



Palmetto Pre-Empts



South Carolina Unit 160 of the American Contract Bridge League

January to March 2004

John Hurd To Be Inducted Into SC Bridge Hall of Fame

Charleston's John Hurd will be inducted into the SC Bridge Hall of Fame during the awards portion of the Unit's next annual membership meeting. This will be on Saturday March 6, 2004, between sessions at the Charleston Swamp Fox Sectional. Other awards and traveling trophies for 2003 accomplishments will be presented also at this time.

Hurd is an honors school graduate of the College of Charleston with a BS in geology. He lives in Charleston and is currently making the effort to play bridge professionally.

The Hall of Fame membership is bestowed on SC players who have been playing in SC for ten years (minimum) and who have achieved outstanding successes at bridge as a player. This usually means reaching 5000 master points or winning a nationally rated tournament or the equivalent. Current Hall of Fame members living in SC must vote in any new candidate nominated by the Hall of Fame Committee.

Hurd, 25, has been playing since he was 14, and he recently won a four-session national open pair tournament at the 2003 (Long Beach) North American Summer Nationals. Previously in August 2001, he and his teammates won the World Youth Team Championship. This past summer, they finished third. His junior team has twice won the Round-Robin phase of the USA International Team Trials which determines the USA ("adult") representative in the next world championships. This is approximately equivalent to winning the North American Swiss.

Playing mostly with friends and teammates from Charleston and with his family, he has won every Unit Mini-McKenney award for which he has been eligible. He was second in the USA in points won at Sectionals in 2003.

March Madness: Charleston 4-7 March; Columbia (Tri-City Leisure Center) Mar 19-21. Be There!

Next Issue: Ace of Clubs Report for 2003

Charleston, Columbia, HHI NLM, Camden Sectionals, District 7 GNT Finals, Silver Point Trophies....

Wayne Hollingsworth Is State's Top Master Point Winner For 2003

Wayne Hollingsworth, now of Irmo, SC, won 859 master points for 2003. This is the second highest one-year total ever scored by a Unit 160 player and is a personal best for Wayne, whose name will be inscribed on the Chester Ward Traveling Trophy given by the unit for the player winning the most points for the year. Wayne will be profiled in the April-June issue.

In most years the 755 points won by **Ellen Allen** of Summerville would have been easily enough to win the Trophy, but Ellen was second this year. She has been first, however,

SC's Top 2003 Masterpoint Totals

1. 859 Wayne Hollingsworth, Irmo
2. 755 Ellen Allen, Summerville
3. 744 John Hurd, Charleston
4. 703 Richard Brown, Easley
5. 664 Larry Allen, Summerville
6. 538 Susanne McLaughlin, Charleston
7. 522 Tom Rutledge, Charleston
8. 516 Mark McLaughlin, Charleston
9. 510 Kevin Bathhurst, Columbia
10. 473 Tina Radding, Charleston
11. 465 Richard Guarneri, Charleston
12. 406 Hugh Brown, McCormick
13. 386 James Hawkes, Charleston

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Bruce Reeve named head of ACBL

Unit 160 and District 7 NAOP Results

Ed and Liz Grooms First in B

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Susanne McLaughlin District Silver Point Champ

Golden Oldies Puzzles

How To Beat Better Players, Part I

Unit 160 Board Meeting

Reporters Needed

Mini-McKenney Results Announced

Charleston's Jack Webb Wins 2003 Unit 160 Rookie of the Year

Each year the South Carolina Unit 160 of the ACBL announces its own winners in each masterpoint category of the "Mini-McKenney Master Point Race." The awards and recognition are for most total master points won for 2003. The ACBL awards its McKenney Trophy to the player who gets the most points for the year, and we give our recognition to SC players.

We also give "Ace of Club" awards in each category to the players who have earned the most points in local games in SC during the year. (See related story). Finally, we have traveling trophies for players (in four categories) who win the most Silver points in SC sectionals. (See related story.)

The **Mini-McKenney** awards go to players who, at the beginning of the calendar year, were classified in the named master point category. They are SC's Mini-McKenney "Player of the Year" in the category won.

Rookie (0-5)

1. **93 Jack Webb, Charleston**
2. 61 Donald Clayton, Seneca
3. 49 Mark Hall, Jr, North Augusta
4. 48 Geri Moore, Jackson
5. 29 Anne Jenkins, Summerville
6. 28 Charlie Jenkins, Summerville
7. 27 Robert Hampton, Blythwood
8. 27 Rudy Mueller, Hilton Head
9. 27 Joyce Hampton, Blythwood
10. 26 Jo Remy, Tega Cay

Junior Master (5-20)

1. **66 Jacqueline Mandeville, Columbia**
2. 50 Pat Austin, Elgin
3. 44 Francis Kovach, West Columbia
4. 43 Karl Bergman, Seabrook Island
5. 42 Siham Lahoud, Greenville
6. 37 Maurice Cordray, Hilton Head
7. 34 Sylvia White, Columbia
8. 34 James Wigginton, Hilton Head
9. 32 Sherrill Cuzzell, Summerville
10. 31 Virginia Wigginton, Hilton Head

Club Master (20-50)

1. **180 Jim Calahan, Isle of Palms**
2. 123 Wayne Goddard, Clemson
3. 118 Brent Holcomb, Columbia
4. 116 Michael Lewis, Anderson
5. 116 Robert Sikes, Bluffton
6. 106 Linda Lewis, Anderson

7. 92 John Baker, Salam
8. 84 Jeff Hepner, John's Island
9. 84 Jim Hannon, Seneca
10. 62 Richard Hughes, John's Island

Sectional Master (50-100)

1. **125 Steven Gajdalo, Hilton Head**
2. 122 Mary Townhill, Lexington
3. 120 Susal Lien, North Augusta
4. 116 Robert Harrell, Anderson
5. 79 Bernetha Henry, Hopkins
6. 76 Mina Dupree, Folly Beach
7. 75 Margaret Cozzens, Salem
8. 74 Susan Nuernberger, Charleston
9. 63 Werner Weingartner, Hilton Head
10. 58 Alice De Walt, Mt Pleasant

Regional Master ((100-200)

1. **168 Jaime Villanueva, Greer**
2. 145 Shirley Dean, Anderson
3. 122 Barbara Little, Anderson
4. 116 C. Buchanan, Jr, Anderson
5. 101 Dorothy Defiore, Columbia
6. 98 Nancy Masters, Anderson
7. 98 Nancy Shackett, Seneca
8. 96 Nancy Jerolamon, Clemson
9. 93 Donna Brinkley, Hilton Head
10. 91 Eleanor Buchanan, Anderson

