

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0433:
"As Declarer Playing a 6NT Contract Can You
'Place' the 'Missing' Trump Spade J,9?: The
'Principle of Restricted Choice' May Help You"

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/rpc.htm>

The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" is based on the 7/6/84 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Restricted Choice". This is a "Real Deal" Board played in a local bridge club.

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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: **NORTH**

Vul: **BOTH**

NORTH (13)

S: K 7 5 4

H: K 3

D: A 9 7 2

C: Q J T

WEST (9)

S: Q

H: Q 7 6 5

D: Q 8 6 4

C: K 7 4 2

EAST (3)

S: J 9 3

H: J 9 8 2

D: J T 3

C: 8 5 3

SOUTH (15)

S: A T 8 6 2

H: A T 4

D: K 5

C: A 9 6

Bidding

NORTH

1**D**

2**S**

4**S**

PASS

EAST

PASS

PASS

PASS

PASS

SOUTH

1**S**

3**C***

6**S**

WEST

PASS

PASS

PASS

**"Partner, I hold the Ace of this bid Suit."*

On Trick #1 WEST led the Heart 5, 4th from the "top" of his "long and strong" 4-card Major. Declarer SOUTH "won" Trick #1 with the NORTH Dummy Heart King.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. On Trick #2 Declarer SOUTH leads the NORTH Dummy Trump Spade 4, EAST plays "2nd Hand low" and "ducks", SOUTH "wins" with his Trump Spade Ace, and WEST plays his Trump Spade Queen. What implications does WEST playing the Trump Spade Queen have that Declarer SOUTH now must consider?
3. What are the 2 possible E/W holdings either 1 of which would ensure Declarer SOUTH's success in "making" his 6**S** contract?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0433_a1.pdf