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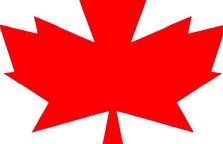
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SASKATCHEWAN

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Jill Savage

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Editor's Notebook

The Canadian Women's Team and the Canadian National Team Championships have drawn to a successful conclusion (without any laurels being deposited at my feet, unfortunately).

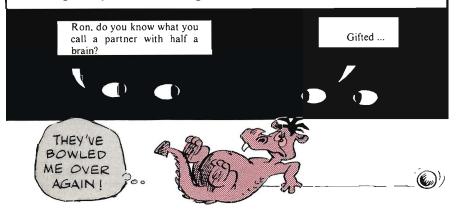
I did attempt to establish some credibility in Vancouver at the largely attended and well-run ladies event. However, the fates chose to frown on me. First, a broken front tooth (which only hurt when I smiled) next, there was just no getting into the play-offs, and finally food poisoning on the trip home, (which resulted in a three week hospital stay) ... but, all in all an average week-end for me.

My team mates were gracious people and fine players and I thank them for asking me to be a part of that team. My own partner, Helen Mitchell was in her usual aggressive good form. On one memorable hand where we "each took a view", we managed to lose only two IMPs. It really deserved a better fate ...

Nostalgia set in when I reestablished contact with some good friends from the east coast. Bridge flourishes in the Maritimes. Not to mention the Alberta team which did so well. But, as is fitting, the accolades go to the winners, the George Mittelman team from Quebec. Congratulations for a job well done.

If anyone deserves credit though, it's the men who "volunteer" to act as non-playing captains. Try to control one woman, let alone six. They're reserving a place in Valhalla for Jim McAvoy, our n.p.c.. After watching "his" team stay out of contention, he still managed to commit the event to paper. FORTITUDE!! for which I have GRATITUDE!!

The CNTC victory comes west! Alberta brought off the coup after knocking at the door a few times, but never being invited in. A fine player (and member of the winning team) Gordon Campbell, on instant notice was able to produce an article for the Digest. What can I say about Gordon and Jim? I guess if you do one thing well, you do most things well.



Vancouver Women's Trials the Greatest

by Henry Smilie

Our national women's Olympiad play-offs were held at Vancouver May 18 to 22.

The winning aggregation, from Montreal and Toronto, was comprised of Diana Gordon, Sharyn Kokish, Mary Paul, Francine Cimon, Sandra Fraser and Katie Thorpe with George Mittelman as n.p.c.

Coming second, from Toronto, were Gloria Silverman, Ruth Gold, Shelagh Paulsson, Joan Eaton, Wendy Geyer and Christine Hutton with Michael Roche as n.p.c.

After a three-day round robin the four leaders played off to select the winning team.

The other two teams to reach the semifinals were a Vancouver entry consisting of Sharon Crapko, Selene Jacobson, Donna Macduff, Leslie Gold and Jean Groome with Ron Borg as n.p.c. and the Edmonton foursome consisting of Pat Lopuchinsky, Lucille Barton, Judith McGillis and Karen Kilworth.

Evelyn Hodge was chief executive officer-"mother superior" of the tournament. Brian May directed. "Mrs. Hospitality" Phyliss Barrington ably handled the duties of hostess. But we nearly lost her when a maniac commandeered a bus on which she was riding and treated the passengers to a hectic ride.

BIDDING BOXES

Since bidding boxes were used, never in the history of Vancouver, if not the world, has there been such quietness in a room containing 72 women.

Whether the Libbers like it or not, most of the teams were captained by males.

WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS

The locale of the trials was a hotel one block from Davie Street, the Davie Street of infamous repute. Your correspondent was the victim of a karate-style reverse kick in the guts at the hands (or feet) of a denizen of the underworld. Conceivably the assailant was the "non-playing captain" of certain girls operating on the street concerned with tricks that did not involve cards.

Others will report to you on hands. Only one was mentioned to me. Jean Groome dealt herself: AJ; KJXXXXX; QXXX; void. She accidentally bid I spade instead of I heart and was passed out. Down one. At the other table the bid was 4 hearts doubled. Down 500.

KUDOS TO THE MACHOS

Locally at least, our male players were very supportive of our contestants. Their assistance and support were very much appreciated by the girls.

Since our local papers were on strike, an attempt was made to persuade the Globe and Mail to give us some coverage. It failed. In vain I pointed out that although we have millions of bridge players the media ignore us, but if a chess player burps, coughs or sneezes it rates a column and picture.



CNTC

NATIONAL FINAL



Ed BRIDSON, Arno Hobart, Mike Schoenborn, Dom Di Felice, and Marty Kirr. They added David Lindop for the National Final.

Duncan PHILLIPS, Rick Delogu, Paul Thurston, and Bill Crissey. They added Robert Lebi and Stephen E. Cooper.

John CARRUTHERS, John Guoba, Boris Baran, Mark Molson, George Mittelman, and Allan Graves.

Ray JOTCHAM, Harmon Edgar, David Turner, and Greg Carroll. They added Michael Roche and John Rayner, and Katie Thorpe as NPC

Simon BRAMSON, Leo Takefman, Bruce Elliott, Ian McKinnon, and Irving Goodman. They added Andy Altay.

Mike BETTS, Randy Bennett, Gord Chippin, George Caldwell, and Brian Alexander

Jim McAVOY, Duncan Smith, Peter Herold, and Jim Dickie

Laurence BETTS, Greg Arbour, Dave Waterman, and Aidan Ballantyne

John ARBLASTER, Guy Coutanche, Ken Warren, Larry Hansen, Dave McLellan, and Gary Salmi

Denis LEDUC, Brian Thomas, Dale & Fran Freeman, Wayne Ricker, and Marc Langevin Bert WINGES, John & Bill Bowman, Malcolm Ewashkiw, Robbie Robidoux, and Roy Dalton

Joe SILVER, Irving Litvack, Keith Balcombe, Ross Taylor, and Eric Kokish

Andre LALIBERTE, Raymond Fortin, Maurice Larochelle, Jean Bernier, Kamel Fergani, and Fracois Gauthier

Nick GARTAGANIS, Gord Crispin, Voyteck Pomykalski, Michel Lorber, Mike Kenny, Zygmunt Marcinski

Phil Baer, Bert Eccles, Al Schwartz, Ernie Szavay, Dave Levine, and Joe Yassi

Victor GOLDBERG, John Stewart, Eric Balkam, Gerry Callaghan, Doug Fraser, and Fred Hoffer

Subash GUPTA, Doran Flock, Bryan Maksymetz, Gordon Campbell, Drew Cannell, and Mike Chomyn

Peter Jones, David Smith, Tim McPhail, Bob Crosby, John Sabino, and Gord Chapman

Stan Cabay, Allan Terplawy, Ron Gardiner, Lisa Lister, and George Kelly

Erwin Borau, Gail Kilburn, Steve Maderash, Terry Sabourin, and Martin & Elaine Ware

Final score:

GUPTA 205; Silver 158.

