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ASTRO-GRAPH



BERNICE BEDE OSOL

BRIDGE



JAMES JACOBY



Your Birthday

May 17, 1989

In the year ahead you may be able to carve a rewarding niche for yourself in an enterprise with someone else. Your share is likely to be equal, even though you're not apt to make a financial contribution.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Today is a good day to put those ambitious plans you've been contemplating into action. You're both an ingenious conceptualist as well as a prime mover who'll know how to get things done. Taurus, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$1 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) An arrangement where you have a vested interest with another could offer you the greatest possibilities today. Be ready to make your move if you start to see signals for personal gain.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) In an important association you'll benefit in the long run if you make a few minor concessions at this time. If you show a willingness to be truly cooperative, you'll find your behavior is contagious.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Co-workers will be willing to help advance your personal ambitions today, provided they see there is something in it for them as well. Point out the benefits before proceeding.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Friendly social contacts should prove very helpful to you in this cycle in extending your reach and opening doors for you that you couldn't on your own. Don't be hesitant to request favors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Give family matters top priority today. You could be very constructive in assisting those for whom you feel responsible, especially if their financial affairs are a trifle muddled.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Try to talk directly to people who are pertinent to your immediate needs today. The results will be better when you deal directly instead of using intermediaries.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Conditions that have a direct effect upon your financial well being could make some adjustments today which you will find advantageous. They won't be earth shattering, but they will be significant.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Others are likely to need you much more today than you'll need them. This could be especially true of several close friends for whom you'll serve as a leaning post.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) It matters little who takes the bows today as long as your objectives are fulfilled to your satisfaction. Stay in the background and offer advice when needed.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You can be the instrumental force today in bringing unity to a group or committee. Your skills as the mediator will enable you to harmoniously placate diverse thinkers.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) In challenging developments today you're the person I put my bet on to get what you go after, especially if there is something material at stake. Coming in second won't please you.

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High drama at a low level

By James Jacoby

Although the high drama in bridge seems to center on games and slams, part-scores are certainly important. Experts do quite well on the dramatic hands but can also defend against part-score contracts with cutting precision. Observe 1989 Vanderbilt Team champion Bart Bramley as East in today's mundane two-spade contract.

The first trick was club five, dummy's nine, East's queen and declarer's ace. Trick two was club seven, king from West, jack, two. West switched to the eight of hearts, declarer winning the king. Declarer ruffed a club in dummy, but Bramley sitting East overruled with the seven. That was two tricks for the defense, but how were they to get four more tricks to set two spades? Bramley worked out that South could not hold the diamond ace, having already shown with prime cards in clubs and hearts. He therefore reasoned that the defense should capitalize on declarer's moderate weakness in the trump suit. He played king of diamonds, then a diamond to his partner's ace. West now played back still another club and East uppercut with the queen of spades. Declarer overruled with the ace, but West won two more tricks with the K-10 to set the contract.

Note that it is crucial for the defense to cash two diamond tricks ending in the West hand before the uppercut in clubs. Otherwise, when East trumps with the spade queen, declarer can simply discard a losing diamond.

James Jacoby's books "Jacoby on Bridge" and "Jacoby on Card Games" (written with his father, the late Oswald Jacoby) are now available at bookstores. Both are published by Pharos Books. © 1989, NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

NORTH 5-18-89			
♠ 6 4			
♥ A 7 6 5 4			
♦ Q J 9 2			
♣ J 9			
WEST			
♠ K 10			
♥ 8 2			
♦ A 10 5			
♣ K 10 8 5 4 3			
EAST			
♠ Q 7 5			
♥ Q J 10 3			
♦ K 8 4 3			
♣ Q 2			
SOUTH			
♠ A J 9 8 3 2			
♥ K 9			
♦ 7 6			
♣ A 7 6			
Vulnerable: Both			
Dealer: South			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♠ 5			

CELEBRITY CIPHER

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another. Today's clue: T equals X.

* KHRDHRD ULKKNRK
 IGL UHZL PNOA
 PFHUOHRD JNG
 ANFG UIGART.
 PLGRIOLVVL MLVLGK.

SOLUTION: "Singing lessons are like body building for your larynx." — Bernadette Peters.