

er will be content with any third-round control in a particular suit? He should eschew Queenwood and ask about the critical suit directly. Thus:

<i>Opener</i>	<i>Responder</i>
2 ♣	2 ♦
2 ♠	4 ♠
5 ♦	

asks for slam opposite any third-round diamond control (and responder may

bid five hearts with third-round control there).

Other slam-useful values may be present in a weak responding hand, but we can't do everything. Although, as an admirer of dead English poets from Thomas Wyatt to Gerard Manley Hopkins, I would love to find a relevant rhyme for Blackwood, I have yet to devise Jackwood.

CLASSIC CREWIND

THE HOLD-UP

BY ALFRED P. SHEINWOLD

The hold-up is nothing very fancy or elegant. You are given the chance to win a trick, but you don't.

The most common purpose of a hold-up is to exhaust one opponent of the suit led.

North dealer; neither side vulnerable

		NORTH			
		♠ 6 2			
		♥ A 10 3			
		♦ K 6 2			
		♣ A Q J 8 5			
WEST		EAST			
♠ Q J 10 8 5		♠ K 9 3			
♥ 9 6 5 2		♥ 8 7 4			
♦ Q 7		♦ J 10 9 5			
♣ 6 4		♣ K 7 2			
		SOUTH			
		♠ A 7 4			
		♥ K Q J			
		♦ A 8 4 3			
		♣ 10 9 3			
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST		
—	—	1 ♣	Pass		
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	(All Pass)		

West leads spades, and South holds up his ace until the third round.

Using a valuable technique doesn't get much simpler, but it is important not to overgeneralize from that set-up. For example, many players who would never fail to make an appropriate hold-up play with only one stopper in the enemy's long suit sometimes fail to see the necessity for a hold-up with two stoppers.

South dealer
Neither side vulnerable

		NORTH			
		♠ K J			
		♥ K 5 2			
		♦ 10 9 5 4 2			
		♣ K 4 2			
WEST		EAST			
♠ 8 6 5		♠ 10 9 7 3 2			
♥ Q 10 8 6 3		♥ J 9			
♦ K 8 3		♦ A 7			
♣ J 5		♣ Q 9 6 3			
		SOUTH			
		♠ A Q 4			
		♥ A 7 4			
		♦ Q J 6			
		♣ A 10 8 7			
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST		
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	(All Pass)		

West leads the six...
clarer should duck i...
defense can do no b...
hearts. Declarer win...
monds, and there is...
the contract: East's c...
not be used to work...
declarer win the fir...
take care to win the...
mond trick, and the...
three hearts and twe...

It is uncommon, f...
sary to cut lines of...
a hold-up even wh...
stoppers in the oppo...

WEST
♠ 10 7 2
♥ J 10 9 8 5
♦ A 9 4
♣ Q 5

SOUTH WEST
1 ♥ Pass
2 NT Pass

West leads the...
South's best mov...
trick. (As the ca...
get home if he w...
guesses well ther...
probably continu...
a spade to dumm...
hold-up, execu...
cannot see any c...
to the ten and q...
South, a spade t...
diamond to the...
round of hearts.

West leads the six of hearts, and declarer should duck in both hands. The defense can do no better than continue hearts. Declarer wins and attacks diamonds, and there is no way to defeat the contract: East's diamond entry cannot be used to work on hearts. Should declarer win the first trick. East will take care to win the first defensive diamond trick, and the defense will take three hearts and two diamonds.

