

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0430:
"Your *Ginormous* Hand as Declarer Promises a
WEAK Dummy With Few 'Entries':
What Is the *Best* Finessing Technique and
What *Imperative* Must Govern
Your Finessing Strategy?"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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About Richard Pavlicek

Richard Pavlicek (1945-) has won **11** North American Bridge Championships, including a record-setting **3** straight wins in the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams, 1982-84, and again in 1990. He won the 1973 inaugural Grand National Teams tournament and repeated a win there in 1997. He has written or co-authored several bridge books, including with co-author William S. Root their 1981 book, Modern Bridge Conventions. From 1984 until 1990 Pavlicek was the Bridge Columnist for the Fort Lauderdale News and Sun-Sentinel. Esther particularly likes the Bridge Simulation Studies presented on his bridge website:

<https://www.rpbridge.net/rpsi.htm>

and his re-posts of his newspaper bridge columns:

<https://www.rpbridge.net/rpcr.htm>

The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" is based on the 2/22/87 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Finessing Technique Is Culprit". This is a "Real Deal" Board and Declarer SOUTH on this Board was Helen Shanbaum.

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¹ As noted in an article in the Winter/Spring, 2024 article in The American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA) Journal, https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA_1_24.pdf, Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen, the purported ACBL Double Triple Emerald Gold Platinum LifeMaster with 20+ million ACBL MasterPoints, in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So, this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

Dealer: **SOUTH**

Vul: **N/S**

NORTH (6)

S: 9 8 3

H: T 7 5 4

D: A

C: Q T 9 7 4

WEST (2)

S: J 7 6 3

H: J 8 6

D: T 9 8 4

C: 8 2

EAST (6)

S: T 5 4

H: K 9 2

D: 7 6 5 2

C: K 6 5

SOUTH (26)

S: A K Q

H: A Q 3

D: K Q J 3

C: A J 3

Bidding

SOUTH

WEST

NORTH

EAST

3**NT**

PASS

4**C***

4**D**

4**NT**

PASS

5**NT**

PASS

6**NT**

PASS

PASS

PASS

*Stayman, the bridge convention actually not invented by Sam Stayman.

On Trick #1 WEST naturally leads his Diamond Ten thus "promising" the "touching" 9,8 in a "long" Suit.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?

2. What problem should Declarer see once the NORTH Dummy is exposed?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0430 a1.pdf>