



ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

...Thursday, Dec. 11 at the Unit Game



Buffet Dinner starts at 6 p.m.

Game starts at 7:30 p.m.



The Annual **WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE HOLIDAY PARTY**, which includes dinner and a bridge game will be held at the Thursday night Unit Game on December 11. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite goodies (appetizers, salads, casserole, desserts, etc.). The main course and holiday drinks will be provided. Dinner will be served from 6 to 7 p.m., followed shortly after by the game. If you have any questions or would like to help with the party, please call Kitty at (301) 587-3981 or email her at kgottfried@hotmail.com.

Come on out for great feasting, great bridge and great fun!

CHECK OUT OUR UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS...

70th Annual D.C. Championships December 4-7, 2003, page 3
1st Annual Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs on Saturday

40th Annual Presidential Tournament January 8-11, 2004, page 4
Party to honor our New Life Masters after Friday night's game

*Both Sectionals will be at a **new site** on Saturday and Sunday:*

Newport Mill Middle School

Complimentary lunch will be available between sessions on Sunday during a short break that will be long enough to go out if preferred

SUGGESTION BOX

Do you have a suggestion that might help to increase membership or otherwise improve the Washington Bridge League? Give any and all ideas to Don Berman, 301-776-3581, don.berman@verizon.net, 13707 Engleman Dr., Laurel, MD 20708, or www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

WBL OMBUDSMAN

Any player with helpful director issues including criticism or praise of the directing staff may contact the Ombudsman, Ann Lindley and be assured that the source of the information will remain confidential. Information should be provided in writing and may be handed to her at any game, or mailed to her at 18518 Grackle Way, Gaithersburg, MD 20879-1767.

♣♦♥♠ ~~~~~ ♣♦♥♠

DEADLINE: DEC. 1, 2003

TO SUBMIT NEW ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR FOR THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2004 ISSUE

Washington Bridge League BULLETIN (usps #861-240)

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The opinions expressed by our columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the ACBL, the WBL, or even the editors of this publication. The WBL is not responsible for the claims of its advertisers.

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Michael Carrod — *Unit Game Chief Director and Manager* (301-322-4289)

Barbara Shaw — *Unit Game Partnerships* (301-598-3339)

Charity Sack — *Tournament Partnerships* (703-963-7027)

Kitty Gottfried — *Unit Game and Sectional Hospitality* (301-587-3981)

WBL WEBSITE:
www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

DISTRICT 6 SITE:
www.districtsix.org

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by WBL President, Dick Wegman

We have several new plans underway this fall to make our tournaments more attractive and accessible and to broaden our membership.

One of our major goals is finding a long-term, stable home for our tournaments. The weekend events of our upcoming December sectional will take place at the Newport Mill Middle School in Kensington. This location should be convenient for a large majority of our members, and we plan to use this site for our tournaments in the winter and spring of 2004. Directions to the new site will be clearly marked on all the tournament flyers. The December tournament also will feature a new event: the Washington Bridge League Championship Pairs, a two session open pair game (qualifying and final) with a trophy for the winning pair.

Our tournament co-chairs, Nadine Wood and Kathy Hilbers, and our hospitality chair, Kitty Gottfried, are working to provide the best hospitality – and the most hospitable environment – that we possibly can. During the Sunday Swiss teams event, lunch will be available, free of charge, for those who would like to stay on site between sessions (for those who choose to go off-site for food, we'll make sure you have enough time to do so). Kitty will be providing hospitality on Friday and Saturday as well.

In order to help players find partners for unit games and tournaments, Charity Sack has begun a new partnership service. If you e-mail her at emailsack@aol.com, she will let you know of others who have expressed an interest in playing. Please give this new service a try.

The WBL has a new Publicity and Marketing Committee. Its mission is to expand our outreach and to encourage more people to try duplicate bridge for the first

time. As a result of the committee's work, the online edition of the Washington Post now advises readers how to get in touch with the WBL and how to find out about duplicate games or lessons in the Washington area. New players, or those who want to renew their interest in the game, just need to go to the Post's website (www.washingtonpost.com), then click on the daily bridge column to find the WBL notice. According to the Post's estimates, more than 190,000 people read the bridge column on-line each day.

The WBL and the NVBA also plan to sponsor a Washington-area interscholastic bridge championship. This is the first time such an event has been held in our area in several decades. Working with staff and students, we are now providing teachers and materials for bridge clubs in six public high schools in our area: Walt Whitman, Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Eleanor Roosevelt, Richard Montgomery, and Walter Johnson in Maryland, and Thomas Jefferson in Virginia. Ron Starr has done a terrific job in helping to get these clubs going in the Maryland schools, and Leo Cardillo has trained a strong group of players at TJ (two of Leo's students, Robert Brady and David Banh, recently took third place at the NAP finals in Williamsburg and will be representing District 6 at the Reno nationals). So far, although the clubs are relatively small, everyone who is participating in the program is extremely enthusiastic. I'll keep you posted on this program as it develops throughout the school year.

Please let us know what else we can do to make our games and tournaments attractive, fun, and accessible. We can't promise to adopt every suggestion, but we will certainly listen carefully.

Hope to see you soon — Dick Wegman

70th Annual D.C. Championships

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

- ♣ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/2000/750)10:30am

Washington Bridge Center, 1620 Elton Road, Silver Spring MD,
(301) 445-0276

- ♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000, B/C Separate 1500/500), Stratified 199er Pairs & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church only), Stratified 99er Pairs (Beth El only)

Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria 7:00pm
Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring 7:30pm

Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.



♦ Friday held at Christ the King Church Only ♠ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

- ♥ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/2000) & B/C Pairs (1000/500) 10:00am
- ♠ StrataFlighted A/X (unlim/2000) & B/C/D Pairs(2000/1250/750)(single sessions) 2:00pm, 7:30pm
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20)(single sessions) 10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

♣ ♦ Remainder of Tournament held at Newport Mill Middle School Only ♥ ♠

11311 Newport Mill Road, Kensington MD

Capital Beltway to Georgia Ave North (Exit 31 – State Hwy 97) go 1.7 miles & bear left onto Veirs Mill Rd. (State Hwy 586). Go north 1.1 miles and turn left on Newport Mill Rd. School will be on the left.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

- ♦ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/2000) & B/C Pairs (1000/500) 9:30am
- ♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) 1:30pm, 7:00pm
- ♦ **1st Annual: Washington Bridge League Trophy Pairs** 1:30pm & 7:00pm
(Two session Open Pairs, qualifying and final)
- ♠ Open Consolation Pairs 7:00pm
- ♥ Stratified B/C/D Pairs (2000/1250/750) (single sessions) 1:30pm, 7:00pm
- ♠ Newcomer Pairs (0-5 MPs) 1:30pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

- ♣ A/X Swiss Teams, VPs (unlim /3000) 10:30am & TBA
- ♦ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1250/750) 10:30am & TBA
- ♥ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions) 10:30am, 2:30pm

♣ Full Schedule of Intermediate and Novice Events ♥



*1/N events: 199er, 99er, 49er, & 0-20; Stratification at Director's Discretion.
Open Stratified and StrataFlighted Events vary as listed above.*

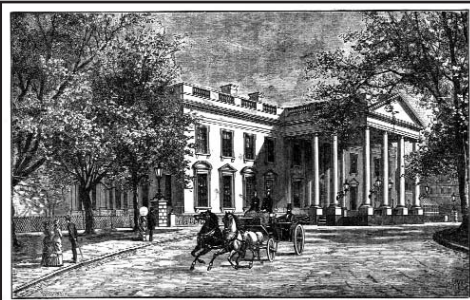
Washington Hospitality includes snacks and drinks for all players every day. **Sunday Lunch** provided between sessions free of charge. **Chairs: Kathy Hilbers**, (202) 662-3430, elfenq@hotmail.com, **Nadine Wood**, (301) 565-9555, woodthere@erols.com. **Volunteer Coordinator: Steve Forsythe**, (301) 592-9177, majslf@aol.com. **Hospitality: Kitty Gottfried**, (301) 587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com. **Partnerships: Charity Sack**, (703) 963-7027, charity@charitysack.com, **On-line Partnership Desk: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org**.

40th Annual Presidential Tournament

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

♣ Stratified Open Pairs
(unlim/2000/750)10:30am
Washington Bridge Center,
1620 Elton Road, Silver Spring MD

♦ StrataFlighted Open Pairs (A/X unlim/3000,
B/C Separate 1500/500), Stratified 199er
Pairs & 0-20 Pairs (Christ the King Church
only), Stratified 99er Pairs (Beth El only)
**Beth El Congregation, 3830 Seminary
Rd, Alexandria**7:00pm
Christ the King Church, 2301 Colston Drive, Silver Spring7:30pm
Capital Beltway to Connecticut Ave. South. Left on East-West Hwy. Right on
Grubb Rd. 1st left on Colston. The church is one block on the left.



♥ **Party** ♥
*to Honor New
Life Masters
after Friday Night's Game*

♦ Friday held at Christ the King Church Only ♠ **FRIDAY, JANUARY 9**

♥ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/2000/750) (single sessions)10:00am, 2:00pm
♠ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/2000) & B/C/D Pairs (2000/1250/750) 7:30pm
♣ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions)10:00am, 2:00pm, 7:30pm

♣ ♦ *Remainder of Tournament held at Newport Mill Middle School Only* ♥ ♠

11311 Newport Mill Road, Kensington MD

Capital Beltway to Georgia Ave North (Exit 31 – State Hwy 97) go 1.7 miles & bear left onto Veirs Mill Rd. (State Hwy 586). Go north 1.1 miles and turn left on Newport Mill Rd. School will be on the left.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

♦ Stratified Open Pairs (unlim/2000/750) 9:30am
♣ Newcomer Pairs (0-5 MPs) 1:30pm
♦ StrataFlighted A/X Pairs (unlim/2000) (single sessions) 1:30pm, 7:00pm
♥ StrataFlighted B/C/D Pairs (2000/1250/750) (single sessions) 1:30pm, 7:00pm
♠ Intermediate/Novice Pairs (300/200/100/50/20) (single sessions) 1:30pm, 7:00pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

♣ A/X Swiss Teams, VPs (unlim /3000)10:30am & TBA
♦ B/C/D Swiss Teams, VPs (2000/1250/750)10:30am & TBA
♥ 300/100/50 Swiss Teams, VPs (single sessions)10:30am, 2:30pm

♣ *Full Schedule of Intermediate and Novice Events* ♥



*I/N events: 199er, 99er, 49er, & 0-20; Stratification at Director's Discretion.
Open Stratified and StrataFlighted Events vary as listed above.*

Washington Hospitality includes snacks and drinks for all players every day. **Sunday Lunch** provided between sessions free of charge. **Chairs: Kathy Hilbers,** (202) 662-3430, elfenq@hotmail.com, **Nadine Wood,** (301) 565-9555, woodthere@erols.com. **Volunteer Coordinator: Steve Forsythe,** (301) 592-9177, majslf@aol.com. **Hospitality: Kitty Gottfried,** (301) 587-3981, kgottfried@hotmail.com. **Partnerships: Charity Sack,** (703) 963-7027, charity@charitysack.com, **On-line Partnership Desk:** www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

BITS AND PIECES

SHE'S BACK!

