

Canadian Bridge Digest

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Jill Savage



Canada Wide Olympiad Fund Game Will be held October 15, 1981.

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

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* * * * * *

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-EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK-

This column is dedicated to all those tiny scraps of paper with obscure phrases on them that I keep setting aside for inclusion in an editorial. Some are original thoughts and others completely plagiarized. Some bits of paper discuss sober subjects, while other notes are humorous (but after receiving a letter from one of our members thanking me for not using humor in the Digest) I begin to wonder if they are as hilarious as I think. One notation reads "schizophrenic means, always having a partner with the same ability as yourself." I trust this maintains the status quo, that no humor appears in the Digest.

Next, I feel an apology is in order to my typesetter, who has a wonderful mastery of the English language. We of the bridge world know that English has not been spoken in our circle for quite some time. Therefore, each time that I write that six spades was bid or made, my typist correctly changes it to were bid or made. It is only when I have a single line or word typed that I am able to sneak in my embryonic phrases. My typesetter remains flawless.

The CBF is doing its best to serve the needs of all its members. But, they need an input from you. A questionnaire appears elsewhere in the Digest, and you are invited to answer the questions or write a few comments as to how the organization might better function.

The ACBL has discovered that it is monetarily more feasible to mail the Bulletin to Canadians by trucking it into Canada and mailing it on this side of the border. I am all in favor of saving money, but I cannot see how it could possibly be cheaper to have our Canadian Post Office handle the mail, when they should be charging so much more for storage.

Mark Molson of Montreal has done it again! Become Canada's number one pointgetter and in so doing, has once more won the Richmond Trophy.

Other Canadians who topped their category in the mini-McKenney race are listed on page 4 of this issue. If you are one of these winners, we would like to hear from you. Please send a brief biography and recent photo of yourself so that we can feature your exploits. Achievements such as this should not go unheralded. +



Rookie of th	e Year	(0-5	MPs)
NT 701 1	NT (1 1	

Wayne Ricker, North Bay	86
Margaret Pearce, Kelowna	70
Diane Duncan, Toronto	69

Non Master of the Year (5-20 MPs)

Danielle Courteau, Montreal	109
Arturo Pianzola, Saskatoon	101
Peter Kosacky, Kingston	85

National Master of Year (50-100 MPs)

Zygmunt Marcinski, Beaconsfield	170
Catriona Brown, Vancouver	136
Tom Butterworth, Winnipeg	132

*Congratulations to this year's Richmond Trophy Winner, Mark Molson of

Senior Master of Year (100-200 MPs)

Kamel Fergani, Montreal	210
Haig Tchamitch, Willowdale	205
Gordon Campbell, Edmonton	205

Advanced Senior Master (200 - LM)

Victor Cronshaw, Nobleton	274
Danny Shameborn, Orilla	268
Richard Wildi, Quebec	225
Life Master	
*Mark Molson, Montreal	599
Robert Lebi, Toronto	511
Leo Glaser, Nepean	486

Montreal. Mark is a repeat winner and well deserving of this honor.

Charity Begins at the Bridge Table

Gene Monin from Sault International Unit 212 supplied the following information about one of their most industrious members, who believes that charity begins at the bridge table.

Mrs. Peggy-Ann Yrjola combined her bridge ability with her charitable instincts and by so doing, was able to purchase two TV sets for use by two local hospitals. Peggy-Ann was determined that her project would become one of her bridge playing friend's hobbies also, so with their help and a whole bunch of cajoling, threatening and reminding, was able to collect \$500,000 worth of grocery cashier slips (that's a lot of meat and potatoes). The grocery chain reimbursed her \$5,100 for the \$500,000 worth of chits. An extraordinary amount of work went into collecting, tabulating and redeeming the chits. Mrs. Yrjola is now working on a new project,

assistance for the Humane Society.

We know with her determination, this feat will soon be a fait accompli also. Let's hope the CBF Charitable Fund does not forget such hard working members as Peggy-Ann in their quest for fund raisers.

Notice of Elections

Elections for Zone Directors will be held in Zones 3 and 4 this fall for the three year term of 1982 to 1984 inclusive. Declarations of candidacy must reach the director of elections (Dr. Alvin Baragar) by Monday, November 16, 1981.

Zone 3 - Ontario and Trent Valley Units Zone 4 - Quonto, Northwest Ontario, Manitoba, Flin Flon and Sault International Units.

Hear it from the experts=

Overcalls vs Takeout Doubles

By Subhash Gupta

Editors Note: Subhash Gupta, one of Canada's most feared and revered players at the Bridge table. Subhash's ability is so firmly established that to even discuss it seems redundant. Besides his expertise, his gentlemanly conduct and quick wit endear him to his partners and opponents equally. It makes it a pleasure to be "out-finessed" by him.

This article is aimed at benefiting our less experienced tournament players, for there is an abundance of material (spoken, written and/or published) for higher level individuals.

There is a need to be aware, on the part of novices and intermediate bridge players, that tournament bridge as it is played today is vastly different than it was 15 - 20 years ago. New systems and conventions are being developed at an ever-growing pace by our experts. The reason is quite simple - trying to achieve a perfection in the bridge language to communicate with partner. The topic I have chosen covers only a small portion in competitive bidding, but essentially it is one of the major grass roots of any successful partnership.

Some of us might have been brought up to believe that with 13 + HCP, a takeout double was in order over an opening bid by the opposition or an overcall with any 5-card suit with 10 - 12HCP was mandatory, regardless of the distribution of the hand or the quality of the suit. Well, over the years this approach has been rejected in favor of: 1. Shape Takeout Doubles - Unlimited to as little as 9 HCP. Here the takeout double promises at least 3-card support for the unbid suits and shortness in the opponent's suit. I use the word "unlimited" because direct cue bids to show a strong takeout for the other suits have become obsolete in favor of the "Michaels Cue Bid", etc. to show distributional hands. To give you a few examples - over a 1D opening bid, you should make a takeout double with the following hands:

a)Kxxx	b)KQ10x	c)AKQx AKxx
Kxxx x	KJx xx	AKXX X
^ Kxxx	AJxx	ÂKOx

but I suggest a pass with the following hands:

a)Ax	b)x	c)Jxxxx	d)Q10xx
Kxx	AJxx	Qxx	KJxx
KQxx	Qxxxx	AKx	AJxx
Jxxx	AKx	QJ	х

There is a very common stigma that takeout doubles can be made over a minor opening bid with support for both majors (like hand (d) above) and no or very little support for the other minor. By all means, I will grant you that it is a lot easier to make a major suit game (10 tricks) as opposed to 11 tricks and the takeout doubler's partner should make an effort to respond in majors, but let me ask a simple question - aren't there as many cards in majors as in minors?