NABC Master (200-300)

1. **320 Anita Knaysi, Clemson**
2. 259 Gideon Kochmann, John's Island
3. 174 Fred Ferguson, Hilton Head
4. 171 Karen Ricker, Hilton Head
5. 151 Elnor Harrell, Anderson
6. 127 Christine Foy, Aiken
7. 110 Henry Gureck, Bluffton
8. 107 Nancy Gureck, Bluffton
9. 106 Peter Seery, Hilton Head
10. 104 Libby Seery, Hilton Head

Life Master (300-500)

1. **300 Fred Chisholm, Charleston**
2. 223 Brenda Klinker, Salem
3. 194 Michael Gentry, Charleston
4. 182 Annette Wallace, Longs
5. 164 John Berk, Aiken
6. 162 Linda Smith, Anderson
7. 141 Kathie Walsh, Hilton Head
8. 130 Walter Ela, Bluffton
9. 118 John Cassidy, Myrtle Beach
10. 103 John and Barbara Kiebler, HHI

Bronze Life Master (500-1500)

1. **386 James Hawkes, Charleston**
2. 377 Will Burford, Seneca

3. 359 Malcolm Curry, North Myrtle Beach
4. 311 Rich Regan, Inman
5. 265 Andrew Hurd, Charleston
6. 199 Clifford Rhein, St. Helena Isl.
7. 173 Bill Bauknight, Anderson
8. 172 O. Gordon Lien, North Augusta
9. 160 Rajan Iyer, Aiken
- 10 138 Larry Paul, Conway

Silver Life Master (1000-2500)

1. 473 Tina Radding, Charleston

2. 402 James Gentry, Augusta
3. 271 Leroy Cristeson, Anderson
4. 246 Zygmunt Przedpelski, 246
5. 235 William Kelly, Anderson
6. 233 David Ehle, Charlotte
7. 228 Rosalyn Silverstein, Anderson
8. 227 Chesta Anderson, Mt Pleasant
9. 210 Jean McLeish, Anderson
- 10 208 Gary Donner, Bluffton

Gold Life Master (2500-5000)

1. 744 John Hurd, Charleston

2. 597 Paul Lewis, Dublin Oh
3. 384 Nannell Burford, Seneca
4. 378 Betty Burt, North Myrtle Beach
5. 374 James Blackwell, Prosperity
6. 353 Jeff Ziemer, Greenville
7. 292 Giles Belski, North Myrtle Beach
8. 290 Spencer Hurd, Charleston
9. 264 Marvin Scatz, Hilton Head
- 10 250 George Nichols, Columbia

Diamond Life Master (5000 plus)

1. 859 Wayne Hollingsworth, Irmo

2. 755 Ellen Allen, Summerville
3. 703 Richard Brown, Easley
4. 664 Larry Allen, Summerville
5. 538 Susanne McLaughlin, Charleston
6. 522 Tom Rutledge, Charleston
7. 516 Mark McLaughlin, Charleston
8. 465 Richard Guarneri, Charleston
9. 406 Hugh Brown, McCormick
- 10 274 Happoldt Neuffer, Columbia

Novice Tip – Responding to Partner’s 1 Spade Overall.

When responding to partner’s overcall of 1S, as in the following sequence:

LHO	Pard	RHO	You
1C	1S	P	??

use the following schedule of bids.

1. 2S - 5 to 9 points, 3 trumps; you are not obligated to bid with 5-7 points and a blah hand; bidding with so few points usually means an additional distributional feature such as a singleton or side 5-card suit.

2. 3S - 0 to 6 points and 4/5 trumps* - the pre-emptive jump raise; you must agree on this before hand (don’t make this bid, ever, red against white; also, when minimal in points, have two doubletons or a singleton – partner needs all the help you can give.)

3. 3C - the “mixed” raise*; this jump cue bid shows four trumps and 7-9 points, just below a shapely limit raise.

4. 1NT – usually two spades and 9-11 points; and sensible holding in clubs. With 7/8 points and two or fewer spades just pass.

5. 2NT - same but with 12-13 points; with more points insist on game.

6. 2D, 2H – your minimum bid in a new suit is best taken as a one-round force (partner is asked not to pass); you either have values to insist on game somewhere or you intend to pass Pard’s minimum rebid (2S or 2NT or 3 of your suit); a new suit or jump by partner is a game force.

7. 3D, 3H – a jump in a new suit* is best played as a “fit jump” showing a limit raise or better in Pard’s spades but with a decent suit of your own. This is game forcing in spades.

8. 4S – classically a two-way bid; it shows a pre-emptive raise with 5 or more spades and not promising any high card points. Or, you may have some surprise value but don’t promise it.

9. 2C – the immediate cue bid of opener’s suit shows either a limit raise in spades (3 or 4 spades with 10-11 points) or another hand (in which case 2C is game forcing).

10. 3NT – two types of hands, either fairly balanced with points, at least 14, or slightly gambling with a long suit of your own (xx, Kx, AQJTxx, KTx or better).

11. With the values in points and spades to force to game, don’t just jump there. Bid 2C, the cue bid first; then jump to 4S after partner’s response. Now partner will know it is “your hand” and can judge what to do if the opponents go to the 5-level. If partner thinks you might be sacrificing (with a jump directly to 4S), he might take a “phantom sacrifice” when you should be doubling them.

12. Consider playing a simple version of the Rosenkrantz Double and Rozenkrantz Redouble*. The bid is made when your RHO cue bids 2S or makes a negative double. Your double of 2S or redouble of the negative double shows that you hold a high card in spades (the A, K, or Q) AND that you would have passed 1S or maybe bid 2S (no more). You can do this with a doubleton honor. Partner knows it is okay to lead away from his possibly poorish spade suit, even if opener now bids 2NT or 3NT. The immediate raise to 2S by you (if they negative double) denies a high spade. Partner is warned off a spade lead if his suit is poor. These are alertable bids.

12. Consider playing that, if RHO now raises to 2C, a double by you is takeout (“responsive”) showing at least 6-10 points and both unbid suits:

x, KJT_x, KQ_{xxx}, J_{xx} or x, QJ_{xxx}, KT9_{xx}, xx

These are typical holdings; if 5-5 or longer you may have minimum points but otherwise have nearer maximum points. You usually deny more than a doubleton spade (usually you have a spade singleton). Partner can pass, especially with a good defensive hand.