The WBL Board is thrilled to welcome back **Nadine Wood** to her role as Tournament Co-Chair. She hasn't really been gone, just busy with her role as ACBL Director from District 6 and in her efforts in several different programs to expand and improve youth bridge. Although, still working hard at the District and National levels, Nadine has graciously agreed to help the Board and her Co-Chair, Kathy Hilbers, in their efforts to bring our Sectionals back to their highest potential.

WBL BOARD MEMBER CHANGE

Wei Bao has resigned from the Board due to personal reasons. The Board is excited that **Barbara Summers** has agreed to fill out the remainder of his term until the next Annual Meeting and Elections in May, 2004.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Steve Robinson won the World Senior Bowl in Monte Carlo, Monaco with USA I teammates, Kit Woolsey, Roger Bates, Grant Baze, Gaylor Kasle and Garey Hayden..

Tim Crank, a WBL player and director took First Place in the 2003 Irish Friendship Cup competition in Dublin, Ireland this September along with USA Red junior team teammates: Matthew LaHut, G.S. Jade Barrett (Non-Playing Captain), Andrew Hoskins and McKenzie Myers. More information on youth bridge can be found at the North American Youth Bridge Foundation website at www.naybf.org. GS Jade Barrett, Chairman.

WELCOME TO THE WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE

The WBL welcomes the following new ACBL members: **Dr Neil A Crane, Mr Winifred Farah, Mr Ray C Foster, Mr Andrew N Gerding, Mr James M Gerding, Mr Halim G Kucur, Mr Julian Palinski, and Katherine I Rabenstein**. In addition, we welcome the following transfers from other units: **Mr Sanford R Burns, Joseph Langbart, Maxine E Strieter, Mrs Grace P Thaler, and Mr Thomas A Throop**.

Please join us at our weekly Unit Game on Thursday evenings and frequent the local bridge clubs in the area. Information can be found on our Web site, www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

HAVE YOU SEEN ME?

I'm your old partner, or someone with whom you used to laugh at the table. I'm the one who used to make gentle jokes about my skills and judgment. I'm not as good a player as I think I am, nor as bad as my partners think I am.

And I haven't come to play in a long time.

I got busy. Or I retired, and have to budget my leisure activities carefully. My health took a turn for the worse, so driving doesn't much appeal to me anymore. Or my daughter or grandson was born, which takes up a lot of time. And I got tired, because too few of my opponents were as nice or as much fun to play against as you are. So I stopped coming, and, after a while, didn't see the value of being an ACBL member. I dropped out.

This is the description of five percent of our membership in the past year alone. Some move away, and, sadly, some take ill. But most just stop playing. And this is a death warrant for the game we love.

I'm asked the question all the time. "What can I do to help? I don't have much time, but I'd like to be a part of making bridge better." And there's an easy answer. Ask one of these people to play. Offer a ride if they live close, or get in touch with our ride coordinator, Don Berman at don.berman@verizon.net or 301-776-3581. If you haven't seen somebody in a while, look him or her up and ask to play on a night you have free.

It doesn't take much to make the game healthier. As Woody Allen once said, 90% of life is just showing up. And showing up with someone who's been away for a while may well be the other 10%.

SAD NEWS

Charles Marshal Hanson, Jr. who was a life master both in ACBL & ABA died on Oct.1. He leaves his wife Muriel and 3 daughters and several grandchildren. He was a Senior Foreign Service Officer who was the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) for Ambassador Shirley Temple Black in Ghana. In addition, he was an honor veteran of World WarII, who received the Purple Heart Medal of Honor. He spoke fluently six languages and enjoyed swimming, growing tomatoes, singing and teaching bridge to novices in ABA.

CLUB NEWS

Suit Yourself Forest Glen Bridge Club

Announcing our first-ever Suit Yourself Forest Glen Bridge Club open game, on Saturday, 15 November! Here's your chance to play with your over-750 masterpoint mentor! Game time is 7 p.m., with the optional potluck dinner starting at 6 p.m. As always, partners are guaranteed with advance notice, and we'll have pre-made boards with hand records.

Please note: advance reservations are REQUIRED for this special game! Also please tell us what you're bringing if you're coming to the potluck. You don't need to be Martha Stewart; we welcome shoppers as well as cooks!

See you at the table!

Sandy & Steve Forsythe

Washington Bridge Center

SUPERVISED PLAY

Every Saturday morning, the Washington Bridge Center runs two games at 10:00 AM. Special bagels at 9:30. One game is normal, stratified pairs with an accent on conviviality. The other game is "Supervised Play." The SP game begins with a mini-lesson as requested by the participants. The game that follows includes time to answer questions and provide insight to new players.

This schedule is ideal for those players that wish to encourage their spouse or "significant other" to learn to play. Linda Smith, Pat Foster and Julian Boyce provide the insight and mini-lessons. Partners are arranged.

TOLL-FREE PHONE NUMBER

The Washington Bridge Center draws players from many areas. To call for a partner or to confirm schedules, players may save long distance charges and use the new toll free number, 1-877-327-4343, 1-877-3BRIDGE.

2004 NON-LIFE MASTER TOURNAMENT

The next WBL Non-Life Master (0-500 NLM) tournament will be begin Thursday, April 29 2004 at Christ The King Church and will continue through Sunday, May 1, 2004 at the Washington Bridge Center. Look for the flyer to get the complete schedule. This tournament includes prizes, mini-lessons and great pizza as well as an expert panel and the famous Steve Robinson Trophy Event.

Laurel Bridge Club News

Thanks to everyone who helped to make the Van the Man charity game a big success. This year we raised over \$6,200. Winners of Flight A were **Carole Geagly** and **Jerry Keller**, Flight B **Millard Nachtwey** and **Richard Ferrin** and Flight C **John Turner** and **John Rothschild**.

We're already thinking about next years' game, so if you have any items to donate, or any suggestions to make, please contact Rose Berman.

2003-2004 WBL-NVBA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Eligibility

Players must attend at least three WBL and three NVBA sectionals during the contest period (September, 2003, through April, 2004). Points won on Tournament Thursday evenings are included in the totals, but do not count towards eligibility.

Awards

Two trophies will be awarded.

Standings

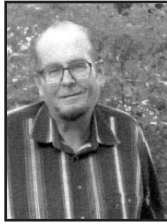
Here are the standings after three of eight Sectionals. The asterisk* indicates that the player has met eligibility requirements.

Open Leaders

<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Yi Zhong	57.91
2 Kenneth Davis	47.50
3 Leo LaSota	45.08
4 Mark Shaw	37.14
5 Hailong Ao	34.20
6 Barbara Shaw	31.04
7 Frank King Jr	30.31
8 John Ashe	28.88
9 Steve Robinson	28.42
10 Ed Lewis	28.38
11 Mita Banerjee	28.37
12 Margot Hennings	28.00
13 Alfred Steinberg	27.90
14 Fred King	27.90
15 Robert Gookin	25.77
16 Helene Bauman	24.66
17 Weizhong Bao	23.74
18 Prahalad Rajkumar	22.31
19 Stuart Fleischmann	22.22
20 Don Probst	21.74

WOODHERE – A TRIBUTE

by Nadine Wood



Jim Wood lost his battle with cancer July 27, 2003, and nothing has felt right since. There was an obituary in

TableTALK that spoke of his service to the WBL as President and Bulletin Editor. But there is more.

It is hard to fully portray his dedication to bridge and in particular to the Washington Bridge League. It was the many thankless jobs he did, most of them unremembered, that demonstrate what a unique, caring individual he was.

One of the things Jim did for us was maintain a Bulletin Board at the Unit game and all WBL tournaments – Sectionals and Regionals. Besides posting winners of the current event, he would scour newspapers and bridge publications for interesting articles he thought our players would enjoy reading. He would also put up the latest “regulations” from the Board of Directors and Memphis. One thing he insisted on, however, was that nothing be put directly in front of the Board that would block the view of those wishing to read it. One time when attendance at a Sectional was too large for the space we had, and we squeezed tables everywhere including in front of the Bulletin Board, he was absolutely irate and stormed, “I told you never to put anything in front of the Board.” If we had no other space, then we should have sent the players home.

His wife, Carol, told me that once she went to the County Library to pick him up and there he was straightening out their Bulletin Board and taking down outdated notices. “Jim, what are you doing, this isn’t your Board,” she cried. “Oh, I just thought I’d help them out,” he replied.

He was also compulsive about editing. He could not read anything, including already published material, without his red and green pens in hand. Red marks must be corrected and green marks were suggestions for improvements. Carol quit sending emails to her friends because Jim kept correcting them. Another thing he did was store and main-

tain WBL trophies no longer in use. For a while he also made sure the current trophies were polished and engraved for the new recipients.

He was also the historian for the Unit and the District. Whenever an old-timer who was active in the Unit passed away, he went to their residence and brought back all their bridge related materials.

The article in *TableTALK* described his work as editor and then-columnist for the WBL. As with most things he was interested in, he had to do it all. He had to take and pick up the copy from the publisher, order or make labels, paste them on (he did utilize his son for this job), bundle and take them to the Post Office. This he did long after he stopped editing the publication.

When I first moved to this area, I was invited to play on a Round Robin team and was told we had to find a name for the team or Jim Wood (who was in charge and did the paper work) would find a name for us and we probably wouldn’t like it.

He was a stay-at-home dad before anyone had heard of such a thing. I also think he was one of the first to use the dining room table as a horizontal filing cabinet.

I have forgotten many of the jobs I used to do, so I am certain I have not covered all of those that Jim did. And the saddest thing of all is that there is no one to pick up the slack from doing these thankless jobs.

His bridge playing was also unique. He was so fond of opening the bidding with 4 hearts that the bid became known as Woodhere or Woodhew and a half (6 hearts). Once when we sat down to play he admonished that he never opened 1 NT with a five-card major and I shouldn’t either. After one hand when he had opened 1NT and then it developed he had a 6-card major, he just shrugged and said, “I told you I wouldn’t have five.” He also championed overcalling three-card spade suits. The funniest exchange I ever overheard from one of his partners, who was irate at the time, was “Jim, you promised that when you made a weak jump overcall you would have at least three of the suit – you only had two!”

Please forgive any errors you find in this tribute. Jim wasn’t here to edit it.

NonLM Leaders

<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>
1 Wanda Avila	11.37
2 Stephen Mac Arthur	10.29
3 Danut Gliga	10.16
4 Marshall Kramer	9.86
5 Paul Krueger	8.88
6 Ali Al-Aref	8.03
7 Mirsad Mujezinovic	7.70
8 Namik Haveric	7.70
9 Susan Strauss	7.27

10 Debnarayan Dhar	6.39
11 David Chechelashvili	6.25
12 Rex Settle	6.12
13 M Schuler	6.11
14 Judy Braddy	5.94
15 Anne Derbes	5.88
16 Robert Schwab	5.88
17 K Soderberg	5.85
18 Rich Hottell	5.81
19 Elizabeth Nolte	5.70
20 Jerry Nolte	5.70

WBL SOLVERS' CLUB

Moderated by Steve Robinson

robinswr@erols.com

Congratulations to Greg Humphreys who came in first with a score of 500. He wins a free entry to the Unit Game and will be invited to be on a future panel. Since he got a perfect score I will play with Greg at a future Unit Game.

