

CANADIAN

bridge

CANADIEN

Featuring

- 1995 Richmond Trophy Race
- Fall Rookie-Master Winners
- The Canadian National Championships
what, where, when
- The Maurice Paul Bidding Challenge *by Eric Sutherland*
- Macallan Pairs Championship Diary *by Fred Gitelman*
- World Championships *by Eric Kokish*



1995 Marlboro World Championships Bermuda Bowl Silver Medalists (left to right)
Irving Livack (nps), George Mittelman, Eric Kokish, Joey Silver, Mark Molson, Boris Baran, Fred Gitelman

Photo: George Retek Stories: pages 11-14

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Mailbag ... 26

ZONES

Call for Candidates ... 25

1995 RICHMOND TROPHY ... 3

FALL ROOKIE-MASTER ... 5

CNTC 1996 ... 7

COPC 1996 ... 6

CWTC 1996 ... 6

MAURICE PAUL

Bidding Challenge ... 8

JUNIOR BRIDGE

• CYBOrg Report ... 9
by Eric Sutherland

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

• HIGHLIGHTS from
ACBL Board Meeting
by George Retek ... 10

• HIGHLIGHTS from
WBF Board Meeting
by George Retek ... 11

• BERMUDA BOWL
by Eric Kokish ... 12

• MACALLAN DIARY
by Fred Gitelman ... 15

LA SECTION FRANÇAISE

by Bernard Marcoux
• Secrets Du Succes ... 20

• Visualisation, Déduction
et... Courage! ... 21

• Comment Jouez-vous? ... 22

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

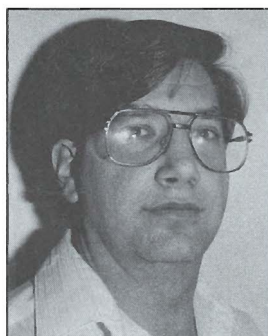
See Back Cover

Ken Warren has been playing bridge for over 20 years but just recently accepted an early retirement package from Ontario Hydro to begin life as a full time bridge professional - at the "old" age of 41!

Ken was recently interviewed by John Armstrong, of The Kibitzer. From the resulting article (Spring 1996 Kibitzer) I have lifted the following bits of advice for aspiring players.

A lot of bridge success comes from just trying to apply principles of logic and common sense. Improvement is gradual but steady. I have always tried to pay attention to what the top players are doing. When they get good results I ask, "What have they done that is different from what an average player would do?"

I have read a lot more since I started playing professionally



in May 1995. I advise advancing players to read as much as they can. There are several books about declarer play showing squeezes, endplays, watching your entries, holdup plays, and so on.

Judgement is developed through experience and common sense. You have to learn from your experiences. When something goes wrong, don't just forget about the hand. Don't say it was bad luck. Look at what happened and how things could have gone differently.

RICHMOND trophy 1995

Ken Warren, of Pickering, ON, fought a close battle with 2nd place Cam Doner of Richmond, BC to win the 1995 Canadian Masterpoint Race.

Cam Doner, winner of the 1991 Richmond Trophy, placed second in this year's race, nipping at Ken's heels most of the year and ending only 37 mps behind in second place (he was 41 mps behind Ken last year - 4 & 5 place). Cam's total of 1019 is a personal best. Cam, also a bridge professional, is a relative newcomer to the competition. He became an LM in 1987 picking up 373.4 mps that year and hasn't looked back since!

1995 RICHMOND TROPHY RACE TOP 100

1. Ken Warren, Pickering ON	1056	16. Leo Steil, Vancouver BC	479
2. Cameron Doner, Richmond BC	1019	17. Eiji Kujirai, Toronto ON	479
3. Marc Poupart, Longueuil PQ	826	18. Sam Yoga, Scarborough ON	474
4. Martin Caley, Montreal PQ	799	19. Sadru Visram, Toronto On	471
5. Boris Baran, St Lazare PQ	745	20. William Anderson, London ON	444
6. Mark Molson, Cote St Luc PQ	738	21. Cliff Campbell, Thunder Bay ON	435
7. Marc-Andre Fourcaudot, Montreal PQ	594	22. Denis Lesage, Longueuil PQ	428
8. Darren Wolpert, Thornhill ON	578	23. Heather Peckett, Nepean ON	417
9. Hans Jacobs, Aurora ON	528	24. Mark Liberman, Don Mills ON	417
10. Suzanne Lapierre, Longueuil PQ	510	25. Joseph Silver, Hampstead PQ	417
11. Colin Revill, Burlington ON	504	26. Doug Deschner, Red Deer AB	411
12. D. A. Brock, Brampton ON	502	27. P. L. Schwartz, Cote St Luc PQ	407
13. Mark stein, Montreal PQ	500	28. Debbie Bennett, Scarborough ON	403
14. Dudley Camacho, Toronto ON	499	29. Michael Gamble, Nepean ON	396
15. Alice Storey, London ON	482	30. Fran Chivers, Kitchener On	383

1995 RICHMOND TROPHY RACE TOP 100

31. John Duquette, Oshawa ON	383	66. Nicholas Gartaganis, Calgary AB	281
32. Martin Newland, Ottawa ON	380	67. Claude Rouleu, Ste-Adele PQ	277
33. George Mittleman, Toronto ON	380	68. Erik Viires, Montreal PQ	277
34. Sylvain Descoteaux, Montreal PQ	377	69. John Laufer, Cote Saint Luc PQ	277
35. Jerry Richardson, London ON	364	70. Normand Houle, Montreal PQ	276
36. Jim Riegler, Ottawa ON	356	71. Larry Chow, Abbotsford BC	274
37. David McLellan, Thunder Bay ON	435	72. Dan McCaw, Thornhill ON	272
38. Patrice Roy, Sherbrooke PQ	344	73. Richard Anderson, Regina SK	269
39. David Baker, Kitchener ON	344	74. Richard Hart, Cobourg ON	268
40. June Pocock, Coquitlam BC	343	75. Fernand Pollack, Brossard PQ	265
41. Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON	343	76. Don Lindhorst, Cambridge ON	264
42. Claude Laberge, Longueuil PQ	339	77. Hazel Wolpert, Thornhill ON	264
43. Helen Beaulieu, Sherbrooke PQ	336	78. David Curry, Ottawa ON	263
44. Anna Boivin, Chomedey Laval PQ	335	79. John Gillespie, Ottawa ON	262
45. Ken Gee, Regina SK	333	80. Alan Lee, Willowdale ON	262
46. Michael Yuen, Winnipeg MB	326	81. Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver BC	262
47. Henry Caspar, Mississauga ON	326	82. Donald Kersey, Kingston ON	261
48. Jerry Aceti, Sudbury ON	321	83. Elizabeth Legacy, Bras D Or NS	260
49. Colin Harrington, Cambridge ON	317	84. James Luxford, Toronto ON	253
50. Mike Petras, Nepean ON	314	85. Sandra Fox, Sackville NB	252
51. Andy Stark, Mississauga ON	313	86. Joan Alepin, Verdun PQ	250
52. Terry Tack, London ON	311	87. John McAdam, Ottawa ON	247
53. Jennifer Swimmer, Toronto ON	308	88. Ronald Legacy, Bras D Or NS	245
54. Joe Varnell, Toronto ON	299	89. Gordon Campbell, Calgary AB	244
55. Christian Chantigny, Longueuil PQ	298	90. Francois Girardeau, Montreal PQ	243
56. Kathy Adachi, Delta BC	295	91. Wayne Perrin, Gloucester ON	242
57. Allan Smith, Peterborough ON	295	92. David Stothart, Ottawa ON	242
58. Pierre Treuil, Ottawa ON	294	93. Rejean Blanchette, Anjon PQ	242
59. Paul Graham, Calgary AB	292	94. Andrew Tylman, Toronto ON	241
60. Willy Karwaser, Downsview ON	288	95. William Purnis, Slt St Marie ON	240
61. Nader Hanna, Willowdale ON	284	96. Roy Veness, Ladysmith BC	239
62. Francesca Walton, Calgary AB	284	97. Janet Miller, Slt St Marie ON	239
63. Doug Fraser, Mount Royal PQ	283	98. Douglas Heron, Ottawa ON	238
64. Rashid Khan, Fredericton NB	282	99. Judith Gartaganis, Calgary AB	238
65. Adolph Feingold, Edmonton AB	281	100. Barry Thompson, Tillsonburg ON	238

WINNERS OF THE RICHMOND TROPHY

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



Monday, October 16, 1995 - 27 clubs took part in our first Fall Rookie-Master game. Club de Bridge Jonquiere had the highest turnout with 65 pairs playing off at their game. The Kate Buckman Bridge Studio came in with 56 pairs followed closely behind by the Vancouver Bridge Centre with 54. Edmonton Bridge Centre with 44 pair and Hub City Bridge Club with 40 pairs complete the list of top clubs.