13. When in doubt, give the overcaller some leeway. If you make one of these descriptive bids and partner signs off, let it go.

Golden Oldie #1

South plays in 6♠ after East overcalls with 5♦. The lead is the ♣K and when you play the ace from Dummy, East discards the ♦9.

North (Dummy)

♠ 5
♥ KJ
♦ A4
♣ A9876543

North(You)

♠ AKQJT9
♥ AT64
♦ Q3
♣ 2

This and the next are from the Bridge World, October 1948. (Subscription information is at www.bridgeworld.com)

Golden Oldie #2

West leads the ♠3 against your contract of 6♥. Can you make the slam if a player has all missing trumps?

North (Dummy)

♠ AJ87652
♥ KJ73
♦ 7
♣ A

North (You)

♠ ---
♥ AQ9652
♦ KQ83
♣ K98.

Upcoming Events

Apr 2-4	Salisbury NC
Apr 11	GNT Flts B/C Semi-Finals
Apr 18	Gatlinburg Regional
Apr 23-25	Camden

Apr30-May 2	Morganton, & GNT Finals
May 7-9	Cashiers
May 14-16	Augusta
May ?-31	Regional in Raleigh
June 13	Atlanta & Charlotte
Jun 25-27	Hendersonville
July 11-18	Summer Nationals, NY
Jul 16-18	Greenville
Jul 19-25	Nashville Regional
Jul 23-25	Morganton
Aug 6-8	Columbia
Sep 6	Atlanta Regional
Sep 10-12	Charlotte
	Wilmington
Oct 1-3	Aiken
Oct 8-12	NLM Hilton Head
Oct 17	Jeckyl Island Regional
Oct 29-31	Myrtle Beach
Nov 7	Atlanta

ACBL UNIT 160 BOARD MEETING MYRTLE BEACH SECTIONAL, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2003

ATTENDING: Clarke Smart, Don Buchanan, George Nichols, Jim Current, DaMaris Rorie, Tony Devereux, Rich Regan, Spencer Hurd, Doris Ann Rogers, Kitty Altman, Rich Giles, and Marian Motley and Jean King as proxies.

ABSENT: Mike Gentry, Richard Brown, Will Burford, Nannell Burford, Carmelita Hopkins, Glenn Savage, Christine Foy, Jimmie Blackwell, Joyce Lauterbach, Jeff Thomas, Barbara James, Louise Burns, Jim Lancaster, Lyman Wooster, Arlene Arellano, Lindsey Butler, and Alan Brooks.

The meeting was called to order by President Devereux at 1:30 p.m. Members and proxies were asked to state their names and home city.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Secretary/Treasurer Rorie reported a bank balance of \$6236.06. Three Certificates of Deposit total \$18,004.92. Total assets total \$24,240.98.

TOURNAMENTS: Membership Chair Louise Burns asked Secretary Rorie to report to the Board that finally all clubs had been sanctioned for 2004, and even some for 2006. She was very pleased that clubs are being more cooperative and timely in their scheduling.

MEMBERSHIP: Chairman Current discussed the latest QUIP Report which states that the average age of ACBL members is 68+. It also gives the increasingly high dropout rate of members who are becoming inactive. A discussion ensued concerning steps to be taken to inhibit this problem in Unit 160. President

Devereux reported that he wrote a welcoming informative letter to each new member and the Board assured him that this was a positive step which should be continued.

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS: George Nichols reported that the Unit 160 level of competition had fewer participants on October 18 in Columbia, than it had the previous year, when there were 28 more participants, and he reported a loss of \$200.00 in 2003.

Last year Hilton Head had brought a busload to the event, and this year was unable to do so. Also there were local scheduling conflicts in some areas which prevented qualifiers from attending. It was particularly noticeable that fewer Flight C players had attended. As a result, there could not be a separate flight for them.

Rich Regan blamed part of the poor response on a "Ho hum! Another NAP event," as a last-minute game time announcement.

A discussion ensued concerning ways of promoting this event in local clubs and giving it more "clout." In order to increase the motivation and interest of qualifiers, Don Buchanan suggested awarding a "State" trophy to winners who progressed to the District level of competition; however, it was highly recommended by Jim Current and Secretary Rorie that this not be a traveling trophy. Spencer Hurd volunteered to publicize the event in Palmetto Preempts and continually stress its meaning and importance. Spencer then moved that Unit 160 would award "State" trophies to winners in a meaningful ceremony to recognize and publicize their achievement, and this was seconded by Rich Regan. This was unanimously passed.

HALL OF FAME: Chairman Richard Brown, in his absence due to recent surgery, had reported to President Devereux that John Hurd had been elected to the Unit 160 Hall of Fame. A discussion involving the Sectional Tournament when this award was to be presented resulted in the decision that John would make the choice. (Charleston, March 2004)

JUDICIAL: President Devereux reported that Unit 160 is a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of South Carolina. It is not a tax- exempt corporation under IRS 501c, and thus it pays federal income taxes. He further stated that the Judicial Committee could discuss attempting to change the current status, but felt that with our small amount of income, the effort it would take to effect a change would not be worth it.

OLD BUSINESS: (1) Since there was some misunderstanding as to the scheduling and designation of local charities which would receive a contribution from Unit 160's Charity Games, President Devereux suggested it would facilitate such decisions to leave this at the discretion of the presiding officer so changes would be every two years, rather than annually. There was total agreement.

(2) **STAC Games:** George Nichols reported that previously Georgia Unit 202 had been invited to participate with Unit 160 in our STAC games. However, he recently discovered that units could not invite particular clubs to participate, but must include the entire unit. He stated that since we had been doing this unknowingly illegally, we would refrain from this action in the future. It was further discussed that Unit 160 had no right to control the action of local clubs who decide to participate in STAC games other than the two we have always supported. At this point Jim Current read a resolution he had written to clarify this position. Addressed to all Unit 160 Board Members and club managers, it reads: "As you are already aware, there are an increasing number of requests for clubs to run Sectional Tournament at Clubs games. The Board decided that a policy statement was in order.

"Unit 160 has no authority to force a club to participate or to deny a club the right to participate in a Sectional Tournament at Clubs. The Unit strongly encourages all clubs to participate in the two annual STAC's that directly support the players of South Carolina, the MABC STAC in the fall and the Unit 160 STAC in the spring. Individual clubs will have many opportunities to hold STAC's in support of bridge activities, charities, other units, and other districts. The Unit 160 Board may, on occasion decide to endorse one of these games as having exceptional merit, but in general, the Board will remain neutral on all STAC's except the two named above." Jim's proposal was unanimously acclaimed.

