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Bridge Tips **Tanna Hirsch**

8th March 2011 Both vulnerable. South deals

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

North	East	South	West
--	--	1 Diamond	Pass
2 Club	Pass	3 Club	Pass
3 Spade	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

This deal won an award for best defense. Sitting West was Eric Greco of Annandale, Va.

The hand was played in a KO team championship, and three no trump was reached at both tables. Where the eight of diamonds was led, won by dummy's jack, declarer took a losing club finesse and could claim 10 tricks.

Greco led the king of diamonds and continued with the seven, taken by the nine. Since South could not afford to let East gain the lead (a diamond return would be deadly), declarer crossed to dummy with the king of spades and ran the queen of clubs. With no break in tempo, West allowed the queen to win! Declarer repeated the finesse, losing to the king.

Now Greco exited with the queen of spades, pinning declarer's jack and threatening to remove declarer's only entry to dummy's clubs! Declarer countered cleverly by allowing her majesty to hold the trick. Since another spade would permit declarer to win with the ace while jettisoning the ace of clubs from hand, freeing the clubs, West now shifted to a low heart, locking declarer in hand. South had to settle for six tricks – down 300!

gorenbridge@aol.com