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**Todd D. Mateer\*** (tmateer@clemson.edu), 843 Isaqueena Trail #140, Central, SC 29630. *Video poker in South Carolina.*

Video poker is a popular gambling game which has recently been a hot topic in South Carolina. In this talk, after giving some background on video poker and its history in South Carolina, the effects of the machine's payoff tables and the player's strategy on the expected return of the game will be explored. It turns out that it is possible to achieve a positive expected return on certain Las Vegas machines. However, it can be shown that the payoff tables for machines found in South Carolina together with a state mandated \$125 maximum daily limit significantly reduce the expected return and make potentially winning video poker machines into losing machines. Some long-term results that a player should consider before attempting to play even the winning games for an extended period of time will be given. This research was done for a Master's thesis written by the named author under the direction of Dr. Joel Brawley of Clemson University. A more detailed summary of the research can be found at <http://www.strom.clemson.edu/publications/gambling/pokermath.pdf> (Received September 15, 2000)