**CANADA-WIDE
FALL
ROOKIE-
MASTER
GAME**



**NEXT ROOKIE-MASTER GAME
Monday, October 21, 1996**

NATIONAL WINNERS (700 Pairs)

		%
1. Rashid Khwaja & Om Gupta	Mirabel DBC	80.86
2. Chris Diamond & Gina Beland	Vancouver Br. Ctr	75.00
3. Solange Bouchard & Lise Lapointe	C. de Br. Jonquiere	70.99
4. Fred Brown & Ryan Park	Vancouver Br. Ctr	70.43
5. Jo-anne Trotter & Daniel Rudachyk	Barrie Bridge Assoc.	69.94
6. Jim Davies & Bob Gagnon	Canmar BC	68.37
7. Faye Farstad & Nadine Nickel	Creston DBC	68.33
8. Larry Hourie & Len Ripplinger	Prince Albert DBC	76.86
9. Florence Macleod & Liette Casota	Algoma Cambrian	67.61
10. Dorothy Saunders & Isabelle Donaldson	Friendly Loyalist BC	67.42

ZONE I (88 pairs)

1. D. Parnell & B. Jarding	Newcastle DBC	63.83
2. R. McCosh & R. Stewart	Newcastle DBC	62.31
3. Effie Rose & Gale Stevenson	Corner Brook DBC	61.67
4. Kathleen Murphy & Tena McClosky	Charlottetown DBC	61.61
5. J. Hare & B. Cole	Newcastle DBC	61.55

ZONE II (167 pairs)

1. Rashid Khwaja & Om Gupta	Mirabel DBC	80.86
2. Solange Bouchard & Lise Lapointe	C. de Br. Jonquiere	70.99
3. Dorothy Saunders & Isabelle Donaldson	Friendly Loyalist BC	67.42
4. Rick Clarke & Mike Fobert	Kingston DBC	66.10
5. Muguette Label & Jeannine Verreault	A Tout Cœur	65.00

ZONE III (98 pairs)

1. Jo-anne Trotter & Daniel Rudachyk	Barrie Bridge Assoc.	69.94
2. Glenn McPhee & Cameron French	Kate Buckman Studio	61.90
3. Barbara Ranville & Eiji Kujirai	Kate Buckman Studio	60.12
4. Jean Phillips & Jaime Caldeira	Barrie Bridge Assoc.	59.23
5. J. Seigel & M. Berger	The Place for Bridge	58.33

ZONE IV (40 pairs)

1. Florence Macleod & Liette Casota	Algoma Cambrian	67.61
2. Fran Kerr & Ed Jarmoluk	Kirkfield Westwood	66.67
3. Florence Contini & Dorothy Morrow	Algoma Cambrian	60.23
4. Dorothy Hebert & Reta Gernon	Algoma Cambrian	59.28
5. Avtar Bawa & Gursharon Bawa	Kirkfield Westwood	58.93

ZONE V (8177 pairs)

1. Jim Davies & Bob Gagnon	Canmar BC	68.37
2. Larry Hourie & Len Ripplinger	Pr. Albert DBC	67.86
3. Mrs. Helen Purdy & Mrs Berni Kahanoff	Canmar BC	66.10
4. Terri Walters & Bogdan Radu	Martinique Br. Studio	64.32
5. Pat Smith & George Cziborr	Edmonton DBC	64.29

ZONE VI (130 pairs)

1. Chris Diamond & Gina Beland	Vancouver Br. Centre	75.00
2. Fred Brown & Ryan Park	Vancouver Br. Centre	70.43
3. Fay Farstad & Nadine Nickel	Creston DBC	68f.33
4. John Horne & Pat Quale	South Surrey BC	61.90
5. D. Raven & K. Hardine	Hub City DBC	61.31

JULY 2-6, 1996
FREDERICTON,
NEW BRUNSWICK
SHERATON INN
FREDERICTON

Woodstock Road,
Fredericton NB
Phone: 506-456-7000

Rates: \$79 (+ taxes)/night
Ask for bridge rate.
Make bookings
before June 5, 1996

CANADIAN **WOMEN'S** **TEAMS** CHAMPIONSHIPS

FORMAT

Complete ROUND ROBIN over six sessions
 Tuesday - Thursday, July 2-4

SEMI FINAL

64 Board Knockout • Friday, July 5

FINAL

72 Board Knockout • Saturday July 6

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Helen Colter: 1-506-450-7051 (home phone)

Winners of the 1996 CWTC (and CNTC for that matter) earn the right to compete in the Tri-Country Playoffs with Mexico and Bermuda. The playoffs will determine entry into the 1997 VENICE CUP (Bermuda Bowl for the CNTC). Last year's CWTC winners will be going to Greece this year to participate in the World Team Olympiad (see page 28).

MAURICE PAUL BIDDING CONTEST

West Hands

(East Hands on page 24)

1. DLR: N Vul: Both
 North Opens 1♦

♠ KQ864
 ♥ KQT95
 ♦ ---
 ♣ T32

2. DLR: E Vul: N/S

♠ K43
 ♥ AQ2
 ♦ 93
 ♣ KQ542

3. DLR: S Vul: E/W
 South Opens 1♦

♠ 4
 ♥ KQJT
 ♦ 83
 ♣ A97654

4. DLR: W Vul: None
 If possible, South bids
 4♠ at his turn.

♠ A
 ♥ A832
 ♦ AK432
 ♣ AKT

5. DLR: N Vul: E/W

♠ AK
 ♥ 3
 ♦ KQJT9
 ♣ AT432

6. DLR: E Vul: N/S

♠ KQT8432
 ♥ Q97
 ♦ ---
 ♣ J43

7. DLR: S Vul: Both
 South Opens 2♠

♠ J4
 ♥ KQJ987
 ♦ 432
 ♣ 72

8. DLR: W Vul: None

♠ AT9543
 ♥ AJT87
 ♦ T
 ♣ Q

Canadian National Championships 1996

2 National Events at the same site!

This year both the CNTC and the COPC will be held at one site, during the same week! **Players will be able to drop into the COPC National Final after elimination from the CNTC Quarter and Semi Finals.** Players dropping into the COPC from the CNTC will be given a 1 board carry over.

HOLIDAY INN

90 - 22nd Street West
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 3X6
1-800-465-4329 (world-wide)
1-800-668-4442 (MB, SK, AB only)
Rates: \$64 +taxes/night - twin room (2 people)
Ask for bridge rate
Book no later than early May!

LOCAL CONTACT

Rick Wakeman
Phone: 306-652-2303 Home
306-244-0101 Work
e-mail: rickwakeman@sasknet.sk.ca

CANADIAN OPEN TEAMS

June 3 - 8, 1996

FORMAT

Round Robin (22 teams)

Complete round robin with 9 board matches
Monday, June 3 - Wednesday, June 5

Quarter Finals 64-board knockout match
Thursday, June 6, 1996

Semi-Finals 64-board knockout match
Friday, June 7, 1996

Finals 72-board knockout match
Saturday, June 8, 1996

CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS

June 6 - 8, 1996

Qualifying Day 1 2 sessions

Qualifying Day 2 2 sessions

All Players Play both Days

FINAL 2 sessions

First place pair receives \$2000

Second place pair receives \$1000

The winning pair will no longer be eligible for subsidy to attend the World Open Pairs Championship.

Qualifying sessions: 4 sessions running concurrently with the CNTC National Final Quarter Finals and Semi Finals. After the first two qualifying sessions players start over with a maximum carry over of two boards.

Final Sessions: 2 sessions running concurrently with the Final of the CNTC. Ideally the field will be cut 50% from the qualifying sessions. This will be dependent on the number of tables involved in the qualifying sessions. The maximum carry over to the final two sessions will be two boards.

ELIGIBILITY to play in the National COPC Finals may be earned in two ways: 1) qualify as an individual from the Unit final; or ii) be a member of a team qualifying for the CNTC National Final. (Also see below for CBF membership requirements)

ENTRY: \$15 per player per session

All players playing in a CWTC, CNTC or the COPC National Final must be paid up members of the CBF. If any player arriving to play in the CWTC, COPC or CNTC National Final is not a paid up member of the CBF, they will only be allowed to play in the National Final after payment of a \$200 penalty fee. This fee includes CBF membership for one year.

Many years ago, Maurice Paul was one of Canada's foremost bridge personalities. "Moose", as he was known to his friends, was heavily involved in the promotion and organization of bridge in Canada. He started the Montreal Bridge League and went on to hold just about every important position in bridge politics in both Toronto and Montreal. His greatest accomplishment at the table was winning the first Canadian National Team Championship with Mary, his long time partner at the table as well as in life.

Moose was among the top 25 master point holders in Canada. He brought fierce competitiveness to the table but always tempered it with rare good manners, a sense of humor and something that is too often lacking at the table - a touch of class.

In 1987, the Maurice Paul Bidding Challenge was instituted so that several of Canada's top partnerships could prove that on top of their superlative dummy play, they were accomplished bidders. This contest was well received in 1987, and has now been resurrected.

The partnerships selected in the 1996 Challenge represent a cross-section of Canada's international success from last year. We have the Open team (Mark Molson-Boris Baran, Fred Gitelman-George Mittelman, Joey Silver-Eric Kolkish) that performed so admirably in Beijing, garnering themselves Canada's first Bermuda Bowl Silver medal. The Women's team (Gloria Silverman-Roisin O'Hara, Katie Thorpe-Mary Paul, Joan Eaton-Barb Clinton) that fought a hard battle will also join the fray. Two pairs of Canadian juniors round out the field: Fred Pollack and Darren Wolpert who were 13th in the World Junior Pairs, and Colin Lee and David Halasi who were 19th in the same event, and first among players under the age of 20.

MAURICE PAUL Bidding Challenge

by Eric Sutherland

Each round of the contest will consist of 8 bidding problems. Each partnership will bid the pair of hands in their style. Each problem is scored on the basis of how the contract reached would score in a tough match-point game on a 12 top. The best score will usually be around a 10, and the worst a 0. You get the same score for the same suit in a lower denomination, provided there is no separate score shown.

The winners in each round will proceed in a knock-out format until there is one winner. That pair will receive the Maurice Paul Trophy. This trophy was generously donated by the following: John Armstrong, John Carruthers and Katie Thorpe, Michael Cummings, John and Joanne Guoba, Georges & Barbara Hania, Sami Kehela, David Lindop and Audrey Grant, Irving and Barbie Litvack, George Mittelman and Dianna Gordon, Eric Murray, Peter Nagy & Donna Hay, Unit 166 of ACBL, and District 2 of ACBL.

The hands for the first set of problems can be found on pages 6 and 24. Bid them with your favourite partner, and compare your results with those of the experts in our next issue!

WINNERS OF THE MAURICE PAUL BIDDING CHALLENGE

1987: Gord McOrmond
Dan Jacob, BC
1988: Doug Fraser
Sandra Fraser, PQ

CANADIAN JUNIORS START NEW YEAR OFF WITH A BANG!

The new year is only months old, but it is anticipated that this will be a breakthrough year for Canadian Juniors. We have already seen some of the earmarks of future success.

