

Jill Meyers

“I lead a totally different life at home. My life at home is not centered on bridge. Most of my close woman friends aren’t even bridge players. “I don’t even play a lot of bridge – world championships, Trials, North American Championships and an occasional Sunday Swiss near home.” The most important person in her life is her husband, Sid Brownstein. “He’s a great husband and he’s my biggest fan and supporter. But today I’m so happy for him – he was on the team that upset Rita Shugart’s team in the Vanderbilt. Personally I think he’s the nicest guy on earth.” Mark Itabashi, who was sitting nearby during the interview, added, “Sid’s just a great guy. He’s almost always smiling.”

Back in Los Angeles, Meyers runs her own business. She has a law degree, but she has never practiced. Instead she negotiates music rights. She works with movies, commercials, sound track, albums and television. Among the soundtracks she has done are *Forrest Gump*, *Good Will Hunting* and the last five Woody Allen movies. She took care of the music for the Burger King set of commercials that featured music. Why is Meyers successful at everything she tries? “I have the right frame of mind,” she said. “I feel I can do anything, and I’m not afraid of anybody. I work very hard at enhancing the things I do well. And I don’t give anyone the power over me.” Then she smiled and added, “As I said, I’m not afraid of anybody. But I’m afraid of insects.” Meyers works very hard to stay in shape. “I exercise a lot, and I take a lot of vitamins. I have tremendous stamina.”

Her next goal is to qualify for the World Women’s Team Olympiad that will take place in Maastricht, the Netherlands, in late August. She will play in the Women’s Trials in Raleigh NC in May with Lynn Baker, Karen McCallum, Tobi Sokolow, Randi Montin and Janice Seamon-Molson. The list of top woman players includes three other Americans in the top seven. Sokolow is fifth, Shawn Quinn is sixth, and Lynn Deas is seventh. Auken is second, with Bep Vriend of the Netherlands second and Daniela von Arnim of Germany third.

The point system is set up in such a way that recent performance counts most. A certain percentage of the points of each player is deducted each year, so a player has to stay on top of his or her game to stay among the leaders.