

CANADIAN

bridge

CANADIEN

Featuring

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Canadian Women Win the Bronze by *Eric Kokish*



**CANADIAN
WOMEN'S
TEAM
BRONZE
MEDALISTS
1996 WORLD
OLYMPIAD**

(left to right)
Rhoda Habert
Beverly Kraft
Barbara Saltsman
Francine Cimon
Sharyn Reus
Dianna Gordon

PHOTO COURTESY OF RAY LEE

Zone I	George Holland 19 Cavalier Dr. Lower Sackville, NS B4C 3K3 902-865-4614 e-mail: giorgio@atcon.com
Zone II	Doug Heron 1238 Willowdale Ave. Ottawa ON K1H 7S3 613-731-6740 (h) 613-523-8785 (f) e-mail: eardoc@magi.com
Zone III	Eric Sutherland 505-390 Queens Quay West, Toronto, ON M5V 3A6 416-345-9268 e-mail: cenec@istar.ca
Vice-Pres.	Bill Treble
Zone IV	31-566 McMillan Ave. Winnipeg MB R3L 0N6 204-287-8805 (h) e-mail: c/o cpw@escape.ca
President	Gary Mitchell
Zone V	1218 Gryphons Walk Regina SK S4S 6A1 306-584-3273 (h) 306-781-6135 (f) e-mail: mr.b@dlcwest.com
Zone VI	Aidan Ballantyne 3549 E. 22nd Ave. Vancouver BC V5M 2Z5 604-438-3095 (h) 604-435-8181 (f) e-mail: Tlr@istar.ca
Ex-officio	George Retek 514-937-9907 (h) 514-931-2205 (f) Jonathan Steinberg 416-977-2050 (h & f) e-mail: jonathan@pathcom.com Dick Anderson 306-761-1311 (h)
Charity	Katie Thorpe 416-752-7034 (h) 416-502-3601 (f) Gary Westfall 905-791-4239 (h)
CBF	Jan Anderson
Coordinator	2719 East Jolly Place Regina SK S4V 0X8
Exec. Sec.	306-761-1677 (p) 306-789-4919 (f)
Treasurer	e-mail: can.bridge.fed@sk.sympatico.ca
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)



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See Back Cover

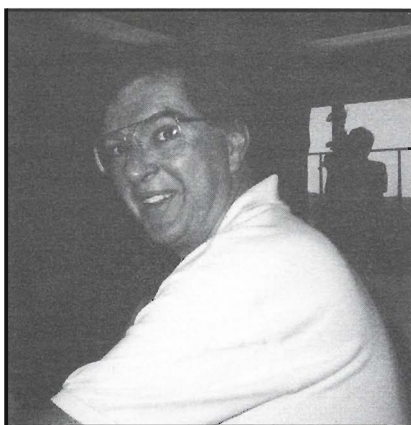
RICHMOND TROPHY '96

Martin Caley of Montreal PQ has won the 1996 Richmond Trophy Race with a total of 772 mps, 27 fewer than his 1995 (799) 4th place finish, and 19 fewer than his winning total (791) in 1994. After winning the 1994 Richmond Trophy, Martin Caley had asserted that the race was "not something that I tried to win -- nor will I try to win it again." Clearly Martin's true achievement has been consistently strong play year after year.

Martin Caley learned bridge at Carleton University in Ottawa, where he studied arts and history, and now lives in Montreal which he loves. Caley, who became a professional bridge player in 1985, credits "my excellent partners and teammates Anne Simon, Jackie Boisseau, Barry Raff and Anne Hoffman." He noted that one of his favorite tournament experiences of the year was a monster 79.85% game that he and longtime partner Anne Simon had at the Chattanooga Regional.

Mark Molson of Cote St Luc PQ is making a steady climb with a 9th in 94, 6th in 95 and 2nd in 96. Molson was a member of Canada's International Open Team, silver medalists in the 1995 Marlboro World Championships Bermuda Bowl. Including 1995 and 1996, Molson has been a member of a winning CNTC Team 7 times. He has won the Richmond Trophy Race 5 times since its inception in 1974 and has won the COPC once.

Hans Jacobs of Aurora ON has been in evidence on the Richmond lists for at least a few years, placing 4th in 93, 6th in 94, and 9th in 95.



1. Martin Caley 772

2. J. Markland Molson, Cote St Luc PQ 750
3. Hans Jacobs, Aurora ON 633
4. Cameron Doner, Richmond BC 579
5. Ken Gee, Regina SK 560
6. Heather Peckett, Nepean ON 554
7. Colin Revill, Burlington ON 550
8. Mike Petras, Nepean ON 500
9. Boris Baran, St Lazare PQ 496
10. Fran Chivers, Kitchener ON 483
11. Debbie Bennett, Scarborough ON 460
12. David Baker, Kitchener ON 458
13. Douglas Heron, Ottawa ON 441
14. Jerry Richardson, London ON 441
15. Anna Boivin, Chomedey Laval PQ 418
16. Claude Laberge, Longueuil PQ 412
17. Andy Stark, Mississauga ON 412
18. William Anderson, London ON 410
19. Dann Kramer, Calgary AB 399
20. Alice Storey, London ON 388
21. Aidan Ballantyne, Vancouver BC 385
22. Fred Gitelman, Toronto ON 383
23. Linda Olbort, Saskatoon SK 382
24. Dudley Camacho, Toronto On 369
25. David Halasi, Toronto ON 365
26. Mark Stein, Montreal PQ 362
27. Mark Liberman, Don Mills ON 360
28. Doug Deschner, Red Deer AB 358
29. Waldemar Frukacz, Ottawa ON 358
30. John Laufer, Montreal PQ 354
31. Jeff Smith, Ottawa ON 350
32. Patrice Roy, Sherbooke PQ 349
33. Jerry Aceti, Sudbury ON 347
34. Darren Walpert, Thornhill ON 344
35. Helene Beaulieu, Sherbooke PQ 336

RICHMOND TROPHY WINNERS

1974 John Carruthers	1986 Cliff Campbell
1975 Mike Schoenborn	1987 Gary Tomczyk
1976 Bruce Ferguson	1988 Robert Crawford
1977 Bruce Ferguson	1989 Gary Tomczyk
1978 Bruce Ferguson	1990 Robert Crawford
1979 Mark Molson	1991 Cam Doner
1980 Mark Molson	1992 Cliff Campbell
1981 G. Mittelman	1993 Cliff Campbell
1982 Mark Molson	1994 Martin Caley
1983 Mark Molson	1995 Ken Warren
1984 Mark Molson	1996 Martin Caley
1985 Cliff Campbell	1997 <your name here?>

Visit the CBF web site for 1996 Top 100 and All Time Top 100 Canadian mp holders.

1996 FALL ROOKIE-MASTER WINNERS

ALJE KAMMINGA
KIRBY GLOIN,
OTTAWA BRIDGE CENTRE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1996 -

28 clubs took part in our second Fall Rookie-Master Game. The Vancouver Bridge Centre had the highest turn out with 74 pairs (37 tables) playing off at their game. The Ottawa Bridge Centre came in with 66 pairs (and 4 of the top 10 placings). Saskatoon DBC with 59 pairs, Kate Buckman Bridge Studio with 56 pairs, Edmonton Bridge Centre with 48 pairs, Friendly Loyalist DBC with 42 pairs and Regina DBC with 38 pairs complete the list of top clubs.

"We got a lot of gifts early," says winner Alje Kamminga (pictured above right). "By the time we started giving some back it was simply too late to wreck our game." Alje, 50, first played duplicate in 1993, becoming a Life Master in May, 1996. Now a Bronze LM, he's won four regional events and in March, 1996, finished third in the North American Non-Life Master Pairs in Philadelphia. He was also a member of the team representing District 1 in the NA Non-Life Master Team event in San Diego in 1995.

Kirby Gloin (pictures above left), 41, has been a kitchen bridge player for about five years. The rookie-master game was the third time he's tried duplicate.

**NATIONAL WINNERS (764 PAIRS)**

1. Alje Kamminga & Kirby Gloin
Ottawa Bridge Centre 69.44%
2. John Gillespie & Robert St. Laurent
Ottawa Bridge Centre 69.27%
3. A. Henderson & M. Easton
Carlyle DBC 68.75%
4. Jiong Sun & Henry Yang
Ottawa Bridge Centre 68.62%
5. Jym Galand & Maureen Lineen
Victoria Br. Centre 67.86%
- 6/7. Diane Betts & Brian Power
Kate Buckman Br. Studio 66.37%
- 6/7. Joan Goldenberg & Helen Brockman
Kate Buckman Br. Studio 66.37%
8. Helen Boyle & Bert Boudreau
Bathurst DBC 65.77%
9. Maureen Morin & Stu Macdermaid
Ottawa Bridge Centre 65.63%
10. Kathleen Murphy & Joyce Gallant
Charlottetown DBC 65.00%

**WINNERS OF THE FALL
ROOKIE MASTER PAIRS**

1995	Zone II
Rashid Khwaja & Om Gupta	80.86%
1996	Zone III
Alje Kamminga & Kirby Gloin	69.44%

**HAVE YOUR LOCAL INTERNET GURU VISIT
THE CBF WEB SITE AND PRINT OUT THE
ZONE AND CLUB-BY-CLUB RESULTS!**



CANADIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS • CANADIAN OPEN TEAMS

Hosted by Zone
VI and the
Vancouver Unit

LOCAL CONTACT
JUNE POCOCK
604 939-0711

June_Pocock
@mindlink.bc.ca

CANADIAN OPEN TEAMS

June 9-14, 1997

Round Robin Monday, June 9 -
(20 teams) Wednesday, June 11
Complete round robin with 9 board matches

Quarter Finals Thursday, June 12 1997
(8 teams) *64-board knockout match*

Semi-Finals Friday, June 13 1997
64-board knockout match

Finals Saturday, June 14 1997
72-board knockout match

Winners of the CNTC represent Canada in the 1998 World Open Team Championships.