Gavin Wolpert of Toronto has won the Homer Shoop Teen Scholarship, a \$5000 bond that matures upon his entering university. **Tara Gokavi** of Saskatchewan won the award in 1994. These two individuals are currently fighting it out for the honour of becoming Canada's youngest life master ever. Whichever of them achieves this mark, the old record of 16 years and change held by Eric Sutherland will be shattered. Tara is 14 years old, and Gavin is 13. Both of them should be life masters by the end of the year.

Other big news is the trials to determine the representatives of North America at the next World **Junior Bridge Team Championship** tentatively scheduled to be held in Canada in 1997. This year there will be a **WBF Zone II Junior Team Trial** with teams from Canada, the U.S., Bermuda, and Mexico participating. This final will take place over the last week of the Summer NABC in Miami (August 7-



11, 1996). Over 20 juniors have already expressed an interest in participating in this event, and there is plenty of room for more. If you are interested, please contact me at the address listed below.

After the trials in Miami, there will be a **Junior Camp** somewhere in South Florida, where juniors from all over the world will converge for a week of fun, bridge, and friendship. Every junior who went to Belgium in 1995 said that "it was a terrific experience", and the new venue should only make it better. If you are interested in participating in the Camp, the cost will be approximately \$400, and you should contact Charlotte Blaiss of the Education department of the ACBL.

Finally, I would like to make a plea on behalf of juniors from coast to coast. Many juniors are in school, and don't have the money that a full-time employee of the Royal Bank would. As a result, many are finding the rising cost of playing bridge a hurdle they can't overcome. It is true that many parents of juniors bear the financial burden, but that can only go so far. In particular, students in post-secondary education

do not have that luxury. I am not saying that juniors should play for free. Rather, I am asking that every unit, district and zone in Canada acknowledge this

problem by lowering entry fees at all sectionals and regionals to \$5 per session for a junior, regardless of the event. The revenue that you lose from that junior will be immediately regained as they then bring their friends, who can then afford to play. This is an investment in the future of bridge in Canada that we must make as soon as possible.

For the clubs, I would suggest a reduced junior rate. There is at least one club in Canada where a junior can play for an entire year for \$5. While this is the exception rather than the rule, this demonstrates the lengths to which some people will go to preserve this game that we all love.

Please put this item on the agenda of your next meeting of the board of directors. We can only make this happen together.

If you wish to contact me about any of the items mentioned here, then please write me at:

Eric Sutherland
3-318 Lester Street
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3W7
or e-mail me at:
esutherland@
jeeves.uwaterloo.ca

OVER \$1,000,000.00 DEFICIT BY THE YEAR 2000

There is a projected income of \$693,000 in 1996, \$237,000 in 1997, but the ACBL anticipates losses starting with \$227,000 in 1998, then \$701,000 in 1999 and \$1,185,000 by 2000. Some drastic change in the right direction is needed. The Board considers membership recruitment and retention their top priority and allocated an amount of \$100,000 for this purpose in 1996.

TOURNAMENT AND CLUB ITEMS

COLOURED POINTS FOR CONTINENT-WIDE INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

By mutual request of Canadian ACBL Board Members, the colour of masterpoints at this game will be half red and half black, effective immediately.

GIFT CERTIFICATE AWARD FOR RECRUITMENT

Club officials, accredited or registered teachers will receive an ACBL store \$50 gift certificate for every 25 new members recruited in each calendar year.

WORLDWIDE BRIDGE PAIRS

The 1996 version of the Worldwide Bridge Pairs Contest (Alcatel Worldwide Bridge Contest, June 7-8) will be more interesting than ever. There will be new competitions, ranking and prizes for open, ladies, mixed, senior and junior categories. There will be additional IMP scoring against a theoretical par. Participating clubs will receive attractive certificates and gifts.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ACBL MEETINGS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA November 1995 *by George Retek*

DIRECTORS' FEES GOING UP

Effective January this year organizations are facing a raise in tournament directors' fees:

National &		
Associate National	80.00	84.00
Tournament	73.00	76.00
Associate	59.00	62.00
Local T/D	47.25	49.00
Per-Diem (no change)		42.00

MASTERPOINTS

The masterpoint award for the COPC National Final will be the same as the District Finals Ft A NAOP.

CNTC winner will receive 65 masterpoints. CNTC and GNT will no longer award seeding points.

Effective Jan 1, there will be an ACBL-wide sectional (silver) masterpoint race.

MISCELLANEOUS

The old regulations requiring pairs to report their own psyches has been rescinded.

Two-table sanctioned team games at club sessions will be allowed to award 0.1 masterpoints per board played (but no overall awards).

There will be a cash prize tournament (awarding masterpoints) in conjunction with the 1996 summer NABC in Miami.

Vancouver is hosting the 1999 Spring NABC and Toronto the 2001 Summer NABC.

COMMITMENTS TO JRS

The ACBL is in favour of Canada hosting the 1997 Junior Team World Bridge Championship (JTWC) and allocated \$25,000 US for this purpose.

Substantial amounts were also authorized to support the Junior Team Program including \$1,667 in 1996 and \$2,222 in 1997 to Canada (US funds).

Another commitment was made to have a Junior Camp program in conjunction with the 1996 Summer NABC. During the last week of the Summer NABC there will be a joint Zone II Junior Team trial held to select the representative teams for the 1997 JTWC. Canada as a host country would likely have two team representatives. A committee to be established will work out the conditions of contest.

WORLD MIXED TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS Oct 29-Nov 2, 1996

This multinational event is open to all ACBL members in good standing (subject to approval by the WBF Accreditation Committee). The Island of Rhodes is one of the most beautiful places on earth and organizers have obtained very reasonable hotel rates. After playing in the Mixed Teams you will have ample opportunity to cheer our Canadian Teams playing in the Teams Olympiad, held in conjunction with this event.

Apply now to Jan Anderson (address on back cover) for entry into this event and remember - there is no quota limitation!

**1995
MARLBORO WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIPS
BERMUDA BOWL
SILVER MEDALISTS**

**Eric Kokish
Joey Silvver
George Mittelman
Fred Gitelman
Boris Baran
Mark Molson
Irving Litvack (npc)**

**ITEMS FROM THE WBF
EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL MEETING IN
BEIJING**

- Qualifying rules have been amended for future Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup competitions. Teams from North American are required to finish in the top half of the field (previously it was the top third) at the Team Olympiad in order to qualify for additional representation. This rule is now being applied consistently to all countries.

- The board discussed the possibility of establishing an Inter-Continental Cup, along the lines of the Ryder Cup in golf, involving teams from Zone I and Zone II with the possibility of adding a third team representing the rest of the world. The competition would be for Open, Women, Mixed, Senior, and Junior Teams.

- A Windows Convention Card Editor will soon be produced.

- Due to recognition received from the IOC, UNESCO is able and willing to support bridge education in its member countries.

- KOREA has been admitted as a new member of the WBF.

international bridge



**SPLENDID SHOW
IN CHINA
OCTOBER 1995**

by George Retek

It was a tremendous thrill to see the Canadian Bermuda Bowl

Team in the finals of the 1995 Marlboro Bermuda Bowl. Our

team won the round robin stage in its group with the highest VP total in the tournament. After impressive victories in the quarter final

(against South Africa) and the Semi-final (against Sweden) they

faced the USA team captained by Edgar Kaplan in the final.

Down 90 VPs after the second day, our boys never gave up.

They closed the gap to 13imps with 14 boards to go in the last session! The final score could have been much closer. As José Damiani said after the match: "There were no losers on that day".

Our Venice Cup team played in a rather strong group and most of the time threatened qualifying for the quarter-finals until they ran out of steam at the end.

Bridge is held in very high esteem in China by the leadership and the population. A highlight of this trip, away from the official competition, was partnering José Damiani in playing a friendly bridge game with the Vice Premier of China, Li Lanqing. Other highlights leap to mind as well. The hospitality of the Chinese Bridge Association, aided by the generous support of Philip Morris, was exemplary and beyond imagination. Starting the sincere friendliness of the Chinese people, continuing through the grand opening ceremony in the Great Hall of the People, the fantastic direct telecast of segments of the finals on Chinese national TV watched by a tremendous number of people, the first simultaneous Vu-Graph representation from both rooms of the final sixteen boards and ending with the champagne presentation by ACBL President Cecil Cook to the Marlboro Bermuda Bowl finalists, it was a splendid show that will be difficult to match.

China was awarded the well-deserved Marlboro Cup as the most improved nation. Not only have they experienced an increase in membership (almost 45,000 by now) but the improvement in calibre of play and performance on the international level has proved impressive.

Canada's Open teams have had their share of success over the years in the World Bridge Team Championships - earning four bronze medals and just missing out on several other occasions - but never in the Bermuda Bowl, the bridge version of Soccer's World Cup. In four previous attempts, Canada never survived to the quarterfinals. Although hopes were high for the 1995 team bound for Beijing (Irving Litvack, npc; George Mittelman-Fred Gitelman [all Toronto], Boris Baran-Markland Molson, Joseph Silver-Eric Kokish [all Montreal]), Canada was in a tough qualifying group for the round robin and the first hurdle in Beijing would be a high one. The favourites in Group E of the Marlboro Bermuda Bowl were USAII, Sweden, Italy, and Brazil, with China, Canada, and perhaps Egypt a notch behind, and Colombia an unlikely contender. In Group W, the Netherlands, France, USAI, and Indonesia were the favourites to qualify, but Argentina, Australia, South Africa, and Venezuela were all capable teams with serious chances.