Tied for second were Chris Marks, George Lewis, Dan Koch, Marshall Kuschner, Jeff Watson, and Robert Jenkins with a score of 470. Eighth was Walter Beckerman with a score of 460. Tied for ninth were Robert Stone, Mike Jimks, Kieran Dyke, Mark Laken, Bob Flynn with a score of 450. Tied for fourteenth were Barry Bragin, Richard Ferrin, Mike Zane, Butch Lieble, Fred Wagner, William Adams, Gregory Belmonte, Joe Wallen, Neak McKinney, Randy Becham, Ted Wilkinson, Hailong Ao, Jim Adams, Sam Keiter, Lloyd Rawley, Rob Graves, Barbara Summers, Alan Kravetz, Jack Goldhaber, Pete Whipple, Jay Weinstein, Audrey Warren, Rick Eissenstat, Steve Bunning, Robert Henry, Jonathan Siegel, Mike Mayer with a score of 440. The average score of the 303 solvers was 313. The average score of the experts was 410.

All readers are encouraged to send answers and/or new problems to Steve Robinson, 2891 S. Abingdon St. #A2 Arlington, Va, 22206. In addition to the winner receiving a free play at the WBL Unit Game, Steve will play with anyone who gets a perfect score or who exactly matches all five of his answers. If you send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the above address along with your answers, Steve will send you a copy of the new problems to ensure that you can meet his next deadline. You can pick up a copy of the problems at the WBL Unit Game in Maryland, and can send answers or requests for problems to robinswr@erols.com. WBL Solvers Club uses *Washington Standard* as published July 1996.

The book *Washington Standard* second edition is out. If you are a serious bridge player, this book is a must. You can purchase a copy

from Steve for \$25.00 at the Unit Game and at tournaments or can send him a check for \$28.95 which includes \$3.95 for priority mail.

1) MPs, None Vulnerable You, South, hold:

♠AQ82♥J5432♦54♣J9

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
—	—	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
2♥	100	7	208
2NT	50	3	59
3♠	40	0	13
3♥	40	0	12
3NT	30	0	4
2♠	20	0	6
Pass	20	0	1

Is this hand worth a force to game, an invitation to game or a choice of partscores? If opener had shown a major, you probably would have bid game but when opener denies a four-card major, game is problematic. With your weak hearts, even if opener has three hearts, this hand could play poorly in hearts at the game level. So by bidding 2♥, Garbage Stayman, you ask opener to pass with three hearts or correct to 2♠ with two hearts and three spades. With 2-2, opener passes 2♥ and takes his chances. 2♥ should play well enough to get a plus score.

Three experts invite with 2NT. By inviting with 2NT, they are burying the heart suit.

Lublin: "2NT—Would probably not force to game with meager heart suit and would not Smolen. Just bid 2NT."

Smolen is a convention designed to make sure that the notrump opener plays the hand. Over 2♦, which denies a four-card major, responder jumps in his four-card major. If responder has another ace, he jumps to 3♠

showing four spades and five hearts. This allows opener to bid 4♥ holding three. He can't bid 4♠ since he doesn't have four.

Adams: "2NT—Looks like a four-card Heart suit to me. 2NT is the only way to invite given Washington Standard methods. Notrump might even play better than Hearts when partner has three."

Cappelletti: "2NT—Enough to invite game; bidding 2♥ would be taking an unjustified pessimistic position."

Seven experts give up on game.

King: "2♥—This just asks partner to pass or correct to 2♠ if he has 3-2 in the majors. When I responded 2♣ I could not show this distribution and an invitational hand—but this is okay because this hand is not good enough to invite at matchpoints."

Hopkins: "2♥—Go plus at matchpoints."

Roman: "2♥—The only other possibility is 2NT (a Smolen 3♠ bid would be silly) but the reason I didn't transfer to hearts and bid 2♠ is that I judged this hand wasn't worth a game invitation unless I bought a four-card major from partner (NOT "I want to invite game, but I'm going to treat this heart suit as four cards", an approach I don't recommend). I agree with that judgment. Game tries at matchpoints should be full-value (as opposed to IMPs, where game tries are made aggressively) and my weak heart spots argue for conservatism."

Schwartz: "2♥—With at most 25 HCPs, the poor suit turns me off. Only if partner has a five-card club suit is 3NT likely when the hearts aren't running."

Parker: "2♥—An in between hand, not good enough to force to game but would like to invite. 2♥ can be mildly constructive."

Afdahl: "2♥—Partner is supposed to correct to 2♠ with two hearts and three spades. It is matchpoints and we should be looking for a plus score. Jacks are really not worth one point, especially jack and one."

At matchpoints, one does not have to try for close games.

2) IMPs, None Vulnerable You, South, hold:

♠AKQ872♥A3♦QJ103♣9

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
?????			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
4♠	100	5	59
3♦	70	3	91
3♠	50	0	94
2♦	40	2	30
3NT	30	0	6
3♥	20	0	2
4♥	20	0	1
2♠	20	0	13
4NT	20	0	1
3♣	20	0	2
4♣	20	0	2
Pass	20	0	1
2NT	20	0	1

All you need to have a good play for 4♠ is for partner to have one red king and a couple of spades. If that is the case, how can you afford to stay out of 4♠? It's true that partner could have ♦AKxxx and you could probably make 6♦ but give partner ♠x♥Jxxxx♦xxxx♣AJ and your best chance to make game is to play in 4♠.

Four experts agree with me and bid the obvious game.

Cappelletti: "4♠—Should have less problems than 3NT with heart lead."

Schwartz: "4♠—Should have a reasonable shot opposite most hands and gives the opponents little info."

Parker: "4♠—Too many slow diamond tricks for notrump. No sense jumping to 3♠ when all I need is the ♦K to make game."

Afdahl: "4♠—IMPS and I have only four losers. I only need the king of diamonds, ace of clubs, or king of hearts (a good partner will have the nine of diamonds if he doesn't have the king of diamonds) to make game as long as I don't have a spade loser. If partner has the ace and king of diamonds and another

control, he will likely bid again.”

Five experts bid diamonds. A good reason NOT to bid diamonds is that if partner has ♠void♥Kx♦K9876542♣xxx, which gives you twice as many diamonds as spades, you can usually make 420 in spades and only 400 in diamonds. Another good reason is that bidding diamonds could make it easier for the opponents to defend.

Lublin: “3♦—Would jump shift into diamonds as don’t probably have have nine spades and could have diamond slam. Can always play 4♠ or 3NT but 3♦ tells partner I’m short someplace.”

Adams: “3♦—Losing trick count is four, so I must force to game. Slam is likely opposite AKxxx of diamonds and out. At match-points, tempting to bid 4♠, to improve chances of a favorable lead.”

Hopkins: “3♦—My real problem will be deciding what to do if partner bids 3NT—sit or pull to 4♠?”

Two experts bid only 2♦. Aren’t you going to be sick if partner passes 2♦? I would pass 2♦ holding ♠x♥Kxxx♦Axxx♣xxxx. Notice that 4♠ is practically a lock.

King: “2♦—I would like to show this as a strong 6-4 hand which is done by bidding the four-card suit second and then rebidding the six-card suit.”

Roman: “2♦—If I get to bid again I’ll be well placed, since rebidding spades will show a strong 6-4. (If there weren’t ANY hands where it was good to be playing a forcing club system, nobody would play them.)”

When you have a major that will play well opposite a void, don’t confuse matters by introducing a minor.

3) MPs, None Vulnerable You, South, hold:

♠K4♥AKQ10985♦A3♣K9

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
?????			

<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
2♣	100	7	191
1♥	70	1	29
3NT	60	2	23
4♥	50	0	42
2♥	20	0	3
4NT	20	0	8
4♣	20	0	1
2NT	20	0	1
3♥	20	0	2
5♥	20	0	2
2♠	20	0	1

You need practically nothing to make game and all you need to make slam is for partner to have AQJ10 of a black suit. If you’re playing controls over 2♣, you can find out right away if partner has an ace. If partner denies an ace, you can jump to 4♥ ending the auction. If you’re not playing controls and partner makes a positive response you are in the slam zone.

Six experts agree with me and open 2♣.

Lublin: “2♣—Would open 2♣ asking for controls and if no slam would rebid 3NT from my side.”

Adams: “2♣—How can this be wrong? Controls are what I need to know, and 2♣ solicits them.”

Hopkins: “2♣—Let’s see: I have a 9+ trick hand, a self-sufficient suit, five primes, etc. What opening bid is used for that type of hand?”

Cappelletti: “2♣—I hope we are playing control responses.”

Roman: “2♣—What? I’m supposed to open 4♥ so my two passed opponents don’t find their spade fit? We could easily have a slam.”

Afdahl: “2♣—This looks like nine tricks to me. I would be afraid that if I opened one heart, partner with only one ace would pass and we would miss our game. The opponents don’t always balance.”

One expert opens 1♥. How are you going to find out what partner has when his most likely responses are 1♠ and 1NT?

King: “1♥—There are too many hands that even a passed partner could hold that will make six for me to bash 4♥. I could

start with 2♣, but playing Kokish I can't really show my suit until the three-level and this leaves little room for exploration. Even playing control responses, I need partner to hold at least one Ace, but I also need to know about his Q's. I think starting low is best."

Two experts try 3NT. If partner has ♠Qxx♥xx♦xxx♣Qxxxx, you can easily make 4♥ but will go down in 3NT. Since this is matchpoints, you need to be in a position to score your black kings. IMPs are a different story where 3NT is very likely to be made on a black suit lead.

Parker: "3NT—This protects both kings and in fourth seat can show this type of hand."

Schwartz: "3NT—Rates to play the same as hearts opposite many North hands, preempts the opponents from finding a sacrifice and might tempt West to make the "book" lead of an ace."

Against a gambling 3NT its important to get your five tricks early since declarer will have a lot of tricks once he gets in. Therefore, a good lead against a gambling 3NT is an ace. That way you can see dummy and decide whether or not to switch.

Open 2♣ when a few fitting cards will get you to slam.

4) IMPs, Both Vulnerable You, South, hold:

♠8♥9♦AQ1032♣AK8765

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
?????			
<i>Action</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Panelists</i>	<i>Solvers</i>
1♣	100	7	175
Pass	90	1	1
1♦	70	2	121
2♣	50	0	3
1♥	20	0	2
3♣	20	0	1

How do you show a good hand with six clubs and five diamonds? One way is to open 1♣ and then bid diamonds twice. You have to bid diamonds twice because the first diamond bid shows only four. Another way is to pass first, bid the unusual notrump and if necessary, bid clubs. Since a passed hand

notrump bids are usually for the minors, you can bid notrump at the lowest level possible. This shape is good for the unusual notrump since partner will prefer clubs with equal length.

Seven experts open 1♣. Most of them plan on reversing.

Adams: "1♣—Planning to reverse."

Hopkins: "1♣—I feel I have enough to bid Diamonds later. The danger in this approach is running into a two-suited misfit where you are forced to the four-level because you reversed."