In response to a takeout double of 1D

with hand (d), partner with distributions like 2-2-5-4, 3-3-3-4, 2-3-3-5, or 3-2-4-4 and 0 to 8 HCP is going to respond his/her best suit which is clubs and is not going to be overwhelmed at the pleasant sight of the dummy if allowed to play doubled or undoubled. Would you be?

2. Overcalls - Absolutely no upper limit.

I can produce an endless series of hands where people made a takeout double instead of an overcall and wished they hadn't. Reason - "Well, my hand had 17 HCP and obviously it was too strong for a Simple Overcall.

At the same time, there exists the other side of the coin. Given 10 - 13 HCP and a random 5-card suit (10xxxx, Jxxxx, Qxxxx or Kxxxx), you get the uncontrollable urge and make the overcall. Reason - "I had a 5-card suit and 12 points. I had to do something."

Well, this approach should be changed. Not all of us "lesser mortals" are as effective as Barry Crane in getting in and out of auctions at ease.

To summarize, an overcall should be made with as little as 8 - 9 HCP to as much as 18 - 19 or even 20 HCP with hands that contain a good suit and are not suitable for an immediate takeout double. Purpose of overcalls should be lead-directing and/or helping partner in defence and also giving him/her the freedom to raise your suit with a doubleton in your suit and adequate values in competitive auctions. (Remember, you have promised a reasonable suit.) A point to remember - vulnerability and the level of overcall. The higher the level of overcall, the better your suit (and hand) should be, especially at unfavourable vulnerability.

To give a few examples - over 1H opening bid:

a)KQ10xx	b)AKQxxx	c)QJ10xxx
Kxx	XXX	х
XX	Ax	AKxx
XXX	Kx	Qx
(1 spade)	(1 spade)	(1 spade)

d)Jxxxx	e)xx	f)Ax
Axx	Ax	Ax
KQx	AKJxx	Qxxxx
Ax	Qxxx	Kxxx
(pass)	(2D)	(Pass)

Lack of space would not allow me to carry on, but if the above was followed with your own judgment added to different situations, I am sure your results would be a lot more satisfactory. To complete the structure of overcalls and takeout doubles, you have to add other tools like:

A. Reopening doubles or bidding a suit after passing.

B. Competitive doubles (negative and responsive included).

C. Making it absolutely mandatory to respond to an overcall as if it were an opening bid - unless the auction tells you not to.

D. Cue bidding, help suit game tries, second suit bids or NT bids in subsequent auctions.

With the aid of these tools, you should get to optimum contracts most of the time - I hope!

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Kasino Kem Cards	\$32/dozen	
Postage paid on all prenaid orders		

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Bridge Workshop=



By Pat Lopushinsky

BIDDING THE STRONG HANDS

Since the majority of players now use the weak two bids, this means that we are left with one bid to describe all the powerhouse hands. This bid is Two Clubs, and is used to start the auction with all the hands with which you are too strong to open at the one level. The type of hand held can vary all the way from a very powerful one suiter, through to a balanced hand of as much as 30 or more HCP and therefore, it is the rebid that must be very carefully chosen to describe the hand as accurately as possible on subsequent levels of bidding.

BALANCED HANDS

The ranges used will depend upon how the partnership is using their 2NT opening bid. I would suggest an opening 2NT be between 21 and 22 HCP, which means that an opening bid of two clubs, followed by a rebid of 2NT describes a hand of between 23 and 24 HCP and an opening bid of two clubs followed by a rebid of 3NT shows 25 and 26 HCP. 4NT and 5NT rebids show corresponding two point spreads, e.g. 26 - 27 and 28 - 30. A rebid of 4NT is therefore not Blackwood.

When responding to the two club opener, who subsequently shows a balanced hand, all the systems used over 2NT openings can be used, whether this be transfers, Stayman, Flint, etc.

Over a 3NT rebid, the partnership must decide whether to use a bid of four clubs as either Stayman or Gerber. I have found that Stayman is most important and therefore a bid of five clubs can be used as Gerber, and 4NT retained as a quantitive raise.

UNBALANCED HANDS

When opening with two clubs and rebidding a suit, you are now in a game forcing situation, and therefore, if the hand contains more than 3 - 4 losers, it should not be opened with two clubs, even if the hand contains more than 20 points. When assessing an opening strong hand, you will see that with a hand containing several losers, that if partner cannot respond, you will not be able to make game anyway.

EXAMPLES OF OPENING TWO CLUB HANDS

- 1) AKQxxxx A KQx Ax
- 2) AK KQJxx AQ AKxx
- 3) x AKQ AQJxxx AKx

These hands should not be opened with

two clubs.

1) AKxxx A KJx KQxx

2) AQ10x AQxxx Kx KQ

3) xx xx AQxxxx AKQ

+ + +

RESPONDING TO AN OPENING TWO CLUBS

THE WAITING TWO DIAMOND BID

Using this system, the responder always bid two diamonds, unless they have a positive response, which we will discuss later, and does not occur very frequently.

In this way, the responder keeps the bidding low and allows the opener to describe his hand properly. A two diamond bid, therefore, is not necessarily negative, but simply denies the values to make a positive response, which can give numerous inferences in the subsequent auction.

Following a two diamond bid by responder, the opener then rebids naturally. Balanced hands have already been discussed above.

Opener will always be showing at least a five-card suit when they rebid a suit, and often, of course, it will be a longer suit. Responder therefore can raise immediately with three card support. As you are already in a Game Forcing Sequence, the sooner you bid to game, the less you have, as this allows more room to cue bid when you have the stronger hands.

Therefore, if partner opens two clubs and rebids two of a major over your two diamond waiting bid, you should bid directly to game in the major with three card support or better, and no outside control card, e.g. Ace or King. If you have three card trump support and an outside control, or maybe a singleton, you should raise to three of the major to allow for cue bidding.