After an impressive Opening Ceremony in the Great Hall of the People at Tien An Men Square (80 tables, 900 people, an hour of speeches by five serious VIPs), the bridge began in earnest. Canada started with a 17-13 win over Egypt, and followed with an important 19-11 victory against Sweden, but the day ended on a sour note with a 14-16 loss to Colombia. On the second day, Canada crushed Italy 22-8, drew 15-15 with China, and bowed 11-19 to Brazil. The first round robin concluded the next day with a 10-20 loss to USAII, leaving Canada fifth on a tiebreak. The second round robin started after a short break to revise the schedule, based on the order of finish in the first. Canada edged Sweden 16-

CANADIANS RETURN FROM BEIJING WITH SILVER MEDALS

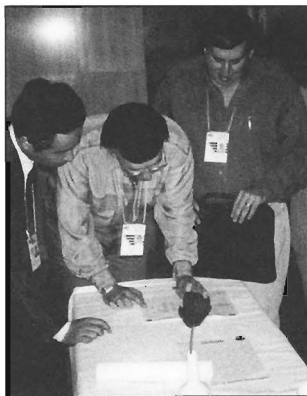
by Eric Kokish

14 but then bowed to China, 12-18. On the fourth day, Canada hammered the current leaders, Italy, 25-4, then lost narrowly to USAII, 14-16, before defeating Egypt 19-11. With two matches remaining, Canada was third, 16 VP out of first and 6 VP ahead of fifth. In Round 13, Canada got the job done with a 25-4 win over Colombia and in Round 14 defeated Brazil 21-9. Hey, mom, we won the group with 240 VP, with Sweden a point behind at 239, China third with 233.7, and USAII sneaking in fourth with 221. Had Canada done a bit worse against Brazil, the South Americans would have qualified instead of the heavily favoured USAII. In Group W, France won with 231, with South Africa second at 228.5, Indonesia third with 227, and the defending champs from the Netherlands fourth with 222. The big news was the demise of USAI, a distant fifth with 202.

As the overall leaders, we had first pick for crossover quarterfinal opponents, and we opted to play South Africa. France selected China, Sweden the Netherlands,

and Indonesia was stuck with USAII. As delighted as I was with our team's success, I was just as thrilled to discover that each of the other three Bermuda Bowl teams I had coached in the past year (Indonesia, Netherlands, China) had survived the round robin and that none of us would have to play one another.

I'd like to report that the good guys won all their quarterfinal matches



Deciding the line-up for the final session of the '95 Bermuda Bowl

(96 boards), but that's not what happened. USAII-Indonesia was a nail-biter all the way, but the Americans had a huge final set to win 216-177. The Dutch bowed to Sweden 182-227. China played brilliantly against the French and trailed only at the end, falling 3 imps short, 193-196. Canada had a big first quarter against South Africa to take a 49-imp lead, and won comfortably, 272-187.

The rules prevented us from choosing France, so we selected Sweden and left France and USAII to continue their long-standing rivalry (which favoured the French). We won each of the first five segments against Sweden to build a big lead and held on to win comfortably, 218-157 over 96 boards. The Americans (Edgar Kaplan, npc: Bob Hamman-Bobby Wolff, Jeff Meckstroth-Eric Rodwell, Richard Freeman-Nick Nickell) gained a measure of revenge in the other semifinal, winning handily 221-153. Despite our best efforts, or perhaps because of them, we would meet the pre-tournament favourites in the Final.

The 160-board Final match started with three tight segments, USAII winning all of them to lead by 23 imps. But in the fourth, Canada made up most of the deficit to trail 113-114 after the first day. The first segment of the second day was Canada's worst. USAII won it 58-9 to take a 50 imp lead. We fought back to win two of the next three segments but after 128 deals and a couple of acrimonious Appeals Committee decisions, we were 75 imps behind, apparently dead and buried with just 32 boards to play. The ninth segment was our best. We played well at both tables and clawed back 41 imps to cut the margin to just 26. Suddenly it was a match again. We had our chances in the final segment too, but Meckstroth-Rodwell produced an enormous set and USAII gained 17 imps to win the 1995 Marlboro Bermuda Bowl by 43 imps. No shame, but in our hearts we knew we had missed a golden opportunity. Our opponents hadn't played their best, but we hadn't capitalized.

A BIT OF HISTORY

by Ray Lee

Excerpted from Canadian Masterpoint, January 1996

The first post-war World Bridge Team Championship was played in 1950 in Bermuda. And despite the establishment of other events such as the Olympiad and Rosenblum Cup competitions, the Bermuda Bowl is still the most prestigious title in the bridge world.

In the early years of the event, there were no separate Canadian entries, North America being regarded as one Zone. The first Canadian participation was in the 1962 New York Bermuda Bowl, when Eric Murray played on a team captained by John Gerber. After losing the event to Italy, Eric was back four years later, this time playing with Sami Kehela on a squad that included the young Bob Hamman. But these were the glory days of the Italian Blue Team, and the Canadians had to be content with a silver medal, both in that year and the following one too, playing this time with Kaplan, Kay, Root and Roth as their team-mates.

The Dallas Aces were able to at last wrest the world championship back from Italy in 1970. But although the original Blue Team was gone, the trio of Belladonna, Forquet and Garozzo still formed a powerful nucleus, and in 1973 they regained the trophy. Their 1974 defence was successful, and the team they beat in the final once again included Murray and Kehela, making what would be their last appearance in the event. It must have been at the closing banquet in that year that someone noticed Eric Murray joining in all the national anthems.: "I've lost the final so often I know them all by heart," was his famous reply.

Since 1985 Canada, Bermuda and Mexico have played off for the right to send a team to the Bermuda Bowl. Our record in the last ten years has not, however, been stellar. From 1985 to 1991 we were not in serious contention to make it out of the round-robin, while in 1993 we were ignominiously bounced before the main event by a Mexican foursome that included three women players.

Our warmest congratulations to the 1995 Canadian Open Team on their remarkable success in capturing the 1995 Bermuda Bowl Silver Medal in Beijing this fall. And we want to add a thank you to the team for giving Canadians something to be proud of.

GERMAN WOMEN DEFEAT FAVOURED AMERICANS TO WIN VENICE CUP

by Eric Kokish - Canada fielded a capable team (npc **Michael Roche: Gloria Silverman-Roisin O'Hara, Barbara Clinton-Joan Eaton, Katie Thorpe-Mary Paul**) for the Women's World Teams Championship (the Venice Cup competition) last month in Beijing. They were seeded into a qualifying group with USAI (Steve Sanborn, npc: Kerri Sanborn-Karen McCallum, Sue Picus-Rozanne Pollack, Kitty Munson-Carol Simon), Germany (nps Klaus Reps: Sabine Zenkel Auker-Daniela von Arnim, Andrea Rauscheid-Pony Nehmert, Marianne Moegel-Karin Caesar), China, (npc: Hou Zou Tang: Ming Sun-Hongli Wang, Yalan Zhang-Ling Gu, Li Ping Wang-Yi Quian Liu), co-favourites to qualify, with Israel, Brazil, South Africa likely threats, and Colombia a probable also-ran. Canada figured to be right in the thick of things.

The team started well by beating China 19-11, but then bowed to Brazil and South Africa 10-20. On the second day, they tied Germany 15-all, beat Colombia only 19-11, and bowed to Israel, 13-17. In the last match of the first round robin, the team showed how well it was capable of playing by crushing USA, 24-6 to move up to fifth place. But that was the high water mark. In the second round robin, they lost 16-14 to China and Germany to finish the third day, then defeated USAI again, 16-14. But a big loss to Brazil, 8-22, left them with little chance to make up the lost ground. They defeated Colombia 19-11, but were blitzed by Israel 5-25 and beaten by South Africa 10-20. They finished a dismal seventh in their group, with 193.5 Victory Points. The qualifiers in Canada's group (W) were (1) China, 239; (2) Germany, 236; (3) USAI, 227.1; (4) South Africa, 224. Brazil, Israel, Canada, Colombia completed the list. In the other group (E) the Qualifiers were: (1) France, 269; (2) USAII, 253.5; (3) Japan, 211; (4) Venezuela 209. Great Britain, Australia, Argentina, and India followed. France, the overall leader, selected South Africa for their

(crossover) quarterfinal opponent and beat them soundly, 229-126. China was able to select Venezuela, a surprise qualifier, and were so far ahead after 64 boards (242-83) that Venezuela resigned with 32 boards to play. Germany vs Japan was an interesting match that became close near the end, but Germany hung on to win 229-193. That left both American teams to meet in the remaining match and USAI prevailed over USAII (Philip Alder, npc: Amalya Kearsse-Jacqui Mitchell, Jo Morse-Joyce Lilie, Mildred Breed-Tobi Deutsch) 274-216.

The French had been very impressive throughout and they were able to choose Germany, a team with only two frontline pairs, for their semifinal (96 boards) opponents, thus avoiding China and USAI, who had to play one another. Although the French decision was surely the right one on paper, it turned out dreadfully. After a tight first segment, Germany thrashed the French 64-5 and 65-13 in the next two segments to take a stranglehold on the match. Germany coasted home 257-164. In the other semifinal, the Americans won the first three sets to build a comfortable lead and they won 259-185.

Germany vs USAI was a replay of the 1993 final in Santiago, with a few different players on each team. The Americans were favoured again this time, but a couple of intangibles made a big difference. First of all, Germany's third pair was quite ill and their npc was able to play his best players throughout without suffering any pangs of conscience. second, Karen McCallum was also sick and that took the best American pair out of the picture for most of the 128-board final. The match was remarkably tight all the way and with 16 boards to play, Germany led by 3imps, 242-239. The score in the final segment was 70-9 for Germany, who won the Venice Cup, 312-248. An amazing ending.

The Sunday Times Invitational Pairs Tournament was first held in London in 1963. This event quickly became established as one of the toughest and most prestigious bridge tournaments on the international circuit until 1981 when it was discontinued. The event was reborn in 1990, with Macallan as the main sponsor. The Times and Sunday Times are still associated with the tournament and provided extensive coverage.

Having Macallan as a sponsor had some nice benefits for the players in the event. Not only did Macallan provide excellent accommodation and meals (in London's White House Hotel) and generous prizes for the high finishers, the players were also treated to a seemingly unlimited supply of Macallan's finest 18 year old scotch whisky. As I discovered a Macallan or two is a perfect way to unwind after an evening of intense bridge!

George Mittelman and I were among 16 pairs fortunate enough to be invited to the 1996 Macallan. Each pair played a 9 board match against each other pair. Each board was IMPed against a datum - the average of the results at other tables with the high and low scores thrown out. There were 60 Victory Points (VPs) available in each match. Each pair started each match with 30 VPs. Each IMP won was worth one VP (to a maximum of +30 IMPs or 60 VPs). Each IMP lost resulted in losing a VP (to a max. of -30 IMPs or 0 VP).

