

21st August 1007

By This Correspondent

Talking of su-do-ku, this correspondent astounded himself by winning this morning's sudoku challenge (previously a well-known intellectual weak spot). Perhaps it was the result of the mind-altering experience that was the target team's outing to see Rupert's fiancée Charlie starring in the Bourne Identity last night. All that proximity to such a huge screen with so much action and wobbly camera work had messed with their minds...

Sudoku was pretty well all he got right all day though; good shooting was largely left to others. The morning was mostly, but not completely benign. Toby made the best job of the first two ranges with a pair of 50.9s, concluding with a 50.4 to finish the President's on 150.22, a V-bull ahead of Milko (David Armstrong).

One or two managed to find some tricky details and there were some 46s out there; but misfortune of the morning went to Matty with his 45.8. He didn't cross-shoot; his trigger failed the weight and so he had 5 points deducted from what had been a great shoot. Not being the first such instance on the team so far, management has instructed everyone to check and re-check trigger weights every day.

The Outlander teams were announced over lunchtime. Interesting: Matty and Jeremy to coach the Blue team under Martin's main coaching and captaincy, with Matt and Nick coaching the other under Reg's main coaching and Andy's captaincy - usual suspects on each of the target teams, with two reasonably capable reserves: Parag and David Luckman.

The wind was slightly trickier after lunch; now it was coming over the right shoulder. This was fine at 800m in the Gibson, where there are flags over the shoulders (of some, at least) to give an indication of angle changes, but at 600m it caused a few problems for some. Not for the South African who beat our heroes to win the President's with a 150.25 though... but one of Canada's (very) finest scored 47, which put our scores into context; we still had a preponderance of 49s and 50s but the cut-off for the Governor General's Final looked likely to be lower than had thus far been forecast.

For some, the lunch break was a very long one. For others, it could have done with being longer. Especially for those who were around when an unknown American (we think - his accent was unusual) walked into the team hut and asked "Are you the British team?" Naturally, "Yes" was the reply. We weren't expecting the riposte though: "I have a Quadlock. You can work on it." Anton, who wouldn't be able to do so without the captain's permission in any case, was remarkably polite, considering!

Winner of the teddy-out-of-the-pram today was Martin who, I am told, recorded two misses, arrived at the firing point missing some kit and, separately, had a string-shoot without taking advantage of it, for a 46. And I'm sure that wasn't all... Richard Jeens's understandably annoying outer at 600 yards didn't even figure against that litany of errors.

Non-shooting mishap of the day goes to James who, on re-parking the golf buggy after moving it all of three yards to watch Parag and David Luckman's Letson tie shoot against American Tom Whitaker, managed to crash it into Jackie the physio! She'll be prescribing press-ups all round tomorrow.

Jon Cload, meanwhile, had built a ten foot tall Ewing scope stand with which to watch the tie shoot. It clearly helped our boys, who both scored 25.5 to edge Whitaker out, before David Luckman won in sudden death.

Then off to the hotel, where we learned that 14 team members had qualified for the Final of the Governor General's Prize, for which the cut-off was 253.31. Not an achievement to be sniffed at in a year when all the World's best are present. John Pugsley will be tie-shooting for the last place in the Final, while David Luckman will tie-shoot for the President's and will enter the Final in the lead.

Meanwhile, Toby Raincock still leads the Grand Aggregate. Having dropped one point today, he is now a full point and a vee-bull ahead of Sherri Hurd of the USA in second place. Fifteen Brits (of whom 11 team members) are in the top fifty.

Separately, British teams took the top five places in the Otter competition, a concurrent match for Under 25 teams. The victorious team was the one representing County of London Under 25s (Ed Jeens, Tom Hunter, Dan Blake and Sandy Walker), capping a very successful season for them.

The evening once again brought swims, pre-dinner drinks, with some having sushi and others a fish supper to look forward to. Such nocturnal excitement... but tomorrow brings (after the first team matches of the tour and the start of our main focus) the party that we and the other overseas teams will be hosting, the night before the big day off... apparently there'll be "people" waiting for us in Ottawa afterwards...