Roman: "1♣—If they're in four-of-a-major when it gets back to me I'll bid 4NT, otherwise I'll bid diamonds 'til partner gets the idea."

How many diamonds does 4NT show?

Schwartz: "1♣—Playing strength is enough for a reverse. Can always bid notrump later if the opponents interfere to get the diamonds in."

Afdahl: "1♣—I know, only 13 HCPs, but I am 5-6, and I have quality controls in both of my suits. We could easily have a game or slam, or a profitable save against the opponents major suit game."

Two experts open 1♣ and plan to bury the diamond suit.

Cappelletti: "1♣—I like to keep reversing as an option in competition. With no competition, I rebid 2♣ then 3♦. Opening 1♦ often gets you to wrong fit opposite 2-2."

King: "1♣—I don't want the auction to go 1♦-1M; 2♣-2♦. If partner is giving a false preference I could be in a seven-card diamond fit instead of a nine-card club fit! I will bid 1♣ and then 2♣ and only if partner forces will I bid 3♦."

Two experts open 1♦. The problem is that partner is going to take you back to diamonds with equal length in the minors. If partner is 4522 he'll correct clubs to diamonds.

Lublin: "1♦—No giant hand for minor reverse so would open 1♦ and bid clubs twice."

Parker: “1♦—Partner or someone will bid a major and I don’t want to reverse. I will bid diamonds twice and hope to get to the right contract. It would be easy if only the opponents bid. I could open Clubs and then bid notrump.”

Some hands are better described by passing first.

5) IMPs, None Vulnerable You, South, hold:

♠AKQ54♥Q2♦AK54♣54

<u>SOUTH</u>	<u>WEST</u>	<u>NORTH</u>	<u>EAST</u>
1♠	Pass	2♣GF	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
???			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Panelists</u>	<u>Solvers</u>
2NT	100	3	28
3♦	70	3	97
3♠	50	2	58
4NT	50	1	34
5♠	50	1	3
3♥	40	0	21
3NT	40	0	4
4♠	20	0	43
4♣	20	0	4
4♦	20	0	6
4♥	20	0	1
3♣	20	0	2
Pass	20	0	1
6♠	20	0	1

How does opener continue after getting three-card spade support? With a very very bad hand, opener jumps to 4♠, ♠Q10xxx♥Qx♦QJ10xx♣A, for instance. With a sound minimum, opener bids 3♠. It’s important to be able to limit the strength of your hand. If responder has a minimum hand also, he bids 4♠ and the opponents will not learn any more about opener’s hand. Bidding 3♠ allows responder to investigate slam at the four-level if he has at least an ace more than a minimum game force. Bidding 3♠ also allows responder to bid 3NT offering opener a choice of games. If opener has a very good hand, he shows his distribution. With 55, opener rebids his five-card suit. With 5431 or 6421, opener bids the third suit showing shortness in the fourth suit. With 5422, opener bids notrump. This allows responder to evaluate whether or not

he has wasted values. There will be plenty of room for cuebidding.

Two experts agree with me and show their balanced hand. This also allows responder to limit his hand by bidding 3♠ or show extras by cuebidding.

Schwartz: “2NT—Shows flat nature of the hand allowing bidding room for partner. Will bid 4♦ over 3NT?”

Hopkins: “2NT—This is a waiting bid to allow partner room for further clarification. Based on partner’s next call, I will make slam tries or force to slam or respect partner’s sign-off.”

Three experts rebid the diamonds. Doesn’t that sound like 5-5?

Adams: “3♦—At the table I might try 2NT, as the cheapest bid, but this will not match too many experts. Bidding 3♦ is just normal.”

King: “3♦—I have to make some kind of move towards slam and while this would often show 5-5, it is the bid that comes closest to describing my hand. 3♠ would be my second choice.”

Parker: “3♦—Should show a control and not shape once we have found a fit.”

Two experts show a minimum. With all those extras how are you going to get responder’s help?

Afdahl: “3♠—I needed to have partner start cue-bidding. If he bids 4♣, I will bid 4♦. If he returns to 4♠, I will pass, as this should deny first or second-round control of hearts. With as little as: ♠Jxx♥Ax♦xx♣AKQxx we should have a play for our vulnerable slam at IMPs. With less, he may have just jumped to 4♠ over 2♦. Partner should not have four spades or shortness. With more, we may get to a grand slam.”

Jumping to 4♠ over 2♦ shows real garbage ♠Jxx♥QJ♦QJxx♣KQJx for instance. You don’t want to take up extra room unless you have no help for partner.

Roman: “3♠—I have extras (for once)...let’s hear what our boy has to say for himself.”

One expert keeps it simple. Bid keycard and hope for the best.

Cappelletti: “4NT—If I bid only 2NT, and partner raises to 3NT I still like slam in spades with a potential Diamond ruff; so Blackwood should be simplest and best approach.”

You probably have a slam but don't you want make sure you have a control in the unbid suit, the suit which is most likely to be led.

One expert jumps to 5♠. Won't cuebidding at the four-level solve the possible heart problem and keep you at the four-level if you're off two heart tricks?

Lublin: “5♠—Would jump to 5♠ to hear if partner has heart control assuming he knows that what I'm missing. He should have clubs covered.”

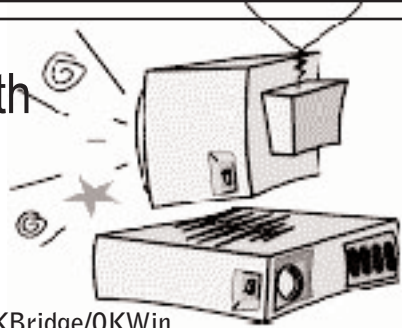
Show distribution at three-level. Cuebid at four-level.

SOLVERS' SCORES

John Adams	2NT	3♦	2♣	1♣	3♦	390
Darwin Afdahl	2♥	4♠	2♣	1♣	3♠	450
Mike Cappelletti	2NT	4♠	2♣	1♣	4NT	400
Fred King	2♥	2♦	1♥	1♣	3♦	360
Robbie Hopkins	2♥	3♦	2♣	1♣	2NT	470
Glenn Lublin	2NT	3♦	2♣	1♦	5♠	310
Steve Parker	2♥	4♠	3NT	1♦	3♦	400
Steve Robinson	2♥	4♠	2♣	Pass	2NT	490
Jeff Roman	2♥	2♦	2♣	1♣	3♠	470
Alan Schwartz	2♥	4♠	3NT	1♣	2NT	460

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2003 TROPHY RACE STANDINGS

www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org

Updated by our Webmaster, Don Berman

The Lovenberg Race is open to all WBL members; the Izzy Cohen Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 1500 masterpoints; the Tubbs Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year as a Non-Life Master; the Woolridge Race is open to all WBL members who started the calendar year with fewer than 20 masterpoints; the Machlin Race includes only those points won in senior events at the five WBL Sectional Tournaments.

Winners in each category will receive four sessions of free plays. Second place gets two and third place gets one.

This list is up to date through November 6, 2003 (not including KO's or RR). All points are subject to audit by the WBL Director.

Lovenberg

1	187.15	Steve Robinson
2	171.87	Leo LaSota
3	131.91	Alfred Steinberg
4	112.74	John Adams
5	109.13	Alan Kleist
6	98.10	Mark Shaw
7	92.33	Fred King
8	87.50	Barbara Shaw
9	84.26	Lloyd Rawley
10	82.04	Charity Sack
11	80.21	John Lawrence
12	77.06	David Ruderman
13	72.55	Richard Wegman
14	71.37	Ellen Klosson
15	69.78	Ellen Cherniavsky
16	67.61	Charleen Brand
17	66.24	Eugene Kales
18	65.88	Hailong Ao
19	61.32	William Hacker
20	60.96	Warren Kaufman
21	60.02	Robert Klein
22	59.65	Mita Banerjee
23	58.88	Andrew Gofreed
24	56.69	Earl Glickstein
25	55.10	Yi Zhong

Izzy Cohen

1	84.26	Lloyd Rawley
2	82.04	Charity Sack
3	80.21	John Lawrence
4	65.88	Hailong Ao
5	61.32	William Hacker
6	59.65	Mita Banerjee
7	55.04	Richard Ferrin
8	51.65	James Geist
9	48.35	Kitty Gottfried
10	46.85	Alice Wegman
11	46.59	Charles Young Jr
12	45.09	Kevin Barnes
13	41.15	Janet Dence
14	39.43	John Lowe III
15	39.40	Andrew Kaufman

Tubbs

1	45.09	Kevin Barnes
2	39.43	John Lowe III
3	38.40	Steven Sacks
4	35.39	Ellen Rosenthal
5	33.11	Neal Rosenthal
6	29.63	Howard Tash
7	29.45	Martin Reed
8	28.96	Suzanne Abrams
9	27.79	Mark Rosen
10	26.30	William Gill

Woolridge

1	33.11	Neal Rosenthal
2	13.61	Rachelle Sladoff
3	12.78	Cielle Block
4	11.16	Jean Agenbroad
5	9.47	William Kingery Jr
6	8.07	James Andre
7	8.00	Ron Starr
8	7.70	David Mead
9	7.70	Kathleen O'Toole
10	6.07	Shirlee Starr

Machlin

1	6.84	Audrey Marbach
2	5.26	Alice Miller
3	4.30	Eugene Davidson
4	4.09	Mary O'Neil
5	4.09	Jim O'Neil
6	3.92	David Wakefield
7	3.88	Juline Glaz
8	3.88	Daniel Shankle Jr

0-20 LESSON & GAME

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This is a great program for beginners as well as experienced social bridge players! Partners will be provided if needed. For more information call or email Steve or Sandy Forsythe at (301) 592-9177 (email: majslf@aol.com)

SCHEDULE

All Games held at Christ the King Church

- December 4.....WBL Sectional
- December 11MABC STaC/Holiday Party
- December 18Stratified GNTeams Qualifying
- December 25♦♦♦**CLOSED for Christmas**♦♦♦
- January 1♦♦♦**CLOSED for New Year's Day**♦♦♦
- January 8.....WBL Sectional
- January 15.....Stratified Unit Championship
- January 22.....StrataFlighted Unit Championship
- January 29.....StrataFlighted GNTeams Qualifying
- February 5.....Strataflighted ACBL Charity Game
- February 12Strataflighted Upgraded Club Championship
- February 19.....NVBA Sectional
- February 26.....Stratified District 6/Club STaC
- March 4.....WBL Sectional
- March 11Strataflighted District 6 Charity Game

~ ♣♦♥♠ ~

Newcomer, Novice, and Intermediate

- 7:15pm.....Free Duplicate Mini-Lesson
- 7:30pm.....Bridge

Call Frances Burke at 301-384-6103 for info on Newcomer Classes and Games

UNIT GAME PARTNERS GUARANTEED

To find a partner before the game, contact Barbara Shaw: barshaw@comcast.net, 301-598-3339, or Charity Sack: charity@charitysack.com, 703-963-7027. Please call at least 2 days before game time.Or log on to the WBL's new **Partnership Desk Online** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

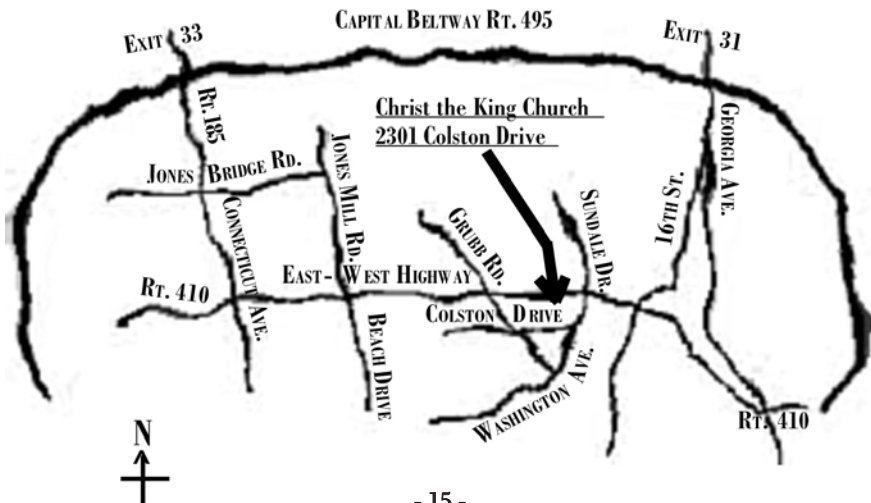
UNIT GAME CARPOOL AVAILABLE

To arrange a carpool, contact Don Berman, Carpool Coordinator, at 301-776-3581 or don.berman@verizon.net.Or log on to the WBL's new **Online Carpool Notices** at: www.WashingtonBridgeLeague.org.

