

Daily Bridge Club

Cy loses interest

By FRANK STEWART

Tribune Content Agency

"I heard you're doing some investing," I said to Wendy, my club's feminist.

"Ask her if she thinks the bonds of matrimony are a good investment," Cy the Cynic growled.

"They are," Wendy snapped, "if the interest is kept up."

In a penny game, Cy and Wendy were East-West; she led the king of clubs against four spades. Cy signaled with the nine, and Wendy next led the jack. The Cynic took the ace and led the ten of hearts.

HEART SHIFT

South judged that Cy would have signaled low at Trick One if he had the king of hearts, so South played low and took dummy's ace. He drew trumps, ruffed his last club in dummy, cashed the A-K of diamonds and exited with a heart. Wendy won and led a third heart, and South ruffed in dummy and pitched his last diamond. Making four.

"So your interest in beating the contract was zero," Wendy scowled at Cy.

The defense prevails if Cy overtakes the first club and shifts to hearts.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ Q 10 9 3 ♥ A 4
♦ K 9 8 6 3 ♣ 8 5. Your partner

opens one heart, you respond one spade, he bids two diamonds and you raise to three diamonds. Partner then bids three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner is still interested in a heart contract – and also wants to be at game, else he would have stopped at three diamonds. He should have six hearts or five strong hearts and extra strength. Your A-4 is enough support to bid four hearts.

South dealer

N-S vulnerable

NORTH

♠ Q 10 9 3
♥ A 4
♦ K 9 8 6 3
♣ 8 5

WEST

♠ 5 4
♥ K J 6 3 2
♦ 10 4
♣ K Q J 7

EAST

♠ 8 6
♥ 10 9 8 7
♦ Q J 5
♣ A 9 6 2

SOUTH

♠ A K J 7 2
♥ Q 5
♦ A 7 2
♣ 10 4 3

South

1 ♠
4 ♠

West

Pass
All Pass

North

2 ♠

East

Pass

Opening lead – ♣ K