

She's an artist at the card table



WOODY BOYD

What is talent but wisdom and originality robed in resourcefulness; what is success but effort dropped in determination; what is accomplishment but ability stripped of its doubt; what is a winning way but a series of difficulties marked by the opportunity to overcome.

Thomas Jefferson

Vigorous bidding usually delivers effective results when the perpetrator is provisioned with good judgment and excellent playing technique.

Beverly Bluth, a lovely-come-lately from Central New Jersey and now one of us from Bloomfield Hills, is just such an artist at the card table. In less than the last seven months, she has made believers out of most from our illustrious suburban bridge neighborhood. Many of skill have little else, but this gracious woman has been blessed with energy, demeanor and more, and we are fortunate that she and her good husband Larry are with us.

Recently Beverly and I had a good talk about our game's future and the focal point of its growth, the American Contract Bridge League. Many things she said impressed me, but one I will share with you. "I love this game so much some day I want to do more for it than just play. I think I could significantly contribute and would sincerely like to serve." My instant response to this was singular and emphatic. "The A.C.B.L. is in desperate need of able direction and constructive membership representation if it is to survive. If your intent is to direct your effort toward that difficult task you have my total endorsement, but the problems are monestrous and to be effective won't be easy."

Beverly plays with a gallery of fine players, but today's hand from a recent game at the Bridge Connection was in partnership with one of her favorites, Sandra Schubiner. It's typical in my opinion of the maximum thrust she initiates in her bidding to reach the achievable optimum limit.

Sandra	E	Bev	W
1A	-	2♦	-
2NT	-	3♥	-
3NT	-	4♠	-
4♥	-	5♠	DBL
5A	DBL	6♥	Passed out

Both Vulnerable
 AKJ94
 Q106
 10
 A10B3

732	Sandra	Q10865
4	W	8532
QJ73	E	64
KJ965	Beverly	474
		AKJ87
		AK9852
		Q2

W. led ♠7

When Bev saw the pasteboards before her, she was content that it was a good slam, especially if clubs trumped broke 3-2 (68 percent probability) or the unlikelihood of the out diamonds 3-3 (36 percent probability). As the play progressed and she found that wasn't happening, success became a delicate undertaking.

She won dummy's spade ace and played the diamond 10 to her ace and king. At trick (4) a small diamond ruffed high in dummy. At (5) the club ace and heart six to her ace. At (7) she ruffed another diamond with dummy's heart 10. At (8) a spade ruffed with her trump seven. Now the king, jack of hearts, and here was the handsome three-card ending.

2	KJ	Q10
4	W	8
5	E	98
KJ	Bev	98
		AKJ
		Q10

Alan Truscott would have gloried in our fair lady's play if at trick (11) Beverly had thrown East on lead with her last trump end playing the defense in spades. She was almost sure that spectacular play would work, but the consequences would have been humiliating if East's last three cards had been a club, spade and high trump. It wasn't her style to enact such a melodrama. That she would leave to the Zias. She therefore played a diamond, which East could ruff anytime, but that was it for the defense.

Woody Boyd teaches local bridge classes and is a life master. He lives in Bloomfield Township. To leave a message for Boyd, from a Touch-Tone phone, call 953-2047, Ext. 1833.

FASHION CALENDAR

FRIDAY, AUG. 6

Neiman Marcus

Anne Klein II event - Maurice Antaya makes personal appearance 1-3 p.m.; informal modeling 1-4 p.m., in Career, Level Two, at Neiman Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy. Frank Olive personal appearance 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with informal modeling 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Fashion Accessories, Level One. David Yurman trunk show, with representative visit 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Fashion Jewelry, Level One. Cashmere Focus Day, with informal modeling 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Career, Level Two. St. John Knit trunk

show through Saturday, Aug. 7, with representative visit 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and informal modeling 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in St. John Shop, Level Three.

TUESDAY, AUG. 10

Precious Jewels
 Piglet trunk show, with representative visit 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Precious Jewels, Level One, at Neiman Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 11

Sweaterfest
 Sweaterfest fall '93, trunk show

featuring sweaters by Lianno Barnes, Margaret O'Leary, Robin Richman and the Diane M private collection 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 11, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 12, at Diane

AUG. 12

Accessories Jewels
 Adrienne Landau personal appearance 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Fashion Jewelry, Level One, at Neiman Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy. Erwin Pearl event with representative visit 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Fashion Jewelry,

Level One. Corum trunk show with representative visit 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Precious Jewels, Level One. Baume & Mercier trunk show with representative visit 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Precious Jewels, Level One.

Scasnicollection

Scasnicollection '93 collection with special representative, and informal modeling 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., through Friday, Aug. 13, in Designer Salon, second floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Somerset Collection in Troy. A Line Anne Klein Fashion Focus Day with special representative Sally Slachtenant 5 p.m. in Active Sportswear, first floor.

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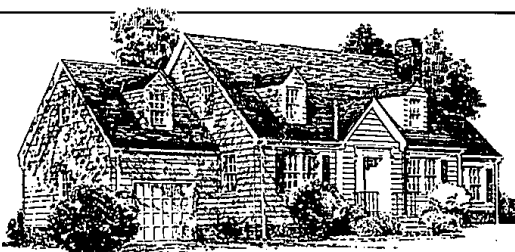
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