Cahn studies positions of scientists on ABM

By David Weiman

Dr. Anne H. Cahn, in her presentation, "The scientist as he head,"...for last Wednesday’s Concursus Forum described the position that scientists played during the ABM controversy.

Cahn pointedly recounted a brief history of the development of the ABM system, its faults and the evolution of trends until its final stage stipulated by the recent SALT talks. After her discussion of the ABM’s history, Cahn presented the role of the scientist in his academic and professional capacities in an attempt to prevent the implementation of the system. During the early stage of ABM discussion, presidential science advisors had consistently advocated the delay of deployment of the ABM due to its imperfections and exorbitant costs. During a meeting in January of 1967, former Defense Secretary Macnamara heard four of the President’s science advisors and research and technical viewpoints of the ABM. He felt that the ABM would stimulate the masses on the subject. The anti-ABM scientists showed no general pattern of participation. The anti-ABM scientists felt the obligation to enlighten the public on the ABM. Cahn interviewed 76% of the scientists, pro- and anti-ABM. The disapproval of the ABM system was not paramount. He felt that the discussion of the ABM should be technical in nature and subsequently indefensible by the public and Congress. He felt that the obligation to enlighten the masses on the subject. The anti-ABM scientist felt that the technical viewpoint of the ABM system was not paramount. He felt that the ABM would stimulate the public's interest by supplying a new dimension to it. He also felt that the system was not feasible, technically or economically.

Cahn interviewed 76% of the active anti-ABM scientists and presented an analysis of their participation. The anti-ABM scientists showed no general pattern of agreement on any particular subject, disregarding the ABM controversy. They did feel an antipathy towards the Department of Defense's stated desire for increased defense.

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Wining Bridge

A good bridge player must have nerves of steel and a good detective. To get the most out of the game, always use all the information at his disposal to deduce the location of important cards.

Some of the plays that a good player must make are truly remarkable. Most of the spectacular plays based on good deduction reasoning are made late in the hand after declarer has had a chance to discover a lot of clues about the distribution of the opponents’ cards. However, on occasion, declarer can deduce the location of every key card after the opening lead.

South declarer, neither side vulnerable

North

South

East

West

S 9 5

A 1 8

S A Q 8

H A Q 9 6

D 1 9 5

J 1 0 9

C A 1 0 7 3 2

C B

S C Q 5 4

D 1 0 4

H 7 5 8

D 8 0 3

C 9 4 2

Opening lead: jack of diamonds

West’s one heart bid promised a five card or longer suit and was a five heart bid rather dangerous. If West had four or more spades, he would almost certainly have bid with such a spade holding.

West led the jack of diamonds immediately in the situation ended. If he had had only three diamonds, he would almost certainly have bid with a heart or a spade lead.

Having concluded that West had five hearts, three spades, and at least four diamonds, South knew West had at most one club. Accordingly, South caved the ace of clubs and waited for the queen of clubs to make contract.

Even after playing clubs correctly, South should have been held to eight tricks, but West allowed South to make nine tricks by discarding one of his spades.

After the hand, South told North that he was sorry that they missed the game, but he thought he had bid the full value of his cards.