George and I had spent the previous week playing in the Cap Volmac Invitational in The Hague, a similar event also with a very strong field. We had not been very successful there, finishing 12 out of 16 pairs. The Macallan was a chance to redeem ourselves.

However, the tournament started poorly for us. In the first match we faced Paul Chamla and Michel Perron, France's top pair, and lost convincingly. It got even harder in the second match when we faced Meckstroth and Rodwell - in my opinion the best pair on earth. We lost by 6 IMPs but we were not totally unhappy in getting 24 VPs from this pair. In the third match we faced Sabine Auker (formerly Zenkel) and



1996 MACALLAN INVITATIONAL PAIRS

*Championship Diary
by Fred Gitelman, Toronto*

Daniela Von Arnim from Germany, recent winners of The Venice Cup Women's World Championships. Our match was on vugraph and we were doing fine until George (who had obviously been studying his system notes) remembered an obscure agreement that we have. Unfortunately, I forgot our system and we played a hand in 3NT with 6D laydown and 7D makeable. We were the only pair not to get to a slam and deservedly lost 12 IMPs. As a result, we lost our third match in a row, this time by 3 IMPs.

Despite our poor record, we were not playing that badly. We seemed to be having 1 bad board every match and almost no really great boards. The problem was that our opponents were not making very many mistakes. Also, it seemed like every time we did something good, most of the pairs in our direction were doing the same thing.

After losing our first 3 matches we were in 12th place out of the 16 pairs, exactly where we finished in The Hague. It was getting depressing. Our final match of the first day was against the legendary Pietro Forquet of the Italian Blue Team playing with Antonio Sementa, a reigning European Champion and one of Italy's bright young stars. On one board I held:

♠ 74 ♥ KQ98 ♦ 952 ♣ A962

George opened a vulnerable 15-17 1NT and responded 2♠ to my Stayman inquiry. I chose to bid an aggressive 3NT (as opposed to inviting with 2NT). However, bidding a close vulnerable game at IMPs with a declarer of George's skill is a winning tactic. George, with an ordinary 15 count, backed up my evaluation. He played and guessed the hand nicely and came to 9 tricks. Half the field was not in game and some of those who were went down. We won 7 IMPs. Then the Italians had a Blackwood mixup and played a laydown vulnerable grand slam at the 6 level - 9 more IMPs to us.

ago, I can really appreciate the great experience an event like the Macallan is for a young player.

The wind was coming out of our sails, however, and we lost the last two matches of the second day. The first of these was to Zia playing with Omar Sharif. Omar once again showed that he can more than hold his own against the world's best. Also, his tremendous charm and sense of humour are always a delight for the spectators and local media. Watch how Omar and Zia combined to create a huge board out of thin air against George and I:

OMAR
♠ K95
♥ 10963
♦ J109854
♣

FRED
 ♠ A86
 ♥ AKJ52
 ♦ KQ6
 ♣ 87

GEORGE
 ♠ Q10432
 ♥ Q7
 ♦ 73
 ♣ OJ105

ZLA
♠ J7
♥ 84
♦ A2
♣ AK96432

OMAR	GEORGE	ZIA	FRED
PASS	PASS	1NT (15-17)	DBLE
3D	3S	PASS	4S
DBLE	PASS	PASS	PASS

3NT is the best contract for East-West but Zia and Omar gave us no chance to bid it. Zia's semi-psyhic strong no trump opener was a good start. When Omar bounced to the 3 level over my penalty double, George and I had little room for exploration. We found our 5-3 spade fit but the hands fit badly. Omar expressed his opinion with a penalty double and Zia wisely stood his ground. After cashing his top clubs and the ♦A, a third round of clubs doomed the contract to down 2 and -500 for George and I. Zia and Omar really earned the 12 IMPs they won on this board. We got slightly the better of the other boards but lost the match by 9 IMPs - 21 VPs.

FRED	GEORGE
♠ 4	♠ K1093
♥ AQJ973	♥ 5
♦ KQ53	♦ AJ62
♣ 76	♣ AKJ8
	1♦
1♥	1♠
2♣ (4SF)	3♣
3♦	3♠
4♥	4NT (RKCB)
5♠	6♦
PASS	

Once again George played and guessed well to make 6♦. Only one other pair bid and made 6♦ so our +1370 was worth 11 IMPs. Notice how lucky we were with the vulnerability in each of these 3 big results. The Italians got slightly the better of us on the other boards but the damage had been done. We won by 23 IMPs - 53 VPs.

At the end of the first day we were dead average and sitting in 10th place. Not so great, but it was the first time we had been average in 5 days of bridge (1 in London and 4 in The Hague). At last we had a reason to smile.

We remained exactly average after the 5th match, an exact tie against England's Irving Rose and Chris Convery of South Africa. We managed to move up to 8th place, however, in the process. In match 7 we faced Hamman and Wolff, winners of umpteen World Championships including the 1995 Bermuda Bowl against team Canada. George and I played well and won by 8 IMPs (38 VPs) to move into 7th place. Match 8 brought a mild setback when we lost by 6 IMPs (24 VPs) to England's Boris Schapiro and Irving Gordon.

In matches 9 and 10 we had 2 healthy wins beating Ghose-Shivdasani of India and then the Hackett twins from England. The tournament organizers deserve special credit for recognizing the accomplishments of Jason and Justin Hackett, World Junior Champions, and the best young pair in the world. As I was a junior player not that long

In the final match of the second day we played Nick Nickell and Dick Freeman, yet another pair from the American team that beat us in the recent Bermuda Bowl (the other pairs were Meckstroth-Rodwell and Hamman-Wolff who we had already played in the Macallan). Once again Nick and Dick showed us how well they can play (and what good guys they are). We lost by 14 IMPs but the 16 VPs we won were just enough to keep us in 6th place.

With 4 matches to go Meckstroth and Rodwell were starting to pull ahead of the field. First place was almost out of reach but we were fortunate that several of the pairs we still had to play were close to us in the standings. Our first match of the third day was against Americans Michael Rosenberg and Seymon Deutsch. We recorded our biggest win of the tournament - 28 IMPs and 58 of the 60 available VPs. We had moved up to 4th place and our next match was against local favourites Tony Forrester and Andy Robson, sitting third. This hand was good for our cause:

West Deals	Fred		
EW Vul	♠ Q1075		
	♥ QJ84		
	♦ J5		
	♣ AK9		
Andy		Tony	
♠ KJ86		♠ 942	
♥ 1032		♥ AK5	
♦ A83		♦ 62	
♣ J104		♣ Q8653	
	George		
	♠ A3		
	♥ 976		
	♦ KQ10974		
	♣ 72		
ANDY	FRED	TONY	GEORGE
PASS	1♣	PASS	1♦
PASS	1NT	PASS	2NT
PASS	3NT	PASS	PASS
PASS			

George and I always bypass 4 card majors as opener to rebid 1NT with balanced hands. Tony started with the ♥K and Andy had to play the ♥10 to discourage. I

followed with the ♥J so that I could have an eventual heart entry to the dummy. Tony shifted to a spade in order to try to knock out an entry to the long diamonds. I could have made my contract legitimately by winning the ♠A here but the position was not clear. I ducked and Andy won his ♠K. Andy now had to shift to a club to defeat 3NT but he reasonably played back a heart, hoping that Tony started with 4 hearts to the AK. With that holding Tony could duck the second heart and when Andy won the ♦A the defense would take two heart tricks to beat 3NT. On the actual lie of the cards, Andy's heart return allowed me to claim my contract. Somewhat surprisingly half the field bid and made 3NT with our cards so we won only 4 IMPs on the board. We went on to win the match by 7 IMPs for 37 VPs, not enough to pass Forrester and Robson, but the gap was closing.

In the second last match we played Nicola Smith and Pat Davies, a top Women's pair from England and former World Champions. Nicola and Pat had been very consistent this tournament and were currently lying 5th, just 12 VPs behind George and I. In fact both pairs of women (Auken-Von Arnim were the others) did well in the Macallan, demonstrating once again that women are capable of competing with men at the very highest levels in bridge.

Of the matches George and I were involved in, our match against Nicola and Pat was the best played. Neither pair gave up anything and all nine boards were bid accurately to making contracts. Since the boards were more difficult in our direction and other pairs faltered, we ended up winning by 15 IMPs for 45 VPs. We were still in 4th place and, with 1 match to go, 2nd and 3rd were still within reach.

Our last match was against Lorenzo Lauria and Alfredo Versace, Italy's most formidable pair. We had played this pair twice in the Bermuda Bowl and had beaten them soundly both times. We needed to win by 17 IMPs in order to come at least third.

The first board was a good start. Lauria-Versace bid to a slightly aggressive 3NT, found a horrible lie of the cards, and went down 4 vulnerable. After this hand, Alfredo

said to George and I, "This is not Beijing!" George replied, "If it were Beijing, you would have been doubled!" This result was not as good as it sounds (we won 4 IMPs) as everyone went minus the other way. Hamman and Wolff outbid the field on this board, stopping in 1NT (with 24 HCP), but even that contract was not makeable.

