







## MARTY BERGEN'S

## SECRETS OF GOOD DEFENSE

Number 11

## Opening Leads vs. Notrump

Inside you'll find:	page
Setting the Scene	2
What Would You Lead?	3 - 5
Passive or Aggressive?	6 - 9
How to Find Partner	10 - 11
The Best Lead Against 1NT	12 - 13
Make the Right Choice	14-15
Did You Get the Message?	16 - 17
Can You Find the Killing Lead?	18-19
Detective at Work	20-21
Bergen's Best Tips	22
Recommended Honor Leads	23
Cruise, Online Lessons, and Books	24

#10 A Major Decision					
	West	North	East	South	
	Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT	
	Pass	2	Pass	2	
	Pass	3NT	All Pass	;	
	♠ Q 10 8	7 <b>Y</b> Q 10	)87 <b>♦</b> J	5 <b>4</b> J 4 2	

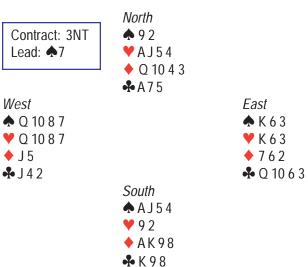
With ◆J 5 and ♣J 4 2, I'm not leading either minor. The only choice is: Which major should you lead? Too many players relish leading their LHO's suit. In fact, leading from strength thru known length usually gives declarer an extra trick by "finessing yourself." Be eager to lead your LHO's suit *only* when:

✓ You have a sequence, OR

✓ Declarer is known to be short in the suit, OR

Partner requested that you lead the suit.

On this hand, your hearts are poorly placed *in front* of dummy, so you have no chance to develop tricks in that suit. However, your spades are well-placed *behind* declarer, so the correct lead is the \$\infty\$7.



South has 8 winners. The ♠7 lead doesn't help him. If you lead the ♥7, North ducks and East wins his ♥K. North's ♥AJ behind your ♥Q 10 gives South trick #9.