Outlook on Lifestyle

BRIDGE

James Jacoby

	NORTH	12-9-87
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	♦ Q83	
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Vulnerable: East-West

◆K73

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North	East	South
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♦
4.9	Pass	Pass
	North 2 ♥	2♥ Pass

Opening lead: • K

Trump force backfires

By James Jacoby

It was aggressive bridge for South to bid over two hearts. After the take-out double by West, North did not figure to have as much as nine high-card points. But South prided himself on his dummy play, so he invited a game by showing his diamonds. North had a flat hand, but the diamond queen was a good card, and his three-card heart support was excellent. He bid the game.

West led clubs and without much thought continued the suit. That put declarer in control, provided that the heart suit split 3-2. He trumped the second club and led a heart to dummy. He trumped another club and returned to dummy with a high heart. Then he trumped the last club with his remaining heart. A diamond to dummy's queen enabled him to pick up the last outstanding trump with the high heart left in dummy, and three more diamond tricks gave him 10 tricks and his contract.

It's not easy to see, but the club continuation by West at the second trickgave declarer his contract. If West simply makes a neutral play of a trump at trick two, declarer can no longer "reverse" the dummy by ruffing three clubs, since he will lack the needed entries to dummy.

Lesson: When forcing the declarer to ruff may be belpful to him, look for a neutral play that lets declarer do his own work without aid from the defense.

Household gifts handy

Still making out your shopping list for the holidays? Some of the nicest gifts may be practical ones — such as small appliances that earned high ratings this year from the engineers at Consumer Reports.

For Instance, a compact microwave oven that fits into a small space is always handy for warming slices of pie, thawing veggies and popping microwave popcorn. It can also tackle more substantial cooking chores.

One to consider is the Samsung MW4530W, \$190. It has a well-proportioned interior and easy-to-understand controls. (The prices of the oven and other appliances are approximate retail, before discounts.)

A good coffee-maker extracts the best from the blend and holds the brew at the right temperature. The coffee drinker on your list should appreciate the top-rated Braun Aromaster KF80, \$90. The Krups Coffeetime 165, \$130, also makes fine coffee, even in quantities as small as two cups. But it's more expensive and not as convenient as the Braun. Another good choice would be the Krups Brewmaster 150, \$65.

Steam irons come plain and fancy. For now-and-then touch-ups, two plain ones to consider are the Sanyo A1900, \$55, and the Norelco HD1860, \$26. Of the two, the Sanyo has the edge.

Fancy irons are better suited for use on a variety of fabrics. Both the Black & Decker F440WHS, \$63, and the Sanyo ACM 1000, \$80, are recommended.

A walkabout stereo is a great gift for someone who enjoys stereo on the go. New models are smaller, lighter and fancier.

Consumer Reports' electronics engineers tested both combination radio-tape players and tape-only players.

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The Milne Homecare and Prescription Centre wishes to announce that Ken Milne PHM.B. has completed a course sponsored by Camp International Inc. Your Doctor's prescription for back braces and other orthotic devices (knee, cervical etc.) can be filled for you at our new store.



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Polly Fisher

Cardboard tubing bolsters blocks

DEAR POLLY — The cardboard tubes from paper towels and toilet paper make excellent additions to my

little boy's pile of blocks. They are useful as pillars when making buildings, and he uses them in other ways, too. To make them prettier, you can cover them with adhesive plastic or paint them. — T.N.M.

DEAR T.N.M. — These make great blocks for toddlers since they don't hart when the kids bop each other over the head! I used these for my own daughter, along with butter boxes covered with decorative adhesive plastic. Other small boxes are useful, too. Also the "blocks" are blg enough for tlny hands to manipulate easily. Your belpful Pointer earns you the

Pointer of the Week award, a copy of my book "Polly's Pointers: 1,081 Helpful Hints for Making Everything Last Longer." Others who would like this book may order it for \$6.50. Make check payable to POLLY'S POINT. ERS and send to POLLY'S POINT-ERS, P.O. Box \$1843, Cleveland, OH 44101-5863. — POLLY

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