Unfortunately the rest of the match was nothing like Beijing. A few boards later I held:

♠ K962 ♥ - ♦ Q952 ♣ J10976

With the opponents vulnerable, Alfredo on my right opened 1♥. I passed and Lorenzo jumped to 4♥. George and Alfredo passed. It seems absurd to even consider bidding with these cards but instinct told me to double(!). George and I had discussed the concept of double showing a hand like this, but with no defense. I was really afraid that George might not pull. I went against my instincts and passed, trying to play "down the middle" after our good early result. Double would have been a big winner as George held:

♠ A8 ♥ 53 ♦ K1073 ♣ AK842

4♥ was cold as was 5♣. In fact 6♣ was makeable by guessing the It did not feel very good to be defending 4♥ making into our own slam but this seemed like a very hard deal. In fact the exact same auction happened and 3 other tables! Even Meckstroth and Rodwell had the same foolish looking result as us. The next board was another nightmare:

Fred	George
♠ Q984	♠ AKJ1053
♥ AQ6	♥ 84
♦ K2	♦ J43
♣ KQ95	♣ A2

I played 6♣ from the short side after a transfer sequence. The ♣J was led to dummy's ♠A. I played 3 rounds of trumps, unblocking the ♠Q on which the defenders signalled that the ♦A was offside. This did not mean that it actually was offside and I

decided not to let the defense talk me out of my best technical chance. I tested the clubs and when the ♠10 did not fall (LHO had J10xx) I pitched a heart from dummy. I played ♥A and ruffed a heart to lead a diamond towards my ♦K. The defense was signalling accurately, however, and I had to lose 2 diamond tricks. Again, this board was not as horrible (we lost 4 IMPs) as it looked. Most of the field bid 6♠ and nobody made the contract. I was somewhat frustrated, however, because if I believed the defenders' signals I would have made the slam. I had to finesse early in hearts (the ♥K was onside), cash the ♥A, and run all my trumps. LHO would be forced to come down to a stiff ♦A and 3 clubs. I could then exit with the ♦K and take the last three club tricks. Instinct told me to play for the strip squeeze but I knew it was not the percentage play. Once again I played down the middle when going with my instincts would have results in a big winning position.

Just when things seemed like they couldn't get any worse, George picked up in 4th seat with our side vulnerable:

♠ AQ9 ♥ A9 ♦ AKJ1043 ♣ K2

Not an easy hand to bid at the best of times. How about when LHO opens 4♣ in 3rd chair? George doubled and corrected my 4♥ response to 5♦. I kept bidding hearts and George kept bidding diamonds. We ended up in 6♥ with me holding:

♠ 1064 ♥ QJ108643 ♦ 95 ♣ 4

Down 2, -200. We lost a little more on this disaster, 7 IMPs, as several pairs also went minus on our cards. Lauria had a legitimate 4♣ preempt and 4♥ was the limit with our cards. In another match Robson overcalled 4♣ with 4NT (natural) holding George's cards. He played it there and was held to 6 tricks for -400!

When this match mercifully ended George and I felt pretty sick. We were sure we had been blitzed and slipped from the 4th spot that we had fought so hard to achieve. We started to feel better as other tables finished play and just about every

pair sitting our direction thought they got blitzed! We ended up losing by just 14 IMPs and the 16 VPs we received were more than enough to maintain our position in the standings.

So in the 25th running of this tournament, Meckstroth-Rodwell became the first pair ever to win the event two years in a row. As their victories pile up, it looks more and more like this pair is in a class by themselves. I was quite happy to finish fourth, particularly considering our result in the Cap Volmac and the start we had in the Macallan.

It is a real honour just to be invited to a tournament with the prestige and history of the Macallan. A quick look through past winners of the event reads like a who's who of bridge in the modern era. Tournament organizers, Helen Schapiro and Paul Mendelson, deserve a special thanks for this year's event. Every aspect of the 1996 Macallan was superbly arranged. Paul, Helen, and Macallan have made certain that their tournament will continue to be a highlight on the international bridge calendar.

1996 MACALLAN INVITATIONAL PAIRS

January 24-26, 1996

FINAL RESULTS

1.	Meckstroth-Rodwell	USA	602
2.	Versace-Lauria	ITA	562
3.	Forrester-Robson	GB	544
4.	Gitelman-Mittleman	CAN	501
5.	Auken-von Arnim	GER	488
6.	Forquet-Sementa	ITA	479
7.	Chemla-Perron	FRA	475
8.	Smith-Davies	GB	472
9.	Sharif-Zia	EGY-PAK	446
10.	Nickell-Freeman	USA	430
11.	Hamman-Wolff	USA	417
12.	Shivdasani-Ghose	IND	409
13.	Rosenberg-Deusch	USA	370
14.	Hackett-Hackett	GB	359
15.	Schapiro-Gordon	GB	355
16.	Convery-Rose	RSA-GB	291

NEC CUP (International Invitational teams)

Japan, November 1995

SEMIFINALS	C/O	1-16	17-32	Total
CHINESE TAIPEI	1	38	13	61
EUROPE		28	21	49

CANADA		25	66	91
INDONESIA	13	18	16	47

FINAL	C/O	1-16	17-32	Total
CHINESE TAIPEI		61	28	89
CANADA	6	23	4	33

Canada's Team:
Beverly Kraft, Rhoda Habert, Eric Kokish, Joey Silver,
Estuko Miyaishi, Kyoko Shimamura

POLITIKEN WORLD PAIRS '95

The Politiken World Pairs '95 was played November 2 - 5, 1995, in Copenhagen. The Danish newspaper Politiken had put up a prize fund of 100,000 Danish kr. (approx 16.00 \$), and the Phonix Hotel had agreed to sponsor the rooms of the event and lodging for the players. The format of the tournament was as the Cap Volmac and the Macallan tournaments with 16 top class pairs playing a round robin. The five sessions (each consisting of 3 rounds of 10 boards) were played Thursday and Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and evening, and Sunday afternoon (15 rounds)

FINAL STANDINGS (Top seven)

1. Zia Mahmood & Peter Weichsel
2. Andrea Buratti & Massimo Lanzarotti
3. George Mittelman & Fred Gitelman
4. Jaggy B. Shivdasani & Santanu Ghose
5. Bauke Muller & Wubbo de Boer
6. Geir Helgemo & Tor Helness
7. Dorthé Schaltz & Peter Schaltz

CAP VOLMAC WORLD TOP INVITATIONAL PAIRS

January 18-21, 1996 • The Hague, The Netherlands

FINAL STANDINGS (imps, 750 average)

1.	Helness - Helgemo	Norway	881
2.	Lasut - Manoppo	Indonesia	862
3.	Muller - de Boer	The Netherlands	848
4.	Zia - Rosenberg	USA	811
5.	Buratti - Lanzarotti	Italy	776
6.	Westra - Leufkens	The Netherlands	772
7.	Berkowitz - Cohen	USA	766
8.	Chemla - Cronier	France	750
9.	Mechstroth - Rodwell	USA	742
10.	Jens Auken - Koch-Palmund	Denmark	721
11.	S. Auken - von Arnin	Germany	719
12.	Mittelman - Gitelman	Canada	701
13.	Hamaoui - Caponi	Venezuela	694
14.	Chagas - Lambardi	Brazil	674
15.	Levy - Mouiel	France	657
16.	Fu - Wang	China	623



SECRETS DU SUCCÈS

par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

Comme je l'ai déjà dit dans un chronique ancienne, le secret pour s'améliorer au bridge est simple: lire, lire, lire. Et puis, relire, relire, relire.

Prenons le dernier livre de Tony Forrester, expert britannique, intitulé Secrets of Success.

Vous ne comprenez rien aux squeezes, mises en main et jeux d'évitement? Parfait, lisez ce livre et vous mesurerez toute l'importance que Tony Forrester accorde à cette partie de jeu; il en parle ... une demi-page sur 150. Et il conclut en évaluant cette partie du jeu du déclarant à ZÉRO!!

Dommage, diront certains, j'ai dévoilé le punch?! Ne vous inquiétez pas! Le punch, vous le trouverez dans les 149 pages qui précèdent, et qui sont toutes remplies de «gros bon sens». Voyez les titres de chapitres: évaluation de main, essais de manche, contres, partielles, barrages, sacrifices, entames, signaux, «falsecards» (à proscrire).

Le gros bon sens au bridge signifie «éviter de vouloir être smart» (falsecards), soutenir son partenaire à la moindre occasion, faire des enchères constructives au lieu de chercher à punir les adversaires, offrir des options à son partenaire au lieu de décider tout seul, laisser assez de corde aux adversaires pour qu'ils aient la chance de se pendre.

Par exemple, Forrester recommande d'ouvrir 4♥ beaucoup plus librement que 4♠. 4♥ laisse encore de la place aux adversaires, ils peuvent encore gager 4♠. Ouvrir 4♠ ne leur laisse plus le choix; ils seront réticents à s'aventurer au niveau de 5 et ils vous contreront donc plus souvent. Forrester suggère donc

d'ouvrir 4♠ avec des main où vous aimeriez entendre les adversaires vous contrer pour la pénalité. Pas mal, n'est-ce pas? Voyez-vous, il faut pousser les adversaires, il faut occuper rapidement le maximum d'espace, mais il ne faut pas se pendre soi-même.

Forrester favorise aussi l'utilisation de signaux en défense. Il souligne avec beaucoup de justesse que l'avantage du déclarant, au début de la main, est si grand que les défenseurs doivent rapidement s'échanger de l'information afin de neutraliser cet avantage. Et il ajoute cette petite phrase capital: en défense, «it is not clever to falsecard».

Il n'est jamais souhaitable, il n'est jamais correct de «finasser» en défense, de jouer au plus fin afin de tromper le déclarant. Le plus souvent, vous ne tromperez pas un déclarant compétent, mais vous allez tout simplement mettre votre partenaire en «mau ... ». Comme le dit Terrence Reese, un des plus grands joueurs de l'histoire: il est plus important de donner de l'information au partenaire que de la cacher aux adversaires. Croyez-moi, finasser en défense est le meilleur moyen de perdre des martenaire.

Comme déclarant, vous pouvez créer tous les écrans de fumée que vous voulez; en défense, pratiquez la «glasnost» la plus limpide possible. Sinon, vous vous retrouverez dans le goulag des partenaires non fiables, qui préfèrent être brillants plutôt que de garder un partenaire.

Lisez ce livre passionnant. Vous y trouverez plein de conseils judicieux sur les essais de manche (règle de 19!!), sur l'importance capitale du soutien (avant toute autre enchère), sur les chelems, sur l'importance de gager d'abord et de passer ensuite, et non l'inverse, etc.

Vous pouvez le trouver évidemment chez Nicole Brisebois et Kevin Grégoire aux 466-2983 ou 767-9722.