The only time that opener may have a problem in rebidding an unbalanced hand, is with a three suiter and 4-4-4-1 distribution. You cannot describe this as balanced and rebid NT and yet you do not have a five card or longer suit for a suit rebid. The way around this is to rebid with a Jump in your short suit.

e.g. you hold:

AKJx AKQx AQJx x

You open with two clubs and partner responds, as expected, with two diamonds. You should now bid 4 Clubs. This shows the type of hand you have, and forces partner to choose between the remaining three suits. If you have a strong hand with a club suit, of course you can rebid 3 clubs, so there should be no confusion.

THE POSITIVE RESPONSE BY RESPONDER

The only time that responder will not bid 2 diamonds is when they hold a selfsufficient suit of their own, with at least two of the top three honours in the suit. In these rare instances, responder may bid their own suit.

e.g.: KQJxxx x Kxx xxx

Partner opens with two clubs, you may respond with two spades, which shows at least a five card spade suit, with two of the top honors and may enable partner to place you with specific cards at this low stage in the auction. For example, if on this hand they are looking at the Ace of Spades, they know that you must have the King and the Queen.

THE "SECOND NEGATIVE"

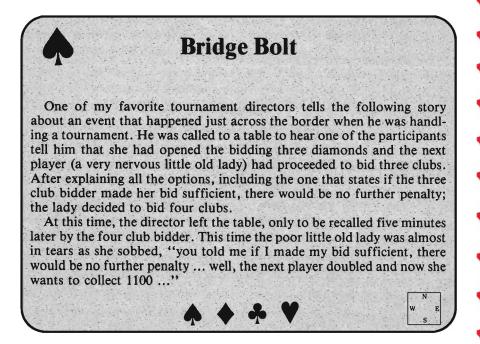
As the two diamond bid really doesn't do anything except deny a positive response, and is not necessarily negative, it is necessary to have a bid on the second round, which will tell partner if you really have nothing. This would be a bid of the cheapest suit on the three level, over openers' rebid.

You hold the hand below and partner opens two clubs and you naturally respond with two diamonds. Partner then rebids two hearts. You must rebid three clubs, which is the second negative, and denies three hearts and shows a real bust, but says nothing about clubs. You would need a better hand to bid three diamonds at this point. e.g.: xxx xx Jxxxx xxx

Other bids by responder, on the next rounds of bidding, are natural, but deny the values for a positive response initially.

You hold the following hand and your partner opens two clubs. You respond two diamonds and partner bids two hearts. You can now bid two spades. You do have some scattered values and partner already knows that you do not hold a good suit with two of the top honors.

e.g. QJxxx Qx xx Jxxx



Who's Holding My Hand?

By Brian Thomas North Bay, Ontario

The drama of life is reflected at the bridge table, where truth is stranger than fiction. In spite of all training, all preparedness for the most eccentric situations, the unexpected still strikes and fate plays a vital role in success or failure. Consider the part that destiny plays in the following two scenarios:

Act One

* * * * *

The Scene: Toronto Regional, 1973, Swiss Teams, round one.

My Partner: male, solid, thoughtful, always dependable.

Opponents: male, youthful, brash (need to be taught a lesson).

The Atmosphere: noisy ... rustling of animals in a pen. No, not equine or bovine, nothing quite so dignified.

The Action: R.H.O. mumbles "One Spade". Holding 6/5 in the minors, I boom out "Two Notrump!"L.H.O. ventures a sporting "Double".

My partner appears puzzled ... 30 second pause ... very deliberate ... I'm beginning to get nervous. Finally he turns to my R.H.O. and inquires about the Double. "Penalty!" ... Really? ... two minute pause ... Frustrated, I glance up at him, wondering about his problem. The opponents too are staring fixatedly at him, hypnotized by the delay. We all see him mouth a silent review ... "Pass, Two Notrump, Double, ?" "Oh, Oh," I think. "How do I get out of this one?" In a mild state of shock, I hear him confidently bid "Four Hearts". Smack! At this point, to be frank, my memory fades ... repression and all that ... I think the final number was four digits. The opponents are mildy embarrassed. I wonder after why they didn't offer a review ... give him a chance to retract his bid ... Maybe it was my fault. I lacked the presence of mind to call the director ... or ask for a review at my turn (I know, that would be unethical). Instead, I passed, with trepidation. How do you rescue partner after opening Two Notrump?

Who said this was a gentleman's game? Lambs to the slaughter ... Oh well ... that's bridge ... and life. What a fatalist I am!

Act Two

The Scene: Toronto Regional 1980 (I'm a sucker for punishment), Open Pairs, Flight A.

My Partner: male, aggressive, reliable, knows when to operate.

Opponents: male, one big (L.H.O.), one small (R.H.O.). Well dressed, smooth, imposing ... (we'll show 'em who's boss!)

The Atmosphere: the same. Does it ever change?

The Action: R.H.O. bids "One Spade". Holding xx A KJ10xx AJxxx, I blurt out "Two Notrump." (Sound familiar?) L.H.O. snaps "Three Spades" into the foray. Partner trances momentarily ... emerges with a brisk "Four Spades" ... What class! "Double" from R.H.O. Well, we didn't want to play there anyway.

It's time to think ... My 2NT bid is solid for a change. I wonder about a slam ... Which suit? How strong is partner? Did R.H.O. psyche? I sneak a suspicious glance at him ... no expression .. a wall. Conservatively, I say "Five Clubs" ... "Pass" ... Partner takes .004 seconds to raise me to six ... "Pass" ... Should I try a grand? Wait a minute, something's fishy here ... another 50 point deck. Past experience says, "when in doubt, distrust partner." "Pass." "Pass."

L.H.O. tanks ... tough lead ... (cue bid, followed by a gutsy raise to six). I can see the wheels grinding in his mind, but I wish he'd get on with it, I'm anxious to see dummy. He finally pulls out a small heart. Partner tables Kx KQxxx xx Kxxx. I try to suppress a gasp! Both opponents are glaring at my partner "Flight A?"

I try to concentrate on the task at hand ... not impossible ... just need to find the Club Queen, reasonable splits. I've been in much worse spots.

My thinking is distracted by lightning bolts ... jagging across the table from R.H.O. to L.H.O. My partner is resting, complacently. I chuckle inwardly.

