

Win the Vanderbilt

1. Sitting South with everyone vulnerable you hold:

S	Fleisher
♠	A108742
♥	K
♦	9
♣	K10987

you hear:

West	North	East	South
		1♦	1♠
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	5♦	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Your lead is ?:

2. Sitting West, vulnerable vs. nonvulnerable you hold:

W	SWeinstein
♠	AJ3
♥	74
♦	A3
♣	AKQ862

You hear

West	North	East	South
	1♦	Pass	1♠

Your bid is ?:

3. Everyone vulnerable you see this auction and partner leads an attitude S3. Do you play the 9 or K?

<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr style="background-color: yellow;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">N</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Martel</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♣</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr style="background-color: #483D8B; color: white;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">S</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Stansby</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">K95</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">J532</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">43</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♣</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Q1043</td> </tr> </table>	N	Martel	♠		♥		♦		♣		S	Stansby	♠	K95	♥	J532	♦	43	♣	Q1043	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #800000; color: white;"> <th style="padding: 2px;">West</th> <th style="padding: 2px;">North</th> <th style="padding: 2px;">East</th> <th style="padding: 2px;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr style="background-color: yellow;"> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> <td style="padding: 2px;">1♣</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: yellow;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">1♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">1♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">2♠</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: yellow;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">Dbl</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">3♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: yellow;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">3NT</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr style="background-color: #4682B4; color: white;"> <td style="padding: 2px;">E</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">M.Bessis</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♠</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Q72</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♥</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">A986</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♦</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">J92</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">♣</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">AK2</td> </tr> </table> <table style="width: 100%; font-size: small;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">3NT West</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">NS 0 EW 0</td> </tr> </table>	West	North	East	South			1♣	Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass	2♠	Dbl	Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass	E	M.Bessis	♠	Q72	♥	A986	♦	J92	♣	AK2	3NT West	NS 0 EW 0
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1. On board 42 in the third quarter Michel Bessis on the Zimmerman team overreached with his 5D bid and Marty Fleisher doubled.

If you led the SA as Marty did you will beat the contract 1 trick for a push against a 4D undoubled contract in the other room that went down 2 on the lead of the D9 by Geir Helgemo.

If you led the HK you will pick up 7imps.

If you led the D9 you will pick up 12imp for +800 and win the Vanderbilt.

2. If you took the proverbial bull by the horns as Thomas Bessis did and bid 3N you will push the board and not lose 11. Steve Weinstein bid a very heavy 3C and played it there. Those 11 imps will help your team win the Vanderbilt.

3.

Closed Room Board 58	N Martel ♠ AJ643 ♥ 107 ♦ KQ1086 ♣ 6	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>West</th> <th>North</th> <th>East</th> <th>South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1♦</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>1♣</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dbl</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♦</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	West	North	East	South	1♦	1♠	1♣	Pass	Dbl	Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
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Dbl	Pass	3♦	Pass															
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass															
W T.Bessis ♠ 108 ♥ KQ4 ♦ A75 ♣ J9875 Zimmermann: 92 IMPs Fleisher: 88 IMPs Open Room: 3♠ E -1 -100	S Stansby ♠ K95 ♥ J532 ♦ 43 ♣ Q1043	E M.Bessis ♠ Q72 ♥ A986 ♦ J92 ♣ AK2																
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This was the backbreaker for the American team:

Thomas Bessis' 3N without?! a spade stopper stymied his opponents.

After going with the odds of split honors and the SJ onside, and winning the ST at trick one, Bessis played three rounds of clubs.

Stansby obviously concerned, given the bidding, that his partner did not hold the Spade Ace, did not play the SK at trick one.

Martel discarded the diamond 8, then 6, probably not believing that his partner held the SK, given his RHO's 3N bid.

When Stansby played a low spade back after winning the CQ at trick 4 the suit was blocked and the notrump game came home with 1S, 3H, 1D, and 4C.

Most of you reading this hand will simply play third hand high at trick one.... and win the Vanderbilt!