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Bridge column by Tanna Hirsch

13<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Dealer : South Vul : Both	NORTH ♠ A 6 4 ♥ K 7 5 ♦ 8 7 6 5 2 ♣ A 3	
WEST ♠ Q 8 7 5 3 ♥ Q 6 ♦ K J 10 9 4 ♣ K		EAST ♠ J 9 ♥ J 10 4 2 ♦ Void ♣ Q J 10 8 6 5 2
	SOUTH ♠ K 10 2 ♥ A 9 8 3 ♦ A Q 3 ♣ 9 7 4	

South	West	North	East
1 Club	1 Spade	X	Pass
2 Heart	Pass	2 Spade	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♦

With a balanced 24 points and a shabby five-card minor, North-South reached an ambitious no-trump game. South, Bart Bramley of Dallas, Texas received a lucky break with the opening lead of the jack of diamonds into his ace-queen tenace. He won with the queen and made a good shot by leading a low heart to the seven.

East won with the ten and shifted to a spade. Unfortunately, he chose the natural looking jack – the nine would have been better.

Declarer won in dummy and cashed the king of hearts, dropping the queen, and continued by successfully taking a finesse for the jack.

The ace of clubs was cashed, followed by a diamond to the ace and a diamond exit. East could take his three diamond winners, but then had to lead from the queen of spades into declarer's tenace. That gave declarer three spade tricks, three hearts, two diamonds and a club for a well-played nine tricks.

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