So hail the new champions! Subash Gupta, Doran Flock, and Gordon Campbell of Calgary, Bryan Maksymetz and Mike Chomyn of Edmonton, and International Master Drew Cannell of Winnipeg. We salute you!

— Meeting the challenge =

By Gordon Campbell

the inception of the Canadian National Team Championship, the winners have come from the East. This fact has temporarily obscured the impressive earlier of successes Western Canadian teams in the Grand National Teams competition. Toronto, after five days (Saturday, June 9 to Wednesday, June 13) and 326 boards of tough bridge, Subhash Gupta (Captain). Doran Flock and Gordon Campbell of Calgary; Bryan Maksymetz and Mike Chomyn of Edmonton; and Drew Cannell of Winnipeg, became the 1984 CNTC champions.

Preliminaries

The original team comprised Subhash and Doran as partners and Gordon and Bryan. This team started out in the Calgary club qualification rounds, narrowly qualified from the Unit round (fourth place, only ahead of non-qualifying 5th!) to play in the Zone V (Alberta. Saskatchewan and Northern Manitoba) final held in conjunction with the Calgary Sectional on Friday, April 6 to Sunday, April 8 at the Palliser Hotel. The team got its together and comfortably finished in first place in the Zonal round robin out of 16 teams. The top four teams had playoff a determine the three teams to go forward from the Zone to the Toronto finals, with the first team being assured of all expenses. Our team qualified first (after a close match with the fourth place Spakman/Jurkovich team of Lethbridge/Milk River, Alberta.

After considerable discussion on the merits of a six man team, we added Mike and Drew - and boy, were we glad that we did. So off to Toronto. Bryan and Gordon had played regularly for about two years and had developed quite a complicated bidding system. main problem was to remember it. Subhash and Doran had together on and off for several years and our third partnership. Mike and Drew, had scarcely met other . before. combination of partnerships!

However, one major advantage was that each of the six players had played at least once before in the National Finals. Bryan, Gordon and Mike played on a six man/woman team from Edmonton in 1982, but not with each other. Who said bridge was a game of partnerships?

Toronto Round Robin

The format in Toronto was a round robin of 20 teams, ten boards against each team, lasting three days (Saturday, Sunday and Monday). After the first day things were proceeding less well than hoped for. Our despondency

was heightened by this hand in Round 7. LHO opened 1H, Bryan overcalled 2D, RHO passed which seemed ominous, and H:J108xx; S:K876x. D:void; C:10xx, everyone vulnerable. After I passed, LHO reopened with a double and RHO passed (as expected) for penalties. 1 unsure what the correct action is. Although a vulnerable 2D overcall will be very sound, will that contract be better than 2S? Seemed close to a 50-50 decision to me; I guessed wrong and bid 2S and went for 1100 against good defence. hand was S:Q; H:Qx; D:AQJ9xxxx; C:KJ. Maybe he should pull to 3D. Meanwhile, with the lie of the cards 2D goes down one - with good defence down two. This bad board cancelled out several good ones in the match. Half way through the second day, after Round 11, drastic action was required as we were lying some large number of victory points away from fourth place, the last qualifying spot. We consoled ourselves with amazement at how we could still be in the running when everyone was playing badly. So we rearranged partnerships: Subhash played with Drew, Doran played with Mike. Sudden1 v things began to gel. Individual styles melded in these partnerships. Then a setback and with two rounds to go, we fell back to seventh place.

Penultimate Round

Luckily we now had to play

the fourth place team. Every IMP was key, and really worth two IMPs in terms of gaining on our rivals. We needed a good result. On the second board, Bryan opened 3D and finally the opponents reached 4S. I found a double, having a void in diamonds and enough to double 3S at duplicate. I misdefended and that was only +500, but still good.

Next hand it goes 1C on my left, 1NT from Bryan. The double on my right was expected as I held S:xxx; H:xx; D:xxx; C:xxxxx. Everybody vulnerable. didn't look promising, to say the Random mathematical formulae such as $T = -300 \times U +$ 100, where T=telephone number and U=undertricks went through mind. What could I do? But not to worry, Bryan held S:xx; H:Ax; D:AQxx; C:AKJxx, the clubs broke 2-1, and he had the nerve of steel to finesse the diamond for an overtrick (each IMP seemed vital), for +380. After the dust had cleared on other boards we won 47-0 for a much needed blitz. This allowed us to move into fourth place heading into the last round.

Last Round

Unfortunately, we now had to play the Gartaganis team (1982 winners). Just as I was hoping for nice easy decisions, along came hand number two. First seat vulnerable, I opened 3C with S:x; H:10x; D:KJx; C:K1097xxx. A touch aggressive but then it went pass, 6NT (from Bryan), 7C on my

right. I thought of double (to show partner that I did not think that they could make 7C) but then decided to pass in an attempt to show extras (I did have extras for one of MY preempts). LHO bid 7H, Bryan passed, RHO passed and now | tanked. What to do? don't like getting pushed around by non-vulnerable opponents. did know one thing - I probably couldn't pass!! - 1 decided, after looking at my hand for a long time that I did not hold the Q of C which was a key card. So I doubled for +1300. Bryan who held S:AJx; D:A10xx; C:AQx said afterwards, that he knew I loved to double also that I could possibly bid 7NT missing AQ of clubs, and so he would give me the pleasure of doubling. That's partnership trust.

Eventually, the team obtained another blitz enabling us to finish in third position in the round robin. The other three teams were Silver, Bramson and Mike Betts, who finished first, second and fourth respectively. All three teams were amongst the leaders for most of the round robin, with the Silver leading the field bv a wide margin most of the way.

