1086-91-94   **Andrew Niedermaier*** (`aniedermaier@janestreet.com`), 1 New York Plaza, 33rd Floor, New York, NY 10004. *Colonel Blotto Returns.* Preliminary report.

Have you met Colonel Blotto? His task is a doozy: split his army of 100 soldiers and send them to fight at 10 different castles. The opposing army is also sending 100 soldiers to the same 10 castles. At each castle, the larger army wins. In order to maximize his (expected) number of castles won, should Blotto split his army evenly, or opt for an asymmetric strategy?

Four years ago I introduced the basic Blotto game to the Joint Meetings and invited the audience to play along. Now I want to share with you some results that I've seen over the past several years of playing Blotto with undergrads, high school olympiad champions, and Wall Street professionals.

From linear programming to game theory to genetic algorithms to marginal returns, I hope to show that Blotto can be used in the classroom as an enjoyable way to touch on a wide range of topics. (Received July 15, 2012)