NEW BUSINESS: President Devereux reported that since Brandon Flickner, the previous webmaster, was no longer residing in South Carolina, and Scott Stearns had agreed to replace him, he felt that the Unit should reimburse him for his time and offer some sort of salary. Spencer Hurd noted the importance of maintaining and updating a web site as a form of information for players, and as advertisement for events. He was particularly interested in the archival capability of such a site for Unit 160. Not only would this allow storage of all Palmetto Preempts, but also have an historical impact pertaining to bridge in South Carolina. Jim Current moved that President Devereux should ask Scott what he would consider to be a reasonable fee for us to pay, and then would negotiate with him to agree on a salary. This was seconded by Rich Regan and passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: **The Membership Meeting is scheduled before the Saturday night game on March 6, 2004.** The Board meeting might start at 6:30 p.m. The afternoon game on March 6 starts at 1:30 so prizes will be awarded and the Hall of Fame Award will be presented to John Hurd.

ADJOURNMENT: At 2:50 p.m., Rich Regan moved to adjourn, seconded by Spencer Hurd, and passed unanimously. Respectfully submitted, DaMaris Rorie.

Bidding Boxes Needed

"I am trying to start a new duplicate club in Rock Hill and need some bidding boxes and bidding cards. If anyone has some to sell (or give away!), please contact me at medlind@cetlink.net or fax 803 366 6358."

Thank you,
Jeanne LeHardy, 1551 Herlong Court, Rock Hill,
SC 29732

If you are ready to replace existing bidding boxes, your old ones can be used. Clubs or individuals please contact Jeanne directly.

NAP Finals in Columbia

The Unit 160 North American Pairs Unit 160 Finals were held in Columbia October 18. Beginning next year (2004), these will be the official SC State Pairs Championships for Flight A, Flight B and Flight C. Players from out of state may enter if qualified, since the event is a playoff to qualify for the District 7 NAP. It is at the District level that one can win the subsidized trip to the Spring Nationals and entry into the NAP National Finals.

Flight A

1. **411.79 Joe Waldon - James Blackwell**
2. 403.92 Eleanor Hack - Joel Levy
3. 403.25 Sam Marks (Atl) - John Lowell
4. 392.71 Mike Kovacich (Stone Mt, GA) - Wayne Hollingsworth
5. 378.25 Bob Webb - Pat Webb

Flight B

1. **392.38 Gideon Kochman - Fred Chisolm**
2. 371.79 Ken Fasching - J. Lauterbach
3. 371.33 Alice Moore - John MacGregor
4. 370.29 Jim Griffis - Rich Regan
5. 353.79 John Berk - Paul Dickson

Flight C

1. **353.74 Roger Gill - Jeff Hepner**
2. 348.04 Herman Scheiblich - Linda York
3. 301.00 Virginia Wigginton - Peggy Gibson

Hilton Head Non-Life Master Sectional October 9-12, 2003

There were 132 tables in play and 122 players attending so just about everybody played in four sessions. The players took home just over 308 master points for the weekend. The masterpoint leaders were:

1. 10.7 Donna Brinkley, Hilton Head
- 10.7 Frances Stras, Kingsport, TN
3. 8.9 Robert Catlin, Bluffton
- 8.9 Merry Gerber, Okatie
5. 7.85 Marian Rice, Ladson
- 7.85 Catherine Murray, Summerville
7. 6.94 Jack Webb, Charleston
8. 6.12 George Moss, Bluffton

99-er Leaders

1. 6.94 Jack Webb, Charleston
2. 5.54 Jane Doviak, Charleston
3. 5.13 Maurice Cordray, Hilton Head
4. 4.38 Gail O'Kane, Hilton Head

Beating Better Players - Part 1

by Spencer Hurd

Bridge magazines and the ACBL Bulletin are filled with articles on how to succeed on a particular hand. But they have little to offer the advancing player on getting past that last hurdle - on beating players in a higher flight when your team gets in an unusually high bracket (for you), or on beating Flight A players when you get in a section (or Swiss match) which seems to be rich in strength.

In a series of articles for PP, we will give concrete suggestions on how you might achieve victory over "tougher" competition.

In order to set a proper stage, we assume you are in a Swiss match of seven hands against a stronger team or are about to play a K-O match against a very strong team.

There are two basic categories of suggestions which are quite unrelated.

A - Don't Throw It Away

B - Don't Play What They Do

Other possibilities will be considered later in the series. Ideas or comments are welcome (write the editor at hurds@citadel.edu).

A -Don't Throw It Away

A1 - Have classic values for your pre-empts and be careful with the vulnerability. Don't bid unsoundly deliberately trying to "take a chance." Never pre-empt red vs white without massive distributional strength. If you don't know what I mean, then here are "good" and "bad" opening pre-empts. "Equal" will mean you are both vul, both non-vul, or they are vulnerable and you are not. "fav" means favorable - you are not vulnerable but they are.

xx, QT9xxxxx, x, xx	open 3H, equal vul
--, KJT8743, QJT4, 62	open 3H, equal vul
87, QJT8632, 87, Q4	open 3H, only Fav

87, QJT8632, 8, Q74 open 3H, equal
 8, KJT853, QJT4, 52 open 2H equal (After Pass-Pass to you, open 3H at Fav.)
 8, KT86432, JT6, K6 pass unless Fav. Maybe open 2H at equal
 87, KT96432, 76, 83 pass
 985, Q976432, 76, 2 pass
 T4, KJ86432, KJ, 52 pass, open 2H at equal
 T, KJ86432, KJ4, 52 open 3H
 62, AQJT732, 865, 2 open 2H in 1st or 2nd seat, any vulnerability; open 3H after two passes at equal vulnerability; open 4H after two passes at Fav.
 75, AKT7543, KT, 54 open 1H and rebid 2H. Treat the hand as a minimum opening.
 X, KQJ76543, 76, 76 open 3H even at Un-fav, open 4H at fav

In general, only sound suits should be considered for a pre-empt. This may not be anyone's choice at matchpoints, but at IMPs, bidding with weak suits attracts penalty doubles and 3NT bids like honey attracts bees and bears.