Semi Final

The Silver team was allowed to choose its opponents in the semi-final from the third and fourth teams. As they had some IMPs carryover against Mike Betts, they chose this team.

Thus, Cupta played Bramson. This a very solid match with exceptionally few swings, and ended in a tie after 64 boards, but Gupta held a 21 IMP carryover the round robin. The finalists were Silver (Joev Eric Kokish. Litvak, Keith Balcombe and Ross Taylor) and Gupta, and the Gupta team held a ten IMP carryover. for the 72 boards to be played on Wednesday, June 13.

Final

the After comparison at first quarter, Silver had gained one IMP on 18 boards. The second quarter was a disaster and we lost 42 IMPs, so we were behind by 33 IMPs at the half. Needless to say, we were not very happy at the dinner break. 33 IMPs is a big margin. Luck came our way in the third quarter. We bid a couple of slams that made (for a change!) and amazingly, we picked up 50 IMPs to lead by 17 IMPs. This run continued into the last 18 boards where we picked up an additional 30 IMPs, to win the final by 47.

The most disappointing aspect of the tournament was that I never used my redouble card and as my friends know, this is my favorite bid. In fact, I can't even remember doubling a partial. Amazing.

Summary

In summary, the team had its share of luck, but when the chips were down, everyone played well,

coming from behind in both the round robin and the final. usual. Stan Tench directed the tournament excellently. have been quite a task to preduplicate all 326 boards, enabling hand records to promptly after produced It seems that we now session. play Mexico and/or Bermuda (maybe in March 1985 at the Montreal Spring Nationals) for the chance to go to New Delhi to represent Canada in the Bermuda Bowl in October 1985. Finally, the three Calgary members of the team would like to thank Brooke Windsor et al. for arranging such a super welcome back on the Thursday evening.

Canadian Women's Team Championship

By: Jim McAvoy - Duncan Smith

The 1984 Canadian Women's Championship held at The Chateau Granville in Vancouver, May 18 to May 22, 1984, was a giant success. Eighteen qualifying teams from coast to coast came to select Canada's international women's team.

THE PARTICIPANTS

New Brunswick Nova Scotia G. Caldwell (N.P.C.) Helen Colter Gwen Lynn Linda Cobham Beryl Callaghan Sharon Lewis Barbara MacKay

Quebec Steven Goldstein (N.P.C.) Rhoda Habert Beverly Kraft Nancy Koffler Barbara Saltsman

G. Mittelman (N.P.C.)
Dianna Gordon
Sharyn Kokish
Mary Paul
Francine Cimon
Sandra Fraser
Katie Thorpe

Ontario
Michael Roche (N.P.C.)
Wendy Geyer
Christine Hutton
Ruth Gold
Gloria Silverman
Joan Eaton
Shelagh Paulsson

Ontario British Columbia Helen Shields Shiobban Arnot Carol Anderson Cherrill Craig Sandra Borg Marcia Kostynyk

Manitoba Ruth Copp Naomi Silver Helen Promislow Maureen Marsch Candice Levi Saskatchewan Audrey Norman Gerry Sugarman Mary Clarke Doris McGuirl Elaine Crossley Debi Harper

Peggy McGregor Jean Lawes Verla Elmgren Mary McGarry Bonnie Dolan Cheryl Affolder

Cindy Seibel Shirley Mould Joan Schneider Pam Braun Andrey Sabier June Lind

Alberta
Pat Lopushinsky
Lucille Barton
Judith McGillis
Karen Kilworth

Marjorie Andrukow Brenda Murchison Gloria J. Hummel Mrs. Bjorg Jurkovich

British Columbia Alberta

Jim McAvoy (N.P.C.) Rhonda Betts Donnie Delisle Connie McAvoy Lynn Dickie Jill Savage Helen Mitchell

British Columbia

Donna Dunn Dodie McNabb Sue Kemp Doris Leary Diane Davies Amy Marks

Lauren Miller (N.P.C.) Elaine Ryan Trudy Hurdle Jennifer Paynter Julene Johnson Susan Peters Rhoda Tafler

Mavis Zydyk Joy Vikstrom Ev Lim Chris Griffin Jennie Radcliffe Corrie Van Viegen

Ron Borg (N.P.C.) Sharon Crapko Selene Jacobson Donna Macduff

Donna Macduf Leslie Gold Jean Groome

Peter Herold (N.P.C.)
Diane Kinakin
Julie Smith
Debbie McCully
Betty Michno
Dee Steil
Sheila Dickie

Adrian Hicks (N.P.C.) Ev Hodge Margie Neate Stella Alliston Mary Fines Donna Morrison Jane Green

The format was a twelve board round robin with each team playing every other team, converted to a Victory Point scale of 80. Seventeen twelve board matches over three days would determine the final four.

The qualifying rounds were dominated by the Roche team from Toronto with the amazing record of 994 Victory Points out of a possible 1368 - 73%! Their record was fourteen wins - three losses, with five perfect scores of eighty and four scores of 70 or more. Of course they led the field from match one to match seventeen, letting the balance of the field fight it out for the remaining three qualifying positions.

Shelagh Paulsson of the Roche team elected to overcall 2 diamonds after her right hand opponent had opened one spade on this hand

S X H Q, 10, 8, X, X D A, K, J, 10, X, X, C X

This led PAULSSON-EATON to a contract

of 5D making, while at the other table this hand elected to use a Michaels cue bid to show hearts and a minor which resulted in SILVERMAN-GOLD of the Roche team making four spades for a double game swing.

Gloria Silverman and Ruth Gold of the Roche team used sophisticated methods to reach this excellent slam, for a win of thirteen LM.P.S

North	South	
S K, 10, XXX	S	
H A, J, 10	H K, X	
D J, 8, X	D A, Q, 9, XXX	
C A, X	C K, Q, J, XX	

Their auction:

North	South
1S	2D*
2NT	3C
3D	3H
4C	4D
4H	5NT**
6C***	6D

- * Game forcing
- ** Grand Slam force
- *** none of top three diamonds

With one match to go in the qualifying round several teams were in contention. The standings were as follows:

ROCHE	932
LOPUSHINSKY	822
CALDWELL	793
GOLDSTEIN	791
BORG	777
MITTELMAN	772

In the final round, Roche defeated Caldwell 62-18, Lopushinsky defeated Goldstein by the narrow margin of 46-34, Borg scored a blitz over Dunn 80-0, and Mittelman defeated Seibel 57-23. The semi-final matchups were to be

Goldstein and Caldwell had played well but had narrowly missed the playoffs.