P.S. Mes excuses à Laval Dubreuil. Nos lecteurs auront compris que l'article sur les majeures inversées était de la plume de Laval. Son nom apparaissait dans la table de matières, mais non sous le titre de son article.

Peut-être avez-vous déjà entendu cette invitation que les professeurs ou experts font aux débutants: «Écoutez les enchères afin de vous former une image de la main du déclarant». Cette technique de visualisation peut aussi servir, dans une séquence compétitive, où les adversaires vous empêchent d'échanger des informations avec votre partenaire. Vous pouvez ainsi mettre à profit les barrages adverses afin d'imaginer la main de votre partenaire. En Sud, vous avez:

♠ A98xx
♥ xxx
♦ RDxx
♣ x

Nord	Est	Vous	Ouest
1♦	2SA	??	

2SA annonce des coeurs et des trèfles; quelles sont vos options? Voici un traitement pratique:

- contre exprime un désir de pénaliser au moins une des deux couleurs adverses;
- 3♠, le cue de la moins chère, équivaut à un contre négatif, montrant des piques;
- 3♦ montre un fit (4 atouts) et moins qu'un limit (enchère de courtoisie);
- 3♥, le cue de la plus chère, montre un fit à carreau et au moins un limit;
- 3♣ est naturel et forcing;
- 3SA (selon vul.) montre des arrest coeur/trèfle et assez de points pour la manche.

Vous décidez donc de placer 3♣ (auriez-vous mis 3♠ immédiatement, à cause de fit à carreau? J'y ai pensé.), afin de montrer vos piques (4 ou plus) et votre main d'invitation. Votre Adg ne l'entend pas ainsi et insère 4♣. Votre partenaire passe (il n'a donc pas 4 piques), Add passe et vous vous retrouvez avec le problème.

Nord	Est	Vous	Ouest
1♦	2SA	3♣	4♣
p	p	???	

C'est ici que votre faculté de déduction, et le courage de vos convictions, entrent en jeu.



VISUALISATION, DÉDUCTION ET... COURAGE!

par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

Les adversaires ont révélé un fit à trèfle et vous avez un fit connu à carreau. Un des principes du bridge dit ceci: si les adversaires ont un fit, vous en avez au aussi. On se sert de ce principe à toutes les fois qu'on reveille les enchères au niveau de 2 ou 3. Ce principe est aussi vrai au niveau de 4, mais disons qu'il ne faut pas avoir froid aux yeux. Votre partenaire ne sait pas que vous avez 5 piques et, si vous contre (take-out), il ne gagera certainement pas 4♠ avec 3 cartes. D'autre part, si vous mettez 4♦, votre partenaire risque de passer. Comme le dit Tony Forrester dans son livre récent Secrets of Success, lorsqu'on a le choix entre différentes actions au bridge, il faut choisir celle qui donnera le maximum de profit. Vous décidez donc de réveiller à ... 4♠!! Peut-être allez-vous vous faire «planter», mais c'est la vie. À votre grand soulagement, tout le monde passe et Ouest entame As de trèfle. Vous attendez le mort avec anxiété.

Mort	Vous
♠ D10x	♠ A98xx
♥ AD9	♥ xx
♦ A109xx	♦ RDxx
♣ Vx	♣ x

Ouest entame As de trèfle et switch le 8 de coeur.

Admirez au passage l'enchère de 4♠, qui hausse la mise sans amener Est-Ouest dans la zone de danger, le niveau de 5. Avec au moins 4 atouts (et peut-être 5), et personne vulnérable, plusieurs joueurs en Ouest auraient mis un macho 5♣, et vous n'auriez eu d'autre option que le contre. 4♠ vous complique la view, vous force à deviner, sans toutefois s'exposer et c'est là l'essentiel qu'au bridge: forcez les adversaires à deviner, sans trop vous exposer, et ils se

tromperont probablement 1 fois sur 2.

Le switch du 8 de coeur vous révèle probablement un doubleton en Ouest; Est aurait donc 6 coeurs et 5 trèfles. Vous esquivez au mort, Est gagne et revient du Roi de trèfle - vous coupez.

Avec 5-5 ou 6-5 à coeur et trèfle, Est est forcément court à pique et carreau. Ouest a donc de fortes chances d'avoir les piques. En d'autres mots, Est, avec ses 10 ou 11 cartes connues, n'a que 3 ou 2 cartes inconnues (ou places vacantes). Par contre, Ouest n'a que 6 ou 7 cartes connues (4-5 trèfles et 2 coeurs); Ouest peut donc avoir jusqu'à 7 places vacantes alors qu'Est pourrait n'en avoir que 2. Est est fort probablement court à pique et vous jouez donc petit pique vers le 10 ... qui gagne, Est fournissant un petite.

La suite est alors facile: petit carreau vers votre Roi, tout le monde fournit, et vous enchaînez avec un deuxième petit pique. Ouest prend son Roi, Est défaussant, et revient coeur. Rien à faire, vous avez déjà la situation bien en main. As de coeur, Dame de pique et petit carreau vers votre Dame, Est défausse. As de pique pour cueillir le dernier atout d'Ouest et carreau vers le mort pour un +420 qui vous rapportera 7 beaux Imps et la victoire, l'autre équipe s'étant arrêtée à 2♣, faits 3. Vous gagnez le match par 3 imps., même si vous avez oublié de gager un chelem rejoint à l'autre table.

Écoutez les enchères, visualisez et ayez le courage de vos convictions. Je prêche à tous mes partenaires qu'il faut «balancer» lorsque les enchères meurent prématurément et que les adversaires jouent un contrat au niveau de 2 qu'ils ont volontairement choisi. Le même principe s'applique au niveau de 3 ou 4.

Si l'on veut respecter ce principe, il faut parfois se fermer les yeux et gager. Comme le dit Mike Lawrence, si vous êtes un pessimiste, le bridge n'est le jeu indiqué pour vous. «Bridge is a bidder's game.» Le bridge est un jeu d'optimistes. Olé!!

♠ A10xxx
♥ RDxx
♦ x
♣ Dxx

♠ 9xx
♥ A109x
♦ ARx
♣ ARx

COMMENT JOUEZ-VOUS?



Vous jouez 6♥ et Ouest entame petit trèfle.

SOLUTION

Vous avez 2 perdantes à pique, que faire? Il n'y a qu'un seul moyen. Le voyez-vous? Il faut procéder à une élimination partielle et espérer qu'un des deux joueurs en défense a le Roi de pique doubleton et seulement 2 coeurs. C'est votre seule chance. En main avec le Roi de pique, il devra jouer dans coupe et défausse, vous permettant de vous débarrasser de votre troisième pique gênant. Attention toutefois: si vous jouez d'abord ARx de trèfle, et ARx de carreau coupé, un bon défenseur verra venir le coup et jettera son Roi de pique sous votre As. Après avoir pris le Valet de trèfle d'Est de votre As (Ouest peut croire alors que son partenaire a le Roi), jouez immédiatement petit pique vers l'As (ou As de coeur, Roi de coeur, puis As de pique). Il faudra Garozzo ou Hamman ou Zia pour jeter son Roi doubleton dès la 2e carte. Une fois que l'As de pique a fait la levée, jouez Roi de coeur, As de coeur (Ouest fournissant le Valet au 2e tour); ne jouez pas un 3e tour de coeur, car vous devez couper un

carreau et il faut qu'il reste un atout au mort pour prendre soin du retour qui vous permettra coupe et défausse. Après Roi et As de coeur, jouez Dame et Roi de trèfle, puis AR de carreau, carreau coupé, puis sortez à pique. La situation est maintenant celle-ci:

Mort

♠ 10x
♥ D
♦ ---
♣ ---

Déclarant

♠ 9
♥ 109
♦ ---
♣ ---

Ouest, en main avec le Roi doubleton, et n'ayant plus de coeur, devra revenir carreau dans coupe et défausse.

Mort

♠ A10xxx

♥ RDxx

♦ x

♣ Dxx

Quest

♠ Rx

♥ Vx

♦ V109xxx

♣ 10xx

Est

♠ DVx

♥ zzz

♦ xxx

♣ Vxxx

Déclarant

♠ 9xx

♥ A109x

♦ ARx

♣ ARx

Cette main illustre parfaitement l'importance de la visualisation au bridge. Il faut arriver à imaginer une main chez un défenseur, une position des cartes qui vous permettra de réussir votre contrat. Si cette position n'existe pas, vous n'auriez jamais pu réussir votre contrat de toute façon. Bon bridge.

CLUBS

EITHER/OR MANDATORY GAMES

At the ACBL Board of Directors meeting held in November, a motion was passed doing away with the requirement that all Canadian clubs hold an International Fund Game. The CBF Board of Directors supported this motion as a result of the negative feedback they were getting from the clubs. The new regulations now make it mandatory for an ACBL sanctioned bridge club in Canada to hold *either* a Charity Fund Game *or* an International Fund Game. Clubs are encouraged to hold *both* games.

"LA SÉRIE CARREAU"

DISPONIBLE EN FRANÇAIS

La deuxième manuel du cours de Audrey Grant est maintenant disponible en français. Complément de "La Série Trèfle" on y apprend à maîtriser le jeu de la carte, de la défense et à parfaire les enchères. On peut le commander chez "Les Distributions Gaf".

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And many other items ...

GAVIN WOLPERT, 13, of Thornhill, has just been announced as the 1995 winner of the Preteen \$5,000 Scholarship awarded by the J. Homer Shoop Foundation. Gavin will be given his award on Junior Day at the Miami NABC this summer.

CANADA-WIDE OLYMPIAD FUND GAME

October 19th - 67 sites participated; 611.5 tables in play; \$5513.00 donated. %

1. Club De Bridge Chicoutimi (PQ)	
Mrs. Martine Lacroix/Mr Jean Boucher	70.67
2. Kentville (NS) Bridge Club	
Michael Inkpen/Donald Aylward	70.54
3. St. Albert (AB) DBC	
William McDonald/Stam Spiel	69.64
4. North Bay (ON) DBC	
Maisie Pilon/Ella Fudge	69.35
5. Toronto I B M Club	
Ruth and Sonny Bessant	69.15

CANADIAN CLUBS AND UNITS ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

Canadian players on the Internet now have instant access to game schedules, upcoming tournaments, and contact persons for bridge in these areas. Good work!

