

1996 las vegas open

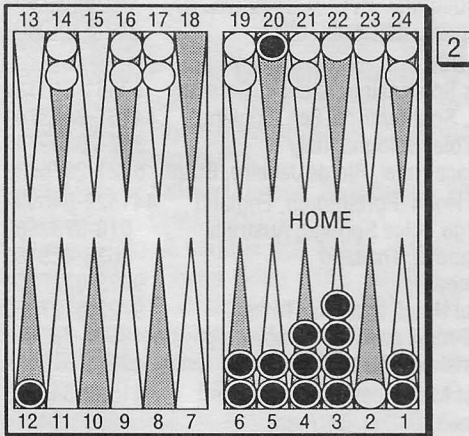
MAX IS BACK!

Tony Goble Wins Super Jackpot

How fitting that a Las Vegas should win the Las Vegas Open. And what better Las Vegas than Michael Maxakuli? "Max" Maxakuli, editor of the acclaimed *Las Vegas Backgammon Magazine* from 1978 to 1982, outlasted a determined Eliot Bean (Los Angeles) to win the Nevada Backgammon Association's fall event—his first major win since 1982. Howard Markowitz and staff ably directed the tournament, held 6–10 November at the Riviera Hotel.

Maxakuli, a copy editor for Globenet news company, marched through a strong 95 player field before reaching Eliot Bean in the 17-point finals. After taking an early 6–2 lead, Eliot was challenged with a pesky 6-4 roll:

17-point finals. Eliot Bean (White) leads Michael Maxakuli (Black), 6 to 2. **WHITE TO PLAY 6-4.**

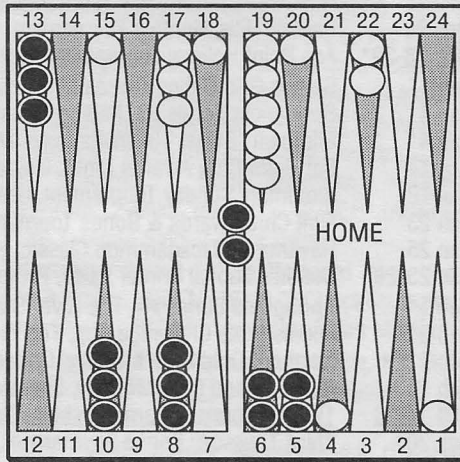


"You've got the whole world. The whole world is yours," commented Maxakuli as Bean pondered his play. Eventually he moved 2/12*. Max replied with a 3-1 hitting (B/22*) and slotting his 2-point (3/2). Eliot fanned and Max just missed a gammon by one roll.

The tide turned for Maxakuli, who went on top 15–10 in game 16, but after game 22, the score was knotted at 16-all. Here's

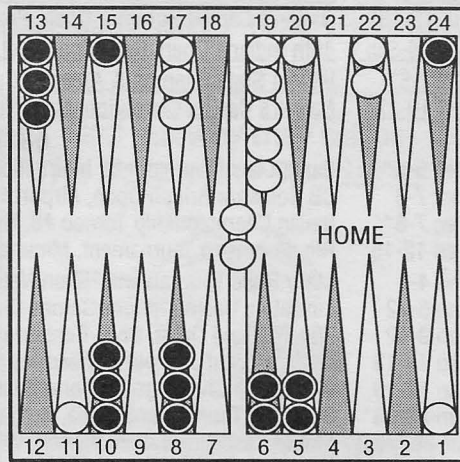
a position from the final game with Max (playing the Black pieces) on shake:

Double match-point. **BLACK ON ROLL.**



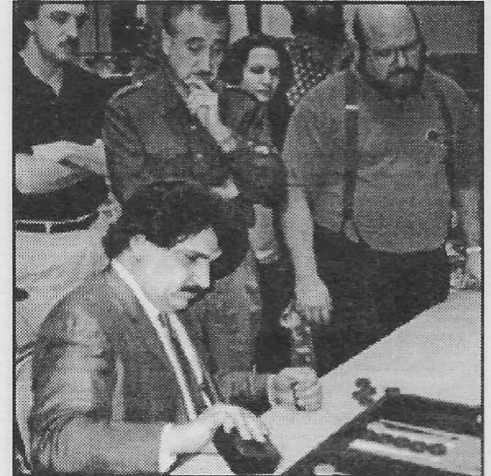
Two rolls later, we think Eliot Bean (White) would agree with Barclay Cooke that backgammon is the "Cruellest Game":

Two rolls later. **WHITE ON ROLL.**



Eliot ended up in a poorly-timed deuce game and Maxakuli went on to claim the title.