Players may 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.

SURREY INN

9850 King George Hwy, SURREY, BC
(Next to Sky Train Station)

Local: 604 588-9511

Toll Free: 1-800-663-0660

The Surrey Inn is holding a block of 54 rooms until the beginning of May. The cost is \$70/night, single or double, plus taxes. Participants should register directly with the hotel and mention they are with the Canadian Bridge Federation to get the special rate.

CANADIAN OPEN PAIRS

June 12-14, 1997

Qualifying Day 1	2 sessions
Qualifying Day 2	2 sessions
FINAL	2 sessions

First place pair receives \$2000
Second place pair receives \$1000

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: i) qualify as an individual from the Unit Final; or ii) be a member of a team qualifying for the CNTC National Final.

NOTE: Units should inform the National Coordinator, Jan Anderson, of the number of pairs who will attend the National Final no later than April 20, 1997.

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 be allowed to play in the National Final only after payment of a \$200 fee that includes CBF membership for one year.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Several Canadians renewing or buying ACBL membership are not paying the requested CBF fee. We think that in many cases this is just an accidental oversight caused by the complicated ACBL renewal form. We need your help when you pay your ACBL/CBF membership dues.

The ACBL does NOT credit the CBF unless they are paid in full first. If you intended to pay both fees but did not send in enough money, the ACBL takes all of their money before the CBF gets anything. You may not end up being a paid up CBF member.

If you pay your ACBL dues in American Funds and thus only pay what the form says for U.S. dollars, the CBF will get nothing and you will not be a paid up CBF members.

CBF dues are not high. They are only \$6.50 Canadian a year. That translates to just 54¢ a month. For this small fee you get three Canadian Bridge Canadian publications a year, and the right to play in Unit Finals or higher levels of the CNTC, COPC or CWTC. The CBF also promotes bridge in Canada by bringing you two Rookie-Master games a year and supporting Junior Bridge. Another CBF function is allocating contributions from the Charitable Fund.

When you get your ACBL renewal bill, please read the payment instructions very carefully. At right you will find an explanation of those instructions.

*My sincerest thanks,
Gary Mitchell*

CBF President

WHAT TOTAL DO I PAY??

To make sure you are a member of both the ACBL and CBF you must pay the TOTAL which comes after the CBF fee is added on. If you also wish to donate to the Educational Foundation, then pay the bottom line, Optional Total. The TOTAL, including CBF fee is:



• Non-Life Master Renewal

\$44.90 a year (\$87.00 for 2 years,
\$126.40 for 3 years) Canadian.

• Life Master Renewal

\$40.75 a year (\$78.80 for 2 years,
\$115.40 for 3 years) Canadian.

• First time members

\$22.45 Canadian. First time members get a half price ACBL and CBF membership.

• Student membership

\$16.95 Canadian. Students attending school may buy a student membership. Both the CBF and ACBL give a reduced price to students.

In order to avoid any confusion it is best to pay your membership in Canadian dollars.

The CBF is really getting short changed on membership fees, so I beg you all to please be extremely careful when paying your ACBL/CBF dues.

ERIC SUTHERLAND

New Zone III Director

There was a lot of activity in Zone III during the process of electing a new director. Eric triumphed in the end, after a run-off election. Eric, a member of Canada's Junior Team, is the driving force behind the Canadian Youth Bridge Organization and many other great Canadian bridge programs and projects.

• **Represent your Zone on the CBF Board of Directors.** The Board is responsible for: the running of the COPC, CNTC, CWTC, and Rookie-Master games; selection and administration of Canadian representation in World Championships; publication of Canadian Bridge Canadien; production of the CBF Web Site; and sponsorship of the Canadian Youth Bridge Organization.

• **Ensure that your Zone's view is heard** and help the CBF Board come up with ideas and policies that will not only recognize Zone differences but also work for Canada as a whole.

• **Ensure that members your Zone are informed** of decisions made by the CBF and the reasons for them.

• **Oversee the running of the CNTC and CWTC** by selecting another person to act as your Zone Coordinator for these events. Also, promote and encourage participation in all CBF events in your Zone.

• **Act as a contact and liaison** with host Unit if a Unit in your Zone is hosting a National Championship or CBF Annual General Meeting.

• **Sit as a trustee on the CBF Charitable Foundation** which is responsible for distribution Charity dollars to Canadian Charities each year. In conjunction with this, each Zone Director allocates Discretionary Charity Funds to charities within their home Zone each year.

• **Attend all meetings of the CBF Board of Directors.** The CBF Board usually meets once a year for a period of three days. Lately this has been in Ottawa, in May, the weekend prior to the Ottawa Regional. The CBF pays airfare, hotel and most meals for each Director attending the meeting. The CBF Charity Foundation also meets at this time. Sometimes the CBF will also hold a conference call during the year if there are matters needing attention before the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

• **Correspond.** Much CBF work is done by correspondence between Directors and with the CBF Coordinator. All reasonable costs associated with this are reimbursed by the CBF.

• **Serve on committees.** Most CBF directors are assigned committees to sit on that may have reports to prepare for the next meeting.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The term of office for the CBF Director for each of Zone I and IV expires on December 31, 1997.

Anyone interested in running for one of these positions should submit their name to CBF Coordinator, Janice Anderson (see back cover).

Deadline for nominations is September 15, 1997

CBF ZONES AND CORRESPONDING ACBL UNITS

ZONE I	(D1)	ZONE III	(D2)	ZONE V	(D18)	ZONE VI	(D19)
U 194	Can. Maritime	U 166	Ontario	U 245	N. Manitoba	U 429	Parksville
U 230	Acadian	U 246	Trent Valley	U 248	Red Deer	U 430	Vancouver
		U 249	SW. Ontario	U 390	Calgary	U 431	Victoria
				U 391	N. Alberta	U 456	Quesnel
ZONE II	(D1)	ZONE IV	(D2)	U 392	Lethbridge	U 571	Okanagan
U 151	Montreal	U 181	Winnipeg	U 393	Medicine Hat	U 574	Kootenay
U 152	Quebec	U 212	Sault International	U 573	S Sask		
U 192	E. Ontario	U 228	NW. Ontario	U 575	N. Sask		
U 199	Saguenay	U 238	Quonta				

THE YEARS GONE BY

BY ERIC SUTHERLAND

In August 1997, Junior teams from around the world will meet in Hamilton, Ontario, to participate in the 6th World Junior Team Championship (WJC), this year hosted by the Canadian Bridge Federation. Following is an excerpt from an article that will appear in the Tournament Booklet.

It all began in Amsterdam in 1987. Only 5 teams took part in the inaugural event, but they represented four continents. Europe dominated this championship, with its two representative teams (Netherlands and France) meeting in the final. In an incredibly close match, the Netherlands prevailed by 8 IMPs, after trailing by 8 IMPs going into the last stanza. The battle for the bronze was well fought between USA, Indonesia and Argentina, USA coming out on top.

The WJC was once again held in Europe in 1989, when Nottingham, Great Britain, played the host. This time, every WBF zone was represented by one team and Great Britain, as host, rounded out the field to 8. Again, the Europeans dominated the championship, but due to WBF rules, France and Great Britain had to meet in the semi-finals. The other playoff featured Argentina and Australia. Argentina was ahead all the way in their match, although a last-minute surge by the Aussies brought them within 12 IMPs at the wire. The other semi was close throughout, but Great Britain pulled away in the final quarter. The final was exciting for the first 48 boards with Argentina playing close to Great Britain the whole way, but the second half was too much for the South American representatives, and Great Britain went on to claim Europe's second straight gold medal in this event. The playoff for the bronze was tightly contested between France and Australia, but France won the match by overcoming a 10 IMP deficit

going into the last quarter. At one point in the match for the bronze, France led by as many as 53 IMPs, but the difference was down to 11 IMPs when Peter Newman temporarily put the Australians on top by 6 IMPs with this hand:

♠ AKQJT ♥ A98532 ♦ --- ♣ T6

He opened an Acol 2♥, heard a 3♣ overcall at all vulnerable, and a double from his partner. He showed a good amount of discipline when he passed, and collected +1700 and 17 IMPs when no game was makeable. His partner held:

♠ 65 ♥ T ♦ KJ763 ♣ K9542

In 1991, the WJC moved across the Atlantic to Ann Arbor, Michigan, only 4 hours from the 1997 location. The largest field to date took part, with 12 teams from 11 countries at the event. Many upsets occurred and the European teams were shut out of the medals. Another close final capped off the week, with USA II taking the honours over Canada. Canada was leading by 10 IMPs with 13 boards to go but the US surged and could not be caught.

