermuda Bowl a aussi été le cimetière des enchères «terroristes» de Meckwell, chaque fois qu'ils se sont aventurés dans des barrages trop osés, qui font peur à tout le monde en Amérique, les Français les ont tranquillement contrés et one encaissé leur

revient, il se retrouve au niveau de 5, sans fit, complètement dans le cirage. Il place ses coeurs au niveau de 5 et Wolff, au lieu de metre 6♣ en passant (cue-bid pour les coeurs), se contente de 6♥ et perd 13 Imps. Après le match, Wolff a dit qu'il n'avait pas voulu cue-bider 6♣ pour éviter un sacrifice

dans des barrages trop oses, qui ront peur a tout le monde en Amérique, les Français les ont tranquillement contrés et one encaissé leur profit. D'autre part, Meckwell, qui gagnent leur vie à «overbidder» et à profiter des erreurs de défense des adversaries (dixit Matt Granovetter dans sa revue Bridge Today), ont trouvré ici leurs maîtres en défense, l'équipe française a été intraitable, engrangeant des Imps et des Imps. Les Français ont défait à peu près toutes les maches poussées. Exemple:



Enchères (Ts vul.)					
OUEST	NORD	EST	SUD		
Mari	Meckstroth	Lévy	Rodwell		
р	2♠	р	2♦		
2♠	р	р	3SA		

Mari a entamé Dame de pique, gagnée par Sud qui a immédiatement joué carreau. Mari, qui n'est pas né de la dernière pluie, et qui sait compter (le déclarant a certainement l'As de trèfle, ce qui donne 6 levées de trèfle, 2 à pique et 1 à carreau si vous duquez), a pris son As pour rejouer coeur et faire chuter le contrat. Et Granovetter de souligner que, quand on est habitué à overbidder (Meckwell) parce qu'on joue le plus souvent contre des joueurs faibles ou intimidés, il est difficile d'en changer lorsqu'on se heurte à d'excellents joueurs qui ne se laissent pas impressionner.

Insultant quand même un peu pour Christian Mari, comme s'il pouvait se laisser tromper par cette «colossal finesse», comme le disait Francis Blanche à Bridgette Bardot dans *Babette s'en va-t-en guerre*. Zia a eu plus décence et de respect pour ses adversaires, il a pensé que de jouer carreau serait un peu trop «gros»; il a donc encaissé tous ses trèfles, les adversaries ont mal défaussé et il a réussi son contrat. Comme quoi il ne faut jamais montrer aux adversaires qu'on les prend pour des imbéciles, laissez-les le découvrir par euxmemes!

Pour conclure, Zia Mahmood a bien raison lorsqu'il dit:

«L'équipe de France est l'ambassadrice idéale de notre jeu. Ses joueurs ont un sens aigu de l'éthique, ils jouent un système performant et facile à comprendre par tous, ce qui est important pour la télédiffusion.»

Nos plus chaleureuses felicitations à Paul Chemla, Alain Lévy, Christian Mari, Hervé Mouiel, Franck Multon et Michel Perron.

## CHARITÉ BIEN ORDONNÉE ... CESSE APRÈS AVOIR PAYÉ L'ENTRÉE!!!

par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

Supposons que vous avez les deux mains suivantes et que vous vous trouvez au contrat de 4? Je sais, je sais, c'est un peu haut, main vous participez à un tournoi de charité et vous avez gagné, comme prix de présence, deux bons d'achats de 10\$ dan un fast-food (le tournoi a lieu dans l'ouest de la ville!), ce qui vous a immédiatement ravi (!!). Donc vous avez envie de fêter, gager, et aussi de réussir votre contrat (voir motto plus haut).