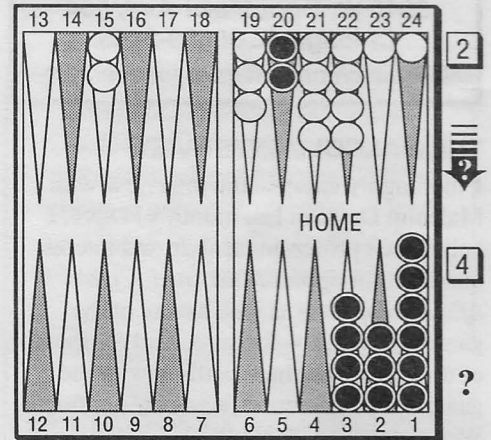
THE SUPER JACKPOT tournament carries a \$3,000 entry effectively weeding out lightweight players. Tony Goble, former owner of the Paradise Club in Nassau, and a seasoned backgammon pro defeated Paul Magriel, Hal Heinrich, and Harvey Huie just to get the chance to face last year's winner Mike Senkiewicz (NY) in the 19-point finals. He didn't choke.



Las Vegas Open Champion Michael Maxakuli rolling to victory.

Leading 1-0, Senkiewicz tested Goble with a loose recube to 4. An intimidated player might drop, but Goble scooped it up:

Super JP 19-pt. finals. Mike Senkiewicz (White) leads Tony Goble (Black) 1 to 0. White on roll. **CUBE ACTION(S)?**



Senk left a shot with 6-2. Goble missed, but it was a good miss: 4-4. He eventually gained enough of a race lead to rewhip an 8-cube. Now it was Senkiewicz who correctly backed down. Goble went on to win a hard-fought battle by the final score of 19–17.

Congratulations to all the other winners and to the director and staff of the Nevada Backgammon Association. It was another

[Continued on page 5]

CHICAGO POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

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LETTERS

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THE MALCOLM INTERVIEW

I thoroughly enjoyed the interview with Malcolm Davis in last month's POINT. I believe it's professional style and interest qualify it for *Sports Illustrated*, *Cigar Aficionado*, *Time* as well as any of the game magazines—for sure. And for those of us who are out here battling with the game of backgammon, it was inspirational. Well done CHICAGO POINT!—*Lee Hoge, Saratoga Springs, NY*

THE POINT GIRL

Love the Point Girl on the Chicago Point OnLine Web Page <<http://homepage.interaccess.com/~chipoint>>. The backgammon information is great, too.—*Charles Viola, Evanston, IL*

I read about the Point Girl in last month's "Letters" section and the following question

[Continued on page 3]

coming attractions

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BACKGAMMON						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

by Carol Joy Cole

810/232-9731

E-mail: cjc@flint.org

* Denotes new or revised listing

American Backgammon Tour events underlined.

NATIONAL

Dec 6-8	<u>37th Gammon Assoc. Invitational, Holiday Inn, Woodland Hills, CA</u>	818/901-0464
Dec 7	Midtown "Sweet 16" Invitational, Midtown Club, New York, NY	212/935-9800
Dec 7	Springfield Series #2, Ride the Nine, Bloomington, IL	217/528-0117
Dec 8	Last Bar Point Sunday Tourney at Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL	773/252-7755
Dec 15	Backgammon By The Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	510/838-7789
Dec 15	New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA	508/829-3283
Dec 19	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Dec 22	Jackpot Tournament, Promenade Cardroom, Behtesda, MD	301/530-0604
Dec 26*	Flint Area Club Holiday Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Dec 28	Beverly Hills Monthly Tournament, Clarine's, Beverly Hills, CA	310/273-1632
Dec 28-29*	Ace Point Holiday Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, NY	212/753-0842
Jan 1*	Games Grid Online Tournament, via computer modem	E-mail: lainer@vianet.on.ca
Jan 4	Springfield Series #3, Parkers Sports Bar, Springfield, IL	217/528-0117
Jan 4*	Midtown "Sweet 16" Invitational, Midtown Club, New York, NY	212/935-9800
Jan 14	Bar Point Club Awards Night, Golden Flame, Chicago, IL	773/583-6464
Jan 19*	Bimonthly Sunday Tournament, Greentree Marriott Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA	412/823-7500
Jan 23*	Flint Club Awards & Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Jan 25	Hawthorne Backgammon Classic, Hawthorne Race Course, Cicero, IL	773/583-6464
Jan 25-26*	Nation's Capital Winter Open, Promenade, Bethesda, MD	301/530-0604
Feb 1*	Springfield Series #4, The River Station, Peoria, IL	217/528-0117
Feb 2*	Illinois State Challenge Cup, The River Station, Peoria, IL	773/583-6464
Feb 2*	Northern Ohio Club Monthly, Coffee Configure@tions, Akron, OH	330/966-2811
Feb 9*	New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA	508/829-3283
Feb 14-16	<u>19th Pittsburgh Championships, Greentree Marriott, Pittsburgh, PA</u>	412/823-7500
Feb 20*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Mar 1*	Springfield Series #5, Parkers Sports Bar, Springfield, IL	217/528-0117
Mar 16*	New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA	508/829-3283
Mar 21-23	<u>1997 Midwest Championships, The Drake Oakbrook, Oak Brook, IL</u>	773/583-6464
Apr 12-13*	Nation's Capital Spring Open, Promenade, Bethesda, MD	301/530-0604
Apr 22-27	4th Worldwide Twin Championships, Four Queens Hotel, Las Vegas, NV	702/893-6025
May 23-26	<u>18th Annual Chicago Open, Wyndham Hamilton Hotel, Itasca, IL</u>	847/674-0120
Jul 3-6	<u>Michigan Summer Championships, Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi, MI</u>	810/232-9731
Jul 12-13*	Nation's Capital Summer Open, Promenade, Bethesda, MD	301/530-0604
Aug 29-Sep 1	<u>45th Indiana Open, Radisson Hotel, Indianapolis, IN</u>	317/255-8902
Oct 2-5*	<u>Illinois State Champs & America Cup, Holidome, Rolling Meadows, IL</u>	847/945-7801
Oct 10-12*	<u>Nation's Capital Championships, Promenade, Bethesda, MD</u>	301/530-0604