Two years later, 1993, the scene shifted back to Europe for the 4th WJC. Aarhus, Denmark played the host in the middle of the summer. The Ildraetshojsskolen (sport school) was a good playing location, as juniors stayed up until the middle of the night talking, dancing, and playing cards. The weather was unforgiving during the event, but the sun did break through for a day trip to Legoland for some and a grand musical festival for others. The event itself saw the European teams return to form, with Germany and Norway playing off in the final. The match was close throughout but Germany pulled away in the stretch. Remarkably, the

semi-final match between Germany and Denmark was the closest match ever, decided by 0.5 IMPs. It must have been demoralizing for the home team as they then lost to the US in the battle for the bronze.

The WJC moved to the southern hemisphere for the first time in 1995, to the tropical paradise of Kuta Beach, Bali, Indonesia. It was thought by many to have been the best-organized world championship ever. Great Britain was a powerhouse squad that ripped through the field in the round robin, and continued untouched in the semi-finals and final. Their domination was complete. New Zealand took the silver, and Denmark the bronze. Also of note from this championship was the Swiss Pairs -- played alongside the playoffs. The event, open only to junior pairs but with no country restrictions, drew 86 pairs including 70 from the host country!

In a first round match between Canada and Italy, Canada did very well:

	♠ JT9	
	♥ J9	
	♦ 852	
	♣ AQT95	
♠ 86		♠ K
♥ AK82		♥ QT65
♦ JT64		♦ AKQ973
♣ J76		♣ 83
	♠ AQ75432	
	♥ 743	
	♦ ---	
	♣ K42	

On Vugraph:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Levy	Versace	Blond	Albamonte
	Pass	1♦	3♠
Dbl	4♠	5♥	All pass

Closed Room:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Intonti	Roberts	Primavera	Sutherland
	Pass	1♦	2♣
Dbl	3♠	4♥	4♠
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♠
Pass	Pass	6♦	All Pass

In the closed room, we managed to reach the making contract of 5♠, due to Mike's great bid of 3♣. Primavera did very well to pull to 6♦ which was set 2 tricks. On Vugraph, Albamonte (Italy) on lead against 5♥, felt that the best chance to get his diamond ruff was to underlead his ♠A!! This worked out disastrously, as not only did he not get his ruff, but he also didn't beat the contract!

Looking back over the years, it is clear the WJC has a great heritage. The Dutch team from 1987 included three members of the team that later won the Bermuda Bowl in Santiago in 1993 (Enri Leufkens, Berri Westra and Wubbo de Boer) Franck Multon of France, a losing semi-finalist in the '89 WJC, regained honour by winning the 1996 Olympiad in Rhodes. Andrew Robson of Great Britain was on the winning junior team in 1989. He went on to win several invitational pair championships around the world. Franky Karwur of Indonesia, who also played in Nottingham, recently won the silver medal in Rhodes.

1991 had several juniors that have since come to the forefront of world bridge today. Geoff Hampson (Canada) and Jeff Ferro (US) both represented their countries the following year at the world level, Geoff winning a silver at the Pan American Games in 1992. Fred Gitelman of Canada, perhaps the best-known bridge programmer in the world, won the silver medal at the Bermuda Bowl in Beijing in 1995. Geir Helgemo of Norway was also there. IPBAs Bridge Personality of the Year for 1996, he really needs no introduction, as he has swept into the upper echelons of bridge winning several major events.

The next editions of the event featured three more champions. Roland Rohowsky of Germany had already won a world championship before he sat down at the table -- the 1990 Rosenblum teams in Geneva. Alfredo Versace of Italy was present at both the 1993

and 1995 WJC. While he did not win a medal either time, he has since done very well, most recently dominating the field to win the prestigious 1997 Macallan Pairs in London. Wen Feng Wang of China was in both Denmark and Bali, and recently won the Silver in the Women's Olympiad in Rhodes. And while they have not yet had their breakthrough into the big-time, Jason and Justin Hackett of Great Britain are considered by many to be the forefront of the next generation of bridge players.

There is a lot of history associated with this event. It is in the WJC that we see tomorrow's stars. Some have already risen to the upper echelons. For others, their time is soon.

CANADA'S YOUTH & JUNIORS PLACE IN ACBL 1996 TOP 25

Youth (19 and younger)

3.	David Halasi, Toronto ON	365
11.	Ian Boyd, Calgary AB	158
13.	Tara Gokavi, Saskatoon SK	138
15.	Gavin Wolpert, Thornhill ON	117
16.	Josh Heller, Toronto ON	115
19.	Erin Anderson, Regina SK	101
20.	Erin Berry, Regina SK	94
23.	Isabelle Brisbois, Candiac PQ	66
24.	Charles Halasi, North York ON	63

Junior (25 and younger)

9.	David Halasi, Toronto ON	365
11.	Jeff Smith, Ottawa ON	350
12.	Darren Wolpert, Thornhill ON	344
18.	Jeffrey Blond, Cote St. Luc PQ	252

**Visit the CBF Web Site for all
the Canadian Bridge News -
Junior Bridge, Event results,
National Final Information and
more!**

www.cbf.ca/CBFHome.html

CANADIAN UNITS CHIP IN TO SUPPORT THE JR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The CBF would like to extend a big "Thank You" to the following Units who have come through with financial donations towards the hosting of the 1997 World Junior Team Championship in Hamilton, Ont.

Ontario Unit 166 (3128 members)
donated \$5000
pledged \$5000

E Ontario Unit 192 (1322 members)
donated \$1000

St-Laurent Sag-Lac Unit 199 (308 members)
donated \$100

NW Ontario Unit 228 (161 members)
donated \$100

N Alberta Unit 391 (489 members)
donated \$545

Vancouver Unit 430 (1,111 members)
donated \$500

S Saskatchewan Unit 573 (425 members)
donated \$1000

Kootenays Unit 574 (389 members)
donated \$100

N Saskatchewan Unit 575 (389 members)
donated \$500

It isn't too late! If you do not see your Unit's name on this list, you can still encourage them to send in a donation or hold a special event to raise funds for the event. Please send donations to 1997 World Junior Team Championship c/o CBF (address on back cover).

AUGUST 6-10, 1997

**WINNIPEG,
MANITOBA
SHERATON
WINNIPEG**

**161 Donald St,
Winnipeg, MB
Phone: 1-800-463-6400
204-942-5300
Fax: 204-943-7975**

**Rates: \$69 (+ taxes)
single or double
\$79 (+ taxes) 3 people
\$89 (+ taxes) 4 people**

**When making reservations, make
sure you mention that you are
coming for the bridge tournament.**

CANADIAN WOMEN'S TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

FORMAT

Complete ROUND ROBIN over six sessions
Wednesday - Friday, August 6-8

SEMI FINAL

Top 4 teams qualify for the Semi-finals
64 Board Knockout • Saturday, August 9

FINAL

72 Board Knockout • Sunday August 10

NOTE: CBF Coordinator, Janice Anderson, must
be informed of all Zone representatives by May
10, 1997.



**HEY CLUBS, UNITS, BRIDGE PEOPLE - YOU TOO CAN
GET ON THE WEB**

\$10.00 / month WEB SPACE "RENTAL"
on the Canadian Bridge Federation site
<http://www.cbf.ca/><YOUR NAME HERE>

Advertise your club schedules or your tournament dates and other information. Reach an audience of thousands, including the international bridge community. New club, unit or district pages come on line each week. Now you can join them. Call CBF Webmaster Jude Hanson for more information (see back cover).

NEED WEB SITE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION?

Basic Club, Unit or District Site design and set-up	\$380.00
<i>Includes Home Page with graphics and up to 5 other pages</i>	
Periodic updates for one year	\$ 50.00

Services provided by Goodwin-Hanson Graphics, designers of Great Bridge Links
Jude Goodwin-Hanson - see back cover for address and phone numbers.

In the 1996 World Bridge Teams Olympiad in Rhodes, Greece, Canada was represented by an Open team and a Women's Team.

international bridge



While Canada's Open Team fared quite miserably at the 1996 World Bridge Teams Olympiad in Rhodes, Greece (Oct 20-Nov 2), our Women's Team capped a gritty performance by convincingly defeating defending champion Austria in a 48-board playoff to win the bronze medal.

The Olympiad is the most gruelling of the World Bridge Federation's Championships and team character becomes particularly important over the long haul. Skill and preparation have their place too, of course, but it's the ability to roll with the punches and generate positive feelings within the team that so often makes the difference. The Women's Team showed plenty of that while, I am sad to report, the Open Team did not.