It is uncommon, but it may be necessary to cut lines of transportation with a hold-up even when you have *three* stoppers in the opponents' suit.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ A Q J 6		♠ K 9 5	
♥ 6 3		♥ 7 2	
♦ 10 8 2		♦ J 7 5 3	
♣ 9 8 4 3		♣ K 7 6 2	
WEST		SOUTH	
♠ 10 7 2		♠ 8 4 3	
♥ J 10 9 8 5		♥ A K Q 4	
♦ A 9 4		♦ K Q 6	
♣ Q 5		♣ A J 10	

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	(All Pass)

West leads the jack of hearts, and South's best move is to refuse the first trick. (As the cards lie, declarer can get home if he wins the first trick and guesses well thereafter.) The play will probably continue with a heart to South, a spade to dummy's queen (a defensive hold-up, executed largely because East cannot see any effective return), a club to the ten and queen, another heart to South, a spade to the jack and king, a diamond to the king and ace, a fourth round of hearts, a spade to the ace, the

thirteenth spade for a diamond discard, and another club finesse.

The danger in winning the first trick is that if the spade finesse is a loser, East, with a doubleton heart, would be able to win the first round of spades and continue the attack on hearts, helping West to establish the setting trick there.

The importance of shutting out a long suit may be so great that a hold-up is indicated even at the potential cost of a trick in the suit. A typical case:

North dealer; both sides vulnerable

NORTH		WEST		EAST	
♠ 9 7 2		♠ A 10 8 6 3		♠ J 5	
♥ A Q 4		♥ 10 7 6		♥ 9 8 3 2	
♦ K 6		♦ J 8 4 2		♦ Q 9 5 3	
♣ A Q 9 8 2		♣ 3		♣ K 7 5	
SOUTH		SOUTH		SOUTH	
♠ K Q 4		♠ K Q 4		♠ K Q 4	
♥ K J 5		♥ K J 5		♥ K J 5	
♦ A 10 7		♦ A 10 7		♦ A 10 7	
♣ J 10 6 4		♣ J 10 6 4		♣ J 10 6 4	

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 NT	Pass	1 ♣	Pass
		3 NT	(All Pass)

West starts with the six of spades to East's jack, and South must beware of taking this trick. The doubtful possibility for a second spade trick should be given up in favor of cutting the East-West linkage. If the club finesse should lose, declarer wants to be sure that East cannot return a spade (or, if he can, that the suit is harmless).

If the critical finesse were into the West hand, South would win the first trick to keep a stopper in spades.

Here is another illustration of making such a decision:

North dealer; both sides vulnerable

		NORTH	
		♠ 7 3	
		♥ 6 5 2	
		♦ K Q J 7 3	
		♣ A K 8	
WEST		EAST	
♠ Q 10 9 8 4		♠ K 6 2	
♥ —		♥ K 10 9 8 7 3	
♦ 9 8 4		♦ A 5 2	
♣ 9 7 4 3 2		♣ 6	
		SOUTH	
		♠ A J 5	
		♥ A Q J 4	
		♦ 10 6	
		♣ Q J 10 5	

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
—	—	1 ♦	1 ♥
Double*	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	(All Pass)

*In days of yore, doubles of overcalls were for penalty. Players intervened much more casually than they do today, and thus responders were much more bloodthirsty.

West leads the ten of spades, East puts up the king, and South should refuse to win the trick. The correct play hinges on South's placing East with the heart king and the diamond ace on the bidding. When South wins the third spade and attacks diamonds, the defense is helpless. However, if West held the ace of diamonds, the hold-up in spades would look foolish. If there were no revealing bidding, South's problem would be acute. Some good guessing is often indispensable.

The choice between a hold-up and the preservation of a potential second stopper sometimes depends on what the defenders do. I call this situation "Perkins' Choice," since Frank Perkins seems to have been the first to write about it. A simple case:

IMPROVE YOUR PLAY

Problem A

Rubber bridge; South dealer; E-W vul.

		NORTH	
		♠ 6 3	
		♥ 9 8	
		♦ Q 9 8 7 6 5	
		♣ A 6 2	
		SOUTH	
		♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 7	
		♥ A K 3 2	
		♦ —	
		♣ Q	
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	6 ♣	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	6 ♠	(All Pass)

West leads the diamond ace.

Plan the play.

Problem B

Rubber bridge; South dealer; E-W vul.

