



South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 6 5
 ♥ Q 9 6 3
 ♦ 9 7 4
 ♣ A K J 9

WEST
 ♠ K 3
 ♥ J
 ♦ A K Q 8 3
 ♣ Q 10 8 4 3

EAST
 ♠ J 10 9 7 4
 ♥ A 5
 ♦ 10 6 2
 ♣ 6 5 2

SOUTH
 ♠ A Q 8 2
 ♥ K 10 8 7 4 2
 ♦ J 5
 ♣ 7

The bidding:
 South West North East
 Pass 1♦ Pass 1♠
 2♥ 3♣ 3♥ Pass
 4♥

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Good defense is generally regarded as the most difficult part of the game, but in case you don't think so, here's a hand to test your ingenuity.

Assume you're East and partner leads the K-A-Q of diamonds, South ruffing the third round. Declarer plays a low trump to dummy's queen, and you win with the ace. What would you return?

You'd probably lead the jack of spades, but when the deal was played, East (Charles Coon) returned the six of clubs! As a result, declarer went down one when he later lost a spade finesse.

Now let's suppose Coon had returned a spade instead of a club. In that case, declarer would make the contract with proper play.

After placing West, the opening bidder, with the king of spades, South would rise with the ace and play three more trumps, ending in his hand, to produce this position:

North
 ♠ 6
 ♣ A K J 9

West
 ♠ K
 ♣ Q 10 8 4

East
 Immaterial
 ♠ Q 8 2
 ♥ 7
 ♣ 7

The seven-of-hearts lead would now destroy West. Whether he discarded a spade or a club, South would win the rest of the tricks with the aid of a club finesse.

Most declarers find it difficult enough to recognize and execute a squeeze, but it's usually even more difficult for a defender to spot an impending squeeze and take whatever steps are necessary to break it up. Certainly, Coon's club return at trick five merits an accolade of some sort.

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JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
 By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Nreuk

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TLUGI
 FDTRA
 PIRZPE
 LDROLA

Good to go here! Let's do this! Right on! This is going to be our best cookout ever!

Get the free JUST JUMBLE app - Follow us on Facebook

HE USED TO BE A BIG-TIME BASKETBALL STAR

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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Answers tomorrow

Saturday's Jumbles: ARROW SALAD FLIMSY STRONG
 Answer: The golfer's inconsistent play on the course resulted in — MOOD SWINGS