For the round robin, the women's field was divided into two groups, "Group A" and "Group B", with the top four finishers in each group making the playoffs. The Canadian women (George Holland npc: Dianna Gordon-Sharyn Reus, Francine Cimon-Barbara Saltsman, Rhoda Habert-Beverly Kraft) were placed in Group B. They started well by defeating two strong contenders (Poland 21-9) and France (20-10) on the first day. Day Two featured a good 17-13 win over an experienced Australian team, and 21-9 and 23-7 over Thailand and Malaysia, two of the lesser lights. Those five wins left them third in their group, 11 VP behind USA, and 6 VP behind Israel.

Day Three was of a different ilk. Canada bowed 11-19 to Finland in the morning, edged Belgium 16-14 in the afternoon, and then ran into a buzz-saw in the evening, losing 14-106 (0-25 VP) to Austria, who had surprisingly fielded their third pair for this important encounter. The Canadians didn't play particularly well at either table, but the Austrians had been at least 75 IMPs luckier than their opponents over the 20 deals. The lopsided loss dropped Canada to 9th place (out of 21), 36 VP behind first, 20 VP behind 4th.

It would have been easy to let down after the Austrian debacle, but the team handled the situation very well, realizing that it would have been impossible to overcome the luck and win the match. The next day, Canada embarked on a run that would carry the team back into the thick of the competition, and then some. First, they defeated Jamaica 24-6. Then they followed up with a good 21-9 win over a capable Japanese team. Those two wins brought them back to fifth, just 5 VP out of fourth. The next day Canada crushed a sound Chinese Taipei team 25-5, dispatched Croatia 21-9, and overcame tough Argentina 17-13. Canada had climbed to fourth, 20 VP

**CANADIAN
WOMEN PUT
ADVERSITY
BEHIND THEM
TO WIN THE
BRONZE**

by Eric Kokish

behind first-place Israel, with USA second, and Austria third. As it would go, these four teams would stay in the top for the rest of the way.

The next morning, Canada played very well at both tables to record an impressive 24-6 win against the USA (see page 14). The rest of the day went well too with a 20-10 win over Turkey and a 25-4 blitz of Jordan. Since the loss to Austria, Canada had run off eight wins in succession (178 VP out of 200) to climb to third place, just 4 VP behind Austria, 26 VP ahead of 5th.

The Canada blitzed Colombia 25-4 and edged plucky India 16-14, moving up to second place behind the USA with one day remaining in the round robin. With a 33-VP edge over 5th, Canada seemed certain to qualify for the quarterfinals.

In the ante-penultimate round, Canada garnered 18 VP from their bye, then drew 15-15 with fancied Italy, and finished on a high note by defeating Israel 20-10. Although Canada had lost only two of their 20 matches and had averaged 20 VP per match (maximum 25), they finished third in Group B with 399 VP, 8 behind the USA and Austria, who both finished with 407. Israel finished fourth with 384. Poland was fifth, with 365, followed by France (353), Italy (349), India (322), Finland (315) and Australia (314).

In the other women's group ("Group A"), China finished first with 414 VPs, with Germany (406) a strong second, the Netherlands (379) third, and Great Britain, after a remarkable stretch run, fourth with 374.

China, the overall leader, earned the right to select their quarterfinal opponents from the three non-winners in the other group, and they chose Israel, whom they defeated 151-86, riding a 42 IMP first-quarter lead into the semi-finals. The USA chose the Netherlands and scored heavily in the first and third quarters to

win 151-101. Austria took a 35 IMP lead against Great Britain in the first quarter and held on to win 134-108.

That left Canada to face Germany who had won the Venice Cup in Beijing last fall. Germany won the first set 37-33, but Canada won the second set convincingly, 53-19 and tacked on another 4 IMPs in the third. Germany clawed back 9 IMPs in the fourth set, but Canada won in style, 140-112.5 to reach the 96-board semi-finals, where the team would face China.

The other semi-final featured a titanic struggle between Austria and the USA with the lead changing hands many times. The USA turned it on down the stretch, however, and won going away, 264-223.

Canada vs China was a terrible experience for the Canadians who fell 25 IMPs behind in an unlucky first set. A further 26 IMPs were turned over in the less unlucky second stanza, but there was still reason to believe that the team could turn the tide. The third set, however, was a 6-89 disaster that effectively ended Canadian hopes. The team played on for two more sessions, but resigned with sixteen boards to play, 200 IMPs behind.

Once again, it would have been easy to throw in the towel and search for a quiet place to lick some gaping wounds, but the team rallied once more to face Austria for the bronze over 48 deals. Canada won the first two segments 40-16 and 46-1 to put away the match and coasted home in comfort, 133-67. Meanwhile, the Canadian Women have every reason to be proud of their achievement, and Canada can stand tall for another year.

In the final, the USA (Eddie Wold, npc: Juanita Chambers, Gail Greenberg, Jill Blanchard, Irina Levitina, Shawn Quinn, Lynn Deas) defeated China 268-198 after falling 30 imps behind.

CANADA VS USA

Round Robin, Women's Series

Daily Bulletin, Rhodes, Greece

The big North American match-up between Canada and USA began quietly with four flat boards. USA picked up a couple of IMPs on Board 25, then came the first significant swing.

Board 26

Vul: Both ♠ A1085
 Dealer: E ♥ A3
 ♦ Q98
 ♣ Q1042

♠ 7
 ♥ Q109
 ♦ AKJ95
 ♣ AK95

♠ KQ6432
 ♥ K542
 ♦ 6
 ♣ 73

♠ J9
 ♥ J876
 ♦ 10432
 ♣ J86

Juanita Chambers opened a weak 2♠ as dealer, East, and Shawn Quinn West, enquired with 2NT. Chambers showed a maximum with good spades and Quinn bid 4♠. Though the defense solved the heart problem for her, there were three trumps and a heart to lose - minus 100.

Barbara Saltzman did not open the East hand, not liking the side four card major. Francine Cimon opened 1♦ and Saltzman responded 1♠ then rebid 2♠ over the 2♣ rebid. Cimon passed that and 2♠ made a comfortable +140; 6 IMPs to Canada.

The next Chambers weak two proved to be more successful (see Board 30 at right). 2♠ was passed out, neither opponent feeling quite able to make a bid, and that was three down; -150.

Saltzman also opened 2♠ but, after two passes, Lynn Deas, North bid 2NT and Gail

Greenberg raised her to game. Deas risked only the one finesse she needed for her contract, but +400

was worth 6 IMPs to USA who led by 7 IMPs at the halfway point. But from here on in things went sour for the Americans.

Board 30

Vul: None ♠ A98
 Dealer: E ♥ A4
 ♦ AQ93
 ♣ 7532

♠ J
 ♥ K1076
 ♦ KJ1086
 ♣ 1086

♠ KQ10762
 ♥ 985
 ♦ 742
 ♣ Q

♠ 543
 ♥ QJ32
 ♦ 5
 ♣ AKJ94

On Board 32 Sharyn Reus opened 2NT and Dianna Gordon used Stayman then jumped to 4NT, quantitative. Reus pass that. Deas also opened 2NT but Greenberg raised straight to 4NT. Deas bid 5NT over that, Greenberg 6♦ and Deas 6NT.

Board 32

Vul: EW ♠ AKJ3
 Dealer: W ♥ A85
 ♦ K6
 ♣ AJ53

♠ 1042
 ♥ Q109
 ♦ J73
 ♣ KQ102

♠ 985
 ♥ 6432
 ♦ 10954
 ♣ 74

♠ Q76
 ♥ KJ7
 ♦ AQ82
 ♣ 986

It's tough to find reasons for going on over 4NT, but the cards lie in such a way that declarer gets a chance to justify her bidding.

In 4NT, Reus won the diamond lead on table and led the ♠9 to the king and ace. She unblocked the ♦K, crossed to the ♠Q and led the ♠8 to Quinn's queen. Back came a spade which she won. She cashed the remaining spades and played ace and a heart to the king. The ♦A now squeezed Quinn, saving any guess; +490.

In the other room it started spade to the queen, club to king and ace, diamond to the queen, club to the queen. Deas didn't try for the squeeze, going for either the club break or the heart finesse. That led to two down; -100 and 11 IMPs to Canada.

On Board 34, at favorable vulnerability, you hear 1♦ from partner, 2♥ weak on your right. You double with:

♠AJ75 ♥8 ♦109872 ♣A32

and it goes 3♥ - Pass - Pass - back to you. Your call?

Quinn bid 4♦ while Cimon tried 5♦, both ending the auction. Game isn't anything to get excited about, but it has some chances and duly comes home - 6 IMPs to Canada.

Board 36

Vul: Both ♠6532

Dealer: W ♥AJ4

♦9532

♣84

♠K1074

♥KQ8532

♦-

♣A76

♠-

♥10976

♦KJ87

♣Q9532

♠AQJ98

♥-

♦AQ1064

♣KJ10

Board 36, both tables started 1♥ - Pass - 4♥ - 4♠. Cimon now passed the West hand and 4♠ drifted a couple off for -200. Quinn bid on to 5♥ and Reus promptly doubled, knowing that 4♠ was bid under pressure and having no reason to imagine that 5♠ might make. Quinn's choice looks wrong with such good defense and it proved to be very costly; three down for -800 and 14 IMPs to Canada

Canada led by 18 IMPs with two boards to go, a useful winning margin, but those last two boards turned it into a very good win indeed.