If you play weak jump overcalls, here are guidelines. Right hand opponent has opened 1H and you hold:

KJxxxx, x, Qxx, xxx pass
 KJT875, 87, J74, T2 pass (suit ok, hand too weak)
 KJT875, 6, QJ43, 52 bid 2S at equal (typical minimum)
 AKxxxx, x, xxx, xxx bid 1S (avoid the weak jump with strong defensive holding in your suit)
 QJT965, 765, 86, QJ pass, the QJ doubleton is especially bad ; compare next hand
 QJT875, T, QJ86, 52 2S at equal vul
 QJT875, T, AQ86, 52 1S - with significant outside strength, don't pre-empt.
 AKQ742, 7, 864, 984 1S

With either of the last two hands, if partner invites game, you will decline. If partner jumps to game, you will make it.

The main idea is to avoid entirely giving them an easy penalty double or a giveaway 3NT.
 (Part A to be continued).

B - Don't Play What They Do

Use alternative treatments. If you play precision or KS, you are already doing this. I will assume you *and* the opponents play something like Two-Over-One (TOO) or Standard American Yellow Card (SAYC).

B1. Don't bid 1NT the way they do. Vary the openings so as to play to your strengths and the occasional backfire. The idea is that a few differences will be a plus. Your auction will be DIFFERENT but NOT INFERIOR. You will have different declarers, different opening leads, and so on. The theory is, "try to be lucky, because

you will not win otherwise." (And the hope is that what we recommend will help you be lucky.)

Open 1NT with 14+ to 16+, and with 17 open 1C or 1D and jump to 2NT (as if you had 18 or 19) when the hand has anything extra. (Of course make this on your card.)

Open 1NT, not 1S or 1H, whenever possible. The opponents will often "always" open 1H or 1S if possible. Examples:

AT754, QJ7, K6, AJ7 open 1NT, classic
 KJ542, AQT, KJT, T2 open 1NT (the opponents will often lead a major suit when totally in the dark - and remember, when you or the opponents open 1S, you cannot stop in 1NT if 1NT is "Forcing One Round" as most play it. Often you will automatically get a different part-score or game contract than at the other table - you have an extra chance to get lucky. (If you don't get lucky, you won't win - they are better, remember.)

K74, A5, AKJ987, T4 Open 1NT rather than 1D followed by a jump to 3D.

AQJ4, AKJ5, T4, 987 at matchpoints I would open 1NT. At IMPs, trying to vary the contract, open 1H. If partner bids 1NT, raise to 2NT. If he bids 1S raise to 2S. If he bids 2C or 2D, bid naturally to game. Remember, the idea is to have a DIFFERENT auction resulting in a different contract or different declarer - but not an inferior contract. (This is a Goren 1H bid, if you know who Charles Goren was.)

AQT, KT9, AJT7, 98 open 1NT - look at all the tens and nines, clearly worth a point or two.

AQ8, K87, AJT87, T6 open 1NT, adding a point for the excellent 5-card diamond suit.

AJ3, KQ, A976, T753 open 1C. The KQ tight is a small minus. There is no 5-card suit, no bunch of 9's or tens. So, this is a 14 hand.

AJ9, KQ9, AT76, 875 open 1NT - compare with the previous hand. The diamond and heart holdings are much improved and worth at least another point more.

K6, AQ6, KJT652, A5 open 1D and (plan to) jump rebid to 2NT

K5, AQ6, KJT652, AQ open 2NT

KJ53, AQ65, A75, T5 open 1D, nice but not THAT special. Also, with two 4-card majors, a standard 1D will work well - don't stretch to open a so-so 14-point one NT, wait for the real 14-plus.

T5, AT5, AQ65, KJT9 open 1NT. It may be critical that you prevent them from overcalling cheaply. And the extra values in clubs are worth a point.

When they open in 3rd seat with one of a suit, be ready to overcall 1NT if even fairly close to normal.

(To be continued.)

Ladies - Alert Great Coat Switch Mystery

At the **Batesburg** Sectional in January, after the last game, Ellen Allen walked over to pick up her black car coat (with a hood and black fox trim). In its place was a somewhat similar coat. Ellen would like to swap back!

If you attended that tournament please check your closet carefully for a coat that probably was mistaken for another.

Bill Fogleman Makes Bronze LM

Congratulations to Charleston's Bill Fogleman, who made Bronze Life Master just recently. Bill writes: "Hi Spencer,

Please extend my fond memories and thanks to the downtown club in Charleston and to Lindsey Butler and her club at Sullivan's Island. I appreciate all the help and friendship in knowing and playing with you. Plenty of times my nose got bloody by your stiff competition but I feel as though it taught me a lot, especially how to compete in the game I love to play.

I want to thank the following teams that partnered me and that helped make this possible. Dot and Jim Current (Pres of Unit 160), Henry Momand (Pres. of Cola Bridge Club), Jules and Barbara Guth of Southport NC, Caroline Gatlin and Hal Smokel of Surfside Beach, Richard and Pauline Peckruhn of Kiawai Isl., Milton and Georgia Smeaks of Greenville, Marianne Murphy and Winnie Hancock of Columbia, Chris and Lee Webb off Columbia, and to my late wife Maggie who was my best partner and teacher.

Regards, Bill"



Morganton Sectional Results: congratulations to Richard Brown and Jeff Ziemer who scored 13.07 masterpoints

GNT – The 2004 Grand National Teams

The GNT for 2004 has already begun. Local clubs are holding team qualifying contests and local teams need to score 50% or finish in the top 50% to qualify for the next level. This means for example that a Flight B team (each player less than 2000 mp's) must score in the top 50% of all B teams or get 50% of the available victory points.

Flight A teams qualify at the local level and advance directly to the District 7 Finals where this group will split into two groups, Flight A (0 to 5000 mp's) and Open (0 to infinity points).

Our District has four area Semi-finals, all held on April 3, 2004. They will be in COLUMBIA, Hendersonville, Alpharetta, and Southern Pines. These will be a Swiss or Round-Robin, depending on the size of the field. Games begin at 10:30 AM and will be two sessions.

The District Finals will be in Morganton, NC, during the Sectional there, the first weekend in May. The district will provide a minimum of \$1600 per winning team to help defray expenses when advancing to the nationals. This money is not available to a team that chooses not to advance to the next level. Questions should be directed to your local director, or to Liz Swanson (District 7 Coordinator, PO Box 48922, Athens, Ga, 30604), or see the notice on mabcbridge.org.

Unit 160 Sectional Tournament At Clubs January 12-18, 2004

South Carolina's largest sectional tournament is certainly the STAC which we promote annually. The sections in each event are played in local clubs around the state, but there are still overall winners. So, **Jackie Kimball** of John's Island and **Irene Stancik** of Goose Creek, playing in the West Ashley Duplicate Club in Charleston, their local club, won 11 silver points when their 65.48% game turned out to be the highest in the state.