		NORTH	
		♠ A Q 7 5	
		♥ 3 2	
		♦ K 7	
		♣ 9 7 5 4 2	
		SOUTH	
		♠ J 6	
		♥ A K Q J 10 4	
		♦ J 5 4	
		♣ Q 10	
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Club ace, deuce, three, ten.

Club king, four, jack, queen.

Spade three, ?

Plan the play.

(Solutions on page 37.)

NORTH
♠ Q 6
♥ A J 5
♦ A Q 9 7
♣ J 10 5

WEST
♠ J 10 9 7 2
♥ 8 7 2
♦ 4 2
♣ K 8 6

SOUTH
♠ K 5 3
♥ K Q
♦ J 10 5
♣ A Q 9 7 3

West leads the jack of spades South's three notrump. Dum the queen. If that should hold declarer will run the jack of the queen of spades is captured, South holds up his king until the third round of spades runs the jack of diamonds.

Thus far, our examples of to exhaust an opponent have notrump contracts, because is much more common at notrump at a suit contract. At a suit shutting out a long suit can be accomplished through trump. However, the hold-up may be ably employed at a suit contract.

South dealer; East-West vulnerable

		NORTH	
		♠ 9 7 3	
		♥ K 10 5	
		♦ K Q 7 5 4	
		♣ K 8	
WEST		EAST	
♠ K Q J 6 2		♠ —	
♥ 6 2		♥ —	
♦ J 10		♦ —	
♣ 10 9 4 3		♣ —	

SOUTH
♠ A 10 5
♥ A Q J 9 3
♦ 8 6 2
♣ A 5

en of spades, East and South should k. The correct play placing East with the diamond ace en South wins the ecks diamonds, the However, if West onds, the hold-up k foolish. If there bidding, South's acute. Some good ispensable.

en a hold-up and a potential second depends on what call this situation ince Frank Perkins the first to write se:

Y
dealer; E-W vul.
TH
Q 7 5
2
7
7 5 4 2
H
K Q J 10 4
4
10
ORTH EAST
Pass Pass
ss Pass
e, ten.
queen.

page 37.)

NORTH
♠ Q 6
♥ A J 5
♦ A Q 9 7 3
♣ J 10 5

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

WEST
♠ J 10 9 7 2
♥ 8 7 2
♦ 4 2
♣ K 8 6

EAST
♠ A 8 4
♥ 10 9 6 4 3
♦ K 8 6
♣ 4 2

SOUTH
♠ K 5 3
♥ K Q
♦ J 10 5
♣ A Q 9 7 3

West leads the jack of spades against South's three notrump. Dummy puts up the queen. If that should hold the trick, declarer will run the jack of clubs. If the queen of spades is captured by the ace, South holds up his king of spades until the third round of spades, then runs the jack of diamonds.

Thus far, our examples of hold-ups to exhaust an opponent have been at notrump contracts, because this form is much more common at notrump than at a suit contract. At a suit contract, shutting out a long suit can usually be accomplished through trump control. However, the hold-up may be profitably employed at a suit contract.

South dealer; East-West vulnerable

NORTH
♠ 9 7 3
♥ K 10 5
♦ K Q 7 5 4
♣ K 8

WEST
♠ K Q J 6 2
♥ 6 2
♦ J 10
♣ 10 9 4 3

EAST
♠ 8 4
♥ 8 7 4
♦ A 9 3
♣ Q J 7 6 2

SOUTH
♠ A 10 5
♥ A Q J 9 3
♦ 8 6 2
♣ A 5

West leads the king of spades, and South visualizes the possible loss of two diamonds and two spades. If West has the ace of diamonds, all will be well; but to provide against a less fortunate location of that card, declarer should refuse the first trick. South takes the second spade, draws two rounds of trumps, and leads a diamond to dummy's queen, which holds. Declarer returns to his hand with a third round of trumps and leads a diamond to dummy's king. Now East wins but, thanks to the hold-up at the first trick, is unable to lead a spade. Declarer wins the club shift in hand and establishes diamonds.