The carryover formula had Roche and Mittelman leading their respective matches by six I.M.P.S.

The winning semi-finalists had their hands full. After the first quarter Borg was behind by 24 I.M.P.S and rallied to cut the deficit to 11 I.M.P.S at the half. Roche rebounded with a strong third quarter to increase their lead to a more comfortable 37 I.M.P.S. This proved insurmountable to Borg as they regained only four I.M.P.S in the fourth quarter, leaving Roche the winner by 33 I.M.P.S.

The other semi-final match also pitted WEST vs. EAST.

Mittelman's six I.M.P. lead vanished and, in fact, Lopushinsky led at the half by 22 I.M.P.S. After the third quarter the match was tied. The Mittelman momentum continued resulting in a win by 27 I.M.P.S. Roche would carry a five I.M.P. lead into the final with Mittelman

Wendy Geyer and Christine Hutton of the Roche team were faced with this decision playing Sharon Kokish and Diana Gordon in the final: Wendy playing south picked up

Diana Gordon on her right opened a weak No Trump. Since 2C was conventional Geyer elected to bid 3C; Kokish bid 3H on her left, pass from Hutton, and 3 NT from Gordon on her right. Geyer now bid 4S which was doubled by Kokish and became the final contract. Hutton's hand could hardly have been more of an unpleasant surprise:

Result: - 800 to Roche

Francine Cimon and Sandra Fraser of the Mittelman team also found themselves in this unlucky turn of events in the finals; Cimon held:

After 2 passes, Cimon opened one spade, two hearts from Silverman on her left, negative double from Fraser, pass on her right, 2S from Cimon, pass, pass, double on her right, all pass. Fraser tabled

At first glance this doesn't appear to be a disaster, however spades split 5-0, the Ace and Queen of hearts were over the King-Result - 800 to Mittelman.

Mittelman won the first quarter of the final by 5 I.M.P.S, eliminating the Roche lead, but Roche rallied to lead by 19 I.M.P.S at the half. In the third quarter Roche picked up another 4 to lead by 23 I.M.P.S going into the final quarter. Again Mittelman faced near elimination, as had been the case at every stage of the event, but again rallied in the fourth quarter to win the National Championship by 11 I.M.P.S.

A special thanks should go to National Co-ordinator Doug Andrews of Vancouver

who spent numerous hours in his arranging of this event, and to Ev Hodge, Tournament Chairperson.

Tournament Director Brian May of Vancouver did an outstanding job in directing the event, an effort that was very much appreciated by participants from coast to coast.

— Canadian Bidding Contest =

MAY HONOUR ROLL

The May contest proved to be the most difficult in recent memory, as only four readers topped the 500 mark:

1.	Jennie Huntley	Barrie, Ont.	520
2.	D.C. MacDonald	St. Thomas, Ont.	510
3./4.	Marc Toupin	Valleyfield, Qué.	500
	Ron Mak	Halifax, N.S.	500

Congratulations to Mrs. Huntley, who joins our expert panel for this issue; and we've sent her a book prize, "The Bridge Bum", by Alan Sontag.

AUGUST PANEL

For each contest, we send questionnaires to 13 or 14 well-known players from all parts of Canada; usually all but one or two respond. This month however we are faced with a near-calamitous situation since a total of five (that's right, five) replies were received.

Unfortunately but unavoidably, the point awards had to be determined to a degree by your editor's personal bias rather than by the experts' votes. We apologize for any inconvenience and will do all in our power to prevent this from happening again, before the year 2000, at any rate.

The silver lining is that this will allow us to present experts' comments virtually unabridged and to analyze each problem in more depth than usual.

This month's panel:

BILL CAMP (Rothesay, N.B.). A winner of several regionals, he was his unit's and his province's Life Master of the Year for 1983.

JENNIE HUNTLEY (Barrie, Ont.), who broke a four-year winning streak by male readers, writes that she is mainly a club player who attends games in Barrie and London.

RAY JOTCHAM (Scarborough, Ont.) was runner-up in the 1964 Spingold and participated in the 1965 North American Trials. He may not have become the superstar we all expected, but his record includes numerous regional wins, consistently strong performances in the old Canadian Olympiad Team Trials and a fine showing in the 1978 Team Olympiad.

JIM KIRBY (Dartmouth, N.S.) was part of a team of underdogs which almost won the 1983 Canadian Nationals Teams Championship (CNTC), placing fifth after winning the round-robin portion. The performance of Kirby & Co., preceded as it was by the famous 1-IMP loss by another Maritime team in 1982, proves that the caliber of play in the Atlantic provinces is on a par with that of any other parts of the country. And that includes Alberta, home of the 1984 winners.

KEN MURRAY (Willowdale, Ont.) represented Canada at the 1982 Olympiad in France, placed third at the 1983 CNTC finals, has won lots of regionals, averages over 300 masterpoints a year and has come out of the shadow of his famous namesake Eric.



by Allan Simon

AUGUST SOLUTIONS

A) Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds:

S:72 H:9753 D:A92 C:AK96

West	North	East	South
1D	Pass	1 H	Pass
2H	Pass	Pass	?

Scoring:

Action	Panel votes	Points
Pass	3	100
3C	2	80
Double	0	20

This problem was suggested by reader Bob Sivell from Sarnia, who earned a poor result when he balanced with three clubs. He received support from

MURRAY: Three clubs. Partner is short in hearts and is a favourite to hold 3 or 4 clubs. Hold three quick tricks plus no wastage in hearts. Any other call would not do justice to this hand.

and from

HUNTLEY: My partner can't have any hearts, one at most, and I expect to use any clubs he has for ruffing.

The other panelists prefer to go quietly:

JOTCHAM: Pass. Due to the absence of an overcall partner most probably holds 4-2-4-3 shape with about 8 HCP. If he holds a doubleton heart queen or king, I expect a plus right here.

CAMP: Pass. This may be my only chance at a plus - to bid clubs would be stabbing -doubling would certainly draw a spade call - perhaps 2 NT by opponents would take the same number of tricks as a heart contract.

KIRBY: Pass. Two hearts looks like a good place to play.

