

# Boris Koytchou one of the finest



WOODY BOYD

Some 15 years ago I was playing in a fairly strong game at Grant Baze's club in San Francisco. It was always an imposing moment when he would join us for a few deals. This was before he had become an international bridge celebrity and winner of two consecutive McKinney trophies. Yet even then his reputation was exceptional, especially on the West Coast.

During a pause in the distribution of pasteborders one evening, a younger member of the game quizzed me about my playing credentials. In response I pompously dropped, with impressive intent, a number of names I'd played with. You see, in those days my game was still in development and I was unable to deceive anyone with my play.

"Boris who?" the doubting inquisitor questioned. "Boris Koytchou," I retorted, perturbed that he hadn't shown immediate reverence. "Never heard of him," the trendy young gent rejoined, half glancing at Grant for support. But anger won. Baze assured all present that Boris was one of the world's finest, and that ended further impertinence.

Who is Boris Koytchou? Most of today's players wouldn't know, yet he is still one of the ablest and most respected bridge experts playing. Remember the legendary, perfect gentleman, William Powell in "The Thin Man" series and "My Man Godfrey" movies, which were just two of his many hits? Like Powell, Koytchou is the perfect gentleman.

No longer will you find him competing in the Vanderbilt, Spingold or North American championships, but he is still playing daily. Today his pleasurable venture is to participate in the most prodigious and demanding stake game played. It's practiced each afternoon upstairs at the celebrated New York Regency White Club. The attendance is restricted, the price is classified and the competition is fearsome, as some of the world's best are dealt in and that's an awesome challenge.

When Boris wants a change of scenery, he will often come down to the second-floor back room and join the more retiring members who still feel a few cents is enough wager on any bridge game. At those moments, his presence is a delightful surprise. What Club. The attendance is restricted, the price is classified and the competition is fearsome, as some of the world's best are dealt in and that's an awesome challenge.

Koytchou's bridge began in France where he became, after the Second World War, one of Europe's outstanding champions. Marcel Peeters, a great French champion himself and one of Koytchou's early partners, referred to him in 1950 as one of France's greatest assets. After winning everything in sight in Europe, Boris came to New York where he has resided since. He joined

Charlie Goren's team in partnership with Harold Ogust, and they were victorious in many of the most important national championships of that decade.

Players hate to be dealt deuces, but in today's hand Boris put one to magnificent use. This was much to the chagrin of the declarer who could not have been beaten in the slam we're presenting if he had been dealt that same card.

W	N	E	S
-	-	4+	6A

This hand was first reported by Alan Truscott of the New York Times many years ago.

Both Vulnerable

♠ 10 9 5 2	♥ 10 8 5 3	♦ 2	♣ 6 7 4
♠ 4	♥ Q 10 8 7 2	♦ K 9 6 5 3	♣ A
N	E	S	W
Boris			
♠ A K Q J 8 7 3	♥ A K	♦ A 9 8	♣ A
♠ 6	♥ 4	♦ K Q J 10 7 5 4	♣ K J 10 2

Some defensive plays are easy to spot when you see 62 cards. Some are not and some are devilishly obscure because the peril isn't apparent.

After the Diamond lead, obviously a singleton, declarer has 11 tricks. An expert will find the 12th if left to his own ways. This can be done by drawing exactly three top trumps and the A, K of Hearts. At trick eight declarer end plays West with a small trump, and West is now forced to play a Club or remaining heart to dummy's King or Queen. Brilliant!

South attempted this exceptionally deceptive play, but Koytchou sitting West intuitively perceived his danger at trick two and got out of the way. On the A, K, Q of Trumps he discarded the 5, 9 and 10! South now had no way to ditch his two Diamond losers for a crushingly frustrating defeat. In the post mortem, declarer was heard to grumble that if he had held the trump deuce not even the great Koytchou could have beaten him.

# Time for organizations to submit holiday cards

The final days of summer are ticking away to fall. The frost will be on the pumpkin sooner than you think. And once the cold weather starts, it's not too long before the first snowflakes begin to fly.

So, why all this dreary talk about winter stuff?

Because it's better to plan ahead than wait till the last minute, especially when you're talking about Christmas cards.

Not in the mood to hear about Christmas-type things?

Well, charities in the metropolitan area are.

Now is the time for them to get their holiday card selection ready for public perusal. And The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is here to lend a helping hand.

Each year the O&E compiles a collection of the holiday greeting cards available from area charities and nonprofit organizations. The cards are assembled into

books that may be viewed by the public at our five offices in Birmingham, Rochester Hills, Farmington, Livonia and Plymouth.

Whether you're looking for serious cards, humorous cards or even all-occasion cards, the books provide easy one-stop shopping that in turn benefits programs for children, the homeless, abused and neglected, even animals, in the metropolitan area.

Charities and nonprofit agencies are invited to send five samples of each card (one for each of the catalogs) they have available for the 1992 holiday season and pertinent ordering information to the O&E by Thursday, Oct. 15. The books will be in our offices beginning Nov. 5.

Sample cards and information should be sent to the attention of Wayne County Suburban Life Editor Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. For more information, call 953-2131.

# Internships are offered at U-M women's center

The Center for the Education of Women at the University of Michigan is accepting applications for administrative internships that will begin in January.

Internships are open to women considering new careers. Job descriptions are available at CEW. Copies can be made for \$1 or can

be mailed for \$2. Application letters and resumes must be received by Nov. 4.

All internships pay an educational stipend of \$1,200 for 20 hours a week for three months. Longer internships are paid proportionately more. For information, call 998-7210.