OUTSIDE USA

Dec 5-8*	Santa Claus Tournament, Internationales Spielcasino, Aachen, Germany	49561-313134
Dec 7-8	CB Software British Open, Airport Hotel, Southend-on-Sea, England	44161-9453741
Dec 7-8*	Italian Championship Torneo #8, Hotel Zola, Bologna, Italy	392-29409743
Dec 12-15	Rio de Janeiro Tournament, Miramar Palace Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	5521-2676033
Jan 4-5	Mary Rose Tournament, Hilton National Hotel, Portsmouth, England	441522-546993
Jan 5-12	Lasseters Casino Indoor Games Challenge, Alice Springs, Australia	018-3732580
Jan 9-12	2nd Thailand Open, Style Restaurant, Pattaya, Thailand	6638-425189
Jan 10-13	World's Giant Jackpot & Warm-up Tourney	9723-6727063
Jan 13-19	World Cup Challenge III, Conrad Istanbul Hotel, Istanbul, Turkey	9723-6727063
Jan 22-26*	Soothing Tournament, Sofia, Bulgaria. E-mail: gammon@mbox.digsys.bg	3592-723612
Jan 30-Feb 2*	Monte Cassel Cup, Schloßhotel, Wilhelmshöhe, Kassel, Germany	49561-313134
Feb 15-16	Jarvis Trophy, Hilton National Hotel, East Midlands Airport, England	441522-546993
Feb 27-Mar 2*	Einladungsturnier, Hotel am Kaiserbrunnen, Brakel, Germany	49521-64314
Feb 27-Mar 2*	11th Cannes Festival of Games, Hotel Majestic, Cannes, France	4161-3315876
Mar 5-9	Grand Prix de Lugano, Hotel Splendid Royal, Lugano, Switzerland	4179-3374425
Mar 11-12	2nd European Pro-Am Team Championship, Palace Hotel, Gstaad, Switz	4161-2710137
Mar 13-16	Trophée des Alpes: Ted Basset Cup, Palace Hotel, Gstaad, Switzerland	4161-2710137
Mar 20-23	Trophée des Alpes: St. Moritz, Badrutt's Palace Hotel, St. Moritz, Switz	4161-2710137
Mar 28-31	9th Nordic "Wide" Open, Scandinavia Hotel, Copenhagen, Denmark	4539-400607
Apr 12-13	British Open, Hilton National Hotel, East Midlands Airport, England	441522-546993
May 1-7	3rd EBN Internat'l Tournament, San Juan los Terreros, Almeria, Spain	34950-133009
May 3-4*	Italian Championship Torneo #11, Hotel Ritz, Rome, Italy	392-29409743
May 16-18*	2nd Istrian Open, Hotel Parentium, Porec, Parenzo, Croatia	392-40073420
May 17-18*	County Cups Trophy, Hilton Nat'l Hotel, East Midlands Airport, England	441522-546993
Jul 7-13*	Monte-Carlo World Championship, Loews Monte-Carlo Hotel, Monaco	305/527-4033

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

occurs to me: How would the male readership feel about directing a colleague interested in backgammon to the Chicago Point


website—if the Point Girl was a Point Boy?
—Hal Heinrich, Calgary AB, Canada

READING THE LABEL

According to my mailing label, my subscription ran out on the 6th of October. Hope I'm not too late to get the November

Point. I sure don't want to miss any issues.—Marjean Streitmatter, Peoria, IL


You won't, Marjean. Your label reads "Exp.: 106" which is not the date (10/6) but the date of your final issue (#106). With your new check, you're subscribed through issue #118.—Ed.