GAME IS TO START PROMPTLY AT 7:30PM

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COMITTEE ACTION XLIII

Part II

by Rich Colker, rcolker@worldnet.att.nat

Last issue I described a case from the 2003 International Team Trials where North opened a weak notrump and East doubled for penalty. South began a runout with 2♣, normally showing clubs and a higher suit but it could also be the start of a “scramble.” Unfortunately, behind screens West was informed of the scramble possibility while East was not, which caused East to misinterpret West’s 2♦ bid (intended as a transfer to hearts) as natural. East bid 2NT (forward-going with a diamond fit) and West, who was confused by the undiscussed 2NT bid, bid 3♥ intending it (erroneously) as a choice of games. East passed and West scored up +170. The Director adjusted the E/W score to +620 and N/S appealed, arguing that the explanations on the two sides of the screen were not that different, that E/W should have known that a scramble after a weak notrump is doubled for penalty is possible even without an explanation, and that it was E/W’s own poor bidding that caused their bad result and not the different explanations.

Before looking at the Committee’s decision I wish to remind you of two important points of law which apply to cases like this. First, when assigning an adjusted score the law says that different standards apply to the two sides. When an irregularity damages the opponents and requires score adjustments, the offenders get the most unfavorable result that was “at all probable” while the non-offenders get the most favorable result that was “likely” had the irregularity not occurred. Second, prior to 1998 it was possible to interpret the law as saying that when an irregularity places the non-offenders in a position to get a better score than they could have achieved without the irregularity and when they fail to do so because of their own failure to play bridge up to some minimal standard for their class, there has been no damage due to the irregularity (sometimes referred to as consequent damage versus subsequent damage) and thus there can be no score adjustment. This permitted offenders to profit from an irregularity when they could not have achieved as good a score had they not offended.

However, in 1998 both the WBF Laws Committee and the ACBL Laws Commission addressed this issue and redefined damage for

the offenders solely in terms of the score they achieved at the table relative to the one they would have achieved had they not committed the irregularity. In other words, both laws bodies removed the distinction between consequent and subsequent damage for the offenders by interpreting the law to mean that offenders are deemed to have caused damage if they achieve a better result after their irregularity than they would have without it, even if their good result was directly due to an opponent’s error. However, for non-offenders the distinction remains between damage caused by the opponents’ irregularity and that produced by their own egregious error. That is, after an opponents’ irregularity, if the non-offenders could have achieved a better result than the one they would have achieved without the irregularity simply by playing reasonable bridge, and they fail to do so, then they have not been damaged by the opponents (i.e., their damage is subsequent to but not a consequence of the irregularity) and thus are due no redress.

So what does this all mean with respect to the present case? It means that in deciding on possible score adjustments the two sides must be addressed independently and the issue of whether E/W’s poor bidding was directly responsible for their own damage is relevant only to deciding whether to adjust their score and not to whether to adjust N/S’s score. Let’s see what the Committee did.

The Committee considered each pair in turn. Taking N/S first, the Committee decided that even if it subsequently judged that E/W should have reached game despite the MI, without North’s incomplete explanation E/W would clearly have reached either 4♥ or 3NT. Thus, N/S could not be allowed to profit from their infraction and for them the contract was changed to 4♥ made four, –620 for N/S. Next, the Committee considered whether West’s 3♥ bid was sufficiently poor to sever the connection between the infraction and the damage. They decided that while 3♥ was a clear bridge error the situation created by N/S was unusual enough (given the ambiguity that 2♣ showed either two suits including clubs or started a scramble and prom-

ised no specific suit) to afford E/W protection. This decision took into account the two items in the Conditions of Contest (that were quoted previously) which the Directors had relied upon for their ruling. Therefore, the E/W contract was changed to 4♥ made four, +620 for E/W.

The discussion that the Committee's decision engendered at the Trials revolved primarily around whether E/W deserved protection given West's admittedly dreadful (non-forcing) 3♥ bid. Several experienced appeals people thought the Committee lost its mind in protecting E/W. I think it's close but I disagree. Here's why. First, West was not a top-notch player. It may be difficult for top experts to appreciate the confusion that an undiscussed bid in the middle of a complex auction (like East's 2NT bid here) can create in a lesser player's mind. Second, it is true, as West admitted he "knew," that whatever East's 2NT meant it must show a good hand—one with either a heart fit or a suit that would produce enough tricks to play 2NT opposite a bad hand with long hearts. Thus, the need for West to get to game with his hand was clear. And yet West feared (and he was right) that East would not have sprung an undiscussed 2NT bid on him if he knew 2♦ was a transfer, so West's mind became preoccupied with the problem of how to reaffirm to East that he

really held hearts. (After all, East might hold a heart fit and 4♥ might be preferable to 3NT.) Had East opened 1NT and rebid 2NT over the transfer West could have rebid 3♦ to retransfer to hearts, then offered a game choice with 3NT. But here a 3♦ bid could be misconstrued by East as confirming 2♦ as natural and preferring to play 3♦ rather than 2NT. If East held something like ♠AJx ♥Kxx ♦10 ♣AKQxxx and passed E/W might end up playing their four-one diamond fit going down when both 4♥ and 3NT were cold. West might have just guessed to bid 3NT, but in his state of mind, focused as he was on reaffirming his hearts, he took the direct course to showing his hearts—he bid them. Pass. Ugh!

It does not seem right to penalize a player for not being a good enough player to work through all the doubt and problems created by the opponents' MI, especially when the Conditions of Contest stress that "ANY REASONABLE doubt that harm was done will be resolved in favor of the non-offenders in determining a score adjustment." In a major NABC team championship, where the conditions do not stress protecting the non-offenders as emphatically as they do here, it could be right to leave E/W with the table result (although I am not sure I would vote to do so even then). But in this event I think the Committee made the right decision to protect them.

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“THE SURVEY SAYS...”

Here are the results from the first five questions in the survey that we ran last year. The next issues will continue publishing the results until they are complete, at which point we will have some summary analyses to offer.

Because most of the questions asked how important each your choices were to you, most of the results will show two different types of tabulation (both shown as percentages): (1) the first method simply counts each vote equally, (2) the second method shows a weighted average according to your preference ratings. In cases where there was a list of options, these will also be shown with the two types of tabulation, but they will be shown in ranked order by totaling the vote values, rather than by percentages. You will also see what percentage of the respondents answered each particular question, which is another indication of how important each issue is. Finally, in cases where we found a difference, or where you might have expected to see a difference between respondents from different player flights, the answers will be broken down further into A/X, B/C, and D/Novice categories.

There were 106 total respondents (A/X: 49, B/C: 48, D/N: 9). Thank you all for taking the time to help us figure out how to best serve the membership's needs.

I. 'Fun' vs. 'Serious' Bridge

a. Would you like the Unit Game better if a 'fun' game was offered in addition to the selection of seriously competitive games that currently exist?

71.0% of all respondents answered
 82.0% of A/X respondents answered
 61.2% of B/C respondents answered
 55.5% of D/N respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	9.4%	10.5%
No:	61.6%	60.5%
No Response:	29.0%	29.0%

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL, BY PLAYER FLIGHTS</u>		
	<u>A/X</u>	<u>B/C</u>	<u>D/N</u>
Yes:	8.2%	12.2%	0.0%
No:	73.8%	49.0%	55.5%
No Response:	18.0%	38.8%	44.5%

b. Would you like the WBL Sectionals better if a 'fun' game was offered in addition to the selection of seriously competitive games that currently exist?

66.7% of all respondents answered
 81.3% of A/X respondents answered
 54.2% of B/C respondents answered
 55.5% of D/N respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	11.4%	10.5%
No:	55.3%	56.2%
No Response:	33.3%	33.3%

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL, BY PLAYER FLIGHTS</u>		
	<u>A/X</u>	<u>B/C</u>	<u>D/N</u>
Yes:	11.0%	10.4%	11.1%
No:	60.3%	43.8%	44.4%
No Response:	28.7%	45.8%	44.5%

c. If you answered yes to 1.a. and/or 1.b., which of the following would contribute to making a game 'fun'?

	<u>RANKED BY VOTE TOTAL, (EACH VOTE EQUAL)</u>
Bar rude players from the 'fun' game	...13
Allow partners with a great difference in masterpoints to play together	...10
Relaxed rules	...8
Director's rule final	...8
Fewer director calls	...7
Game with a food break	...7
Lots of boards, fast play	...7
No alerts	...6
Restrict 'fun' game(s) by masterpoint level	5
Evening game ends early	...5
Team game	...5
Fewer boards, time to socialize while playing	...5
Dinner game	...4
Short game	...4

RANKED BY WEIGHTED VOTE TOTAL

Bar rude players from the 'fun' game . . .24
Relaxed rules18
Director's rule final18
Fewer director calls15
Lots of boards, fast play13
Team game12
Allow partners with a great difference in masterpoints to play together11
No alerts10
Game with a food break9
Fewer boards, time to socialize while playing8
Short game8
Evening game ends early8
Dinner game7
Restrict 'fun' game(s) by masterpoint level 7

2. Partnerships

Would you like the WBL to provide more assistance in finding partners or teammates?

- 75.5% of all respondents answered
- 81.6% of A/X respondents answered
- 68.8% of B/C respondents answered
- 77.8% of D/N respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	51.9%	59.0%
No:	23.6%	16.5%
No Response:	24.5%	24.5%

EACH VOTE EQUAL, BY PLAYER FLIGHTS

	<u>A/X</u>	<u>B/C</u>	<u>D/N</u>
Yes:	51.0%	52.1%	55.6%
No:	30.6%	16.7%	22.2%
No Response:	18.4%	31.2%	22.2%

3. Babysitting

a. Would you like the WBL to set up babysitting at the sites of the unit game and/or sectionals?

