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Esther "Pop" Quiz #0527:
"As Declarer Sometimes a '*Holdup Play*' Is Very Prudent"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen[1]

To return to the "Esther Bridge Lessons," CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/index.html
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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 2/5/89 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Duplicate Bridge Is For Everyone". This "Real Deal" was a Board played by a bridge student of Pavlicek's wife in a local Florida Club game. The student was sitting SOUTH as Declarer and this was her very 1st duplicate competition!

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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: ***EAST***
Vul: ***NONE***

*NORTH (**8**)*
S: *Q 5 4*
H: *T 6 4*
D: *A Q 8 4*
C: *9 6 3*

*WEST (**7**)*
S: *A T 8 3*
H: *J 9 5*
D: *T 9 3 2*
C: *Q 5*

*EAST (**8**)*
S: *J 9 6*
H: *7*
D: *K 7 6 5*
C: *K J T 7 4*

*SOUTH (**17**)*
S: *K 7 2*
H: *A K Q 8 3 2*
D: *J*
C: *A 8 2*

Bidding

EAST	*SOUTH*	*WEST*	*NORTH*
PASS	*1**H***	*PASS*	*2**H***
PASS	*4**H***	*PASS*	*PASS*
PASS			

WEST leads the Diamond 2 as ***4th*** *from the "top" of a "long" Suit not headed by an Ace. Declarer SOUTH "ducked" in the NORTH Dummy and EAST "won" with his Diamond King.*

1. *How many Diamonds higher than the Diamond 2 does Declarer SOUTH know that EAST holds?*

2. *Was SOUTH "correct" to "duck" in the NORTH Dummy?*

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

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0527_a1.pdf