Board 39

Vul: Both ♠J1095

Dealer: S ♥AK

♦9

♣AKQ863

♠7

♥J9654

♦105

♣J10542

♠AQ842

♥Q102

♦A843

♣9

♠K63

♥873

♦KQJ762

♣7

Greenberg opened a natural weak 2♦ and Deas punted 2NT. Saltsman led a spade which ran to the 10, and Deas played a diamond to dummy then tried to split the clubs. The 5-1 break meant that this was impossible and the earlier diamond play meant that it was no longer possible to fall back on that suit. The defense eventually switched to hearts and Deas was a trick short; -100.

Gordon also played 3NT, but Chambers had got in a 1♠ overcall and Reus had invented a heart suit so Quinn led her spade singleton. Gordon won dummy's 9 and tried the clubs first. That made a crucial difference because when she saw the bad break she could switch her attention to diamonds and still had a spade entry in her hand to get at the

Board 40

Vul: Both

Dealer: W

♠ Q92

♥ Q7

♦ AK108765

♣ 9

♠ AK43

♥ A85

♦ Q93

♣ A84

♠ J10765

♥ K3

♦ -

♣ K76532

♠ 8

♥ J109642

♦ J42

♣ QJ10

established tricks; +600 and 12 IMPs to Canada.

Both Wests opened 1NT on Board 40 and the Norths jumped to 3♦. East has a tough bid and Saltsman solved it by making a takeout double, then raised the 3♣ response to 4♠. That was +450 to Canada.

Chambers simply bid a natural and forcing 3♣ and Gordon competed with 4♦. Now Quinn thought she had too many controls to merely bid 4♠ so tried 4♥, convinced that she could not have a natural 4♥ bid in this auction. Whatever the rights and wrongs of that, Chambers passed 4♥. That was four down for -200 and another 12 IMPs to Canada.

The final score was 63-21 to Canada; 24-6 VPs - a big step towards qualification for the Canadians. *See page 12 for more story.*

CBF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGM of the CBF Membership will be held on Saturday, July 19, 1997 starting at 11:00am at the White Hat Regional in Calgary, Alberta.

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The Macallan is about history. The tournament was first held as The Sunday Times Invitational Pairs in London, England in 1963. It was a sad day for bridge when then Sunday Times discontinued its sponsorship at the 1981 edition of the tournament. Thanks to the efforts of Macallan, Helen Schapiro, and Paul Mendelson this event was reborn in 1990 as The Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship. Since that time, The Macallan has become firmly established as one of the toughest and most prestigious events on the international bridge calendar.

The tournament still maintains its association with The Sunday Times and The Times but The Macallan has become the main sponsor. Let me assure you that the players appreciate Macallan's interest in bridge. Not only did their sponsorship make the tournament possible in the first place, their generous supply of the finest malt whiskey was an excellent remedy for what I call "bridge on the brain" - the inability of bridge players to sleep at night after a day of challenging (and often too challenging) bridge deals.

As a player in the 1996 Macallan I was pleased to find that this year's event would be held in the same venue - London's White House Hotel. The White House is an ideal setting for this type of event and the staff are always eager to make the players feel at home. My partner George Mittelman and I had done very well in the 1996 edition., finishing 4th out of 16 pairs. My goal for 1997 was to improve our standing - an ambitious goal since, once again, the field was very strong.

The organizers of the 1997 Macallan took a bold initiative this year in that only natural systems were allowed. There were to be no strong club systems, multi-type opening 2 bids, artificial jump shifts by responder to the 2 level, and no complex carding agreements.

THE 1997 MACALLAN

International Bridge
Pairs Championship

by Fred Gitelman



The idea was to make the bridge more understandable to a mass audience. As George and I play a natural system we were not really affected by this development. For some of the pairs (including American's Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell, winners of the 1995 and 1996 Macallan) the systems restriction had a greater impact. Meckstroth and Rodwell normally play a complex strong club method of their own devising. it remains to be seen how much the systems restrictions will increase the popularity of this tournament. Most of the players and spectators seemed quite positive about the new format. I think the tournament organizers and The Macallan should be applauded for having the courage to take this controversial initiative. They have recognized the importance of promoting our game to the public and they believe that natural systems are a necessary first step. Since we will all benefit if the general public embraces bridge, let's hope the organizers are on to something!

What follows are some of the more interesting deals that I was involved with in the 1997 Macallan.

Fred Gitelman was a member of the Canadian team that won a silver medal in the Bermuda Bowl in 1996 and a silver medal at the 1991 World Junior Championship. Fred is co-owner of Bridge Base Inc., a computer software development company that specializes in educational bridge products. Their most popular product, Bridge Master, is widely thought to be the best medium ever created for improving one's declarer play skills.

**Bridge Base Inc. (416) 322-8316
15 Lillian Street, Toronto ON M4S 2H7**

Vul: None ♠ 98
 Dealer: E ♥ AK2
 ♦ 105
 ♣ A107542

♠ 72 ♠ J1065
 ♥ J98543 ♥ Q10
 ♦ K6 ♦ J8732
 ♣ QJ9 ♣ 83

 ♠ AKQ43
 ♥ 76
 ♦ AQ94
 ♣ K6

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Mittelman	Meckstroth	Gitelman	Rodwell
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
DBL	Pass	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: ♦2

In this deal Meckstroth and Rodwell have an excellent (mostly) natural auction to a reasonable slam. 1♠ showed 5 or more spades. 2♣ was forcing to game. Rodwell used good judgment in supporting clubs at this third turn. When Meckstroth went above 3NT, Rodwell confirmed slam interest by cue bidding 4♦. George made a vital (but dangerous) decision to double for a diamond lead. When Meckstroth pass the double around to his partner, Rodwell's 4♥ asked for keycards. Meckstroth's 5♣ showed 2 keycards without the trump queen and Rodwell placed the contract in 6♣.

I led the ♦2 (3rd and 5th) to dummy's ace. Meckstroth made the reasonable play of starting hearts immediately. When I was able to uppercut with the ♠8 on the third round of hearts, Meckstroth knew he was in trouble. He overruffed with the ♣K and tried spades from

the top. When George ruffed the third spade with the ♣Q, Meckstroth pitched his diamond loser and ended up one down.

A few points of interest. The first is that if Meckstroth and Rodwell were playing their normal methods, Rodwell would have opened 1♣ (strong) instead of 1♠ on the South hand. The final contract almost certainly would have been 6♣ by South. With Rodwell's diamonds protected from the opening lead, you have to admit that this is the contract of choice.

Also, imagine if Meckstroth had judged to start spades immediately. On the 3rd round of spades George would face a difficult problem. If George discards, North could discard a diamond and ruff a spade in hand. The ♣A, ♣K, and the last spade would allow declarer to succeed by pitching his heart loser as George ruffed. If, instead, George ruffs the third spade with the ♣Q or ♣J, North pitches his diamond loser. North can later play 3 rounds of hearts. When I uppercut with the ♠8 on the third round, declarer can overruff and finesse against George's other club honour for the contract.

So will 6♣ always make if declarer guesses to start spades first? England's Andy Robson thought of a brilliant counter by the defense. West must ruff with the ♣9! This leaves declarer in a bind. Whether he overruffs with the ♣10 or discards his diamond loser, a subsequent uppercut with the ♠8 on the 3rd round of hearts will spell defeat for declarer. The only way to succeed after West ruffs with the ♣9 is to overruff and duck a diamond to West!

The winners of the 1997 Macallan were Lorenzo Lauria and Alfredo Versace of Italy. Lauria-Versace (who also prefer to play an artificial system) demonstrated that even using natural methods they are one of the strongest pairs in the world. Lauria and Versace had one of the biggest scores in the history of The Macallan, leading the event from start to finish.

Here is an interesting deal the Italians played against us:

Vul: Both ♠ K
 Dealer: N ♥ A109876
 ♦ AQ3
 ♣ AJ3

♠ QJ83	♠ A1074
♥ 43	♥ KQ5
♦ KJ876	♦ 42
♣ Q7	♣ K842

 ♠ 9652
 ♥ J2
 ♦ 1095
 ♣ 10965

West	North	East	South
Mittelman	Lauria	Gitelman	Versace
	1♥	Pass	Pass
DBL	2♥	3♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: ♥J

This bidding is of some interest. Note first George's decision to balance on his marginal hand. In my opinion this sort of auction is a good example of how to win at bridge in the 1990s. You are simply making life too easy for the opponents if you let them play at the 1-level. There is very little danger that a pair of the calibre of Lauria and Versace will have missed a game (that a balance might push them into) by passing an opening bid.

Lauria made a nice decision to rebid 2♥ instead of redoubling (the action that was taken by several North's in this position). Despite his 18 high card points, Lauria knew that game was a long shot after Versace passed 1♥. Lauria correctly decided that the preemptive value of 2♥ would be more important than showing strength with a redouble. If Lauria had redoubled we would have been able to stop in 2♠ via either a jump to that contract or a cue bid by me. After 2♥, I was forced to go to the 3-level to express the value

of my hand. 3♠ was dangerously high and accurate defense (and a slight misplay) resulted in a plus score for the Italians.