48.1% of all respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	11.3%	14.4%
No:	36.8%	33.7%
No Response:	51.9%	51.9%

b. For those who answered yes to 3a.: How much would you be willing to pay per child for babysitting per session? \$10-14, \$15-19, \$20-24, \$25-30, or \$0-9 (subsidize this other ways)?

<u>RANKED: VOTE TOT.</u>	<u>RANKED: WEIGHTED TOT.</u>
\$25-29: 4	\$25-29: 10
\$10-14: 3	\$0-9: 6
\$0-9: 2	\$10-14: 3
\$15-19: 0	\$15-19: 0
\$20-24: 0	\$20-24: 0

4. Behavior

Would you like the WBL to have its directors more liberally hand out zero tolerance penalties for rude behavior?

95.3% of all respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Yes:	72.6%	79.3%
No:	22.6%	16.0%
No Response:	4.7%	4.7%

5. Appeals

The ACBL Board of Directors voted to have management submit a plan to have Directors handle appeals at Nationals starting Jan. 2004. The manner of hearing appeals may be left to the sponsoring organization at lower levels tournaments, unit and club games. At the unit and club levels, it isn't possible to have a committee of directors. We should:

- A.** Continue as is with appeals going to player committees
- B.** Let the director have the final word after consulting with other directors and players
- C.** Have a director sit on the committee
- D.** Have some other form of appeals process

- 87.7% of all respondents answered
- 98.0% of A/X respondents answered
- 79.2% of B/C respondents answered
- 77.8% of D/N respondents answered

	<u>EACH VOTE EQUAL</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
A:	32.1%	28.4%
B:	33.0%	38.3%
C:	17.9%	17.9%
D:	4.7%	3.1%
No Response:	12.3%	12.3%

EACH VOTE EQUAL, BY PLAYER FLIGHTS

	<u>A/X</u>	<u>B/C</u>	<u>D/N</u>
A:	38.8%	29.2%	11.2%
B:	32.7%	33.3%	33.3%
C:	20.4%	12.5%	33.3%
D:	6.1%	4.2%	0.0%
No Response:	2.0%	20.8%	22.2%

THE WORKER BZZZ

featuring: **Millard Nachtwey, WBL Chief Tournament Director**

by Kitty Gottfried and collected conversations



Our able Chief Tournament Director for WBL Sectionals is also the National Tournament Director in Charge at every Fall Nationals and has been the MABC Chief Director at Regionals since 1994. He is an ACBL Field Representative and Supervisor of Tournament Directors for the MidAtlantic area. He served on the WBL Unit Board from 1975-1983.

Millard was born in Washington, D.C., and graduated from Bucknell University with a BA in English and a concentration in drama. He lives in Silver Spring with his partner, Doug Grove, and Zephyr the black cat. In off hours, he enjoys cooking, attending theatre, and reading science fiction and fantasy.

Millard started to play bridge at age 12, with his parents. At Walter Johnson High School, he played round robin matches with other students.

At Bucknell, he started a bridge club and started directing. He worked at Fred Karpin's bridge studio for three years. After that studio closed, Millard opened studios at two different locations for six years. His first session as a tournament director was in 1976. He became a full time ACBL Director in 1983 and now directs 170 days a year, of which 140 are out of town.

Bill Cole says, "I've been Chairman of the GNTs for more than 10 years. Millard runs this event in a very efficient and organized manner. The games always get started within 5 minutes of game time for every flight every year. He catches problems before they come up and is able to come up with solutions to problems that no one else would think of."

A conversation between fellow directors, Clyde Kruskal and Ted Ying reveals, "Millard likes to make movements as fair as possible, even if they are complex. I remember once Millard was running an innovative movement during a 2-session pair game at the Silver Spring Armory. Halfway through, he instructed some East-West pairs to trade sections. Toward the end of the game, it became clear that something had gone wrong: East-West pairs were running into boards they had already played. The directors scrambled to determine where everyone should go. By the last round, the directors gave up. North-South pairs just raised their boards and yelled out, "Has anyone not played boards so-

and-so?" Everyone was amused, but somehow, as usual, it all worked out in the end."

Even with his directing schedule, Millard tries to earn 100 masterpoints each year; most years he succeeds. The most interesting bridge event that Millard remembers was the first Sectional Open Pairs with Nadine Wood. They came in first overall, beating Kit Woolsey and Ed Manfield - by ½ point - in 1979. Nadine says, "When Millard plays match point events he is out there on a limb trying to gather them in, which can lead to disastrous results. One time, I said, "let's play today as if we were playing IMPs — be sure to make the contract, do NOT go for big numbers and try and defeat the opponents contracts." It worked and we won."

Many of you do not realize that when we used to serve lots of food at our Sectionals and still do for our annual meeting, he was one of those helping to cook food at Nadine's. For our Holiday Parties, Millard takes care of the drinks, serves food, and even washes dishes afterwards. He has said that were he not a director, he would want to be a caterer.

Nadine says, "It wasn't just that Millard helped cook in the old days. He was more important than that. He had a small Honda, but one where the back opened up so he could actually put more in his car than mine, a different model Honda. We would take both cars to Makro (predecessor of Costco or Sam's) and stuff them floor to ceiling. Almost every time, as I looked at the four flat-bed carts we had filled up and our two little cars, I exclaimed, "it's not going to fit." "Nonsense" he would reply and he was always right. Many times I declared that if I ever lost Millard from shopping, schlepping, planning and cooking, then I was also finished. I could not do it alone." Clearly, Millard is not only a director and player; he is also a very valuable member of our Unit.

Charity Sack recalls the days when she caddied at the Thursday Unit Games at Ohr Kodesh circa 1975. Talk about a fearless volunteer, in between his directing duties, Millard went above and beyond the call of duty to tutor her, a math-adverse teen, in algebra. No hazardous pay, just the payoff of seeing a caddy learn to solve for 'x'.

WASHINGTON BRIDGE LEAGUE'S NATIONAL CAPITAL TOURNAMENT

October 16-19, 2003

Results

TOP TEN CUMULATIVE POINT WINNERS

All Players

1	29.32	Leo LaSota
2	27.40	Steve Robinson
3	25.76	Mark Shaw
4	17.93	Yi Zhong
5	17.32	Alfred Steinberg
6	16.48	Hailong Ao
7	16.41	Mita Banerjee
8	15.29	Barbara Shaw
9	14.75	John Adams
10	14.07	Fred King

Players with fewer than 2000 masterpoints

1	17.93	Yi Zhong
2	16.48	Hailong Ao
3	16.41	Mita Banerjee
4	12.04	Jane Sturgis
	9.97	Betty Burse
	9.97	M Cassandra Smith
7	9.82	Philip Mittleman
	9.82	Danut Gliga
9	7.77	John Lowe III
10	7.04	Gerry McKim

Players with fewer than 750 masterpoints

1	16.48	Hailong Ao
2	9.82	Danut Gliga
	9.82	Philip Mittleman
4	7.77	John Lowe III
5	6.15	Edward Rodrigues
	6.15	Glenn Young
7	5.42	Jian-Jian Wang
8	5.17	M Schuler
9	4.72	Wanda Avila
10	4.61	Willa Garner

Intermediate/Novice Game Point Leaders

1	3.21	Kathrine Loh
2	2.74	Thomas Din
	2.74	Jane Frost
4	2.73	Gloria Halstead
5	2.12	Kathleen O'Toole
	2.12	David Mead
7	2.09	Robert Von Moss
8	2.05	Margaret Buda
9	1.97	Walter Mitnick
	1.97	David Bort

THURSDAY MORNING

Open PairsStratum A 24 Pairs



1	Fred King - R Eissenstat	.63.05
2	Livingston Johnson - John Lowe III	.62.44
3	Sylvia Levy - Eileen Theimer	.59.00
4	Charles Stenger - Jim Pestaner	.56.01
5	Alan Haga - James Prentiss	.54.83
6	Dolores Rioux - Arthur Mackwell	.54.66

Stratum B

15 Pairs

1	Livingston Johnson - John Lowe III	.62.44
2	Alan Haga - James Prentiss	.54.83
3	Dolores Rioux - Arthur Mackwell	.54.66
4	Candy Greenway - Willa Garner	.52.92
5	Morris Tepper - Allen Lord	.52.31

Stratum C

5 Pairs

1	Livingston Johnson - John Lowe III	.62.44
2	Candy Greenway - Willa Garner	.52.92

THURSDAY EVENING

Flight A/X PairsStratum A 63 Pairs



1	Mark Shaw - Jane Sturgis	.60.57
2	Danut Gliga - Philip Mittleman	.59.84
3	Mita Banerjee - Joan Shields	.59.63
4	Mark Lavine - Dharendra Ghosh	.58.28
5	Jerry Keller - Gerry McKim	.57.33
6	Bryan Coleman - Fred King	.56.96
7	Shou-Ling Wang - Dalia Kende	.56.05

Stratum X

40 Pairs

1	Danut Gliga - Philip Mittleman	.59.84
2	Mita Banerjee - Joan Shields	.59.63
3	Mark Lavine - Dharendra Ghosh	.58.28
4	Lloyd Rawley - Charity Sack	.55.50
5	Lynn Jones - Joseph Trapani	.55.39
6	James Witting - Robert Zier	.55.09

Flight B/C PairsStratum B

50 Pairs



- 1 Ruth Zimmerman - Audrey Warren ..70.24
- 2 Youssof Seraj - Abdul Etemadi58.00
- 3 Mirsad Mujezinovic - Namik Haveric 57.18
- 4 Leonid Fastovsky - Wanda Avila56.85
- 5 Eugene Fisher - Avinash Bhagwat ...56.76
- 6 Theodore Wilkinson - John Glynn ...56.70

Stratum C

26 Pairs

- 1 Youssof Seraj - Abdul Etemadi58.00
- 2 Mirsad Mujezinovic - Namik Haveric 57.18
- 3 Leonid Fastovsky - Wanda Avila56.85
- 4 Rich Hottell - Ron Terry54.50
- 5 Walter Lafferty - Mary Lafferty53.57
- 6 Martin Reed - Jack Geltman52.98

199er PairsStratum A

14 Pairs



- 1 Heman Pflucker - Katherine I Rabenstein 60.83
- 2 Albert Leon - Millie Reizenstein ...60.42
- 3 Sen. Robert Packwood - Kathy Atlan 55.42
- 4/5 Roma Chandra - Yasmina Patel54.58
- 4/5 Ruth Freedman - Miriam Freed54.58

Stratum B

9 Pairs

- 1 Katherine I Rabenstein - Heman Pflucker 60.83
- 2 Roma Chandra - Yasmina Patel54.58
- 3 Fred Mobley - Frieda Joyce49.58
- 4 Jochen Kraske - Huda Kraske49.17

Stratum C

7 Pairs

- 1 Katherine I Rabenstein - Heman Pflucker 60.83
- 2 Roma Chandra - Yasmina Patel54.58
- 3 Jochen Kraske - Huda Kraske49.17