There were 513 tables in play during the week, and 26 different clubs participated at one time or another. There were eleven open games, six restricted games, and one invitational section. A total of 1035 players won 1546.62 masterpoints. Several Georgia clubs participated.

Firsts in a pair game:

Jackie Kimball, John's Isl, and Irene Stancik, Goose Cr.
Tom Rutledge and Rick Guarneri, Charleston

Annette Wallace, Longs, and Bob Burt, N Myrtle Beach
 Harold Moore and DaMaris Rorie, Columbia
 Edwin Johnson, Mary Nell Perry, Augusta
 Jeff Ziemer, Richard Brown, Greenville
 Ann Hanley, June Turnbull, Landings
 Richard Guarneri, Larry Allen
 Jim Gentry, Columbia, and Dori Cartwright, Augusta
 Ellen Allen and Larry Allen, Summerville
 Rosemarie Laurson, Angela Su, Savannah
 Joyce and Pat Lauterbach,, Columbia

Master Point Leaders for the Week:

1. 24.15 Jim Gentry, Augusta
2. 23.17 Dori Cartwright, Augusta
3. 21.23 Richard Guarneri, Charleston
4. 17.68 Annette Wallace, Longs
5. 17.13 Larry Allen, Summerville
6. 16.35 Bob Burt, N. Myrtle Beach
7. 16.13 Dick Rugaber, St. Simons
8. 15.94 Mary Nell Perry, Augusta
9. 15.50 Sue Latimer Brase, St. Simons
- 10 13.60 Pat Lauderbach, Columbia

299-er Leaders

1. 11.29 Dan Spencer, Savannah
2. 11.29 Sally Spencer, Savannah
3. 7.87 Paul Grady, Myrtle Beach
4. 5.47 Milissa Day, Columbia
5. 5.39 Janice White, Augusta
6. Geri Moore, Jackson

Golden Oldie #1

The first part is easy: you can figure the EXACT defensive hands! West didn't lead a diamond so is void. East didn't ruff the club lead so has two voids! *Who has the heart queen?* You must make a choice and if you guess wrongly, you will be defeated. For the rest of this puzzle, assume East, with 4 hearts, has the queen.

North (Dummy)		
	♠ 5	
	♥ KJ	
	♦ A4	
	♣ A987654	
♠ 876432		♠ ----
♥ 532		♥ Q987
♦ ---		♦ KJT987652
♣ KQJT3		♣ ----
South(You)		
	♠ AKQJT9	
	♥ AT64	
	♦ Q3	
	♣ 2	

Can you find the route to 6S?

Golden Oldie #2 – Not nearly so hard. Ruff the opening spade low; lead a club to dummy; ruff a second spade with the trump ace (as West shows out on your left); cash a high club pitching dummy's only diamond. Now cash a high trump in your hand (East is void). Lead a trump to dummy's jack and now ruff another spade. Even with the spades 4-1 the dummy will be high. If west ruffs (he better or you will take 13 tricks), dummy can win the exit card and will be high as the spades are now high. If East has all three trumps, when you lead the second trump to dummy, rise with the king and lead the spade ace. (If he discards, so do you and now lead a 4th spade, ruff, and concede a trump. The rest are yours.) Say he ruffs, You pitch your last club. He is out of trumps and endplayed (he must lead a minor). Since dummy has two trumps left, the spades can be set up with one more ruff. You win again.

Okay, ready for the play in Oldie #1:

This is one of the hardest plays to see we have ever presented – so there. At trick two you must lead the jack of hearts from dummy. (Or lead the king and then the jack which is less dramatic.) Line 1: If he covers, win and lead a heart right back, run all six trumps, cash the good ten of hearts and lead the 4th heart to East. Down to two diamonds, he must lead away from his king. Line 2: Say he ducks the heart jack. You cash the king of hearts, and play the same way, running six trumps, cash the high heart ace, lead the 4th heart again for the same endplay.

Is it possible to make the hand if WEST has the Qxx in hearts? (More comments later.)

**South Carolina's Top Ten
Lifetime Masterpoint Leaders**

1. 16235 Ellen Allen, Summerville
 2. 15535 Larry Allen, Summerville
 3. 13922 Tom Rutledge, Charleston
 4. 8989 Mark McLaughlin, Charleston
 5. 8754 Susanne McLaughlin, Charleston
 6. 8659 Richard Guarneri, Charleston
 7. 8115 Wayne Hollingsworth, Irmo
 8. 7098 Richard Brown, Easley
 9. 6970 High Brown, McCormick
 10. 6862 Kurt Gandenburger, Pendleton
- (as of Jan 2004)

**Electric City Sectional: Clemson, Feb 20-22
Locals Dominate This Time**

The Clemson Sectional had 195.5 tables in play with 216 players. Since 199 won masterpoints, the 718 points won were spread around in reasonable fashion. Still, some players managed to win a little extra and are listed below. The top scorers are from the upstate area (counting Wayne Hollingsworth and Hugh brown as locals).

- 1 23.49 Richard Brown, Easley
- 23.49 Wayne Hollingsworth, Irmo
- 3 17.48 Hugh Brown, McCormick
- 17.48 Jeff Ziemer, Greenville
- 5 16.43 Wayne Goddard, Clemson
- 16.43 Jaime Villaneuva, Greer
- 7 14.42 Zygmunt Przedpelski, Salem
- 8 11.36 Linda Smith, Anderson
- 11.36 Gil Mahla, Hartwell, GA
- 10 10.84 Helen Jinks, Greenville

299-er Top Scorers

- 1 16.43 Wayne Goddard, Clemson
- 2 9.51 Donald Clayton, Seneca
- 3 6.43 V. Lynn Bond, Salem
- 6.43 Bunny Hickey, Salem
- 5 5.84 George Delp, Gainsville GA
- 6 5.84 James Dover, Flowery Branch, GA
- 7 5.51 Robert Harrell, Anderson

Open Pair Winners:

1. Davis Peters and Joan Braender (GA) tied with Karl Kachadoorian, Richard Long (NC).
2. Richard Brown, Wayne Hollingsworth.
3. Ron and Deborah Cadora, Gainsville, GA
4. Hugh Brown and Jeff Ziemer.
5. Richard Brown and Wayne Hollingsworth.

299-er Winners

1. Margaret Miller, Beth Bartel, (Spartanburg)
 2. Anne Anderson (Sprtbg) and Elizabeth Cook (G'vl)
- Friday KO (6 teams)
1. Jaime Villanueva, Wayne Goddard, Brenda Fleming, Helen Jinks.

