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Bridge column by Tanna Hirsch

10th December 2011

Dealer : east Vul : None	NORTH ♠ 10 5 ♥ K 4 3 2 ♦ Q 9 3 ♣ K Q 6 2	
WEST ♠ Q J 6 4 2 ♥ 8 6 5 ♦ 10 7 2 ♣ 7 4		EAST ♠ 9 3 ♥ A Q 10 9 ♦ A J 8 4 ♣ J 9 5
	SOUTH ♠ A K 8 7 ♥ J 7 ♦ K 6 5 ♣ A 10 8 3	

South	West	North	East
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X	2 Spade	3 Spade	Pass
3 NT	All Pass		

Opening lead: Seven of ♣

After East's weak no trump opening bid and South's double, West's two spades seems reasonable. However, he would not have enjoyed declaring on this lie of the cards. North's cue-bid seems like a normal action and South ended in an "iffy" notrump game.

South's double of the opening bid suggested that a spade lead might not be the way to go and West elected to lead his short suit. Declarer won in hand and returned a club to dummy in order to lead a low heart. East won with the queen and exited with his remaining club.

Declarer won with the ten, cashed his spade winners and exited with the jack of hearts. East won and exited safely with a heart, but that simply delayed matters a whit. Declarer won in dummy and threw East in with his remaining heart. That forced East to break the diamonds and it was a simple matter for declarer to win in dummy and return a diamond for his ninth trick

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