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Esther "Pop" Quiz #0537: "1-Level 'Penalty DOUBLE' and the 'Wrong' and the 'Right' Play of the Hand as Declarer Thereafter"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen[1]

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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 9/25/88 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Sharp Defense Redeems Bad Lead". This "Real Deal" was played in a 1988 local Tamarac, Florida bridge Club. Sitting EAST was Bill Howe, the Club's Manager, and this quiz focuses on his play as a Defender.

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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: ***NONE***

*NORTH (**10**)*
S: *A*
H: *Q J T 6 5*
D: *Q J 9 7 2*
C: *9 8*

*WEST (**1**)*
S: *T 2*
H: *8 7 2*
D: *6 5 4 3*
C: *J T 7 2*

*EAST (**11**)*
S: *K J 9 7 5*
H: *A 9 4 3*
D: *K T 8*
C: *5*

*SOUTH (**18**)*
S: *Q 8 6 4 3*
H: *K*
D: *A*
C: *A K Q 6 4 3*

Bidding

SOUTH	*WEST*	*NORTH*	*EAST*
*1**C***	*PASS*	*1**H***	*1**S***
DBL*	*PASS*	*2**D***	*PASS*
*3**NT****	*PASS*	*PASS*	*PASS*

***Because both N/S Partners have already bid and neither PASSed SOUTH's DOUBLE is a "**Penalty DOUBLE**". However, this "**Penalty DOUBLE**" is "cooperative" and NORTH can bid if he wishes to do so.*

****SOUTH's bid of 3**NT** is quite risky given that SOUTH holds **2** singletons, but SOUTH thinks he can see **1** Diamond, **1** Spade, and **6** Club "winners" in his own Hand and SOUTH knows that because of NORTH's 1**H** bid NORTH can be expected to yield some additional "winners".*

WEST leads his "top" card in NORTH's bid Suit. Leading a Spade card in Partner's bid Suit might have been better. EAST correctly "ducked" and Declarer SOUTH "won" with his Heart King singleton.

1. *Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "winners" should Declarer SOUTH see?*

2. *What is an "incorrect" "Line of Play" that actually was followed at this "Real Deal" bridge table?*

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0537_a1.pdf