Swiss Teams

1. Wayne Hollingsworth, Hugh Brown, Jeff Ziemer, Richard Brown.
 - 1B Judith Shirley (Anderson), Arne Lillehammer and Anita Knaysi (Clemson), Brenda Klinker (Salem) tied with William Kelly, Rosalyn Silverstein (Anderson), Enrico Beretta (GA), Zygmunt Przedpelski (Salem).
 - 1C Anthony Lindsay, Joan Taylor, Rich Steinburger, Ruth Cox (NC).
- 299-er Swiss First was V. Lynn Bond, Bunny Hickey, Tim and Dot Lewis (Salem)

The Morrison Myrick Trophy For 2003 Goes To Anita Knaysi

The Morrison Myrick Trophy was initiated in 1975 by the South Carolina board to honor and remember Morrison Myrick. Mr. Myrick was the late

husband of one of our well-known present day players, Mrs. Mark (Susanne) McLaughlin.

A pre-requisite is that the player start the year as a non-life master. This trophy is presented annually to the South Carolina NLM bridge player winning the most master points for that year. **Anita** will be profiled next issue.

The traveling trophy has been engraved with the following names:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1975 | Russel C. Holtzclaw, M.D. |
| 1976 | Mary Ellen Hendrix |
| 1977 | Thomas Nasser |
| 1978 | Richard Brown |
| 1979 | Lindsay J. (Bubba) Forrester |
| 1980 | Mark A. McLaughlin, M.D. |
| 1981 | Susan B. McLaughlin |
| 1982 | Susan B. McLaughlin |
| 1983 | Susanne Myrick Pendarvis |
| 1984 | William B. Haigh |
| 1985 | G.E. (Ed) Grooms |
| 1986 | Alan Keller |
| 1987 | Rosalie S. Orvin |
| 1988 | Miles Duke |
| 1989 | Patricia J. Seiler, Hilton Head Island |
| 1990 | Jeanette Warner |
| 1991 | Jeanette Warner |
| 1992 | Martha Hartley |
| 1993 | Martha Hartley |
| 1994 | Greg Burch |
| 1995 | John P. Hurd, Charleston |
| 1996 | Zygmunt Przedpelski |
| 1997 | Paul Dickson, Aiken |
| 1998 | Ken Fasching |
| 1999 | Andrew G. Hurd, Charleston |
| 2000 | Tina Radding, Chas. |
| 2001 | John C. Burden, Charleston |
| 2002 | Grant Peacock, Charleston |
| 2003 | Anita Knaysi, Clemson |

Reporters Needed: *Palmetto Pre-Empts* needs some bridge reporters. Are you mentioned here yourself, or a friend or a partner of one of the players listed on page 2 or 3? Are you a partner of a new life master? Did you or someone in your club have an outstanding tournament or achieve a big bridge milestone?

Then tell us about it, and e-mail it to hurds@citadel.edu (or to Spencer Hurd, 171 Moultrie St, MSC-25, Charleston, SC, 29409). We'll use a spell checker (you get names and cities right!). You can have a by-line and get your name in print.

Susanne McLaughlin Leads District 7 In Total Silver Points Won

Charleston-area tournament players loosened their grip on the ACBL's silver point race in 2003, but South Carolinians continued to dominate sectional competition both in the district and throughout North America. Susanne and Mark McLaughlin led the way, their totals placing third and fourth in the ACBL, and Wayne Hollingsworth and Richard Brown weren't far behind, finishing sixth and seventh. Charleston players had won the ACBL silver point competition for the previous three years: Mark McLaughlin in 2000, and Richard Guameri in both 2001 and 2002.

The most impressive single tournament results were logged by partners Kevin Collins and Patty Tucker in the year-ending Atlanta tournament. They won all five team events that they entered, worth 69.29 points each. Overall, there was a resurgence in sectional tournament interest, with this year's attendance showing greater than a 10 percent increase over last year's, and in one less tournament. All-time attendance records were set for tournaments in Atlanta, Morganton and Knoxville. As it has for a long time, District 7 led the ACBL in overall attendance and number of sectionals. Here are our district's top silver point winners. All of those listed ranked in the ACBL-wide top 200.

1. Susanne McLaughlin, Charleston SC 404
2. Mark McLaughlin, Charleston SC 402
3. Wayne Hollingsworth, Irmo SC 351
4. Richard Brown, Easley SC 321
5. Ellen Allen, Summerville SC 264
6. Richard Guameri, Charleston SC 258
7. Larry Allen, Summerville SC 255
8. Bill Wisdom, Salisbury NC 254
9. Bob Heller, Decatur GA 235
10. Joe Rickman, Maryville TN 232
11. Jeff Ziemer, Greenville SC 226
12. Kay Joyce, Raleigh NC 222
13. Michael Kovacich, Stone Mtn GA 220
14. George Bloomer Jr., Pittsboro NC 219
15. Hugh Brown Jr., McCormick SC 216
16. John Hurd, Charleston SC 214
17. Ron Smith, Hixson TN 211
18. Barbara Heller, Decatur GA 210
19. Randy Joyce, Raleigh NC 209
20. Linda Smith, Hixson TN 208
21. Jim Morgan, Macon GA 176
22. Nancy Hetsko, Cumming GA 173
23. Ann Hedden, Watkinsville GA 170
24. Dan Fowler, Salisbury NC 168
25. Robert Pearson, Warner Robins GA 165
26. Tom Rutledge, Charleston SC 162
27. James Gentry Jr., Augusta GA 159
28. Brooks McNeely, Knoxville TN 156
29. Larry Rich, Cumming GA 154
30. James Blackwell, Prosperity SC 153

31. Len Case, Charlotte NC 152
32. Randy Pettit, Marietta GA 148
33. Judith Bloomer, Pittsboro NC 146
34. Michael Waters, Knoxville TN 144
35. David Levin, Murphy NC 141
36. David Klein, Wilmington NC 139
 - Alec Price, Red Springs NC 139
 - Patricia Tucker, Atlanta GA 139

2003 Sectional Tournament Attendance For District 7

State	Number of Sectionals	Table Count	Table Average
NC	29	5618	193.7
SC	12	2289	190.8
GA	15	4551	303.4
E TN	9	1828	203.1
Total	65	14285	219.8

District 7 includes all the Units in NC, SC, GA, and Eastern TN. SC consists of a single unit, a rarity in the ACBL. The report is taken from mabcbridge.org, the website of the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference which also includes District 6 (VA, DC, MD).

