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Esther "Pop" Quiz #0544: "As Declarer Playing a 4S Contract Can an '*Elimination Endplay*' Enable You to Take an Overtrick That Is Valuable at Matchpoint Play?"

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 5/29/88 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Clever Play Nets Elusive Overtrick". This "Real Deal" was played in an April, 1988 Flight A Knockout Teams event during the Southeastern Regional bridge tournament in Miami.

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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 (***24***) ***S:*** *A K Q 3* ***H:*** *Q* ***D:*** *A Q 2* ***C:*** *A K 9 6 2*	
WEST (***1***) ***S:*** *9 2* ***H:*** *9 8 2* ***D:*** *J 9 8 6* ***C:*** *T 8 7 4*		*EAST* (***14***) ***S:*** *J 7* ***H:*** *A K T 6* ***D:*** *K T 7 3* ***C:*** *Q J 5*
	SOUTH (***1***) ***S:*** *T 8 6 5 4* ***H:*** *J 7 6 4 3* ***D:*** *5 4* ***C:*** *3*	

Bidding

EAST	*SOUTH*	*WEST*	*NORTH*
*1**D***	*PASS*	*PASS*	***DBL***
PASS	*1**S****	*PASS*	*2**D****
PASS	*2**H***	*PASS*	*4**S***

******* *As Responder given that NORTH executed a "**Takeout/Demand DOUBLE**"[2] given that EAST PASSed SOUTH is required to bid. SOUTH "correctly" bid the higher-ranking of his **2** 5-card Majors.*

******** *"Partner, I (1) cannot 'support' Hearts but (2) I do hold the Diamond Ace. Let's keep talking."*

*WEST led his Diamond 6 as **4th** from the "top" of his "longest and strongest" Suit so that Partner EAST (and Declarer SOUTH) can use the "**Rule of 11**"[3] to determine exactly how many Diamonds higher than the Diamond 6 Declarer SOUTH (and EAST) holds.*

1. *Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed how many "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?*

2. *What is the probability that Declarer SOUTH can "win" a **5th** Club Trick in the NORTH Dummy?*

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[2] Within the "**Esther Bridge Lessons**" see: "**7 Not-for-Penalty DOUBLEs**": https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/double.pdf

[3] Within the "**Esther Bridge Lessons**" see: "**Some of the 40 or So Bridge Bidding/Play 'Rules'**": https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/rules.pdf

3. *How many "winners" can Declarer SOUTH see?*

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0544_a1.pdf