The Fix:

S	Kx
H	KQxxx
D	xx
C	xxx
S	xx
H	A
D	KJ10xx
C	AJxxx

Well, I think, arrogant, insane bidding calls for the same type of play. I win the heart, cash two rounds of trump ending in dummy (everyone following), K, Q of Hearts pitching two small spades from hand (R.H.O. also slashing Spades at his partner), small Diamond to the King, exit Jack of Diamonds to R.H.O. (L.H.O. discarding a spade) Phew! That was easy.

R.H.O. is looking distraught ... wondering, no doubt, about the "second hand low" rule. One very long minute passes. I'm too ashamed to look at either of them. I wonder if I should claim ... Would that be insulting? I decide, somewhat diplomatically, to wait it out. Three minutes expire. Tension between the opponents is razor sharp. Finally he exits a small Spade. Claim.

Silence. (Sometimes this tournament

can get very quiet.) North, in a businesslike fashion, chalks up 1370 and tosses the slip for me to initial. He obviously has no respect for my partner.

I venture a comment ... "Marc, what kind of crazy bidding was that?" I feel that by insulting him, I shall no doubt assuage the opponents' feelings. Partner never responds well to insults ... "What are you talking about?" he demands, "You open 2NT, I've got 11 HCP and we shouldn't be in a slam?"... Pause, silence. A light glimmers in three sets of eyes. I'm beginning to feel amused ... nemesis ... finally ... "In Spades". Marc begins to smell a rat and continues his counter-attack, "What did you open 2NT on anyway? Did you Psyche?"

I try, very gently, to explain. The opponents remain dignified, but I can hear the bubbling.

Well, I think, I'll show them some courtesy. I'll be big about this! (I can afford it.) "I'm sorry," I state, as cleanly and honestly as I possibly can. "I've had this happen to me too, I know how it feels." There, I've done it. Silence ... no sign of humanity from these two. But what do I expect? After all ...

Next hand, R.H.O. took his vengence out on us ... but good! I'll spare you the details. And then the dam broke.

Shocking how self-determinists respond to a quirk of fate. Ah well, that's life ... only 52 pieces of paper with silly pictures on them. Vanity - an illusion - sleight of hand.

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=Canadian Bidding Contest=

May, 1981 February Honour Roll

No less than 18 readers, out of 116 entries, broke the 500 mark in February:

1/2 Krishan Chawla, Ottawa, Ont.	590
1/2 John F. Cottee, Hawkesbury, Ont.	590
3/4 Lila Rudachyk, Prince Albert, Sask.	580
3/4 Evelyn Richards, Fredericton, N.B.	580
5/6 Ivan Verba, Prince George, B.C.	570
5/6 Eric Marchand, Montreal, Que.	570
7 Franklin Wu, Whitby, Ont.	560
8 Janet Cox, Nepean, Ont.	540
9/10 Florence Bell, Toronto, Ont.	530
9/10 Mark O'Hara, Toronto, Ont.	530
11/14 Prent Glazier, Toronto, Ont.	520
11/14 Ken Gee, Nipawin, Sask.	520
11/14 Don Campbell, Saskatoon, Sask.	520
11/14 Chuck Chapman, Guelph, Ont.	520
15/16 Bill Cunningham, Sackville, N.B.	510
15/16 P.M. Banks, Bright's Grove, Ont.	510
17/18 Dan Brown, Perth, Ont.	500
17/18 Richard Bickley, Stettler, Alta.	500

The luck of the draw gave Mr. Chawla the book prize 'Bridge Conventions Complete' by Amalya Kearse, once again kindly donated by Camel Bridge Supplies of Vancouver. In addition, Mr. Chawla and Mr. Cottee have joined the May panel.



by Allan Simon

MAY PANEL

And now in the customary alphabetical order, let's meet the experts:

RON BASS (St. Albert, Alta.) is best known as co-editor of the Canadian Bridge Digest. He has won numerous important events, both in his native New Brunswick and in his new home, Alberta.

JOHN CARRUTHERS (Toronto) won the Richmond trophy (top Canadian master point winner) in 1974. In 1978 he represented Canada in the Olympiad. He is also one of Canada's best known bridge writers; his articles have been published on four continents.

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KRISHAN CHAWLA (Ottawa), the February reader-champ, has been playing bridge for only $1\frac{1}{2}$ years. He writes that only one person was more surprised than he at his victory: his regular partner.

JOHN COTTEE (Hawkesbury, Ont.) is the most unusual reader-champ to date. He has never registered a single master point - as a matter of fact, he has never entered a tournament or sanctioned club game. His contest victory is proof of the superior importance of good judgment over book knowledge.

LEX DE GROOT (Winnipeg), now semi-retired, was one of central Canada's most successful players. He has won numerous regionals and represented Canada at the 1978 Olympiad.

BARRY HARPER (Saskatoon, Sask.) is an up-and-coming young star. He already has several regional firsts under his belt.

ERIC KOKISH (Montreal) is one of the outstanding personalities in the world of bridge. As a player, he has scored 6000 + master points and countless tournament victories, including dozens of regionals and several major North American titles. With partner Peter Nagy, he placed second in the 1978 Olympiad pairs, the best result ever achieved by a Canadian pair. He also represented Canada at the 1980 Olympiad. As an administrator, he was primarily responsible for the creation of the Canadian National Championship. As a writer, he has won acclaim for his regular columns in The Bridge World and in the Montreal Gazette. As a theoretician, his 1974 treatise 'Montreal Relay' won the International Bridge Press Association award as article of the vear.

DAVID LINDOP (Toronto) is one of Toronto's leading players. Besides the usual regional wins, his credits include the title of general chairman for the 1986 Summer Nationals in Toronto. He also played in the 1978 Olympiad.

RENEE MANCUSO (Montreal) is

one of Canada's leading woman players. She played in the 1978 Olympiad Mixed Pairs and in the 1980 Canadian Ladies Team Championship. Many regional firsts round out an impressive biography.

JOHN MUNSON (Flin Flon, Man.) goes west or south once or twice a year; he seldom returns without a championship trophy. If he lived in a big city, he would be a nationally known star.

PATRICE ROY (Sherbrooke, Que.) has won over 300 points a year for the past three years. His accomplishments include at least four regional triumphs.

JOHN STEWART (Halifax, N.S.) is a member of a team of Haligonians that has been nearly invincible in Grand National and Regional competition. He won a big pairs event at the Vancouver Nationals in 1974.