Such a hold-up is usually not without risk. Sometimes the second round of a suit is ruffed. Such risks must be faced calmly. Five-card suits are more common than six-card suits, and declarer should focus on the most probable distribution.

At a suit contract, a hold-up may be employed to prevent the defenders from destroying declarer's entries.

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		NORTH	
		♠ 9 4 3	
		♥ 6 2	
		♦ A 9 6	
		♣ A K 8 4 3	
WEST		EAST	
♠ Q J 5		♠ 10 6	
♥ K Q J 9 5		♥ 10 8 3	
♦ 8 7 3		♦ K Q 10 4	
♣ 9 5		♣ Q J 7 2	
		SOUTH	
		♠ A K 8 7 2	
		♥ A 7 4	
		♦ J 5 2	
		♣ 10 6	
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	(All Pass)

West leads the king of hearts. This is a customary hold-up, but its purpose is neither to shut out a long heart suit nor to deprive the opponents of a heart trick. Instead, the object is to enable South to ruff a heart in dummy

at a time of his own choosing. West continues with the queen of hearts to South's ace. Declarer lays down the ace and king of spades, follows with the ace and king of clubs, and ruffs a club. West may overruff or not. In any case, dummy can be entered once with a heart ruff, to enable South to ruff another club, and again with the ace of diamonds, to enable South to cash dummy's last club.

Note how this plan comes to naught if South wins the first trick. He can do nothing better than return a heart at once. West wins and leads a third heart, punching an entry out of dummy before the establishment of the clubs has begun. Nor will it do declarer any good to start on clubs before giving up a heart. When he ruffs the third round of clubs, West overruffs and shifts to diamonds, leaving declarer helpless.

CLASSIC REWIND

PLANNING A PSEUDOSQUEEZE

BY TERENCE REESE

If you play out your long suit and an opponent throws the wrong card, you have not effected a squeeze or even a pseudosqueeze worthy of the name. Nevertheless, guile is useful.

[See next column.]

After East had opened one spade, South became declarer at five clubs. Spades were led, but East quite rightly did not attempt to cash three tricks in the suit. If he had, declarer could have played all the trumps and four rounds of diamonds, finishing in dummy and squeezing East between the major suits.

		NORTH	
		♠ 9 7 6 4	
		♥ 8 2	
		♦ A Q 6 3	
		♣ K Q 2	
WEST		EAST	
♠ Q 8 5		♠ A K J 10	
♥ 10 7 6 5 3		♥ K Q 9 4	
♦ 10 8 5		♦ J 4	
♣ 9 4		♣ 7 5 3	
		SOUTH	
		♠ 3 2	
		♥ A J	
		♦ K 9 7 2	
		♣ A J 10 8 6	

East prevented this by leading the king of hearts to the third trick.

That should have settled the matter, but it didn't. Declarer cashed clubs, finishing in dummy, the six of diamonds to the king. The round of trumps was won in dummy and a spade was ruffed. The ace of diamonds was played, followed by the diamonds to the queen, the ace of diamonds, on which the ace was played from South's hand. The

		NORTH	
		♠ 9	
		♥ —	
		♦ 3	
		♣ —	
WEST		EAST	
♠ —		♠ —	
♥ 10 7		♥ J	
♦ —		♦ 2	
♣ —		♣ —	
		SOUTH	
		♠ —	
		♥ J	
		♦ 2	
		♣ —	

The three of diamonds was cashed from dummy. East thought for a moment. That couldn't be the king of diamonds, could it? No, South still had the ace. So East threw the jack of spades. A moment later was telling the king of how he had pulled the wrong card. He hadn't seen which card was

IMPROVE

Rubber bridge; South dealer; both vul.

		NORTH (dummy)	
		♠ J 3	
		♥ J 6	
		♦ A K Q 2	
		♣ A K 10 7 4	