- ₹ Avx
  ¥ 109x
- ▼ 109X
   ◆ R109xx
- ♦ R/U9
   ♦ RV
- T IV

DÉCLARANT

- ♠D9xxx
- ♥ RDxx
- ♦∨
- 🕭 D10x

Sur l'entame ç ur pour l'As d'Est, vous voyez que vous perdez 3 As (pertes

"incompressibles", comme on dit en langage de budget); bous devez donc cueillir les piques pour aucune perdante!! Quelle est la carte la plus importante de votre jeu? Le 9 de pique sans doute, qui vous offer la possibilité de faire un jeu assez rare. Vous jouez quelques cartes avaint de jouer atout, question de deviner un peu la distribution des adversaries. Vous en venez à la conclusion qu'Ouest a fort probablement 3 piques, et comme il doit avoir le Roi pour que vous ayez une chance, Est doit donc avoir le 10 doubleton. Jouez donc petite pique vers le Valet, qui gagne comme il se doit. Puis rentrez en main et présentez la Dame: Ouest couvre omme une grande fille, l'As du mort gagne pendant qu'Est fournit son 10, tout en levant la tête pour voir à qui il a affaire. Vous n'êtes pas peu fier de votre jeu, mais vous n'êtest pas sensible à la flatterie (!?!) : vous jouez immédiatement pique du mort vers ce neuf d'atout si précieux et scorez 420 pour un franc trop, et un "Well Played" que vous acceptez avec un souriire de modestie (vous pensez un instant lui offrir un des bons à 10\$, mais vous savez que votre femme et partenaire n'apprécie pas vos élans de générosité, surtout au prix qu'on a payé l'entrée).

Un peu plus tard dans la soirée, vous avez ces mains :

- ♦ ARxxx
- 🜲 RDx

DÉCLARANT

- ♠ A98xx
- ♥ ADxxx
- ♦D
- **♣** XX

Même optimisme, même contrat, et ici il vous manque RD d'atout, le Roi de coeur et l'As de trèfle. Pas de problème. Entame As de trèfle, trèfle. Carreau pour votre Dame, petit pique vers le mort. Ouest saute sur son Roi et rejoue trèfle. Le mort gagne, vous défaussez coeur vous devez quand même prendre l'impasse coeur qui gagne. Vous coupez un coeur au mort, encaissez AR de carreau pour défausser les coeurs perdants, puis V de pique, couvert de la Dame, As de votre main, et le fidèle 10 qui tombe à gauche. +650 et un autre supertop.

Pour ces deux bons d'achat de 20\$, vous leur avez offert deux jeux qui valaient au moins 20\$ chacun.

LA SECTION FRANÇAISE http://www.cbf.ca/French

#### **CBF BUSINESS**

#### **CBF CONFERENCE CALL**

The CBF board of Directors met by conference call on December 2, 1997. Items of note discussed were:

1. Cash prize of \$750 each was awarded to Jim Reigle and Pierre Trueil in recognition of their winning the 1995 COPC National Final. With the switch over to cash prize awards, this pair had been left with no prize for winning the 1995 COPC.

2. Teams representing Canada in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and World Team Olympiad (Open and Women's) *must* have an NPC and *must* augment to six players. For teams receiving CBF subsidy to attend the Rosenblum and McConnell Cup this is *not* a requirement.

3. Discussion regarding rewriting Bylaws and Conditions of Contest to bring them in line relating to augmentees to teams winning National Finals. For 1998 Rosemblum and McConnell Cup, the Board will consider any worthy player to be augmented but subsidy will accrue only to those who played in and were eliminated in the 1997 CWTC and CNTC respecttively.

4. The board set subsidy amount for Rosenblum and McConnell Cup official Canadian representatives.

 The board discussed arrangements for coaching in 1998. Fred Gitelman will handle coaching session if Eric Kokish unavailable.

 A grant of \$1000 was given to the Canadian Junior team representing Canada at the International Bridge Festival in the Netherlands.

7. Plans for 1998 Junior Trials were confirmed. The Junior Trials will take place at the Kingston Regional in August of 1998. The trials will be a team format. Eric Sutherland will continue to be the CBF Junior Team Coordinator and will be responsible for the Junior Trials.

 The Treasurer was instructed to pursue getting liability insurance for the CBF Board of Directors and officers.

9. The Board is investigating the possibility of having a set of bidding screens constructed for the CBF.

10. Beginning with the 1999 COPC (Sept. 1998), stratification of COPC club round games will be allowed. Club COPC games may be stratified but qualification will be based on the A or Open Strata. The National Final will not be a stratified event. For clubs using ACBL score, version 5.0 does not have the stratification option for COPC but never versions, which can be downloaded from ACBL Home Page, will be set up to accept COPC stratification.