MAY SOLUTIONS

(A) Matchpoints, E-W vul., South holds:

S:Q7632 H:A94 D:65 C:A 64

West	North	East	South
Pass	1D	Pass	1S
Pass	3S	Pass	4C
Pass	4H	Pass	4S
Pass	4NT	Pass	?

Scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
5H	6	100
5D	3	80
Pass	2	50
5C	1	40

In all of bridge, no convention is better known than Blackwood. And what could be easier than responding to 4NT? A close analysis of our experts' responses reveals that: - Two experts decided four notrump was natural. So they passed. - Four experts thought partner wanted to hear a cue bid; of those, three bid five hearts and one chose five clubs.

- Five experts took four notrump as Blackwood; of those, three responded five diamonds while two selected five hearts.

Let's sample some opinions:

BASS: Five diamonds. Partner wants me to respond to Blackwood without counting the ace of hearts. A possible hand: S:KJxx H:- D:KQJxxxx C:Kx.

CHAWLA: Five hearts and leave on to partner who initiated Blackwood convention.

HARPER: Five hearts. Not Blackwood. I'll show my heart control and deny diamond control.

KOKISH: Five clubs. Four notrump means "keep on cue-bidding".

COTTEE: Pass. Partner can't see many ruffing tricks and wants those ten extra points for playing notrump.

The next time you have an impulse to bid four notrump, remember this hand and ask yourself: could my bid or partner's response possibly be ambiguous? That is, unless you happen to be playing with the most practical (or most cynical?) panelist who deserves the last word:

CARRUTHERS: Five hearts. It is difficult to construct a hand consistent with partner's bidding. At any rate, whatever four notrump is, five hearts covers all bases.

(B) IMPs, E-W vul., South holds: S:97 H:643 D:QJ6542 C:74

West	North	East	South
-	2C	Pass	2D
Pass	3H	Pass	4H
Pass	5D	Pass	?

Scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
6D	5	100
5NT	1	90
6H	1	80
5H	5	70

The scoring looks wrong; however, the singleton votes for five notrump and six hearts have been promoted because they are forwardgoing bids and can thus be considered as blood brothers to the winnind six diamond bid.

An eloquent spokesman for the plurality was:

CARRUTHERS: Six diamonds. My two diamond bid denied a suit as good as KQxxx. Three hearts showed a solid suit and requested me to cue bid. Four hearts showed three trumps, no ace or king, and no singleton or void. Partner's failure to cue bid either black suit can only mean he has first round control of both, since lacking one, he would cue bid the other. So he wants to draw attention to diamonds. Since I have maximum help there, I raise.

Agreeing with Carruthers was our Bluenose of the month:

STEWART: Six diamonds. Having denied an ace or king, I show him my source of tricks. Seven diamonds may well be our best spot.

I agree wholeheartedly. Sure, all we have is three high card points. But in view of our previous bidding, our holding is as strong as it could possibly be. I therefore suggest, in all due respect, that the five heart bidders are being a bit, well, pessimistic. Still, I shall defend to my death their right to be heard:

LINDOP: Five hearts. Sounds like an asking bid to me and I don't have first or second round control of diamonds.

DE GROOT: Five hearts. At this point, I have nothing further to contribute. If what I hold is enough for slam, I expect to hear from partner again.

Not bloody likely. Give partner S:A H:AKQJxxx D:Axxx C:A and he will pass five hearts.

MUNSON: Five hearts. My hand still doesn't look any better.

(C) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds: S:K10764 H:Q D:K8543 C:108

West	North	East	South
Pass	1H	Pass	1S
Pass	2C	Pass	?
Scoring	;		
Action	Panel	Votes	Points
2H	5		100
2D	4		90
2S	2		60

1

Pass

Among civilized folk, it is standard to play "fourth suit forcing". A two-diamond bid by South wouldn' t even promise diamonds; it would rather be a forcing noise, asking partner to describe his hand further. Of course, our expert panelists are aware of this fact. Nevertheless, one third one of the panel considered two diamonds the least obnoxious alternative.

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MANCUSO: Two diamonds, and pass partner's response, although it is not completely kosher to bid "fourth suit forcing" and then pass at your next opportunity.

STEWART: Two diamonds. Obviously misleading as to my strength but appears the least of evils. I can't accept two clubs as the final contract; two spades is playing poker and two hearts does not appeal.

Using Stewart's vocabulary, let's go to the unappealing:

KOKISH: Two hearts. Much tougher with a lesser heart. With a small doubleton heart, you wouldn't think twice about bidding two hearts. This is a similar holding in its own way.

ROY: Two hearts. In this sequence I am not strong enough to show another suit, because we play fourth suit forcing.

DE GROOT: Two hearts. Ugh. The opposition may come to the rescue.

LINDOP: Two hearts. Seems clearcut. I suppose a case could be made for passing in case partner gets carried away, but that may leave us in an inferior matchpoint score.

And here are the poker players: MUNSON: Two spades. If partner has even two to an honour, this may play best.

BASS: Two spades. If partner's spades are no better than my hearts, his high cards will be more useful to me (as entries to score my low spades via ruffs) than my high cards would be to partner.

And finally, the unacceptable (to Stewart, that is):

HARPER: Pass. Anyone who knows me is betting that I would never find this at the table. Maybe the opponents will balance in diamonds.

(D) IMPs, N-S vul., South holds: S:105 H:A9852 D:AK C:AJ108

West Pass Pass	North 1S 2H	East Pass Pass	South 1H 2C ?
Scoring:			
Action 2NT 3H Pass 3NT	Panel 9 0 2 0	Votes	Points 100 70 60 40

1

4H

This problem occurred in the finals of a major championship a few years ago. One well-known expert passed, while his counterpart bid two notrump and was raised to three. Nine tricks were easily taken, and ten IMPs changed hands. Most panelists took the winning action.

30

MUNSON: Two notrump. One more try for the vulnerable game.

HARPER: Two notrump. I believe this hand worthy of a game try so why not make the most descriptive bid and leave the choice to partner.

MANCUSO: Two notrump. We have extras and must make a forward going bid. If he really has hearts, he'll correct and we'll play four hearts. ROY: Two notrump. In case partner has eight or nine points, a game is possible.

