

Lenz described how to apply the squeeze play



WOODY BOYD

The legendary Sidney Lenz, inspired by a squeeze play he witnessed at a baseball game in 1925, coined the term in its application to forcing an opponent to discard a winner, potential winner or guard to a winner prematurely.

Before then it was only known as a "Coup," a term used to describe many fascinating plays. In those days only a handful of whist or auction players knew how to execute such "hoodoozery." Even today the average player places great mystique upon its execution. Most just refer to it as "an expert's play." Few have investigated its implementation or the card conditions applicable to its consummation.

Clyde Love has written extensively on the subject since 1951 and his latest, "Bridge Squeezes Complete," first published in 1968 is entertaining, instructive and comprehensive. I like his style as he tends to be understandable to everyone. Early on, he refers to the 13 cards you have been dealt by simply defining them as "Idle" or "Busy," and it's when "Busy" cards are put under pressure a squeeze is being perpetrated.

In the most matter-of-fact way, he states that a squeeze is surely present whenever the following conditions are satisfied:

A. One Defender is "Busy" in two suits, his partner being helpless.

L. Declarer has only one "Loser" remaining.

U. At least one threat card lies in the "Upper" hand. (The Upper hand lies at the left of the victim and the one at the right is the lower.)

E. There is an "Entry" to the established threat.

Memorize these conditions by remembering the color BLUE and you're ready to execute a simple squeeze.

The performance of a squeeze may start early in a hand, but it's always consummated at a three or four-card end position and it's unquestionably one of the prettiest plays a declarer can make.

Before we show you a simple squeeze, just remember one more important point. Don't try to count all the intended victim's discards. It will tire you and is a waste of time. While you're running your suits, just watch for no more than two or three key cards. If they don't show, then you're sure the fourth suit will run, or the intended victim was never busy in two suits.

W	N	E	S
—	2♠	—	2♦(1)
—	2♥	—	3♥
—	3♠	—	3NT
—	4♦(2)	—	4♥(3)
—	5♠(4)	—	5♥(5)
—	7♥	—	7NT1

Both vulnerable	♠ A K Q ♥ A Q B 5 4 ♦ A K B 2 ♣ 9	(1) Waiting (2) Gerber (3) 1 Ace (4) Gerber (5) 1 King
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♠ 5 6 5 3 2	W	N	E	S
♥ 10 8 2	—	—	—	—
♦ 10	—	—	—	—
♣ 7 6 5 4	—	—	—	—

♠ 10 8 7	♠ J 4
♥ K J 7 3	♥ 9
♦ Q 4 3	♦ 9 6 3 2
♣ A J 3	♣ K Q 10 8 2

W. led ♣ 7

appears when declarer at trick, (2) through (9), plays five hearts and three spades, he is sure that at trick, (10) through (13), he can run four diamonds, or East isn't busy in both minors.

You say, "Amazing!" No, it's just a simple squeeze any good bridge player can perform.

You say, "How does it work?" I like Clyde Love's answer. "When you slip a nickel into a parking meter and the needle moves, you don't care what went on inside. You shouldn't try and visualize what the defender's hands will look like after nine or 10 tricks. Just watch for key cards. In this instance, the club king, and if it doesn't appear, you have East-squeezed or he isn't busy in two suits."

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. 1853.

FASHION CALENDAR

- FRIDAY, MARCH 12**
Men's clothing
 Oxford Man's Clothing Spring '93 Collection, with special representative. Also, Spring '93 Collection from Individualized Custom Shirts. Both collections shown 6-9 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Saks Fifth Avenue at the Somerset Collection in Troy.
- Nelma Marcus**
 DKNY Spring Trunk Show with informal modeling 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. through Saturday in Leisure, Level Two, at Nelma Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy.
- SATURDAY, MARCH 13**
Roz & Sherm
 Spring collection of Japanese fashion designer Mitsubishi Matsuda modeled informally noon to 4 p.m. at Roz & Sherm in the Bloomfield Plaza at Telegraph and Maple Roads, Bloomfield Township.
- TUESDAY, MARCH 16**
Ellen Tracy
 Ellen Tracy Spring Show, featuring Ellen Tracy Collection, Dressee and Company, at noon in Career, Level Two, at Nelma Marcus at the Somerset Collection in Troy.
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17**
"Spring Fantasy"
 Women's Health Club of the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit holds "Spring Fantasy '93" luncheon, shopping boutique and fashion show coordinated by Twelve Oaks Mall at JCC on 6800 W. Maple at Drake Road in West Bloomfield. Boutique opens at 9:30 a.m. Luncheon and fashion show at noon, with fashions from Hudson's.

Lord & Taylor, Gantos, Cache, Lillie Rubin, Laura Ashley, Icings, Ann Taylor and Liz Claiborne.
 For luncheon tickets at \$22 call 661-1000, Ext. 301.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18
The Works
 Working Women's Luncheon featuring Spring '93 Collection from The Works — sportswear and career separates by Saks Fifth Avenue, at noon on third floor, at Saks at the Somerset Collection in Troy. Cost is \$8 per person, at the door. For reservations call 649-0000, Ext. 317.

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Metro Detroit: the surprising market story

Detroit is a "city of suburbs."

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Suburban population as a percentage of overall metro population

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