I have no strong feelings either way, but lean toward the pass because the three club bid is right only in the one instance (admittedly the single most likely instance) where partner is very short in hearts, with a few useful cards here and there. Passing is right whenever any of the following is true:

- Opponent are in a 4-3 fit and can do as well in notrump;
- Opponents have underbid and your reopening bid pushes them to game;
- You get doubled in three clubs and go for 300.

Any one of these misfortunes is against the odds, but I would wager that their sum is greater than 50%.

Besides, 90% of the readers passed, so you're still alive in your quest for that 600 score, right?

B) IMPs, both vul., South holds: S:75 H:- D:AKO10953 C:KO93

West	North	East	South
1D*	Dbl.	Pass	Pass
ΙH	Pass	Pass	3D
Pass	3NT	Pass	?

Scoring: *Schenken 1D - could be short

Action	Panel votes	Points
4C	1	100
5C	1	90
4H	2	80
6C	1	70
4NT	0	60
6D	0	50
Pass	0	30

This great problem first appeared in the Winnipeg unit publication, brilliantly edited by Mr. Gim Ong. This publication labours under a rather unimaginative name ("Unit 181 Newsletter"), but is definitely among the most entertaining, informative and professional to be found anywhere in Canada

There was unanimity among experts that pass is out. We should look for slam and bring clubs into the picture:

KIRBY: Five clubs. There are no guarantees with this bid but it should allow partner to pick the best contract.

JOTCHAM: Six clubs. Partner probably has five hearts without much strength in the suit and should therefore have enough black cards to make six clubs a good spot.

Very true. But let's be more delicate, more refined:

MURRAY: Four clubs. This call is forcing and natural. In IMPs five of a minor appears to be the safest contract yet the hand may still belong in slam.

Yes, that's the bid I like. Finally, the four heart bidders:

HUNTLEY: Four hearts. I will bid six diamonds next. An expert partner might go seven diamonds with AK of spades. He must have the ace of clubs.

CAMP: Four hearts. Partner is odds - on to have the controls in the black suits needed to make six diamonds a good proposition.

I feel these two panelists are underestimating the danger of a possible diamond loser. Can't partner hold Axxxx Kxxx - AJxx?

C) IMPs, North-South vul., South holds: S:Q6 H:KJ10 D:AK102 C:A764

West	North	East	South
-	-	Pass	INT
Pass	2C	Pass	2D
Pass	3S	Pass	3NT
Pass	4H	Pass	?

Scoring:

Action	Panel votes	Points
5 H	3	100
5NT	1	70
6H	1	60
Pass	0	40

The easiest bid to rule out is pass. Partner needs only AKxxx Qxxxx x xx to make slam a virtual laydown.

But, then again, if he has Axxxx, Qxxxx Qx K, I want to be in five. So how do we direct partner's attention to his major suit quality? Easy, we bid five hearts. Since we didn't cue bid or Blackwood what else can we be worried about?

CAMP: Five hearts. Partner should assume you have minor suits taken care of; he should judge his raise or pass only on the quality of suits he has bid. Blackwood will not provide you with the information you need, unless of course he responds five clubs.

KIRBY: Five hearts. Partner should have an accurate description of both your distribution and strength. He will put us in our top contract.

MURRAY: Five hearts, I feel this hand warrants one more try for slam. A cue bid will just give partner problems, particularly if holding two small in the other suit. Yet driving to slam yourself will be wrong if partner has minor suit honour cards.

The other panelists (wrongly, in my view) weren't worried about six; they're looking for the grand:

JOTCHAM: Five notrump. "Partner, we have no minor suit losers and I have a super fit. If you have AKxxx AQxxx xx x, bid 7H. Otherwise, sign off at six."

HUNTLEY: Six hearts. I think this should show good three card heart support and his minor suit cards covered. Seven hearts would be cold with 13 HCP in the major suits in partner's hand.

D) Rubber bridge, both vul., South holds:

S:Q5 H:A53 D:Q9653 C:K73

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

^{*} weak two-bid

Scoring:

Panel votes	Points
1	100
0	90
2	80
2	60
0	40
0	20
	1 0 2 2

Let's go to the panel first:

MURRAY: Three diamonds. I would devalue the queen of spades and any other call would be considered an overbid.

On most problems, I agree entirely with Ken Murray (that remark is intended as a compliment to myself and not to him, of course) but I find him lacking in machismo here. Huntley at least had the decency to apologize for her underbid:

HUNTLEY: Three diamonds. It doesn't seem like enough with these points but partner must know I have points with a pass from East and a weak bid by West.

If three diamonds doesn't impress you, how about the trusty old standby, the cue bid?

JOTCHAM: Three spades. I'll bid four diamonds over four clubs, but pass anything else. Oh to be playing lebensohl.

KIRBY: Three spades. My hand is maximum. 2NT may be misinterpreted, three diamonds is too weak and 4D goes beyond 3NT.

Sorry, I don't buy it. If three notrump is right, surely we must put West on lead. Let me give you my formula for success (yes, you too can average 100 masterpoints and one sectional victory a year ...): When faced with a choice of bids, eliminate the extremes (here, the ultra-conservative 3D and the starry-eyed 4H), and among what's left make the bid which, if it works, is likely to result in the largest plus.

So what did you come up with? Right, 3NT. And at the table it would have made, since partner held Ax Kxxx AKx Qxxx. Closest to the jackpot was

CAMP: Two notrump. I don't like bidding it but feel it is a good compromise between other less attractive alternatives. It gives partner room to bid three hearts and will get the hand played from the right side when he holds Ax or Kxx of spades. Of course I hope partner understands when LHO takes the first six tricks.

E) IMPs, North-South vul., South holds:

S:J6 H:AK6 D:A53 C:AK875

West	North	East	South
_	-	-	IC
25*	Dbl.#	3S	?

^{*} weak jump overcall #negative double

Scoring:

Action	Panel votes	Points
4H	4	100
Double	1	60
Pass	0	50
4S	0	40

This problem was also lifted from the Unit 181 Newsletter. Our panel did very well in it's analysis; for once, we have a clearcut consensus:

JOTCHAM: Four hearts. I would have bid 3H over a 1H response, so I'll make my

natural call. The hand is ideal, being able to handle the pump in the short hand.

CAMP: Four hearts. Three spades has certainly put it to you. Slam may be missed but the threat of getting too high should make you bid a conservative four hearts.