It isn't wrong to pass; it just would work out badly on this particular hand. An unlucky guesser was:

STEWART: Pass. Tempting to try with two notrump and would probably do so if I needed a swing. But, I feel a minus at the three-level more likely than a successful game.

(E) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds: S:3 H:Q10863 D:KQ5 C:AQ42

West	North	East	South
-	-	2S*	Dbl.
4S	4NT	Pass	?

*weak two-bid

Scoring:

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

0			
Action	Panel Votes	Points	
5C	8	100	
5D	2	70	
Pass	2	60	
5H	0	30	

This problem is reminiscent of hand A. Again, we're supposed to figure out the meaning of partner's four notrump. Is he asking us to pick a suit - in which case the best response is five clubs; is he asking for aces or does he want to play notrump?

Result merchants are hereby informed that our flesh and blood North held: S:KQ H:Kxx D:Axxxx C:Kxx. Four notrump was the perfect spot, but South (Okay, I'll admit it, I was South) bid five clubs and the rest of the auction must remain secret because I, too, have my pride. Here is the panel:

COTTEE: Pass. A good opportunity to use a sometimes under-employed call.

ROY: Pass. I would take four notrump to play.

LINDOP: Five diamonds. With no firm understanding, I'll play this as Blackwood. If it is asking for my best suit or natural, we'll have to discuss it after the session.

At the risk of going off on a tangent, readers are invited to take note of Lindop's remark "after the session". Not between hands.

BASS: Five diamonds. I only have one ace. Don't try to mastermind partner. If he was trying to play at four notrump, he's going to have to play one trick better.

KOKISH: Five clubs. Four notrump did not say "pick a suit" - rather, it said "I have a two-suiter, please bid something that caters to all possibilities." Obviously, I will correct five diamonds to five hearts.

I understand rationally that I have no business arguing with Kokish, but I really would like to know what he would bid as North with a goodish three-suiter, not to mention the actual North hand.

CHAWLA: Five clubs. I take my partner's bid of four notrump, asking me to bid my best minor.

(F) IMPs, neither vul., South holds: S:AQ1098743 H:4 D:- C:10964

West	North	East	South
-	Pass	1NT	3S
4S	Pass	4NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Which card do you lead?

Scoring:

Action	Panel Votes	Points
Club	5	100
Heart	3	80
Spade 10	3	70
Spade Q	1	50

This hand is from the 1962 World Championship. East held the kingjack of spades, doubleton, opposite West's void. But East-West had eleven running tricks in the minors. In fact, North held only one face card, the ace of hearts. And South was the great Italian champion Walter Avarelli. He led his heart; Giorgio Belladonna took his ace, returned a sapde - down six.

Three panelists guessed correctly: Cottee, Harper and Kokish.

KOKISH: Heart four. Maybe my ox won't try to give me a ruff. Our best hope for an entry to North's hand would seem to be in the suit where he has considerable length.

Some panelists preferred a more passive lead:

MANCUSO: Six of clubs. Not giving him too many tricks on the lead.

CARRUTHERS: Ten of clubs. Anyone who leads the spade ace and finds partner with a void and three heart tricks will make the New York Times at least.

In certain cases a spade could be right:

STEWART: Spade queen. Hope partner has two spades and an entry.

DE GROOT: Spade ten, hoping declarer has KJx, partner two small (plus an entry) and dummy a void, which is consistent with the bidding. Leading the queen would allow declarer to hold up and sever communications.

Mailbox

Your columnist is getting depressed over the declining number of entries. If you enjoy this column (even midly), please send your answers to the August problems to:

Canadian Bidding Contest c/o Allan Simon 1339 Hamilton St., NW Calgary, Alta. T2N 3W8

Be sure to include your name and addres. Winners receive: fame, a hardcover book from Camel Bridge Supplies, and a spot on the November panel.

A bridge club in St. Georges-de-Beauce, Que. has launched its own minicontest. All members send me their bids and the club rewards the highest score. Roger Carette and Lise Carette tied for May honours with scores of 470.

August Problems

(A) Rubber bridge, N-S 60, E-W 70, both vul., South holds:
S:3 H:Q9763 D:754 C:J1094

West	North	East	South
-	1C	Pass	?

(B) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds: S:KJ1072 H:KQJ84 D:72 C:6

West	North	East	South
-	1D	Pass	1S
2S	4S	Pass	4NT
Pass	5C	Pass	?

(C) IMPs, both vul., South holds: S:K5 H:1098642 D:KJ964 C:-

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1D	1S	?

(D) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds: S:AKQ873 H:KJ843 D:42 C:-

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	3N*	?

*solid minor

(E) IMPs, N-S vul., South holds: S:J H:AK10763 D:32 C:A753

West	North	East	South
-	-	3D	3H
3S	4H	Pass	Pass
4S	Pass	Pass	?

(F) Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds: S:KJ5 H:J63 D:86 C:A9876

West	North	South	East
1D	Pass	Pass	1H
1S	Pass	Pass	2NT
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Which card do you lead?



*

Questionnaire on the role of the CBF

And ways of financing its activities

The CBF has operated for the last 10 or 12 years on two separate sources of funds. The general fund is maintained from contributions of \$1 per member, obtained from Units that form the Federation, while the Olympiad fund is maintained from the proceeds of three Canada-wide games per year, plus other Olympiad fund games held by clubs and Units at their convenience. Inflation has taken over and new funds must be found. The Directors of the CBF would appreciate your assistance in resolving this problem.

With this in mind, the following questionnaire was sent out to all Unit executives for completion. If you wish to express your opinion, we suggest that you complete the questionnaire or make your opinions known to your Unit Board. Please answer (a), (b) and (c) with numbers ranging from 1 to 5 (keeping in mind that 1 indicates you are strongly in favor of the proposition and 5 means you are strongly opposed)

Your general attitude should be expressed in all three categories by remembering that (a) indicates money considerations are of secondary importance; (b) that the present level of funding is maintained; and (c) your priorities if the level of funding was increased to \$1.50 or \$2 per member.

Please return your answers to Dr. Alvin Baragar, whose address appears on the inside front cover.

