

Tip-of-the-Month
July 2005

<p>North</p> <p>♠ KJ</p> <p>♥ AKQ</p> <p>♦ Q7</p> <p>♣ QT9753</p>	<p>West</p> <p>♠ AT74</p> <p>♥ 76432</p> <p>♦ 85</p> <p>♣ K6</p>	<p>East</p> <p>♠ 62</p> <p>♥ T98</p> <p>♦ KJT9432</p> <p>♣ 2</p>
<p>South</p> <p>♠ Q9853</p> <p>♥ J5</p> <p>♦ A6</p> <p>♣ AJ84</p>		

Dealer: North			
NS Vulnerable			
West	North	East	South
	1♣	3♦	3♠
P	4♦	P	5♣
P	5♥	P	6♦
P	6♠	All pass	
Opening lead: ♦8			

North had a difficult bid at his second turn. Sometimes, when you don't have a good bid, you must 'make up' a bid. This is what North, in fact, did. He temporized by cuebidding the opponent's suit. This is often a good idea in similar situations as it gives partner a chance to bid 3N with a stopper. However, South can't bid 3N over 4♦. That makes North's bid silly because he had a reasonable alternative. How about rebidding your 6-card suit? A 4♣ bid seems so natural. Yes, North would like better clubs but he doesn't have them. Sometimes when you are under pressure, you must make a bid you don't like. Some might raise to 4♠ with two honors. We don't object too much to that alternative. This month's "Tip": **BID YOUR HAND, NOT THE ONE YOU WISHED YOU HAD!**