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Prize-winning defense

ASTRO-GRAPH



BERNICE BEDE OSOL

BRIDGE



JAMES JACOBY

In the year ahead you will gain a greater understanding of how many small parts can be used to create a whole. Before your next birthday you may piece something together of considerable size or benefit.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You have good leadership qualities today and it looks like they will be put into play in several instances. Taking charge of situations will come automatically. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you to understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) Business and finance are the two areas where you are likely to be the most effective today, even though what you do now may not yield a return until a later date.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You might be extremely lucky today where your hopeful expectations are concerned. You could benefit in two ways from a pair of matters that are somewhat related.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today's gestures will win you the respect of your peers, because when you do things for others, you'll do so in ways that do not call attention to yourself, yet earns you the spotlight.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Friends will be respectful of your opinions today because they'll innately know you have something extra going for you. It's a big plus called optimism.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Do not be afraid to think big today, especially if you're involved in a promising joint venture. This is a propitious day for expanding your enterprise to the benefit of both.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Conclusions you arrive at today are likely to be the right ones, because your judgment is exceptionally keen and it's not likely you'll overlook any important factors.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Compensation for work or service you perform today might be more generous than usual. Do your best, because what you receive will be proportionate to the quality of your efforts.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Things look extremely favorable for you today in the romance department. Try to spend as much time as possible with the one you love the most. It should be a happy occasion.
PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Tasks or assignments you have to deal with today could be accomplished more easily than usual. Do not put off until tomorrow things you know you can do today.
ARIES (March 21-April 19) Because you'll be equipped to see the positive side of things today, you'll create your own good fortune. Your winning inclinations have good chances of being fulfilled.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you are more imaginative and creative where your household finances are concerned you could come up with some constructive budget stretchers. Work on ways to get better monetary mileage.

NORTH 6-6-89			
♦ 10 6 3			
♥ Q 8 4			
♦ A K 7 5 2			
♣ J 10			
WEST		EAST	
♦ J 4		♦ Q 9 5	
♥ 10 9 7 3 2		♥ 6	
♦ 9 3		♦ J 10 6 4	
♦ K Q 9 3		♦ A 7 6 4 2	
SOUTH			
♦ A K 8 7 2			
♥ A K J 5			
♦ Q 8			
♣ 8 5			
Vulnerable: Neither			
Dealer: South			
South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
4 ♦	All pass		
Opening lead: ♦ K			

Each year the International Bridge Press Association confers awards for plays deemed to be the best of the year in their particular category. At times the awards can be disputed, but I think everyone would agree that Italian expert Primo Levi deserved the award for best defensive play. (He was East.) If the bidding seems unusual, you should understand that North's one-trump response was forcing for one round.

To be fair, imagine yourself as declarer in four spades. Blot out the East-West hands from your mind and follow the play. West takes the king of clubs and plays a second club to East's ace. East now returns the six of hearts. You win the ace of hearts and lay down the ace of spades. West plays the four and East plays the queen. What now? If you play a second high spade and it turns out that East had only the singleton queen of spades, you will lose two spade tricks and be set. And what if you lead a spade up to the 10? If West is left with the J-9-5, he will be able to take only one spade trick. Of course you will lose an over-trick when East holds the Q-J alone, but leading up to the 10 is reasonable insurance to guarantee your contract. And the game is rubber bridge, for decent stakes.

So declarer played a low spade. West won the doubleton jack of spades and played back a heart. Primo Levi took the setting trick by ruffing with the nine of spades. Bravo! To us bridge players, the performance equaled that of Caruso at La Scala.

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.

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: O equals W.

J K X V C J O S Y
 P G C S F Z R M J V O I
 K M Y J C H J R V
 P X C F S P L S Q
 D I O O M J C H R V O
 K X V Z I K J R V
 P X M R V O R C A R V O M J

SOLUTION: "I consider myself a Hindu, Mohammedan, Jew, Buddhist and Confucian."
 — Mohandas Gandhi