By F.A. Baragar

Present activities

1) National Events:

a) Teams: The Canadian National Team Championship (the CNTC) is the vehicle for qualifying all teams that are to receive financial support to attend international events (see section 2). Last year and this year, 13 teams (one from the Maritimes, three from Ouebec, four from southern Ontario, one from northern Ontario and Manitoba, and two from each of Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia) participated in the National final. Disbursements for this event exceeded revenues by \$7,000 in 1980. There is no reason to be optimistic that 1981 will cost the general fund less. The directors of the CBF feel that the experience of playing in such an event is valuable in the development of our future internationalists, and so the second teams from each of Zones V and VI, as well as 2nd, 3rd and 4th teams from Zones II and III should be included. They try to maintain some semblance of representation by population in picking the numbers of teams from each zone.

The ladies teams were financed to the extent of \$2,000 for the final trials. The early stages of this event have produced some revenue, but have come nowhere near making it self-supporting. Participation has been restricted to those living in central Canada and those of substantial means residing elsewhere.

b) Pairs: The operation of a separate trial to determine our Olympiad pairs has been eliminated. The Grand National Pairs (GNP) of the ACBL will be used to determine our representatives. Zones II and III have two international pairs, and each other Zone has one. The ACBL has agreed to a surcharge of 50¢/session/player but wants the CBF to collect it directly rather than collecting it on our behalf.

2) International Events:

a) Teams: In Olympiad years, the CBF sends one team. This past year, when the event was held in Valkenberg, The Netherlands, our cost was over \$20,000. In Olympiad Pairs years, there is a kind of Swiss team event for the Rosenblum Cup, held in conjunction with the Pairs Olympiad. Canada is entitled to send eight teams to this event. The CBF paid the expenses of one team to attend this event in New Orleans in 1978 and authorized 7 others to attend at their own expense.

b) Pairs, open: In even-numbered, non-Olympiad years, Canada is entitled to enter 10 pairs, plus pairs who are entitled to enter by virtue of their WBF ranking (Murray and Kehela in 1978).

Since 1970, the CBF has paid the expenses of the eight pairs mentioned to attend this event. In 1978 two additional pairs were authorized to enter at their own expense.

c) Mixed Pairs, Womens Pairs: Canada is allowed to enter 30 mixed pairs and five womens pairs in the WBF events held in conjunction with the Olympiad pairs. The CBF authorized the entry of these pairs in 1978. These participants received no financial assistance.

d) Teams: The Bermuda Bowl. In odd numbered years, Canada must qualify one team to enter the Zone 2 of the WBF trials for entry to the Bermuda Bowl world championship. The expenses of this team, after qualifying in the CNTC is paid for by the ACBL in its role as the Zone 2 organization of the WBF.

3) The Digest:

The Canadian Bridge Digest is published by the CBF to promote unity and good will amongst Canadian players, as well as to keep them informed of events of concern to them as Canadians. In addition, it has promoted bridge generally by publishing articles on technical aspects of the game and by sponsoring a bidding contest. The cost has averaged about \$2,500 per issue over the past four or five years, until the cost of the last issue ballooned to almost \$4,000. This appears to be an isolated increase, since the cost is expected to return to the former level with the next issue.

4) Meetings:

Each meeting of the directors costs \$4,000 to \$5,000. Two meetings would be more satisfactory, but this has not occurred since 1977. In 1979, a meeting was held by conference call. While this served its primary purpose (to get the first CNTC finalized), it cost \$1,500 and was clearly less satisfactory than a normal meeting. Normal meetings consist of two 18-hour days, plus a third day of 10 to 12 hours (something less than a picnic!) The directors and officers sometimes play in the tournament that follows the meeting, but are usually too tired to play effectively.

I hope the above information will be sufficient background to enable you to answer the questions posed. Please answer the questions with the knowledge that we have tried to obtain federal government assistance, with no success, and what is worse, absolutely no reason to hope for any change in attitude on the part of the civil service persons who might be able to make the decisions that would be favorable, even for our Olympiad participation.

Thank you for your time and effort.

	1) a)	The Digest: The Digest is accomplishing the objectives set out in the information sheet.
2)	a) c)
•	b)	The Digest appears four times per year. This is the correct frequency. a) b) c)
	Th	ere should be issues/year.
	c)	Preferences as to content: i) i)
	to 1 to 2)	Do you have any suggestions to improve the Digest? Do you have anything of heral interest about which you would be willing to write. The editors are always glad receive material for publication, but remember that they have the ultimate decision as what is to appear. National Events: There should be an annual CNTC a) b) c) The CBF should finance 13 teams to attend the CNTC National final. a) b) c)
•	Ιw	yould prefer to see teams in the final (supported as above).
	c)	The last CNTC winner should be invited to participate without having to qualify. a) b) c)
•	Th	ere should be financial support for this team. Yes, No
6	If	yes, how much?
	d) qua	The CNTC final should be subsidized from the general fund, so that card fees in the alifying and club rounds can be maintained at the present level. a) b) c)
	shc be	All the moneys collected over the costs of holding the games up to the Zone final ould go toward the expenses of the national final. (This would mean that there would no expenses paid before the national final, nor would there be any profit for the it.) a) b) c)
	ple	openses here mean the expenses of the qualifying players to the Zone final, for exam- , while the expenses of the national final do involve travel to the final, as well as a per m for the duration of play.)

If there is to be expense reimbursement at the Zone level, what should the formula for determining the level of compensation be?

f) There should be a Ladies Event held in conjunction with the CNTC. a)_____ b)____ c)__

To what extent should this event be subsidized from the general fund?

How would you subsidize this event? How much can each team reasonably be expected to contribute? Should this be the same for the open team?

g) Would you be favorably disposed to a request for \$1.50/player from your Unit for the general fund?
 a)_____ b)____ c)____

for \$2/player

Please answer this question in conjunction with 3f) listed under international events.

h) Would you be in favor of your Unit issuing an invitation to the CBF to host the CNTC and in so doing pick up the local expenses of running the final (Director, playing facilities, and a reception at which the players could meet one another and the people who would be officiating). In return, the local players (non-participants) could kibitz, and the community would have the prestige of hosting the event.

a)_____ b)_____ c)____

Comments on the CNTC.

