

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0474:
"Opponent's 3S Opening Bid Creates
Bidding and Play Challenges Including
Declarer Playing a 4H Contract
While Managing a 'Moysian Fit' "**

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/rpco.htm>

The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" is based on the 8/30/81 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Summer Tourney Offers Curious Deal". This "Real Deal" was played in a 1980s Pompano Beach Sectional Open Pairs event.

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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: **WEST**

Vul: **BOTH**

NORTH (18)

S: 7 6 3

H: A Q 2

D: K Q 8 6

C: A K 5

WEST (6)

S: K Q J 9 8 5 4

H: 9 7 6 4

D: --

C: T 3

EAST (8)

S: A 2

H: J 8

D: 9 7 3 2

C: Q J 9 7 4

SOUTH (8)

S: T

H: K T 5 3

D: A J T 5 4

C: 8 6 2

Bidding

WEST

3S

PASS

NORTH

DBL

PASS

EAST

PASS

PASS

SOUTH

4H

WEST leads his Spade King and EAST "correctly" "won" Trick #1 with his Spade Ace and on Trick #2 dutifully returned a "low" Spade which Declarer SOUTH ruffed.

1. Was NORTH's bid of **DOUBLE** "correct"?
2. Was SOUTH's bid as Responder of **4H** rather than **4D** "correct"?
3. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" should Declarer SOUTH see?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0474_a1.pdf