Versace led the ♥J which Lauria won in order to continue the suit. After winning the ♥K I tried a diamond to dummy's jack and Lauria's queen. Lauria played a 3rd round of hearts and my queen was ruffed by Versace and overruffed in the dummy. I desperately tried another diamond and Lauria reasonably went up with his ace. After cashing the ♣A and receiving a negative signal from Versace, Lauria played a 4th round of hearts. I had to guess the distribution now and decided (for no good reason) that Lauria was short in clubs, not spades. I discarded a club from hand and ruffed in the dummy as Versace pitched his last diamond. I played a spade, covered by the ♠K and ♠A. A spade to the dummy revealed my fate. Versace's ♠9 was promoted into the setting trick. Yes, the odds favor my taking the ruff and discard in my hand, but Lauria-Versace deserve credit for giving me a chance to go wrong. Lauria is a veteran of the Italian Blue Team and a former partner of Garozzo's. Versace is only 27 and appears to have a very bright future.

Sabin Auken and Daniela von Arnim of Germany are perhaps the strongest women's partnership in the world. They have consistently shown that the best women can more than hold their own against the men. Auken-von Arnim have performed well at various invitational pairs events over the last couple of years.

Although there were not very successful at The Macallan this year, they were involved in some interesting deals against George and me (top of next page):



Vul: None ♠ AK
 Dealer: E ♥ K943
 ♦ 854
 ♣ A854

♠ QJ1073	♠ 952
♥ 85	♥ J6
♦ Q96	♦ KJ10732
♣ Q72	♣ J10
	♠ 864
	♥ AQ1072
	♦ A
	♣ K963

Vul: N/S ♠ K97
 Dealer: E ♥
 ♦ KJ98742
 ♣ K94

♠ A832	♠ Q106
♥ QJ53	♥ K10864
♦ Q6	♦ A10
♣ AQ2	♣ 653
	♠ J54
	♥ A972
	♦ 53
	♣ J1087

West	North	East	South
Gitelman	Auken	Mittelman	von Arnim
		2♦	2♥
4♦	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♦	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West	North	East	South
Gitelman	Auken	Mittelman	von Arnim
		Pass	Pass
1NT	3♦	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: ♦6

What is the correct tactical bid with the West hand after your partner opens 2♦ (weak) with nobody vulnerable and RHO overcalls 2♥? I tried 4♦, hoping that LHO would be content with 4♥. This did not work very well as I made it easier for Auken to visualize diamond shortness in her partner's hand and Blackwood into slam.

Von Arnim played it nicely. After winning the ♦A and drawing 2 rounds of trump, declarer eliminated the spades and diamonds and played a low club from the dummy. If George had followed small, von Arnim would have ducked this trick to me. Even if I held 4 clubs to the QJ10, I would be endplayed into giving von Arnim the contract. When George produced a club honour, von Arnim could either duck this trick or win the king and duck the next round of clubs. Once trumps proved to be 2-2, von Arnim's line would succeed no matter how the clubs were divided.

George and I got some measure of revenge on the next board (top of next column):

Opening lead: ♦8

My 1NT was 15-17. Auken mixed things up a bit with her 3♦ preempt and George judged well to place the contract in 3NT. Auken's 4th best diamond lead was won with dummy's 10. I tried a heart and, when von Arnim ducked, my ♥Q won the trick as Auken discarded. I thought it was likely that Auken had at least 7 diamonds and both black kings since she had bid at the 3 level at unfavorable vulnerability facing a passed partner. Thus, my continuation was clear - a low spade toward dummy. I would need an extra trick in spades or clubs to make my contract and this play gave me a chance beyond the club finesse. It was important to play spades before continuing hearts to knock out the entry to the dangerous hand. Auken went up with the ♠K to continue diamonds. I knocked out the ♥A and when von Arnim could not produce a third diamond (as expected) I was home. I went up with the ace on the club return and had 10 tricks.

It would have done von Arnim no good to go up with the ♥A on the first round of the suit (a difficult play that could be very wrong). As

long as I played Auken for both black kings (and guessed the distribution) I would be OK. After winning the ♠A and running the hearts, Auken would have to keep both black kings guarded. I could then cash the ace of one black suit and continue that suit, throwing Auken in. Auken would be able to cash 2 diamond tricks but would have to lead away from her other black king at the end to give me my ninth trick.

Well, George and I did not succeed in improving on our 4th place showing in the 1996 Macallan. We had our usual terrible start and we were close to last place after 5 matches. I am happy to say that we won the remaining 10 matches of the event to finish a respectable 8th. Our win-loss record was 11 and 4 but our losses were so ugly that we were never above average until after the last match! George and I were disappointed to be just out of the money, but it was still satisfying to rise in the standings to the extent that we did.

The top finishers:

Lauria-Versace	Italy	620
Auken-Blakset	Denmark	548
Hamman-Wolff	USA	532
Forrester-Robson	Great Britain	529
Sharif-Mari	Egypt-France	503
Helgemo-Helness	Norway	478
Nickell-Freeman	USA	467

Note that Omar Sharif, perhaps the world's most famous bridge player, finished 5th (with French Olympiad Champion Christian Mari as his partner). Omar's presence and charm are always one of the highlights of The Macallan. This year he showed the world that he is more than a pretty face - the man knows how to play! Omar is a passionate ambassador for our game and the media attention he attracts promotes bridge as an interesting and prestigious activity.

Helen Schapiro, Paul Mendelson, and The Macallan deserve a great deal of credit for their tireless efforts in organizing the 1997 Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship. From all points of view, this tournament was an unqualified success. The Macallan's exciting announcement that their sponsorship will continue gives bridge players something to look forward to each January. Perhaps Andy Robson said it best at the awards ceremony: "This is what bridge was meant to be like."

Be sure to visit Fred's **BRIDGE BASE INC WORLD WIDE WEB SITE** and enjoy bridge articles, excellent on-line **VuGraph** presentations, **Deal of the Week**, and lots of interactive fun!
<http://www.inforamp.net/~fredg>

BRIDGE AUCTION

NIAGARA, ON - On November 23rd, 1996, a fundraiser was held for the Canadian National Open Team. Local players bid (silently) for the privilege of playing with such notable players as Barbara Clinton, Stan Dillabough, Harvey Fogel, Danny Gertsman, John Gowdy, Ted Horning, Vince Oddy, Barbara Stewart, John Toy and Lou Woodcock, as well as members of the Canadian Open Team. The wine and beer flowed freely, a great time was had by all. Not only was support shown for the team, but approximately \$1500 was raised. Good luck in Mexico - bring back more than a tan, eh! ... From the "Bridge in the Niagara Region" Web Site produced, hosted and maintained by Jeanette Smith

TRI-COUNTRY PLAYOFFS

MEXICO CITY - March 1-4, 1997, Canada's 1996 CWTC Team (Sharyn Reus - Dianna Gordon - Francine Cimon - Barbara Saltzman - Rhoda Habert - Beverly Kraft) played off against Mexico in a 128 board head-to-head match (Bermuda doesn't have a women's team) for a berth in the Venice Cup in October. The 1996 CNTC Team (Nader Hanna, Doug Fraser, Michael Roche, Jim Green - Paul Thurston - Rick Delogu) played off against Mexico and Bermuda for a berth in the Bermuda Bowl in October. Results next issue.

LA CHANCE, LA MALCHANCE, LE BINGO ET LE BRIDGE

par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

«Tel joueur est toujours chanceux, moi, je suis toujours malchanceux», etc. Combien de fois entend-on ces mots au bridge? Je suis d'accord, la chance existe au bridge, mais, comme l'inspiration pour un poète ou un artiste, on ne peut s'y fier. Peut-on alors préparer la chance, aider la chance, créer sa chance? Oui.

Paul Valéry disait que «le génie, c'est 5% d'inspiration, et 95% de transpiration». Au bridge, la chance, c'est 5% de hasard, et 95% de préparation. Vince Lombardi, grand entraîneur de football américain, disait que la chance, c'est la rencontre de la préparation et de l'occasion.

Prenons les mains suivantes:

Vous	Part. (main 1)
♠ Dx	♠ Vxx
♥ Rxx	♥ xxx
♦ ADVxx	♦ Rx
♣ ADx	♣ Rxxxx

Vous voudriez bien vous retrouver à 3SA, n'est-ce pas? Si les adversaires n'interviennent pas, vous atteindrez ce contrat, et vous serez **chanceux** d'avoir cette tenue à pique (comme tout le monde toutefois; donc la chance n'existe pas, n'est-ce pas, puisque les cartes sont les mêmes pour tous?); mais si les adversaires interviennent, comment ferez-vous?

Vous ouvrez donc 1♦, et Adg contre.

Vous	Adg	Part.	Add
1♦	X	?	

Le premier problème est pour votre partenaire: sur le contre, il ne peut raisonnablement gager, surtout pas 1SA, qui serait une enchère inconsciente, se fiant purement à la chance. Il **doit** donc passer. Voilà la discipline.

Vous	Adg	Part.	Add
1♦	X	p	1♠
?			

