

Father Jack sees nuns

You are playing in a very tight match. At the end of the first half you were just 1 IMP up, and the second half has been a succession of very boring part score hands where both sides have consistently landed in the par spot. There could be 1 or 2 IMPs either way here or there, but that's about it. Then your eyes light up when as South you pick up the last hand:

♠AK1065
♥AQJ9
♦5
♣AK6

No-one is vulnerable and West is dealer. There are three passes in front of you. This sort of hand can be tricky to deal with if opened at the 2-level, also as both opponents have passed partner is sure to have enough to respond on, so you open 1♠. Next hand passes and partner surprises you by responding 2♣, a bid for which he needs a minimum of 10 points. The bidding proceeds:

S	W	E	N	
	P	P	P	(a) forcing to game
1♠	P	2♣	P	(b) 3-card ♠ support (would bid 3♠ or 3NT without)
3♥(a)	P	4♠(b)	P	(c) Roman Key Card Blackwood
4NT(c)	P	5♦(d)	P	(d) 1 or 4 key cards
5♥(e)	P	6♥(f)	P	(e) Do you have ♠Q?
?				(f) Yes, I also have ♥K

Partner appears to have the perfect hand for you. It includes the missing ♠Q, ♥K and ♦A. Conceivably also ♣Q. A good swing on this board would clinch the match, so you decide to go for it - you bid 7♠.

West leads ♦K and you are faced with:

♠QJ9
♥K4
♦A432
♣J543

♦K led

♠AK1065
♥AQJ9
♦5
♣AK6

Partner hasn't been obliging enough to provide you with the ♣Q. Perhaps it's just as well, as a missing ♠J could be problematic. The stage is yours – now show them all how to make your grand slam.