FRIDAY MORNING

Flight A/X PairsStratum A

20 Pairs



- 1 Kenneth Davis - John Ashe66.07
- 2 Hanna Schepps - Rossi Lindstrom ..62.50
- 3 George Clark III - David Wakefield ..59.23

- 4 Daniel Huzzard - Mary Guandolo ...57.44
- 5 Leo LaSota - Alfred Steinberg56.70
- 6 Bert Chansky - Donald Williams ...54.17

Stratum X

10 Pairs

- 1 George Clark III - David Wakefield ..59.23
- 2 Daniel Huzzard - Mary Guandolo ...57.44
- 3 Bert Chansky - Donald Williams ...54.17
- 4 Rosemary Marks - Marie Creisher ...50.60

Flight B/C PairsStratum B

20 Pairs



- 1 Cecilia Valdivieso - Dayle Masumura 60.12
- 2 Rena Rutstein - Joan Cutler58.33
- 3 Samuel Keiter - Richard Robinson ..58.04
- 4 Joseph Lubell - Mary Rose55.95
- 5/6 Georgia Lyhus - Arlan Lyhus54.17
- 5/6 Nelu Schwartz - Charles Carrington ..54.17

Stratum C

16 Pairs

- 1 Rena Rutstein - Joan Cutler58.33
- 2 Joseph Lubell - Mary Rose55.95
- 3 Georgia Lyhus - Arlan Lyhus54.17
- 4 John Hartwell - T Lee51.49
- 5 Arthur Podolsky - Lea Rochkind51.19

299er PairsStratum A

10 Pairs



- 1 Willard Adams - Ravi Aggarwal54.50
- 2 Sally Hollman - Lois Kay54.00
- 3/4 Margaret Buda - Robert Von Moss ...53.00
- 3/4 Walter Mitnick - David Bort53.00

Stratum B

8 Pairs

- 1 Sally Hollman - Lois Kay54.00
- 2 Margaret Buda - Robert Von Moss ...53.00
- 3 Edith Black - Howard Moss51.00

Stratum C

5 Pairs

- 1 Sally Hollman - Lois Kay54.00
- 2 Karen Copp - Marie Sullivan49.50

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Flight A/X PairsStratum A

24 Pairs



- 1 Robert Hopkins Jr - John Klayman62.72
- 2 Robert Gookin - Donna Rogall57.22
- 3 Leo LaSota - Warren Kaufman55.91
- 4 Mita Banerjee - Hanna Schepps55.37
- 5 Alfred Steinberg - Steve Robinson55.25
- 6 Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher53.96

Stratum X

7 Pairs

- 1 Mita Banerjee - Hanna Schepps55.37
- 2 Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher53.96
- 3 Stephen Czecha - Stanley Scheiner47.46

Flight B/C/D PairsStratum B

21 Pairs



- 1 Mary Jane Von Moss - Roy Tibery65.15
- 2 Mary Ellen Lyon - Carol Fouts60.92
- 3 Audrey Warren - Marlys Moholt58.25
- 4 Aquil Ahmed - Thavendran Anulnandhy .55.66
- 5 Alice Wegman - Seema Bhagwat55.11
- 6 Candy Greenway - Willa Garner54.61

Stratum C

17 Pairs

- 1 Mary Ellen Lyon - Carol Fouts60.92
- 2 Aquil Ahmed - Thavendran Anulnandhy .55.66
- 3 Alice Wegman - Seema Bhagwat55.11
- 4 Candy Greenway - Willa Garner54.61
- 5 Nelu Schwartz - Charles Carrington . .51.98

Stratum D

13 Pairs

- 1 Mary Ellen Lyon - Carol Fouts60.92
- 2 Aquil Ahmed - Thavendran Anulnandhy .55.66
- 3 Candy Greenway - Willa Garner54.61
- 4 Rena Rutstein - Joan Cutler50.22
- 5 Richard Allison - John Lowe III49.95

299er PairsStratum A

12 Pairs



- 1 Betty Simpson - Robert Weeks60.67
- 2 David Bort - Walter Mitnick53.67
- 3 Gloria Halstead - Wanda Avila53.25
- 4 Pei Chen - Paul Chen51.74

Stratum B

11 Pairs

- 1 Betty Simpson - Robert Weeks60.67
- 2 Gloria Halstead - Wanda Avila53.25
- 3 Pei Chen - Paul Chen51.74
- 4 Margaret Buda - Robert Von Moss . . .51.33

Stratum C

6 Pairs

- 1 Betty Simpson - Robert Weeks60.67
- 2 Pei Chen - Paul Chen51.74

FRIDAY EVENING

Stratified PairsStratum A

42 Pairs



- 1 Alfred Steinberg - Steve Robinson . . .70.14
- 2 Leo LaSota - Barbara Shaw66.67
- 3 Robert Bell - Eileen Houghton63.69
- 4 Kenneth Davis - John Ashe62.27
- 5 Elizabeth Nolte - Jerry Nolte60.54
- 6 Rae Dethlefsen - Diane Walker59.35

Stratum B

26 Pairs

- 1 Elizabeth Nolte - Jerry Nolte60.54
- 2 Richard Allison - John Lowe III57.82
- 3 Ronald Zucker - Amal Dasgupta56.76
- 4 Richard Ferrin - Charity Sack55.19
- 5 Ajmal Abbasi - Roy Tibery52.08
- 6 Daniel Feldman - Kitty Gottfried . . .51.40

Stratum C

18 Pairs

- 1 Elizabeth Nolte - Jerry Nolte60.54
- 2 Richard Allison - John Lowe III57.82
- 3 John Tappert - Bryon Siegel49.83
- 4 Martin Reed - Howard Tash49.77
- 5 Rex Settle - Jay Weinstein48.69

SATURDAY MORNING

Open PairsStratum A

26 Pairs



- 1 Marie Creisher - Ellie Ostrinsky65.91
- 2 G S Jade Barrett - M Schuler58.90
- 3 M Cassandra Smith - Betty Bursey . . .57.77
- 4 Willa Garner - Marie Sullivan57.20
- 5/6 John Laurim - Nelu Schwartz55.11
- 5/6 Patricia Huck - Seema Bhagwat . . .55.11

Stratum B

16 Pairs

- 1 Willa Garner - Marie Sullivan57.20
- 2/3 John Laurim - Nelu Schwartz55.11
- 2/3 Patricia Huck - Seema Bhagwat . . .55.11
- 4 Mary Jane Von Moss - Rosemary Marks .53.98
- 5 Mark Rosen - Eugene Fisher53.41

Stratum C

8 Pairs

- 1 Willa Garner - Marie Sullivan57.20
- 2 Ravi Aggarute - Willard Adams52.46
- 3 James Andre - Annapurna Satpathy .50.00

299er PairsStratum A

12 Pairs



- 1 Kathrine Loh - Edward Molnar62.58
- 2 Daniel Fink - Tobie Fink61.17
- 3 Zachary Gidwitz - Christina Forbush .60.75
- 4 Barbara DiCicco - Daniel Ward57.50

Stratum B

7 Pairs

- 1 Daniel Fink - Tobie Fink61.17
- 2 Zachary Gidwitz - Christina Forbush .60.75
- 3 Fausto Calabria - Samuel Dandy . . .55.25

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Flight B/C/D PairsStratum B

31 Pairs



- 1 Betty Bursey - M Cassandra Smith . .72.35
- 2 Lowell Phillips - Samuel Phillips . .60.53
- 3 Michael Stafford - Amal Dasgupta . .59.06
- 4 Nelson Waks - Doris Konecke57.90
- 5 Eric Branfman - Andrew Lipps57.04
- 6 Edward Rodrigues - Glenn Young . . .56.86

Stratum C

25 Pairs

- 1 Lowell Phillips - Samuel Phillips . .60.53
- 2 Nelson Waks - Doris Konecke57.90
- 3 Edward Rodrigues - Glenn Young . .56.86
- 4 Melany Levenson - Howard Levenson .55.89
- 5 Thomas Gallagher - John Lowe III . .53.20
- 6 Leonid Fastovsky - Wanda Avila . . .53.16

Stratum D

13 Pairs

- 1 Melany Levenson - Howard Levenson .55.89
- 2 Thomas Gallagher - John Lowe III . .53.20
- 3 Leonid Fastovsky - Wanda Avila . . .53.16
- 4 Lucile Arkin - Behnaz Fardshisheh .52.11
- 5 Willard Adams - Ravi Aggarwal . . .49.53

Senior PairsStratum A

14 Pairs

- 1 Jean Levin - Carolyn Gibson57.14
- 2/3 Jim O'Neil - Mary O'Neil55.36
- 2/3 Martin Graf - Denis Taneri55.36
- 4 Audrey Marbach - Alice Miller54.76
- 5 T Lee - Juanita Beeson53.87

Stratum B

5 Pairs

- 1 T Lee - Juanita Beeson53.87
- 2 John Mason Jr - Michael Polunin . . .53.27

299er PairsStratum A

22 Pairs

- 1 Kathleen O'Toole - David Mead64.29
- 2 Gloria Halstead - Kathrine Loh60.71
- 3 Thomas Din - Jane Frost58.63
- 4 Carl Gutschick - Anita Gutschick . .57.14
- 5 Florence Drake - Robert Drake56.25
- 6/7 Howard Moss - Robert Von Moss . .52.68
- 6/7 Robert Kay - Lois Kay52.68

Stratum B

16 Pairs

- 1 Kathleen O'Toole - David Mead64.29
- 2 Gloria Halstead - Kathrine Loh60.71
- 3 Thomas Din - Jane Frost58.63
- 4 Carl Gutschick - Anita Gutschick . .57.14
- 5 Florence Drake - Robert Drake56.25

Stratum C

8 Pairs

- 1 Kathleen O'Toole - David Mead64.29
- 2 Carl Gutschick - Anita Gutschick . .57.14
- 3 Christina Forbush - Zachary Gidwitz .49.70

SATURDAY

Flight A/X PairsStratum A

28 Pairs



- 1 John Adams - Steve Robinson56.98
- 2 Hailong Ao - Yi Zhong56.78
- 3 Leo LaSota - Mark Shaw55.59
- 4 Mita Banerjee - Eileen Theimer . . .52.86
- 5 Donna Rogall - Robert Gookin52.67
- 6 Scott Merritt - Stuart Fleischmann .52.46
- 7 Leslie Shafer - Gerry McKim52.33

Stratum X

12 Pairs

- 1 Hailong Ao - Yi Zhong56.78
- 2 Scott Merritt - Stuart Fleischmann .52.46
- 3 Leslie Shafer - Gerry McKim52.33
- 4 Randy Zeibert - Jim Hahn50.05

SATURDAY EVENING

Flight B/C/D PairsStratum B

24 Pairs



- 1 Glenn Young - Edward Rodrigues . .62.50

- 2 Candace Carlton - Terry Carlton62.12
- 3 Norris Hekimian - Edgar Mac Arthur 61.36
- 4 Steven Forsythe - John Mattioli59.66
- 5 Dan Moore - Michael Hovastak58.71
- 6 Sym Gallucci - Raymond Gallucci . . .57.01

Stratum C

18 Pairs

- 1 Glenn Young - Edward Rodrigues . . .62.50
- 2 Candace Carlton - Terry Carlton . . .62.12
- 3 Norris Hekimian - Edgar Mac Arthur 61.36
- 4 Steven Forsythe - John Mattioli59.66
- 5 Marty Zupan - David Jackson55.68