The Hilton Head Regional, Feb 2-8, 2004

Hilton Head's latest regional, held Feb. 2 to 8, 2004, was another huge success. There were 3347.5 tables for the week. Over 1700 players attended and 1597 won master points. In fact, they won 22, 508.17 point altogether.

The top South Carolina players were

1. 87.98 Wayne Hollingsworth, Irmo
2. 87.98 Richard Brown, Easley
3. 64.32 Richard Guameri, Charleston
4. 64.32 John Hurd, Charleston
5. 63.95 Ron Perry, Hilton Head
6. 61.06 Hugh Hughes, Greenville
7. 56.36 Hugh Brown, McCormick
8. 56.01 Gary Donner, Bluffton
9. 53.46 Fred Chisholm, Charleston
10. 53.46 Gideon Kochmann, John's Island
11. 52.82 Marvin Shatz, Hilton Head
12. 51.10 Tom Rutledge, Charlesaton
13. 47.84 Jeff Hepner, John's Island
14. 47.26 Larry and Ellen Allen

Congratulations to **Jeff Hepner** who led the 0-500 category in SC.

0-500 Players

- 1 Jeff Hepner, John's Island, 47.8
- 2 John and Barbara Kiebler, HHI, 41
- 3 George Moss, HHI, 39

- 4 Paula Duncan, Okatie, 39
- 5 Kathie Walsh, HHI, 37
- 6 Christal Kronenburg, HHI, 37
- 7 Fred Ferguson, HHI, 36
- 8 Sedley Roach, Aiken 36
- 9 Steven Gajdalo, HHI, 33
- 10 Lynn Pope, Aiken, 31
- 11 Werner Weingartner, HHI, 31

With so many outstanding results we can only list winners or second in two-session events or in top brackets of KO.s. All the results can be seen on mabcbridge.org the Mid-Atlantic website.

The Tuesday Senior KO was won by **Carol and Alan Keller** (HHI), **Lura McKinney** (Sav. GA) and **Nancy Atkins** now of Roswell GA. Congratulations for this outstanding win. In the same event, topping the second bracket were **Janet Labelle and Muriel Fields** (HHI) playing with Bruce Potter and Huston Mallory of MICH. Well done.

In the Morning KO, tops were **Wayne Hollingsworth and Richard Brown** and teammates Sam Marks and Emory Whitaker (GA) and Jo Morse (Palm Beach) and John Gassenheimer (NY). The second bracket was won by **Christel Kronenburg, Kathie Walsh (HHI), Gary Donner (Bluffton)**, and Deborah Murphy (CA). The 3rd Bracket was also won by SC players: **Patty Hays (N Charleston), Fred Chisholm, Tina Radding (Charleston), Jeff Hepner, Gideon Kochmann (John's Isl.)**, and Dave Smith (NC).

In the Fri-Sat KO, **Marvin Shatz and Ron Perry** (HHI) and GA teammates Liz Swanson and Joel Haywood won the second bracket. **Sandy Pierce** of Greenville and her GA teammates won the 3rd bracket. In that same event, it was a HHI fightout in the 6th bracket won by **Karen Ricker, Don Buchanan, Fred Ferguson, and Peter Wolf. John Hurd and Richard Guarneri** also managed second in the Friday Open Pairs.

In Saturday's Compact KO, **Virginia Bednar** (HHI) won the top bracket with help from her Colorado teammates Dennis Goldston, T. Yingst, and Bonnie Bagley. In Saturday's Open Pairs, **Jim Gentry** (formerly of Charleston) won the "X" category and 3rd overall playing with Chuck Kruger of NC. In that event, the B-C-D Section was won by **Marika Hallosy (Columbia) and Amelia Nelson** (Orangeburg). On that same day, James Stock (HHI) playing with Dan Suty of TX scored second in the Senior Pairs.

In the last KO (thank goodness), **Hugh Hughes (Greenville)**, Sue Cooper (Winston-Salem), Greg and Annalee Gault (Raleigh), **Stan Given** (N Myrtle Beach) and Len Case (Charlotte) won top bracket. These frequent teammates deserve much credit for upending the many good teams below them. In Bracket Two, **Giles Belski, Betty Burt** (N Myrtle Beach), **Jimmy Blackwell**

(Columbia), and Joe Waldon (NC) won first. The 4th Bracket was won by **Gayle Broudy, Jim Carleson (Isle of Palms), and Susan Neurnberger and Jack Webb** of Charleston.

In the two Swisses, **John Hurd and Rich Guarneri** of Charleston were 3rd on Thursday with professionals Dave Adams and Randy Pettit of Atlanta. But playing with **Andy and Spencer Hurd** on Sunday they came in Second! In fact, they crushed the winning team in the last round but **Wayne Hollingsworth, Richard Brown, Richard Potter** (NC), John Potter (FL), and Ulker Mutlu (FL) had such a big lead it didn't stop their well-earned victory. Flight X in this A/X Swiss was won by Tony Devereux (Pawleys Isl), Carl Becker (Charleston), Martin Johnson (Folly Beach) and Larry Hayslip (GA).

Ordering bridge supplies, books, cards, don't forget to support the ACBL. You can order online at acbl.org or use the ads in the bulletin.

If you are told that WEST has the heart queen in that Oldie #1, there is a difficulty still. Here is the only way to overcome it. At trick two, you begin running the six trump tricks. You MUST DISCARD THE DIAMOND ACE. Now finesse the heart jack, cash the heart king, and lead dummy's last diamond. All East can do is win the ace and exit with a diamond to your queen or with a heart to your ace. Your heart ace will drop the queen and your heart ten will be high.

BIG Games Department: Congratulations to **Clark Smart and Tony Devereux** who scored a 67.14% game in the ACBL-Wide Seniors game in Myrtle Beach Feb 23. And what can we say about the 73% club game won by **Giles Belski and Stan Given** on Feb 26th? Well, it wasn't as good as the 75% game played by **Mildred Villiani and Mary Myers** from earlier in the month. What are they serving at the games in Myrtle Beach?

♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠♣♦♥♠

Palmetto Pre-Empts is the quarterly publication of the SC Unit 160. Editor: Spencer Hurd, 171 Moultrie St, MSC-25, Charleston, SC, 29409 (hurds@citadel.edu). Copies are free to SC ACBL members. Just pick one up at your local club. Read it and pass it on (or save it and treasure it). More importantly, send in local news, player info, bridge hands, tips, and so on.

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