# Off the Cuff wants your suggestions

Got a suggestion for an individual The Eccentric can highlight in Off the Cuff, an occasional feature that focuses on ordinary people with extraordinary flair for fashion? If you know an Observer

& Eccentric area resident — man, woman or child — with a distinctive clothing sense, be it classic, trendy, homespun or outrageous, give us a call at 644-1100, Ext. 243.

# U-M Oakland alumnae sponsor fashion seminar

A fashion seminar sponsored by the University of Michigan Alumnae Club of Oakland County will be presented Tuesday at Portnoy's Royal Oak boutique, 306 N. Fourth St. in the Washington Square Building.

Club member Lynn Portnoy of Bloomfield Hills is the boutique owner and moderator for the program "Wardrobe Aerobics: Stretching Your Fashion Dollars." Emphasis will be on updating and recycling your wardrobe without spending a fortune. Mod-

els will be club members. The group will gather at 6 p.m., with the seminar scheduled for 7 p.m. There is no admission charge. Anyone planning to attend should call Penny Wilcox, 833-5200, or Lisa Keramejdjian, 642-2540.

# GRAND OPENING SAVE 30%

Over 50 Beds On Display exclusively

# WESLEY ALLEN

All sizes \$899

All sizes \$997

All sizes \$595

10 colors \$307

All sizes \$798

All sizes \$497

10 Colors

All sizes \$858, 10 colors

Process 0000 THROUGH OCT. 18TH

THE QUALITY BEDS

Michigan's Largest Solid Bed & Mattress Store

OPEN SEVEN DAYS 968-4320

Kant Lincoln Co., Grandville Rd., N.E. No. of 1494

# Birmingham THEATRE

The Role of a Lifetime...

# Van Johnson

Starring in



# "On Borrowed Time"

LIVE ON STAGE!

Sweet and Funny

An endearing comedy

...Johnson has made Northrup his own mischievous version of a caring grandfather.

Edward Hayman - Detroit News

Now Playing

(313) 644-3533

Box office opens 10 am Mon-Sat, Noon Sun.

There is still time to become a Season Subscriber.

Priority Seating

Restaurant 9:00 am - Free Parking

Call the Subscription office (313) 644-9225

Monday-Friday 9-5 pm

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

Discover the Wonder of Christmas with Mary Engelbreit...

Come see the wonder of Christmas and meet the artist behind the unforgettable designs! Mary Engelbreit will be signing your favorite Mary Engelbreit products on Saturday, October 10 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Something Special Hallmark 13750 E. 14 Mile Road at Schoenherr Warren, Michigan (313) 296-1630

Please join us!

LUXURIOUS LEATHER

\$799

Underpriced "We Discount Luxury"

by Stratford Loveseat, chair & ottoman. Also available as sleeper.

Charles

CHARLES FURNITURE WAREHOUSE 222 E. HARRISON • ROYAL OAK • 399-8320

Hours: Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5

OPEN MON-SAT 10-5 • FRIDAY TIL 6 P.M. OPEN SUNDAYS 12 Noon to 4 P.M.

COUNTRY FOLK ART SHOW & SALE

OCTOBER 9-10-11, 1992 DAVISBURG, MICHIGAN SPRINGFIELD-OAKS CENTER

1-75 to Exit #93 Dixie Hwy. N. to Davisburg Rd., West to Andersonville Rd., 1/2 mile south of town of Davisburg

THE LEADING FOLK ART SHOW IN THE NATION FEATURING OVER 100 QUALITY FOLK ARTISERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Friday Eve., 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Adm. \$6.00 (Early Birding Privileges) Sat. & Sun., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adm. \$4.00 Children under 10 Adm. \$2.00 - NO STROLLERS PLEASE!

Country & painted furniture; pierced & stenciled lamp shades; teddy bears; spoonware; salt glaze stoneware; baskets; Schrenschelthe; Windsor chairs; samplers; linens; blacksmith; dolls & toys; grained frames; toy painting & stenciling; rag, braided & hooked rugs; carvings; country clothing & textiles; hoorems; calligraphy; weathered; decoys; Shaker boxes; folk art paintings; whittings; bootlebs; dummy boards; quilts; linens; dried floral; candles; gourmet delights; French Country, Victorian, Southwest & Country-Western items. All Country decorating needs for sale.

Country Folk Art Shows, Inc. P.O. Box 111, Springfield, MI 48462 (313) 634-4151

Publishers of Country Folk Art, TOYBOX™ & Appl'Y-Yes™ Magazines

U S B O N D S

4 U S B O N D S

To Get The Current Rate, You Have To Push The Right Buttons.

Announcing the new toll-free number for U.S. Savings Bonds. Now, if you want to find out how much interest your investment is earning, simply call 1 800 4 US BOND. The rates are adjusted every six months to keep pace with the market, and there is a guaranteed minimum yield when held for five years or more. So push the right buttons — 1 800 4 US BOND — and find out how much your U.S. Savings Bonds are earning today.

U.S. Savings Bonds Making American Dreams A Reality

Classic Woodworks

Your Mailbox Company is having a Mailbox Replacement Sale

10% OFF Regular Prices

Over 50 Combinations to choose from\*

Prices from '86 & UP

- Handcrafted in all solid cedar
- Installation Available
- Extra convenience of mailbox extender included
- Completely assembled and pre-stained
- Post and house sold separately

ALL MAILBOXES ARE CUSTOM HANDMADE IN MICHIGAN

1352 COMBERMERE SUITE I • TROY Mon.-Sat. 10-5 Member Buckle's Association of Southeastern Michigan \*Multi-gang units available

WE STAY BEHIND & FINANCE OUR PRODUCTS

CALL 589-0671