11. CBF Board confirmed the decision to have CBF members with US mailing addresses pay an additional fee to have the Canadian Bridge Canadien mailed to their US address. This action was necessary since our CBC cannot go to US addresses with the ACBL Bulletin due to US Postal Regulations.

12. The 1998 CBF Board of Directors meeting was set for May 23 - May 25 in Toronto, Ontario.

13. Funding for Canadian International Representatives was discussed and it was agreed that a full discussion of this will take place at the May 1998 meeting. The CBF Board will look into ways of trying to increase the funding given to our International representatives.

14. On behalf of Zone I and the CBF Board, a vote of thanks was given to George Holland for the six years of service he has given to the CBF.

#### COPC PAIRS ELIGIBLE FOR SUBSIDY LISTED ONLINE

The individuals eligible for subsidy money to the COPC National Final, 1998, can be found at the CBF Web Site (www.cbf.ca). Subsidy rules state that if no player from an eligible pair plays in the COPC National Final, replacement drops down only one place. Players qualify as individuals and receive subsidy as inclividuals. Dollar amounts shown are minimums, actual amount will be decided when the actual number of eligible players taking part in the National Final is known. All subsidy money will be paid out after the National Final is known what eligible players actually played in the event.

#### WEB NOW HAS FRENCH CONTENT

Working with Bernard Marcoux, we have put up articles in French as well as the Conditions of Contest for the CNTC and COPC. Keep an eye on this site for more in the future!



#### SUPPLEMENT CONTACT

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

## THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Jan Anderson Debbie Bennett Roland Cote Fred Gitelman Prent Glazier Josh Heller Ray Lee Bernard Marcoux Ken McKee Danny Miles

#### CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

JAN ANDERSON CBF Coordinator 2719 East Jolly Place Regina Sask. S4V 0X8 can.bridge.fed@sk.sympatico.ca



#### The Canadian Bridge

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

ADVERTISING NOW AVAILABLE see page 15



#### **BRIDGE WEEK**

NATIONAL FINALS CNTC, COPC, CWTC July 12 - July 18, 1998 Laval, PQ SEE PAGE 15

#### CWTC

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

#### CNTC

Zone Final Round must be completed by May 11, 1998

#### COPC

No Unit or Zone Finals

#### **ROOKIE-MASTER**

October 27, 1998 April 20, 1999 October 28, 1999

#### INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

May 14, 1998 ACBL Wide July 24, 1998 ACBL Wide Oct 22, 1998 Canada Wide Jan 30, 1999 ACBL Wide May 12, 1999 Canada Wide May 12, 1999 ACBL Wide July 23, 1999 ACBL Wide Oct 21, 1999 Canada Wide

#### CHARITY FUND GAMES

November 23, 1998 March 23, 1999 November 22, 1999



#### INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

мау				
15-18	Juan-les-pins Festival			
20-21	Bonn Nations Cup,			
	Bad Godesberg			
JUNE				
5-6	WBF SIMULTANEOUS PAIRS			
20-21	Koop Tjuchem International,			
	Badhoevedorp, Net			
30-Jul 12	Biarritz Festival			
JULY				
13-26	Deauville Festival			
16-26	European Youth Team			
	Championship, Vienna			
23-Aug 2	ACBL Summer NABC			
-	Chicago			
AUGUST	-			
14-23	EBU Summer Meeting,			
	Brighton			
21-Sept 4 WORLD PAIRS OLYMPIAD				
	LILLE FRANCE			
SEPTEMBER				
12-13	International Teams,			
	Oslo, Norway			
OCTOBER	, ,			
1-4	Vilnius Cup, Lithuania			
NOVEMBER				
6-8	Monte Carlo Teams			
19-99	ACBL Fall NABC Orlando FL			

### DEADLINE

For Sept 1998 Supplement JUNE 22, 1998

#### CBF WEB SITE www.cbf.ca

- National Events: reports, info, rosters & more
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CBF E-MAIL query@cbf.ca

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