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Bridge Tips Tannah Hirsch

7th September 2010 Neither vulnerable. West deals.

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

NORTH	EAST	South	West
--	--	---	3 Diamond
3 Spade	Pass	?	

This deal is from the Iceland-Italy encounter at the recent European Championships. Look only at the South hand and decide what you would bid after the following auction:

The auction started this way at both tables. The Icelandic South raised to four spades. After the jack of diamonds lead, declarer (North) won the ace, led a trump to the king and ace and ran the jack of clubs. That lost to the queen, and declarer also lost a trump and the aces of hearts and clubs, down one.

For Italy, Lorenzo Lauria elected to bid three no trump. West led a heart, East won with the ace and shifted to the jack of diamonds. Declarer ducked, won the diamond continuation, led a spade to the king and ace and conceded a spade, giving himself eight tricks. When East shifted to a low club, declarer had no difficulty in rising with the king, and the queen from West was a bonus — making 10 tricks for a pickup of 10 Imps.

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