- **Regina Bridge Club** <http://regina.ism.ca/orgs/rdbc/index.html>
- **Ottawa Bridge Centre** <http://www.magi.ca/~tommy/>
- **University of Waterloo Bridge Club** <http://watserv1.uwaterloo.ca/~uwbc/>
- **Toronto Bridge Today - Unit 166's Page** <http://www.rose.com/~acbl166/>
- **Eric Sutherland's Page** <http://jeeves.uwaterloo.ca/~esutherl/index.html>
- **Jonathan Steinberg's Page** <http://www.rose.com/~acbl166/steinberg.html>
- **CYBOrg Home Page** <http://jeeves.uwaterloo.ca/~esutherl/cyborg/cyborg.html>
- **Canadian Bridge Federation** <http://www.cbf.ca/query>

MAURICE PAUL BIDDING CONTEST

East Hands

(West Hands on page 6)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1. DLR: N Vul: Both
North Opens 1♦
♠ 73
♥ ---
♦ AQ53
♣ AKQJ654 | 3. DLR: S Vul: E/W
South Opens 1♦
♠ J9765
♥ A976
♦ AK2
♣ 2 | 6. DLR: E Vul: N/S
♠ 6
♥ A6543
♦ AKQT8
♣ T9 |
| 2. DLR: E Vul: N/S
♠ AT87
♥ K3
♦ Q4
♣ AJ976 | 4. DLR: W Vul: None
If possible, South bids
4♣ at his turn.
♠ 3
♥ 9765
♦ 7
♣ Q875432 | 7. DLR: S Vul: Both
South Opens 2♠
♠ KQT
♥ T
♦ A76
♣ AKQT43 |
| | 5. DLR: N Vul: E/W
♠ Q7654
♥ A52
♦ 7
♣ 9865 | 8. DLR: W Vul: None
♠ Q
♥ Q32
♦ A642
♣ J9873 |

TEACHING BRIDGE COMES TO SCHOOLS IN CANADA

by Doug Heron

Other countries have done it, maybe even other places in Canada have done it, but finally we have a well documented example of a successful bridge teaching program in Ontario.

Steve Down (co-incidentally my son-in-law), by his own admission a rank novice bridge player, is a grade 7 and 8 teacher in a small community about 30 miles west of Kingston, Ontario. On his own initiative, unbeknownst to me, he approached Ed O'Reilly, a successful teacher and Club Owner in Kingston, to find out if he could get a deal on some bridge books, to get his students interested in bridge. Before he could say abra-cadabra, Ed had him acquainted with the ACBL teaching program, which provided free bridge text books, an ACBL accredited teacher at no cost, and a trophy for the students who win the tournament after a series of eight lessons.

The class began with eight students attending the lessons during their lunch break once a week, and quickly grew to nineteen students with four teachers attending. Interest was phenomenal. Another astonishing feature was the students being required to write an essay about bridge before the course began.

A pleasantly surprised Steve Down has written article for the newsletter of the area school board, and this success story will be going out to all schools in the District.

Hopefully there will be many more of you out there reading this report who may take it upon yourselves to start a similar program at local schools across Canada.

If Steve, a novice, can do it, think what all you bridge expert teachers can do!! Let's pursue this excellent and free training program.

GREAT BRIDGE LINKS

<http://www.cbf.ca/query/GBL.html>

This popular WWW site will link you to anything and everything on the Internet to do with Bridge - results, software, playing online, junior pages and lots more.

CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR CBF ZONE DIRECTOR

The Term of Office of CBF Zone Director for Zones III (Units 166, 246, 249) and VI (Units 429, 430, 431, 456, 571, 574) expires on December 31, 1996.

This is to notify you that the CBF Coordinator is now accepting nominations for these positions.

Any member in good standing with the Canadian Bridge Federation and residing in the zone may submit his or her name as a candidate for the position of CBF Zone Director.

Interested persons should notify the CBF Coordinator in writing of his or her intention to run in the election for Zone Director. This notification of candidacy must be received by the CBF Coordinator no later than September 15, 1996. The declaration shall contain the name, address and unit of said candidate and may contain biographical material which is not to exceed one hundred (100) words.

The term of office for Zone Director is three (3) years.

Units will conduct their voting during the period of September 30, 1996 - November 30, 1996.

Questions about the duties of the zone director can be directed to the CBF Coordinator or the present Zone Director.

the mailbag



To The Editor:

In his letter Andy Monk correctly noted that the Curse of Scotland is The Nine of Diamonds. The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge (4th ed.) lists six possible origins for the term, and states that the Duke of Cumberland story "is very doubtful." (p.93) The famous Duke of Cumberland's hand was not created by the Duke but by his opponents, and cost him about \$100,000, so the story goes. This Duke, the son of George III, was not at the Battle of Culloden. Butcher Cumberland, son of George II, defeated Bonnie Prince Charles at Culloden. The Encyclopedia says "the scant evidence favors the later duke." (p.119)

Finally, as a youth on a farm in Scottish Pictou County, N.S. in the 1930's I was paid five cents a hundred for pulling Stinking Willie weeds (not Stinkin' Billy). This was the name for ragweed, a much less pleasant plant than Sweet William.

*Bill Cunningham,
Sackville, N.B.*

To The Editor:

We are trying to solicit donations for a MARY PAUL TROPHY to honour the Canadian Venice Cup Teams. It will cost just under \$400.00, including engraving, and will have the names of all the players and years when Canada was represented at the Venice Cup. Is there room for such an announcement in your Canadian Bridge Canadien?

Donations should be sent to John Armstrong, 36 Kennebec Cres. Etobicoke ON M9W 2R7 as soon as possible so that we can be sure to get the magnificent trophy. It is a hand-chased, very large bowl on a marble and a wooden base. I am told that such handwork is no longer available.

John Armstrong, Etobicoke ON

Editor's Note: Right now we have the Percy E. Sheardown Trophy given to the Open Team which wins the Tri-Country and enters the Bermuda Bowl. We also have the Eric Murray Trophy for Canada's Olympiad Open Team and the Aaron Goodman Trophy for Canada's Women's Olympiad Team.

To The Editor: The Curse of Ottawa Revisited

In the Fall 95 issue of Canadian Bridge Canadien I shared two disastrous hands with you (page 26). Both hands involved holding the AKx of a side suit with your partner on lead against 6 Notrump, and both were calamitous.

In my introduction I called the Queen of Spades the Curse of Scotland, and one intrepid reader and historian (Andy Monk of Orrillia, Ont) correctly pointed out that the nine of diamonds was the true "curse". The Duke of Cumberland apparently wrote the battle order for the demise of Scotland on the back of this card.

I apologise for my lack of accuracy, but can explain... As any good "Hearts" player knows, getting the Spade Queen is the curse, and after each of the described hands, I really felt as though I would rather be playing hearts than bridge!

As an aside, in his letter Andy asks if this is the same Duke of Cumberland who "created" the famous whist hand containing 6 HCP but which took all thirteen tricks.

♠ JT9876

♥ T9876

♦ QJ

♣ ---

♠ ---

♥ ---

♦ T98765432

♣ AQT8

♠ 5432

♥ 5432

♦ ---

♣ 65432

♠ AKQ

♥ AKQJ

♦ AK

♣ KJ97

To thank Andy for his letter, and perhaps gain a slight measure of revenge, the Duke was not the perpetrator, but the victim of the swindle! After the opening lead of the club seven, his opponents baited him into a huge bet by claiming he would not win a single trick. He lost the equivalent of \$100,000. This was not the "curse" Duke, (circa 1746) but a later one, son of George III.

PS. Nice to know someone is out there reading...
Doug Heron, Ottawa ON

VINCE ODDY



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CALENDAR

★ CWTC ★

National Final
July 2-6, 1996
Fredericton, NB
(See page 6)

★ COPC ★

National Final
June 6-8, 1996
Saskatoon, SK
(See page 7)

★ CNTC ★

Zone Final Round
Must be completed by
April 21, 1996
National Final
June 3-8, 1996
Saskatoon, SK
(See page 7)

★ ROOKIE-MASTER ★

Monday, October 21, 1996

INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

May 9, 96 ACBL Wide
Aug 2, 96 ACBL Wide
Oct 22, 96 Canada Wide

GOOD LUCK CANADIANS

Good Luck to our Canadian Teams entering the 1996 World Teams Olympiad in Greece

Open Team

Fred Gitelman, George Mittelman,
Eric Kokish, Joey Silver, Boris Baran, Mark Molson

Women's Team

Francine Cimon, Barbara Saltzman, Sharyn Reus,
Dianna Gordon, Beverly Kokish, Rhoda Habert

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Alcatel Worldwide Bridge Contest Jun 7 & 8

European Youth Championships
July 19-28 Cardiff

ACBL Summer NABC
Aug 2-11 Miami Beach

Zone II Junior Team Trials
Aug 7-11 Miami Beach

2nd World Junior Camp
Aug 11-? Miami Beach

1996 World Teams Olympiad
Oct 19-Nov 2 Rhodes, Greece
\$2500/team entry fee.

1996 World Mixed Teams Championship
Oct 19-Nov 2 Rhodes, Greece
\$400/team entry fee.

Those who were playing on Olympiad Teams losing in the quarter finals will still be allowed to drop into the Mixed Teams Championship, but only if the Mixed Team has declared at the start of the event its lineup and at least two members of that team participated in the quarter finals.

The Canadian Bridge Canadian is published three times a year as a supplement to the ACBL Bulletin. It is distributed to approximately 15,000 readers. Submissions are welcomed. Feel free to send e-mail! Or call ahead and send your article via modem. These electronic methods allow us to avoid retyping and the possible typos involved. If you have no modem, FAX or "snail mail" your item to the address at top left. We will make every effort to print submissions, but Canadian content and available space will always be a determining factor

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