

# Hand of the Month

October 2005

North  
♠ QJT92  
♥ Q3  
♦ K98  
♣ 432

West  
♠ 63  
♥ 752  
♦ T763  
♣ ?975

East  
♠ A874  
♥ JT98  
♦ 542  
♣ ?6

South  
♠ K5  
♥ AK64  
♦ AQJ  
♣ AQJT

Dealer: North  
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
	P	P	2♣
P	2♦*	P	2N
P	3♥^	P	3♠
P	4N**	P	6N

All pass

\* waiting

^ Jacoby transfer

\*\* Natural, quantitative but not

Blackwood

Opening lead: ♦3

The auction is routine, yet one bid may not seem obvious. First, South's bidding showed 23-24 HCP. North's 2♦ was waiting and did not imply weakness or strength. It simply denied a long suit with two of the top three honors. The auction then proceeded in the way it would have had South opened 2N, except for the fact that South was known to have 23-24. North transferred to spades. His next bid, 4N, was natural and invitational. It has the same meaning as all quantitative 4N bids (like 1N-4N or 2N-4N), but shows a 5-card spade suit because North transferred first. South had a maximum and bid 6N. They'll make it if the club finesse works.