KIRBY: Four hearts. Opponents have learned how to preempt the auction too well. A bid with imperfections but this is the best three card support I can have. Slam is possible, game should be cold but I have no bid available to investigate.

MURRAY: Four hearts. With 19 points opposite a negative double I must bid game. The choice is which game and hearts seem the most practical.

Bidding game on a 3-bagger did not sit well with our May champion:

HUNTLEY: Double, I don't like doubling a part score at IMPs but this seems like the time.

F) IMPs, East-West vul., South holds: S:O107653 H:- D:O984 C:532

West	North	East	South
2C*	3S	4NT	6S
7H	Dbl.	Pass	Pass
7NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

^{*} strong, articifical and forcing. Which card do you lead?

Scoring:

Action	Panel votes	Points
Diamond	3	100
Club	0	80
Spade	2	40

This little number decided the Calgary IMP - league final a year ago. Here is what should go through South's mind: I) West must have a long solid heart suit and the ace of spades. 2) Partner has an ace (or a heart trick, which would be just as good) and he doubled 7H to keep you from sacrificing. 3) Partner's failure to double 7NT should have some lead-directing meaning.

Surprisingly, two panelists went for the sterile spade lead:

KIRBY: Spade six. The safest lead is the best lead here. West is prepared for a spade lead but a minor suit lead could present declarer with an extra trick.

HUNTLEY: Spade six. Can't think of a good reason for leading anything but a spade.

Unless East-West are lunatics (or incredibly crafty) East is going to claim if you lead that spade.

By the way, I know it is rude of me to constantly disagree with the guest panelist. Certainly all her choices are reasonable and more often than not other panelists agree with her. It's just that she and I seem to be on different wavelengths this month. But she is a good player and can take it.

I see the choice as between the minors. So do the other panelists.

MURRAY: Four of diamonds. Partner's double of 7H shows a cashing trick. He could hold the ace of clubs or diamonds. The question is which. If declarer holds the ace of diamonds a lead of that suit will give him at best 3 tricks and the West hand would require 9 solid hearts to make the contract. However if partner has the ace of diamonds, the club lead will give declarer possibly 7 or 8 tricks in this suit (good reason for 4NT). The correct and safest lead is a diamond.

JOTCHAM: Diamond four. Partner should have the ace. South probably has solid clubs for his call. I expect the hands to be as follows:

West	East
A	-
AKQJ10xxxxx	X
K	J10xxx
X	AKQJ10xx

CAMP: Four of diamonds. Partner's double of 7H was not likely because of a guaranteed heart trick. West's possession of the spade ace is almost a certainty. East's bid of 4NT implies he likely has a one-suiter which will run; this suit must be clubs. Partner doubled 7H because he was on lead

and holds the ace of diamonds.

Since we know with absolute certainty that neither of these 3 panelists plays in the Calgary IMP-league and has ever seen this hand, we must conclude that they are geniuses for the hands were:

West	East
S:A	S:x
H:AKQJ109xx	H:xx
D:Kxx	D:Jx
C:x	C:AKQJ10xxx

And in real life, what happened? Well, the bidding didn't end as in the problem above. North doubled 7NT, you see, and East redoubled. And South led a spade. Yes, of course. I sat South.

NOVEMBER CONTEST

To enter the November contest, send answers (comments are welcome, but not required), together with your name and address, to

> Canadian Bidding Contest c/o Allan Simon 1339 Hamilton St. N.W. Calgary, Alberta T2N 3W8

The reader with the highest score will receive a bridge book and will be asked to join the expert panel.

NOVEMBER PROBLEMS

(A) IMPs, neither vul., South holds:

S:KQ1096 H:AKJ4 D:KJ108 C:-

West	North	East	South
Pass	3C	Pass	?

(B) Matchpoints, North-South vul., South holds:

S:652 H:- D:K864 C:AKO762

West	North	East	South
2D*	2H	2S	?

^{*}unspecified three-suiter, 11-15 HCP

(C) IMPs, neither vul., South holds: S:Q108653 H:Q62 D:AJ10x C:-

West	North	East	South
-	ΙH	1S	Pass
2C*	Pass	2NT	3H
3NT	Pass	Pass	?

^{*} non-forcing

(D) Matchpoints (Club Xmas party), East-West vul., South holds:

S:53 H:42 D:9 C:Q10876543

West	North	East	South
-	1C	Pass	1S(?)
Pass	INT	Pass	?

(E) IMPs, both vul., South holds: S:- H:974 D:OJ763 C:AJ753

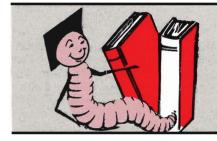
West	North	East	South
_	INT	Dbl.	?

(F) Rubber bridge, North-South vul.,

S:106 H:AK8432 D:107 C:643

West	North	East	South
-	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Which card do you lead? (be specific)



Bridge Bolts

"What is your opinion of my bid?" the frustrated player asked his partner.

"It's completely wrong," said the partner.

"I know," conceded the frustrated player, "but give it to me anyway."

Letters To the Editor



To the Editor:

Here is a list of all Canadians with 1000 points or more sorted numerically.

You promised to print the names of all 1000 or more pointers, so here is your chance. There are 129 with 2000 or more; 43 with 3000 or more; 15 with 4000 or more; 7 with 5000 or more; 4 with 6000 or more; and then there is Eric the Rutherford Murray Himself at 8421.

The 1000 Club might be worth printing because only new arrivals will have their names printed in the Bulletin. I shall print Units 246 and 166's 1000 Club and a Big Shooters List for our Units.

Perhaps other units would like a copy of the Top Masterpoint Holders so that they could print their own Big Shooters List and 1000 Club. I will send the list to them. It would cost me about a dollar, so maybe they could send that amount if they want the list.

There are some exciting changes on the Top MP list since Feb. 1982. Kokish moved ahead of Elliott; Molson from 12th to 6th, passing the great Sheardown; Mittelman from 17th to 13th; Baran from 23 to 14; Laurence Betts from 25 to 16; GUPTA (hail the Champions!) from 42 to

23; Sandra Fraser from 37 to 25; Leo Steil from 38 to 26; Bert Winges from 40 to 31; John Guoba from 44 to 34; Leo Glaser from 69 to 54; Stephen Brown from 65 to 46; Gordon McOrmond from 61 to 48; Pierre Daigneault from 73 to 51; Keith Balcombe from 151 to 83 and so on. I'm sure you will spot Western advances better than I have.