3) International Events:

a) Canada should continue to send a team to the Olympiad.

a)_____ b)_____ c)___

b) Canada should send (pay the expenses of) a team to the Rosenblum Cup. a)_____ b)____ c)____

teams to the Rosenblum Cup should be supported.

c) The present policy of sending 8 pairs to the Pairs Olympiad is proper and acceptable.

a)_____ b)_____ c)_____

Given that Canada is entitled to a maximum of 10 pairs, how many would you send and how would the qualified pairs be selected?

d) The Olympiad fund should pay all of the legitimate expenses of any pairs or teams that it supports at international events. "Legitimate expenses" are to be interpreted as

travel to and from the site at a maximum of economy air fare (excursion fare, when feasible), hotel cost at a respectable (not necessarily first class) hotel, and a per diem allowance that permits moderate meals, in addition to entry fees.

a)_____ b)_____ c)_____

Should the team or pair expect first class accommodation? Yes _____, No _____.

If support different from that specified in the first part is to be given, what proportion should the player be expected to supply?

e) General funds should be available to pay for international representation. (Not just on a loan basis.)

a)_____ b)_____ c)_____

f) Each unit should have the option of specifying that some percentage of its annual dues, as requested by the CBF, be deposited in the Olympiad fund.

a)_____ b)_____ c)_____

g) With the present costs of travel and accommodation, both here in North America and in Europe, it will not be possible to maintain the present quality of support to as many players as our past and presently planned commitments involve. If Canada is to continue to send eight pairs and one team to the pairs Olympiad and one open and one ladies team to the Open Olympiad, new methods of financing will be required. The federal government has been adamant in its refusal to consider any support to bridge. How should we proceed?

4) General Questions:

* * * * * * * * * *

a) The past performance of the CBF has been satisfactory.

a)_____ b)_____ c)_____

In which areas could this performance be improved and in what ways?

b) Most of the areas you have been asked to comment upon above have financial implications. If your suggestions were all to be implemented, a saving of \$ ______, or additional expenses of \$ ______ would be incurred. Where would you apply the savings, if any, or how would you finance the additional disbursements?

c) There are two questions relating to the election of the CBF director:

i) Should a single unit have the voting power to elect the CBF director for that Zone, irrespective of the combined voting results from all the other units in the Zone? This presently applies in Zones I, II and III. In Zone I, there are two almost equal units (in population); in Zone II, the Montreal unit has more CBF votes than the other three units combined, while in Zone III, Unit 166 with 49 CBF votes can swamp Unit 246's nine votes. Do you have a suggestion for a change in electoral procedure that would be equitable in all cases?

II) Should the number of votes for each candidate in an election be made public? Yes _____, No _____.

Your Unit Number _____

Canada Wide Olympiad

October 8, 1980

CANADA-WIDE WINNERS:	
lst: TIE:	
GUNNAR FROST AND GEORGE KREKORIAN, ST. CATHARINES, ON	50.00
LOUISE HARRISON AND GRACE LARKE, SAULT STE MARIE, MI	72.3%
2nd:	
S. FRASER AND M. MOLSON, PTE CLAIRE, QUE.	71.0
20NE l lst: Noella Masse, St. Foy, Que & Jacques Paradis,Sillery, Que 2nd: J. Praught & Edward Popp, Summerside, PEI	67.7 67.6
ZONE 2 lst: S. Fraser & M. Molson, Pte Claire, Que. 2nd: J.B. Bourdages & G. Michaud, Rimouski,Que	71.0 68.5
ZONE 3 lst: Gunnar Frost & George Krekorian, St. Catharines, ON 2nd: Joanne Marden & Ken Marden, Oshawa, ON	72.3 67.9
ZONE 4 lst: Louise Harrison & Grace Larke, Sault St. Marie, MI 2nd: TIE Pearl Langford & Connie Curtis, Thunder Bay ON	72.3
Margi Enstrom & Casey Kozak, Thunder Bay, ON	63.6
ZONE 5 lst: TIE:	
Mr. & Mrs. J. Weins, Moose Jaw, SK Myrna Thomas & Doug Rankine, Edmonton, AB	63.1
2nd: Mrs. R. Baker & Mrs. P. Braaten, Moose Jaw, SK	62.5
ZONE 6 lst: Dot Stewart, Penticton, BC & Ed Schugalo, Oliver, BC 2nd: Don Sache & Keith Miller, Vancouver, BC	68.8 66.9
TOTAL CONTRIBUTION \$2,605.75 PLUS ONE DONATION - from a 7 table game-unreported.	
TABLES 376	
GAMES 35	

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	18,572 MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION ANALYSIS OCTOBER 1980									
UNIT NO.	UNIT NAME	TOTAL	ONE PER HOUSEHOLD	UNRANKED	JUNIOR MASTER	MASTER	NATIONAL MASTER	SENIOR MASTER	ADV. SR MASTER	LIFE MASTER
194 230	Maritime s Acadían	767 619 1386	672 544	76 77	176 137	116 85	92 100	137 112	59 62	111 46
151 152 192 199	Hontreal Quebec E. Ontario Saguenay BA	2,153 350 1,214 348 4065	1,856 303 1,086 292	364 54 158 53	602 115 314 84	324 62 190 46	235 30 155 41	257 37 153 70	124 14 83 24	247 38 161 30
166 246	Ontario Trent Vly.	4,910 933 5843	4,316 804	601 96	1,498 277	752 206	552 118	613 124	314 54	580 58
181 212 228 238 245	Manitoba Soo Int. BA N. Wn. Ont. Quonta BA N. Manitoba	602 202 228 434 80 1546	522 175 206 377 72	73 20 12 55 6	148 49 54 114 24	96 23 31 69 21	77 26 35 71 12	72 41 32 69 8	39 14 23 19 2	97 29 41 37 7
390 391 392 393 573 575	Calgary Northern Alta Lethbridge Med. Hat S. Sask. N. Sask.	725 664 148 53 497 495	610 570 122 49 424 432	81 59 5 2 67 45	193 174 32 17 120 106	113 100 24 4 79 89	91 81 16 11 76 74	90 109 34 10 77 74	55 54 11 3 37 36	102 87 26 6 41 71
429 430 431 456 571 574	Parksville Vancouver Victoria Quesnel Okanagan Kootenay	2582 355 1,651 333 213 384 214 3150	294 1,424 296 181 329 178	57 245 39 23 29 12	94 459 78 66 104 51	60 225 33 19 67 45	48 172 37 36 59 33	54 212 48 35 67 45	23 117 36 13 33 12	19 221 62 21 25 16