

THINKING BRIDGE

By Eddie Kantar

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Dir: West Vul: None	NORTH ♠ 3 ♥ K Q 4 ♦ Q 4 ♣ K Q J 10 5 3 2		West	North	East	South
			1 Spade	2 Club	3 Spade	Pass
			4 Club	X	XX	Pass
			4 NT	Pass	5 Heart	Pass
			6 Spade	A		
WEST ♠ A Q J 10 8 ♥ A ♦ K 6 2 ♣ A 8 6 4		EAST ♠ K 9 7 5 ♥ 10 9 6 5 ♦ A 8 5 3 ♣ 9	Opening Lead = ♣K.			
	SOUTH ♠ 6 4 2 ♥ J 8 7 3 2 ♦ J 10 9 7 ♣ 7					

Bidding commentary: As East, your 3♠ bid was played as a limit raise. If 3♠ is played as weak in competition (recommended), then you must cuebid 3♣ to show a limit raise or better. North's double is a suggestion for a possible sacrifice. No need for North to use the double here as a lead-directing double. North is on lead against a spade contract!

As East, your redouble shows second-round club control, either the king or a singleton, surely a singleton in this sequence. West, alerted to the singleton club, should have slam on the brain. Your 5♥ response to partner's Roman Key Card Blackwood ask of 4NT showed two key cards without the ♠Q. Surely these two key cards are the ♦A and the ♠K, enough to bid slam.

Defensive commentary: A case could also be made for a trump lead as dummy is marked with a singleton club. As it happens, it doesn't matter.

Play commentary: As West, you can afford to ruff your three losing clubs with high trumps in dummy. It would be foolhardy to ruff the first club low. One might say you got what you deserved if you did. East would overruff and you are stuck with a diamond loser.