I think the Digest should record the Top 100 once a year. Some day we may have a Maple Leaf Pairs to counter the Blue Ribbon Pairs.

Although I share the hurt of my friends here for their unsuccessful attempt, I am honestly delighted that the West has won. Good for the game, and I believe that.

May you prosper in all your activities,

John Armstrong 36 Kennebec Cres. REXDALE, Ontario M9W 2R7

Editor's Note: Thanks for the list, John and also for reminding me that I am a masochist. The last time I attempted this feat, I received 27,000 letters starting with the word "kill," because players did not see their names on said list.

TOP CANADIAN

MASTERPOINT HOLDERS

as of 11 May, 1984

WM means World Master IM means International Master

- 1. Eric R Murray WM
- 2. Eric Kokish IM
- 3. C Bruce Elliott WM

Toronto ON
Montreal PQ
Weston ON

4. Sami Kehela WM	Toronto ON	6023
5. Paul Heitner	Toronto ON	5788
6. Mark Molson	Montreal PQ	5494
7. Joe Silver	Hampstead PQ	5175
8. Robert Hutchinson	Lethbridge AB	4982
9. Allan Graves	Vancouver BC	4617
10. Doug Fraser	Mont Royal PQ	4558
11. Mary Hutchinson	Lethbridge AB	4456
12. Percy E Sheardown WM	Toronto ON	4292
13. George Mittelman IM	Toronto ON	4250
14. Boris Baran	Montreal PQ	4160
15. John Carruthers	Toronto ON	4159
16. Laurence Betts	Vancouver BC	3956
17. Ted Horning IM	Thornhill ON	3944
18. Robert Lebi	Toronto ON	3933
19. Fred Hoffer	Cote St Luc PQ	3866
20. Maurice "Moose" Paul	Toronto ON	3696
21. Adrian Hicks	Vancouver BC	3664
22. Adolph Feingold	Edmonton AB	3644
23. Subhash Gupta	Calgary AB	3547
24. Don "Moo" Cowan IM	Toronto ON	3485
25. Sandra Fraser	Mont Royal PQ	3471
26. Leo Steil	Vancouver BC	3460
27. Ron Borg	Burnaby BC	3451
28. John Stevens IM	Toronto ON	3383
29. Paul Hagen	Vancouver BC	3372
30. Ray Jotcham	Scarborough ON	3371
31. Bert Winges	Ottawa ON	3336
32. David Stothart	Ottawa ON	3309
33. Alan Doane	Halifax NS	3252
34. John Guoba	Toronto ON	3208
35. Francois Gauthier	Montreal PQ	3202
36. David Lindop	Toronto ON	3163
37. Mary Paul	Toronto ON	3135
38. Mrs Sydney Isaacs IM	London ON	3083
39. Mike Cummings	Toronto ON	3074
40. Sharyn Kokish IM	St Laurent PQ	3066
41. Madeline McGill	Calgary AB	3015
42. Frank Vine IM	Hamilton ON	3009
43. Karen Allison IM	Toronto ON	3007
44. Bob Lagowski	Ottawa ON	2967
45. Jackie Begin IM	Montreal PQ	2953
46. Stephen Brown	Via Mt Royal PQ	2920
47. Ed Bridson	Toronto ON	2902
48. Gordon McOrmond	Vancouver BC	2893
49. Boris Crapko	Richmond BC	288 9
50. Helene Roche	Calgary AB	2869
51. Pierre Daigneault	Chomedey PQ	2866

52. Dick Edney	Kingston ON	2 864
53. John Bowman	Ottawa ON	2831
54. Leo Glaser	Toronto ON	2830
55. Bob Chow	Toronto ON	282 9
56. Ken Murray	North York ON	2 759
57. David Curry	Ottawa ON	2735
58. Fred Sontag	Vancouver BC	2720
59. Joe Kerger	Calgary AB	2718
60. Barbara Saltsman	Montreal PQ	2716
61. Jim Riegle	Ottawa ON	2698
62, Joe Currie	Halifax NS	2666
63. Peter Herold	North Vancouver BC	2635
64. Bob Crosby	Edmonton AB	2602
65. Ted Clarke	Ottawa ON	2589
66. George Caldwell	Fredericton NB	2585
67. Bob Connop	Vancouver BC	2584
68. Mary Edney	Kingston ON	2577
69. Anna Boivin	Montreal PQ	2562
70. Franco Bandoni IM	Toronto ON	2559
71. Lou Woodcock	Hamilton ON	2544
72. Douglas Thomson	Winnipeg MB	2542
73. Victor Giaccone	Nepean ON	2531
74. Mark Rosenbloom	Montreal PQ	2524
75. Peter Hollander	Dollard des Ormeaux PQ	2521
76. Bill Bowman	Ottawa ON	2481
77. Dick McKinney	Edmonton AB	2467
78. G Sekhar	Winnipeg MB	2460
79. Alex de Groot	Winnipeg MB	2457
80. Joan Lupovich	Montreal PQ	2442
81. Duncan Phillips IM	Toronto ON	2438
82. Jerry Aceti	Sudbury ON	2414
83. Keith Balcombe	Oshawa ON	2413
84. Kai Cheng	Winnipeg MB	2404
85. Dianna Gordon IM	Toronto ON	2399
86. Frank Markotich	Scarborough ON	2398
87. Helene Beaulieu	Sherbrooke PQ	2370
88. Duncan Smith	Victoria BC	2368
89. Sheila Forbes IM	Toronto ON	2360
90. Michael Kenney	CoteSt Luc PQ	2356
91. Andre Laliberte	Neufchatel FQ	2349
92. Francine Cimon IM	Laval PQ	2329
93. Mrs Pat Smolensky	Calgary AB	2325
94. James Pritchard	Edmonton AB	2315
95. Steve Aarons	Toronto ON	2306
96. John Sabino	Pickering ON	2304
97. Mrs Solange Bouchard	Jonquiere PQ	2295
98. Eric Shepherd	Hamilton ON	2288
99. Michael Roche	Toronto ON	2278
100. Gail Jotcham	Scarborough ON	2260

