

Having made a bit of noise about pairs bidding too much, I am now bidding them well but my play leaves a lot to be desired.

		<i>North ME</i>			
Dealer: N		♠ AK1083			
Vul: None		♥ A762			
		♦ A			
		♣ QJ3			
<i>West</i>				<i>East</i>	
♠ Q5				♠ 84	
♥ 85				♥ KQ104	
♦ Q87654				♦ KJ32	
♣ 874				♣ 1062	
		<i>South</i>			
		♠ J976			
		♥ J93			
		♦ 109			
		♣ AK95			
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		N	E	S	W
Bidding:		1S	p	3S	p
		4C	p	4H	p
		6S	all	pass	
		HTML Bridge Hand Layout Creator			

On this hand 17 on Friday I opened 1 Spade, partner bid 3 Spades, and after I found we were not missing an Ace I bid 6 Spades. If you looked at Deep Finesse the computer programme that tells you the optimum result, you would have seen that 6 Spades makes if played by North, (me haha), but only makes 5 Spades if played by South. A heart lead through North would leave us a trick short, but played by North it is cold.

At most tables the lead was the King of Hearts, allowing a lead later up to the Jack. If a Heart is not led, trumps are drawn, a Diamond is ruffed, a Heart is thrown on the last Club, and a heart lead away from the Ace towards the Jack endplays East to lead away from the other Heart honour, or give a ruff and discard.

So what did the clever opponents lead against me so that I could do all that clever stuff?

A small heart! Did I play the Jack from dummy? No. Did I play the 9 from dummy? No. I played the 3 and the 8 forced my Ace! Not very clever at all, Stanley.