Vous
♠ Dx ♥ Rxx ♦ ADVxx ♣ ADx

Que faites-vous maintenant? Le passe de votre partenaire signifie que vous avez probablement un désert devant vous, rien: il n'a pas enchéri, il n'a pas soutenu et il n'a pas surcontré. Il a peut-être quelque chose, mais le contre ne lui a pas permis de le dire. Vous devez donc présumer qu'il n'a rien. Devant ce rien, vous ne pouvez pas raisonnablement enchérir 1SA (18-19 devant un partenaire qui a passé), votre arrêt de pique étant devenu problématique (discipline). Plusieurs indisciplinés sauteront à 3♦, ou pire, à 2SA, enchère hautement extravagante. Que pouvez-vous conc faire? Contre, tout simplement, qui dit (devant un partenaire qui a passé): «J'ai une bonne main, courte à pique, et j'ai un fit pour les 3 autres couleurs.» Exactement comme un contre d'appel.

Vous	Adg	Part.	Add
1♦	X	p	1♠
X	p	??	

Part. (main 1)
♠ Vxx ♥ xxx ♦ Rx ♣ Rxxxx

À votre partenaire maintenant, et ici on va voir si vous avez un partenaire généreux, soucieux de vous aider, ou si vous avez un partenaire mesquin, avare, qui joue à la cachette avec vous, qui garde toutes ses richesses pour lui. Si votre partenaire est de ce dernier type, il mettra un maigre 2♣, très mauvaise enchère évidemment, très chiche, «gratteuse». Qu'aurait-il répondu avec:

Part. (main 2)
♠ Vxx ♥ xxx ♦ Vx ♣ 10xxx

2♣, évidemment. Votre contre équivaut, alors que vous êtes dans le désert, à demander à votre compagnon:

- As-tu de l'eau?

Main 2

- Non, je n'ai pas d'eau, 2♣.

Main 1

- Oui, j'ai de l'eau, 3♣.

La **discipline** exige que vous gagiez 3♣; hé oui, discipline ne veut pas toujours dire «passer»; discipline veut aussi dire «gager» lorsque vous avez la main appropriée: avec 0-6 points, on ne peut pas faire la même enchère qu'avec 7-9, n'est-ce pas? Lorsque vous jouez les «steps», répondez-vous 2♦ (0-3), lorsque vous avez 7 points? C'est la même chose ici.

Sur la réponse de 3♣, qui promet 7-9 points, vous pouvez très raisonnablement penser à 3SA, alors que sur 2♣, 0-6 pts («Pas d'eau, partenaire»), vous auriez passé. Avec vos 18 points, plus les 7 de votre partenaire, vous êtes dans la zone de la manche.

Jusqu'ici, on n'a fait que jouer au bridge, c'est-à-dire échanger de l'information afin d'aider le partenaire à juger des possibilités. Nous entrons maintenant dans le 95% de préparation don't nous parlions au début. Comment pouvez-vous exprimer votre désir de jouer la manche? Avec 3♣ Western évidemment, qui dit au partenaire:

- Si tu as un arrêt de pique, gage 3SA.

Tout le monde joue Western (pas toujours de la bonne façon, mais passons), mais en avez-vous vraiment discuté avec votre partenaire? «Western, c'est Western», direz-vous, mais voyons un peu. Si les adversaires contentent ...?

Vous	Adg	Part.	Add
1♦	X	p	1♠
X	p	3♣	p
3♣	X		

Adg contre et ici, si vous n'avez pas préparé cette séquence, vous êtes condamné à deviner, à vous fier à la chance pure et simple. Plusieurs, très indisciplinés (ils one payé, alors ils gagent), mettront 3SA quand même, espérant, souhaitant, tablant sur, comptant sur, soupirant après un arrêt à pique chez le partenaire, même s'il n'en a pas (il aurait gagé 3SA lui-même sur 3♣, n'est-ce

pas, s'il avait eu un arrêt?). Si vous êtes sérieux donc, vous avez fait 95% du travail avant de vous asseoir à la table et vous êtes prêt; sur le contre de Adg, voici les options de votre partenaire:

- 1) surcontre, montre l'As de la couleur adverse;
- 2) 3SA, montre le Roi de la couleur adverse;
- 3) passe, ni l'As ni le Roi.

Pourquoi surcontrer avec l'As? Pour permettre au partenaire de déclarer 3SA avec D_x(x). Est-ce tout? Pas tout à fait. Sur le passe de votre partenaire, vous avez encore une ressource. La séquence a donc été la suivante:

Vous

♠ D_x
♥ R_{xx}
♦ ADV_{xx}
♣ AD_x

Part. (main 1)

♠ V_{xx}
♥ xxx
♦ R_x
♣ Rxxxx

Vous

1♦
X
3♣
??

Adg

X
p
X

Part.

passe
3♣
p

Add

1♠
p
p

Comme la passe de votre partenaire a nié l'As ou le Roi, vous ne pouvez pas évidemment déclaré 3SA, à moins de «swinger»; il vous reste cependant une possibilité: vous avez un demi-arrêt, et si votre partenaire à l'autre demi-arrêt, vous avez encore une possibilité de manche; vous devez donc **surcontre** pour dire:
- Partenaire, j'ai un demi-arrêt; si tu as l'autre demi-arrêt, gage 3SA.

Votre partenaire sera alors assez gentil pour mettre 3SA et vous enregistrez +660 pour un gain de 12 out 13 Imps, les adversaires à l'autre table n'ayant pas rejoint la manche. Chanceux, diront-ils peut-être en voyant le résultat!!! Oui, chanceux, parce que, lorsque l'occasion s'est présentée, vous étiez prêts.

Vous

♠ Dx
♥ Rxx
♦ ADVxx
♣ ADx

**Part.
(main 1)**

♠ Vxx
♥ xxx
♦ Rx
♣ Rxxxx

Vous	Adg	Part.	Add
1♦	X	passé	1♠
X(1)	p	3♣(2)	p
3♠(3)	X	p(4)	p
XX(5)	p	3SA(6)	PPP

- 1) bonne main, courte à pique
(As-tu de l'eau?)
- 2) bonne main passée, long trèfles
(Oui, j'ai de l'eau)
- 3) As-tu un arrêt de pique?
- 4) Non.
- 5) J'ai un demi-arrêt, as-tu l'autre
demi-arrêt?
- 6) Oui.

Jouer au bridge et jouer au bridge et jouer au bridge est bien beau, mais si vous ne faites que jouer, vous êtes condamné à vous fier à la chance, et la chance, comme on l'a vu plus haut, ce n'est que 5% du bridge. Si vous ne vous préparez pas, si vous ne discutez pas avec votre partenaire, si vous ne vous asseyez pas pour établir des séquences, vous négligez 95% du bridge et vos resultants refléteront votre approche: lorsque vous serez chanceux, vous gagnerez; mais 95% du temps, vous perdrez. Un peu comme au casino, qu'oi!

Et vous ne jouerez pas au suisse parce que vous direz que les gagnants sont toujours les memes, comme si c'était un hasard, et vous vous plaindrez de votre malchance, comme si le bridge était le bingo. Et nous avons fait le tour de la question: le bridge n'est pas le bingo. Au bingo, on ne peut pas se préparer, mais, au bridge, oui.

Voulez-vous jouer au bingo ou au bridge?



LE TAUREAU ET LE POISSON

par Bernard Marcoux, Montréal

Lorsqu'on arrive en Espagne, on apprend rapidement que certains mots espagnols se prononcent quirement qu'en français ou qu'en italien; par exemple, «agua» en italien (eau en français) deviant «agua» en espagnol; «aperto» en italien (ouvert en français) deviant «abierto» en espagnol; les «p» italiens deviennent donc des «b» en espagnol; et les «q» italiens sont devenus des «g». Vous avez à peine le temps de vous familiariser avec ces changements que vous arrivez au Portugal, et alors là, vous découvrez que les Portugais ont fait faire un tel «flip» à nos consonnes que ma femme, après 4 à 5 jours d'Espagne et de Portugal, a conclu, avec toute la délicatesse d'opinion qu'on lui connaît, que les Espagnols et les Portugais étaient «tout melanges dans leur alphabet».

Pourtant, le portugais, c'est facile. Prenons par exemple le mot français «pompiers». Pour en faire un mot portugais, il faut premièrement «flipper» les deux «p» et en faire des «b», ce qui donne «bombier». Ensuite, intervertissez les voyelles de la deuxième syllabe et vous obtiendrez «bombeir»; finalement, ajoutez la terminaison «os» et vous arrivez à «bombeiros», pompiers en portugais (ceci est tout à fait vrai). Facile, n'est-ce pas? Faisons maintenant un exercice qui vous permettra d'accéder au génie même de la langue portugaise. Prenons le mot «pepsi» et allons-y de notre gymnastique de tantôt. «Flippons» les deux «p» afin d'arriver à «bebsi»; intervertissons maintenant le «e» et le «i» nous obtenons «bibse». Et, tant qu'à brasser la cage, pourquoi pas «swigner» le «s» et le deuxième «b» et nous avons le produit final: «bisbe». Entrez maintenant dans un bar poeugais (et non dans une caserne de «bombeiros») et demandez: «Um bisbe, faz favor.» On vous servira alors n'importe quoi,

sauf un pepsi, car, pour obtenir un pepsi au Portugal, il suffit de dire: «Pepsi!» Facile, le portugais, vous dis-je!

