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# Esther "Pop" Quiz #0573:
# "As Declarer Using an Unusual '*Holdup Play*': If a 16-Year-Old Can Do It Then So Can You!"

**Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen**[1]

To return to the "Esther Bridge Lessons," CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/index.html
To return to the "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes", CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz.html

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 4/20/86 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Unusual Holdup". This "Real Deal" was played in an April, 1986 Flight B Swiss Team event during the Southeastern Regional Bridge Tournament in Miami. Sitting SOUTH as Declarer on this "Real Deal" was Steve Altus, a 16-year-old from Tampa.

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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:* ***NONE***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | *NORTH* (***16***)<br>***S:*** *A 8 3*<br>***H:*** *K J T 9 5 3*<br>***D:*** *K Q*<br>***C:*** *K T* | |
| *WEST* (***4***)<br>***S:*** *T 6*<br>***H:*** *8 7 6 4 2*<br>***D:*** *8 7 5 3 2*<br>***C:*** *A* | | *EAST* (***13***)<br>***S:*** *K Q J 9 5*<br>***H:*** *A Q*<br>***D:*** *J T 9 6 4*<br>***C:*** *7* |
| | *SOUTH* (***7***)<br>***S:*** *7 4 2*<br>***H:*** *--*<br>***D:*** *A*<br>***C:*** *Q J 9 8 6 5 4 3 2* | |

***Bidding***

| *NORTH* | *EAST* | *SOUTH* | *WEST* |
|---|---|---|---|
| *1**H*** | *1**S*** | *2**C**** | *PASS* |
| *3**H*** | *4**D*** | *PASS* | *PASS* |
| ***DBL**** | *PASS* | *5**C*** | ***DBL*** |
| *PASS* | *PASS* | | |

****SOUTH bid 2**C** when holding only **7** HCPs because his Ron Klinger "**Suit Quality Test ('SQT') Score**"[2] equalled (a) **9** cards plus (b) **2** Honors or 9 + 2 = **11**. Contracts set no higher than the "**SQT Score**" – 6 will generally "make".*

*****"Partner, I do not want to 'support' your Clubs because I am afraid that you will then bid 6**C**. Please bid 5**C**."*

*On Trick **#1** WEST led his Spade Ten, his "highest" card in Partner's bid Spade Suit.*

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

2. *What Spade card should Declarer SOUTH play on Trick **#1**?*

3. *What "Line of Play" should Declarer SOUTH initially follow?*

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
**https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0573_a1.pdf**

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[2] Within the "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes" see: ""**Several Bidding Conundrums and a *Centennial-Quiz* Tribute to** Ron Klinger **and His '*Suit Quality Test ('SQT') Score*'**"": **https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0100_q.pdf**