1

♠ 6
♥ 10987
♦ K542
♣ K863

♠ Q875
♥ KQ52
♦ 9
♣ J754

♠ 42
♥ AJ643
♦ A873
♣ 109

♠ AKJ1093
♥
♦ QJ106
♣ AQ2

Dealer: South
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
			1 ♠
Pass	1 NT	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: ♥ K

South has a strong trump suit, but if the outstanding spades split 4-2 (likely), there is a danger of losing control of the hand. South should ruff the king of hearts and play the ace and king of spades, then abandon trumps and knock out the ace of diamonds. South ruffs the heart return and plays minor suit winners, with West trumping in twice when he wishes. Making 4.

If South finessed in spades, or led another spade after taking the ace and king, another heart lead by the defense would cause South to lose control of the hand.

2

♠ 842
♥ AQ763
♦ 752
♣ 65

♠ AQ10
♥ KJ9
♦ KJ106
♣ J83

♠ J93
♥ 84
♦ AQ
♣ AQ10742

♠ K765
♥ 1052
♦ 9843
♣ K9

Dealer: West
Neither Vulnerable

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening Lead: ♥ 6

South is the danger hand for West. If West took the club finesse immediately and it lost, a heart lead would allow North to take four tricks.

But West can count nine tricks without the club finesse IF the spade finesse wins, so that finesse should be taken first, by entering dummy with a diamond and leading the jack. If that finesse loses, North cannot continue hearts without giving up a trick. If North switches to a club, West should play the ACE, not finesse. There is a chance that South has a singleton king OR the king is with North.

This line of play fails ONLY when North has the king of spades and South has guarded king of clubs.