Maintenant que vous avez reçu votre Pepsi (Ouach! quel goût barbare), il faut dire merci, en portugais. Comme vous venez de le voir, «s'il vous plaît» se dit «fазfаvоr»; pour dire merci, alors là, ça dépend ... de votre sexe. Un homme dira «Obrigado» et une femme, «Obrigada», littéralement «Je suis votre obligé(e)». Voyez encore ce «l» français qui devient un «r» en portugais, semblant confirmer l'impression de ma femme sur cette langue. Justement, autre anecdote «linguistique»: en allemand, ma femme avait décidé que «Aufwiedersehen» (Au revoir) se disait «Azibédèrзèn». Au Portugal donc, ma femme se souvenant un peu de son allemand approximatif, et trouvant difficile de dire «Obrigada», mélangeait tout simplement les deux langues et aboutissait à «Azibrigada». Ce mot, accompagné d'une carte American Express, était compris par tout le monde. Facile, le portugais, je vous dis.

Au bridge, toujours à cause de ma femme, je dois souvent faire comme en portugais. Voyez-vous, elle est Taureau (voir son jugement des plus nuancés plus haut sur l'espagnol et le portugais), et moi je suis Poisson. Au bridge, elle est encore taureau, et moi, poisson. Comment un poisson peut-il tomber amoureux d'un taureau? C'est une longue histoire.

Disons donc que je veux faire un signal à mon taureau, mais je ne veux pas qu'il me rentre dedans comme ... un taureau enragé. Je veux lui envoyer une INFORMATION et non un ordre. Je veux lui dire: «J'ai une carte dans cette couleur, tu n'es pas obligé de switcher tout de suite; entre cte information dans ton plan (?!) d'ensemble et joue en conséquence».

Le poisson (c'est moi) sait que, s'il donne un signal au taureau, celui-ci verra rouge, se mettra à piaffer et «switchera» illico. Alors comment faire pour ne pas affoler le taureau? Peut-on apprendre la délicatesse à un taureau? Peut-on espérer un peu de finesse chez ce quadrupède hyperagressif? Comment lui montrer à ne pas foncer tête baissée dès qu'il aperçoit un signal? Le poisson, élégant, raffiné, subtil (c'est moi, je

vous le rappelle), essaiera donc de louvoyer, de zigzaguer, de finasser afin de donner un signal qui, tout en étant le plus clair possible, ne fera pas perdre à tête au taureau.

Disons, par exemple, que je veux dire à mon taureau que j'ai une carte à pique. Mes piques sont: A9542. Avec les signaux inverses, je devrais mettre le plus petit pique, le 2, violent signal qui, dès qu'il apparaîtra sur la table, allumera les yeux de mon taureau qui se mettra à «stimer» par le nez, à piaffer, à trépigner et qui flanquera sur la table le premier pique qui lui tombera sous la main. Donc, au lieu de mettre un petit pique, je fais comme en portugais, je «flippe» les consonnes et je mets un «bédit bigue», le 4, signal d'«abbel» (n'oubliez pas votre portugais, mais «blus supdil». Là mon taureau s'arrête, regarde et se met à réfléchir (!). Vous avez déjà vu un taureau réfléchir? Peut-être que c'est la réfraction (souvenez-vous, je suis un poisson, je suis dans l'eau et mon taureau est sur la terre; je le vois donc déformé à travers l'eau), mais je l'aperçois, les yeux crochis par l'effort de concentration, essayant de respirer par le nez au lieu de «stimer», croissant et décroissant ses pattes au lieu de trépigner.

Généralement, après une bonne minute, mon taureau décrochit ses yeux, décroise ses belles jambes (!), «flippe» 3 ou 4 cartes et, interprétant mal mon «abbel subdil», finit par faire le mauvais retour; les adversaires réussissent le contrat et ... mon taureau me rentre dedans de toute façon. Vous avez déjà vu un taureau courir après un poisson? Je vous le dis, ça fait beaucoup, beaucoup d'eau qui «revole»

Comment le taureau et le poisson font-ils pour jouer ensemble?

Bien à l'abri au fond de l'eau, pendant que le taureau éclabousse et inonde toutes les tables environnantes, le poisson se le demande depuis une bonne dizaine d'années, mais trouve toujours son taureau ... irrésistible.

Azibrigado!!



HART RETIRES AFTER SAN FRANCISCO NABC

TORONTO - Twenty-six years ago, **Nancy Hart** was between jobs and living in Toronto when some friends had a chance to buy a duplicate bridge club (the Regal Bridge Studio). Hart, who had been hoping to continue her career in radio, was drafted to run the club. She quickly took the training that launched a directing career that has spanned more than a quarter of a century. At NABCs, Hart does a lot of work in the Intermediate/Novice games. Her real specialty, said NABC Director-in-Charge Tom Quinlan, is the fast open pairs. "She's the queen bee of the fast games," said Quinlan. "She really whips them into shape." Hart treasures her experiences as a director. "As a group," she said, "bridge players are the most interesting people you could possibly deal with. They're bright and enthusiastic, although it is a challenge sometimes to deal with them."

MAURICE PAUL Bidding Challenge

PART III The Finals

by Eric Sutherland

Or rather, *not* the final. Due to unfortunate computer problems, the results of one of our finalists were accidentally deleted, and time did not allow for data recover in time for this issue. Please look for the battle between Colin Lee - David Halasi and Boris Baran - Mark Molson in the next issue!

KATE BUCKMAN LEAVES US

TORONTO - January 13, 1997 - Kate Buckman, the Grand Lady of Toronto bridge, died peacefully in her sleep. Aged 94, she had been in frail health for several years after a series of strokes.

"... Kate quickly established a reputation for herself that was known continent wide. She had a very special way of handling people. Kate didn't really care about making money, just about making sure that people had a good time. An innovative teacher, she used classes and novice games as the key to building her club from one night a week to the largest in Canada and third largest on the continent. She encouraged her players -- from beginners to experts. Kate had style and flair. She was sassy and had pizzazz. She dressed beautifully and usually wore fabulous hats. Wherever she went her very presence made a statement. She tolerated no nonsense from her customers. She was feisty and had spunk and yet she could be gentle as a lamb. She was sometimes difficult but always wonderful. Kate made a difference. She touched so many lives and will be remembered forever. She was kind and caring and very special. She would not want us to be sad that she has gone. It was time. But we will miss her and remember her always as the Kate she used to be." ... *Barbara Seagram, President of Unit 166 and the current operator of the Kate Buckman Bridge Studio.*

Kate gave her name to the Kate Buckman Award, given annually by Unit 166 and the Metropolitan Toronto Bridge Association to the person in Unit 166 who contributes most to others' enjoyment of bridge. Naturally, she was the first recipient!

In 1973 Kate was honoured by being awarded the Ewin Wetzlar award from the ACBL for "distinguished services in devotion to the highest ideals and traditions of bridge which, by their example, further the best standards of the game."

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Jude Goodwin-Hanson
3 - 4336 W. 10th Ave
Vancouver BC V6R 2H7
Phone (604) 224-2210
Fax (604) 224-4127
e-mail: jude@cbf.ca

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Jan Anderson
Fred Gitelman
Eric Kokish
Bernard Marcoux
Gary Mitchell
Eric Sutherland

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC.

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

CBF E-Mail
query@cbf.ca
WEB SITE
www.cbf.ca/
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CALENDAR

CWTC (page 11)

Zones must have selected their
teams and notified the CBF
Coordinator no later than
May 10, 1997
National Final
August 6-10, 1997
Winnipeg, MB

COPC (page 5)

National Final
June 12-14, 1997
The Surrey Inn, Surrey, BC

CNTC (page 5)

Zone Final Round
must be completed by
April 21, 1997
National Final
June 9-14, 1997
The Surrey Inn, Surrey, BC

ROOKIE-MASTER

Thursday, April 3, 1997
Monday, October 27, 1997

INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

May 14, 1997 ACBL Wide
July 25, 1997 ACBL Wide
Oct 21, 1997 Canada Wide

CHARITY FUND GAMES

November 24, 1997

MEETINGS

CBF BOARD MEETING
May 10-12, 1997
Ottawa, ON
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
July 19, 1997
Calgary, AB

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

MAY

2-6 English Spring Foursomes

JUNE

6-7 WBF Worldwide Pairs
14-29 European Open & Women's
Teams, Montecatini
15-17 European Women's Pairs,
Montecatini

JULY

11-23 World Junior Pairs and
Camp, Paestum Italy
24-03 NABC Albuquerque

AUGUST

5-14 World Junior Championship
15-24 English Summer Meeting,
Brighton

OCTOBER

18-01 Bermuda Bowl
Venice Cup, Tunisia

NOVEMBER

21-30 NABC St. Louis

DECEMBER

27-29 Year-end Congress, London

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