Results

THE PRESIDENT'S (2ss + 10 @ 300, 500, 600x)

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------|-------|--------|
| 1= BUCHANAN, MARK, AUSTRALIA | # 43 | MMXXT | 150v23 |
| 1= LUCKMAN, DAVID, GBRT | #212 | MMXXT | 150v23 |
| 1= UNDERWOOD, JON, GBRT | #221 | MMXXT | 150v23 |
| 6. RAINCOCK, TOBY, GBRT | #217 | MMXXT | 150v22 |
| 8. ARMSTRONG, DAVID, GBRT | #197 | MMXXT | 150v21 |
| 14. MC QUILLAN, ROSS, GBRT | #213 | MMXXT | 150v19 |
| 15. STEWART, RICHARD, GBRT | #219 | MMXXT | 150v19 |
| 26. GILPIN, GEORGE, IRELAND | # 47 | MMXXT | 150v17 |
| 27. MILLAR, MARTIN, IRELAND | #429 | MMXXT | 150v17 |
| 29. DYSON, DAVID, GBRT | #205 | MMXXT | 150v17 |
| 32. MC LEAN, ALWYN, IRELAND | #150 | MMXXT | 150v16 |
| 40. PATEL, PARAG, GBRT | #216 | MMXXT | 149v21 |
| 43. HOLDEN, PETER, GBRT | #207 | MMXXT | 149v19 |
| 44. BRASIER, NICK, GBRT | #200 | MMXXT | 149v19 |
| 46. CLOAD, JON, GBRT | #203 | MMXXT | 149v19 |

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S QUALIFIER (ex 255.51)

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|------|-------|--------|
| 1. LUCKMAN, DAVID, GBRT | #212 | MMXXT | 255v41 |
| 2. ARMSTRONG, DAVID, GBRT | #197 | MMXXT | 255v38 |
| 3. MAXBERRY, MITCHELL, NEW ZEALAND | #124 | MMXXT | 255v37 |
| 4= UNDERWOOD, JON, GBRT | #221 | MMXXT | 255v36 |
| 6= RAINCOCK, TOBY, GBRT | #217 | MMXXT | 255v35 |
| 5= MC QUILLAN, ROSS, GBRT | #213 | MMXXT | 255v29 |
| 19= PATEL, PARAG, GBRT | #216 | MMXXT | 254v39 |
| 25= BRASIER, NICK, GBRT | #200 | MMXXT | 254v33 |
| 28= HOLDEN, PETER, GBRT | #207 | MMXXT | 254v31 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|--------|
| 34= MESSER, JANE, GBRT | #214 MFXXT | 254v28 |
| 34= DYSON, DAVID, GBRT | #205 MMXXT | 254v28 |
| 36. STEWART, RICHARD, GBRT | #219 MMXXT | 254v27 |
| 37= MC LEANS, ALWYN, IRELAND | #150 MMXXT | 254v26 |
| 44= CALVERT, DAVID, GBRT | #201 MMXXT | 253v35 |
| 44= BOWMAN, GARY, MISSISSAUGA, ON | #426 MMXAT | 253v35 |
| 46. DYER, JANICE, AUSTRALIA | #414 MFXXT | 253v34 |
| 47= WATSON, JAMES, GBRT | #222 MMXXT | 253v33 |
| 47= CLOAD, JON, GBRT | #203 MMXXT | 253v33 |
| 49= PUGSLEY, JOHN, DEVON, UK | #310 MMXXT | 253v31 |

GRAND AGGREGATE TO DATE:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|--------|
| 1. RAINCOCK, TOBY, GBRT | #217 MMXXT | 653v79 |
| 2. HURD, SHERRI, USA YOUNG EAGLES | #161 MFMXT | 652v78 |
| 3. PUGSLEY, JOHN, DEVON, UK | #310 MMXXT | 652v70 |
| 13. ARMSTRONG, DAVID, GBRT | #197 MMXXT | 649v82 |
| 14. PATEL, PARAG, GBRT | #216 MMXXT | 649v80 |
| 16. BALL, NIGEL, GBRT | # 9 MMXXT | 649v69 |
| 18. LUCKMAN, DAVID, GBRT | #212 MMXXT | 648v85 |
| 20. HOLDEN, PETER, GBRT | #207 MMXXT | 648v75 |
| 24. MC QUILLAN, ROSS, GBRT | #213 MMXXT | 647v66 |
| 26. MESSER, JANE, GBRT | #214 MFXXT | 647v66 |
| 29. BLACK, MICHAEL, GB VETS | #177 MMXXT | 647v62 |
| 30. UNDERWOOD, JON, GBRT | #221 MMXXT | 646v80 |
| 36. LUCKMAN, ANDY, GBRT | #211 MMXXT | 646v64 |
| 41. SEEBOHM, PETER, GB U25 | #410 MMMXT | 645v70 |
| 45. MC CULLOUGH, ADAM, IRELAND | # 86 MMXXT | 644v74 |
| 49. DIX, RUPERT, GBRT | #204 MMXXT | 644v63 |