Stratum D

8 Pairs

- 1 Candace Carlton - Terry Carlton . . .62.12
- 2 Norris Hekimian - Edgar Mac Arthur 61.36
- 3 David Raley - Ali Al-Aref50.00

SUNDAY

Flight A/X Swiss TeamsStratum A
13 Teams



- 1 Adam Zmudzinski - Barbara Shaw - Leo LaSota - Cezary Balicki84.00
- 2 Alan Tenenbaum - Lyle Poe Jr - David Ruderman - Alfred Steinberg81.00
- 3/4 Steve Robinson - Peter Boyd - William Cole - Mark Shaw77.00
- 3/4 Yi Zhong - Jian-Jian Wang - Hailong Ao - Fred King77.00
- 5 Richard Wegman - David Abelow - Earl Glickstein - Robert Bell75.00

Stratum X

4 Teams

- 1 Barbara Ames - Rae Dethlefsen - Diane Walker - Ralph Hoffman43.00

Flight B/C/D Swiss TamsStratum B
16 Teams



- 1 Walter Kerns - Daniel Feldman - Margie Coccodrilli - Jerry Miller82.00
- 2/3 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner77.00
- 2/3 Sam Westgate - M Cassandra Smith - Betty Bursley - Carole Banks77.00
- 4 Robert Wissman - John Christensen - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried . . .72.00
- 5/6 Edwin Fuller Jr - Janet Dence - John Glynn - Alice Wegman67.00
- 5/6 Rosemary Marks - Mildred Lieder - Martha Chen - K Soderberg67.00

Stratum C

11 Teams

- 1 Walter Kerns - Daniel Feldman - Margie Coccodrilli - Jerry Miller82.00

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I certify that the above statements are correct and complete — Donna Roggall, *Editor*

- 2 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner77.00
- 3 Robert Wissman - John Christensen - Eileen Houghton - Kitty Gottfried . . .72.00
- 4 Edwin Fuller Jr - Janet Dence - John Glynn - Alice Wegman67.00

Stratum D

6 Teams

- 1 Neal Rosenthal - Ellen Rosenthal - Steven Sacks - Marc Weiner77.00
- 2 Manny Eisenfeld - Joan Eisenfeld - Morris Edmundson - David Lipke56.00

SUNDAY MORNING

299er Swiss Teams

5 Teams



- 1 Franz Delahan - Madeline Delahan - Reni Malloy - Margaret Rose56.00
- 2 Robert Lawrence - Frances Lawrence - M. Josette Johnson - A. Edwin Johnson .50.00

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

299er Swiss Teams

4 Teams



- 1 Ali Al-Aref - David Raley - Jane Frost - Thomas Din44.00



NLM MASTER POINTERS

by I/N Columnist, Vince Wilmot, vwilmot@erols.com

Well, it's time to say fare thee well to Leslie as our I/N Editor. She has been writing, and organizing results and other I/N info with a wonderfully humorous style for over 10 years now. We will all miss Leslie in these pages, but it will still be easy to find her teaching and playing locally.

We're lucky to have Vince Wilmot, a long time WBL member, an ace player, and an all around good guy agree to take over. Vince, a Silver Life Master, has been playing bridge since he was 13 years old. He was introduced to the game by his father, an avid player in the New York area. I think you'll find his writing very clear and well organized. Vince welcomes any feedback you'd like to give him. Without further ado, here's Vince... —Ed.

Hello all. I am the new novice columnist for the WBL Bulletin. My articles will appear in every issue. I am available to answer questions at vwilmot@erols.com. I also attend most unit games. Feel free to stop by and say hello.

For the first few articles, I am going to focus on bidding with balanced hands. A balanced hand is defined as hand with no singleton, void, or six card suit. The shapes usually associated with balanced hands are 4333, 4432, and 5332 (any suit short). Balanced hand bidding is a bit simpler because you can define opener's hand quickly. Once opener's hand is narrowly defined, responder can often place the contract.

Here are some rules for balanced hand bidding for opener:

High card points	Opening bid	Plan
0-11 HCP	Pass	You don't have enough to open
12-14 HCP	Open one of a minor	You will rebid 1NT
15-17 HCP	Open 1NT	Partner can control auction
20-21 HCP	Open 2NT	Partner can control auction
22-24 HCP	Open 2♣	You will rebid 2NT
25-27 HCP	Open 2♣	Rebid 3NT

One of the great things about balanced hand bidding is that you can narrowly define

your hand quickly. This allows you great precision in getting to the right contract.

Let's try a few examples. What do you open with the following hands? And what is your plan?

A.	B.	C.
♠ A64	♠ KQ98	♠ AQ64
♥ A43	♥ K54	♥ KQ98
♦ K95	♦ AQ7	♦ A54
♣ Q642	♣ JT5	♣ A3

A. Open 1♣. You plan to rebid 1NT over partner's response to show your strength and shape.

B. Open 1NT. You have a perfect hand for this action. You have 15 HCP balanced.

C. Open 1♦. You plan to rebid 2NT over partner's response to show your strength.

D.	E.	F.
♠ AKQ5	♠ AKQ54	♠ 654
♥ AQT	♥ A4	♥ AK7
♦ A73	♦ A6	♦ AKQ
♣ KJ	♣ QT98	♣ AJ76

D. Open 2♣. You plan to rebid 2NT to show 22-24 HCP.

E. Open 1♠. This is not a balanced hand. You should show your strong 5 card suit.

F. Open 2NT. This shows 20-21 HCP.

In my next column, we will focus on how to respond to NT openers. Once responder has a very narrow view of opener's strength and shape, she can take control of the auction.

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

As of November 1, 2003

Junior Masters (5 Masterpoints)

Mrs Joyce Bladen
Ms Narda A Ehrlich
Mrs Lorraine N Tyler

Club Masters (20 Masterpoints)

Ms Flora T Feldman

Sectional Masters (50 Masterpoints)

Mrs Sally W Hollman

NABC Masters

Jeffrey A Gourley
Stephen M Mac Arthur

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Steve Forsythe is the new volunteer coordinator for the Washington Bridge League. He's making two lists:

1) Volunteers who might be willing to play with someone who's looking for a partner, and

2) Volunteers who might be willing to play to help out at a sectional. For example, we will need help taking winners pictures at the December sectional after each session. We may need help with hospitality: i.e., baking or shopping. Once Steve has this list, he can just send out an email whenever a need arises.

Please email Steve Forsythe at majself@aol.com or call him at **301-592-9177** with the following information:

- (a) name, email, phone,
- (b) volunteer to help (Y/N),
- (c) volunteer to be a partner (Y/N)

This is a great opportunity to meet people, make new partnerships, and have fun! You can volunteer to help, or be a partner, or both. He's not asking you to commit to anything specific yet, and you can always say no. So please consider adding your name to our database of people who would like to hear from us when we need a little help.

Thanks!

AREA BRIDGE CLASS OFFERINGS

LESLIE SHAFER'S CLASSES

January 2004

Killer Defense (against NT contracts) **10A-noon Potomac Com. Center**. 8 weeks. \$68 plus \$15 material fee. Begins January 5th

Beginner Bridge Part 2. Great brush up for those who have played a little or haven't played since college. Focus is on overcalls, takeout doubles, preempts, and other special bids. Several locations for this class — 1) **Jan. 7 Leland Com Center 7:30 - 9:30**; 2) **Jan. 14th from 1-3 pm. at the Bethesda Country Club** (you must be a member there to participate); 3) **Jan. 23rd at Oasis** (A senior organization run at the Lord & Taylor Dept. Store on Western Ave. Must be 55 or older); 4) **Jan. 8th at Somerset Apartments** in Friendship Heights. Limited to 16 participants and must register through me.

Other Classes at the **Bethesda Country Club** (you must be a member there to participate or a "Guest" of a current member): Slam Bidding Tuesdays 7-9 pm starting January 13; Beginner Bridge Thursdays 7-9 pm starting January 15.

Any questions, feel free to email Leslie Shafer at slamhand@verizon.net



A Message from Leslie:

After more than 10 years of writing this Non-Life Master Column for the WBL, I have thought you all would appreciate a new voice with new ideas. Vince Wilmot is a highly regarded player in the Washington Bridge League and I am so pleased that he agreed to be the new I/N columnist..

It has been a wonderful experience for me to be a mentor and teacher to many of you. Your comments about my columns were always appreciated, as I'm sure they will be to Vince as well.

As the new President of the American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA), being a full time bridge teacher in this area, and publishing my bi-monthly bridge newsletter, I will still have a full plate of bridge tasks.

Bridge has become a passion in my life. It has provided me a chance to actually work at a job that I love. The last 13 years of my life have been the best ever - since that is when I met Studmuffin and with his encouragement, learned to play bridge. May all of you find your passion and be happy. Love to all — Leslie Shafer

PARTNERSHIPS AND CARPOOLS

Need a Partner or a Carpool for Unit Games or Tournaments?

Players who would like assistance can obtain help either on-line or by contacting one of the WBL's partnership coordinators or Don Berman, the carpool coordinator.

(1) **On-line partnership desk.** The WBL has established an on-line partnership desk on its web site (www.washingtonbridgeleague.org). The WBL is the first unit in the country to do this. Sign up, indicate which events you are available for, and find out if other players are available for the games you wish to play in. Simply log on to the WBL website and click on the partnership desk. Please give it a try.

(2) **Partnership coordinators.** For those who prefer assistance in person, three people have volunteered to help players find partners in advance of the unit game or sectional events. For the unit game, Barbara Shaw will assist players in Flights A/X (BarbShaw@comcast.net; 301-598-3339). Charity Sack will assist players in Flights B/C/D for the unit game, and all players for the sectionals (charity@charitysack.com; 703-963-7027). Please let them know as early as you can what game or events you would like to play in.

(3) **On-line carpool notices.** Post your requests and look at others at the WBL website. To post requests, send an e-mail to the Web Master (don.berman@verizon.net). Include your name, when you need a ride (either a specific date or a general request, e.g., all unit gmes), and how to contact you (E-mail or phone numbers).

(4) **Don Berman, carpool coordinator** can also be contacted at 301-776-3581.

Good luck, and we look forward to seeing you on Thursday evenings and at the WBL sectionals.

WBL SOLVERS' CLUB'S NEW PROBLEMS

January/February 2004

1) Matchpoints, None Vul

♠3♥AK1054♦AK♣AK943

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
---	---	---	3♦
???			

2) Matchpoints, You Vul

♠J1065♥85♦973♣AKQ8

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	1♦	1♥	Pass
???			

3) Matchpoints, You Vul

♠K2♥KQ4♦973♣K8765

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
???			

4) IMPs, None Vulnerable

♠KJ10942♥AQ98♦10♣102

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
---	---	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
???			

5) Matchpoints, none Vul

♠102♥109♦AQJ72♣QJ54

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass	1♠	2♥	Pass
???			

Return answers by December 1 to:

Steve Robinson

2891 S. Abingdon St #A2,
 Arlington VA, 22206
robinswr@erols.com