100. Ms Pat Lopushinsky	Edmonton AB	2260
102. Martin Caley	Nepean ON	2259
103. Bruce Gowdy IM	Toronto ON	2239
104. Lauren Miller	Vancouver BC	2224
105. Pat Roy	Sherbrooke PQ	2217
106. Drew Cannell IM	Winnipeg MB	2206
107. Joyce Millward	Calgary AB	2204
108. John Raynault	St Lambert PQ	2194
109. Jack Marsch	Winnipeg MB	2157
110. Mike Schoenborn	Toronto ON	2151
111. Mike Cafferata	Scarborough ON	2142
112. Martin Kirr	Toronto ON	2141
113. Charles Swanson	Vancouver BC	2132
114. Brian Johnston	Ancaster ON	2131
115. Michael Strebinger	North Vancouver BC	2129
116. Aidan Ballantyne	Vancouver BC	2128
117. Jim Priebe	Mississauga ON	2126
118. Dick Hart	Etobicoke ON	2114
119. Andy Altay	North York ON	2093
120. Don Brazeau	Vancouver BC	2075
121. Ed O'Reilly	Kingston ON	2074
122. Erik Viires	Montreal PQ	2073
123. John Stewart	Halifax NS	2064
124. Bruce Dwyer	Dorval PQ	2047
125. Doug Rankine	Edmonton AB	2041
126. Don Piafsky	Hampstead PQ	2036
127. Stephen E Cooper	Toronto ON	2009
128. Jim McAvoy	Vancouver BC	2007
129. Gilles Boivin	Montreal PQ	2002
130. Gordon Maser	Halifax NS	1998
131. Bryan Rapson	Dartmouth NS	1996
132. John Gowdy	Toronto ON	1994
133. Genevie Skeel	Edmonton AB	1986
134. Rick Delogu	St Catharines ON	1985
135. Srinavasan Viswanathan	Calgary AB	1968
136. Cam Lindsay	Vancouver BC	1959
137. Steve Unger	Thornhill ON	1954
138. Brian Pauls		1949
139. Brooke Nelles	Winipeg MB London ON	1946
140. Allen McDonald	Ottawa ON	1936
141. Harry Bork	Hamilton ON	1929
142. Doug Clark	Kingston ON	1918
143. Don Dobson	Halifax NS	1904
144. Alice Strebinger	Burnaby BC	1901
145. John Rayner		1900
146. Eric Stark	Mississauga ON Vancouver BC	1898
146. Eric Stark 147. John Lang		1893
	Calgary AB	
148. W A Wallace	Falconbridge ON	1888 1886
148. John O'Dowd	Hamilton ON	1888

150. Arthur Skeel	Edmonton AB	1883
151. Byron Nilssen	Lethbridge AB	1882
152. Dan Jacob	Vancouver BC	1879
153. Lloyd Harris	Sudbury ON	1877
154. John Landeryou	Lethbridge AB	1874
155. Gabriel Julien	Jonquiere PQ	1872
156. Herbert Stewart	Halifax NS	1870
157. Gordon Chapman	Acton ON	1852
158. Katie Thorpe	Toronto ON	1851
159. Stan Cabay	Edmonton AB	1850
160. Michel Lorber	Montreal PQ	1846
161. Mel Norton	Burlington ON	1843
162. Mark Yudin	Montreal PQ	1838
163. Mavis Cole	Brockville ON	1823
164. Mrs M E Scott	Saskatoon SK	1821
165. Rhonda Betts	Vancouver BC	1820
166. Roy Dalton	Mississauga ON	1814
167. Mrs Terry Lesperance	London ON	1806
168. Doreen Jaskela	Quesnel BC	1801
169. Gerry Callaghan	Halifax NS	1797
170. Ramji Tewari	Calgary AB	1793
171. Paul Godin	Montreal PQ	1778
172. R Hanson	Montreal PQ	1771
173. Alex Orlandini	Kelowna BC	1765
173. E T Hicks	Coquitlam BC	1765
175. Ms M D Roussin	Ottawa ON	1762
176. Tony Marsh	Whiterock BC	1756
177. Don Lindhorst	Cambridge ON	1743
178. Michael Instance	Ottawa ON	1739
179. Art d'Entremont	Winnipeg MB	1737
180. Joel Martineau		1731
181. John Hurdle	Burnaby BC Vancouver BC	
181. Paul Thurston		1730
183. David Burke	St Catharines ON	1730
184. Ken Warren	London ON	1728
	Atikokan ON	1726
185. Iring Litvack	Toronto ON	1715
186. Malcolm "Mac" King	Toronto ON	1706
187. John Beasy	Halifax NS	1695
188. Doug Andrews	Vancouver BC	1694
189. Doug Brock	Brampton ON	1691
189. Robin Wigdor	Uxbridge ON	1691
191. Mike Chomyn	Edmonton AB	1690
192. Mike Wilson	Vancouver BC	1682
193. Dominic Di Felice	East York ON	1677
194. Noreen Sugarman	Kingston ON	1673
194. Wolf Lebovic IM	Toronto ON	1673
196. Mrs M Weber	Sudbury ON	1671
196. Ellie Nagy	Montreal PQ	1671

August/Aout 62cbd23

Canadian National Rookie Master Pairs

Jan Anderson of Regina, Sask, was National Co-ordinator and reports the following results.

Thirty-six clubs and 832 pairs participated in this year's Canadian National Rookie-Master Game. This was more than a 60% increase over the attendance in 1983.

The winning pairs by Zone were as follows:

ZONE	ZONE WINNERS BRIDGE C		3
I	Bruce Burton - John Penney	Corner Brook	D.B.C.
II	Nayla Doche - Peter Neuman	Pierrefond	D.B.C.
III	Rick Hodson - Gabriella Carr-Rollitt	Peterborough	D.B.C.
ĬV	Helen Dennison - Edith Ross	Nickel City	D.B.C.
V	Wilbert Hewitt - Agnes Hewitt	Broadview	D.B.C.
VI	John Berry - Diana Dean	Haida	D.B.C.

The overall winners were Hudson - Carr-Rollitt with 69.6%. Second was Dennison-Ross with 68.1%

The National winners received plaques and the Zone winners received trophies. In addition, certificates were mailed to the winners of each club game.

Editor's Note: Jan's efforts in increasing the awareness of bridge among new bridge players is greatly appreciated. With the large increase of participants this year, it would appear that Rookie Pairs is now a confirmed major event in Canada.

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