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**Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch**

10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2011 Both vulnerable. West deals.

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠Q 8 7 ♥9 ♦K 8 3 ♣A K J 9 3 2	
<b>WEST</b> ♠J 10 9 ♥A K J 10 5 3 ♦4 ♣7 6 5		<b>EAST</b> ♠K 4 3 2 ♥8 6 2 ♦A J 10 6 2 ♣4
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠A 6 5 ♥Q 7 4 ♦Q 9 7 5 ♣Q 10 8	

North	East	South	West
==	--	--	2 Heart
3 Club	3 Diamond	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♦

In the good old days, a first-seat vulnerable pre-empt showed at least a decent seven-card suit. Today, it promises a six-card suit perhaps without a single high honor. That can make defense a trifle difficult, as this deal from an international tournament proves.

East's three diamonds was to try to be helpful. However, partner might have done better had he started with the king of hearts and then shifted to his singleton diamond. East would win with the ace and return a heart, and the defenders would collect the first seven tricks.

Here, East thought his partner was not interested in trying to set up the heart suit and, thinking his partner was leading from a diamond honor, inserted the ten. Declarer won, rattled off the clubs and then ran the spade queen, covered by the king and ace. A low spade now end played West to force a heart return for the fulfilling trick.

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