ABT
AMERICAN
BACKGAMMON
TOUR ★ 1996

AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 1996

Top 100 through 1 Dec. 1996 after 19 tournaments
(One tournament remains: 37th Gammon Assoc. Invitational)



ABT
AMERICAN
BACKGAMMON
TOUR ★ 1996

Dennis Culpepper	41.11	Carl Adamec	10.96	Kevin Muench	5.86	Lou Florio	3.92
Dave Cardwell	31.30	Bill Talmadge	10.80	Elijah Miller	5.70	Lee Genud	3.91
Art Benjamin	30.00	Leslie Lockett	10.78	Francois Margot	5.67	Joann Feinstein	3.90
Tak Morioka	29.02	Kit Woolsey	10.40	Reza Nowbar	5.67	Drew Giovanis	3.87
Jake Jacobs	27.88	Bob Glass	10.00	Ray Glaeser	5.67	Doug Roberts	3.85
John O'Hagan	27.53	Paul Magriel	10.00	Jeff Acierno	5.61	Mike Ungerleider	3.82
David Jaffe	22.68	David Wells	9.67	Zar Petkov	5.46	Ray Gronck	3.82
Matt Reklaitis	20.01	Dean Muench	9.66	Bob Koca	5.38	Gus Contos	3.79
Dave Williams	20.00	Judy Collins	9.14	Fred Badagnani	5.29	Odis Chenault	3.79
Bruce Brown	18.00	Bill Davis	9.00	Chester Warzel	5.29	Dave Cramer	3.45
Ali Haddad	17.31	Jim Pascoe	8.52	James Rosten	5.20	Jerry Ungar	3.43
Linda MacLean	15.50	Greg Lilley	8.35	Carol Leatherman	5.17	Lloyd Hilling	3.38
Harry Cohn	15.48	Mario Sequeira	8.25	David Montgomery	5.05	Neil Kazaross	3.37
Ernest Ho	15.21	Andy Krenitz	7.80	Dean Adamian	4.80	Frank Dickerson	3.33
Hersel Namdar	14.45	Blake Sorem	7.60	Ed Abou-Zeid	4.62	Georgina Flanagan	3.32
Marc Ingenoso	13.30	Steve Petersen	7.60	Al Tesoro	4.62	Ed Johnson	3.28
Bruce Pollack	12.93	Al Jones	7.50	Ralph Stowell	4.50	Jonathan Bennetts	3.25
Howard Levine	12.88	Jolie Rubin	7.23	Bob Bishop	4.44	Paul Friedman	3.20
Janice Newman	12.54	Neil Young	7.18	Jack Kissane	4.44	Pete Ryder	3.15
Andy Palumbo	12.53	David Rockwell	6.90	Perry Gartner	4.41	Ray Baker	3.15
Kent Goulding	11.53	Ray Fogelund	6.75	Dan Shapiro	4.41	John Gdowik	3.06
Rob Maier	11.44	Austin Healy	6.44	Frank Klein	4.20	Lee Pflugrad	3.01
Abdi Zaltash	11.34	Tim Mabee	6.40	Jim Mieske	4.16	Ron Weiner	2.89
Wally Watson	11.34	Marty Storer	6.30	Clarine	4.13	Jeff Kaiserman	2.84
Dave Groner	11.13	Joe Miller	5.94	Ron Brunts	4.12	Ray Bills	2.84

TOUCH MOVE COMPROMISE


We play an interesting compromise touch move rule at our Armenian Backgammon Association tournaments. One pair of small dice is used without dice cups. A player may move his pieces around on the board, but when his hand leaves the last piece (thus completing the move), his turn ends. Only at this time can the opponent pick up the shared pair of dice.

By the way, I have been told that in some areas of the Middle East, if a player looks at a piece too long, his opponent will move the piece for him and proceed with his roll of the dice. Wouldn't that be interesting!—Robert (Father Bob) Sahagian, Teaneck, NJ

PLAY PLACES

I live in the Kansas City area and cannot find any tournament play. Can you tell me if there are any clubs in this area?—Richard Homburger, University of Kansas

Check our January 1997 issue for an updated listing of Backgammon Clubs in North America.—Ed. Δ



CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB

CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 1996 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED
THRU 30 NOV.

Neil Kazaross	28.80	Bill Davis	5.80	John Jennings	2.48	Jim Painter	0.88
Herb Roman	19.36	Bobbie Shifrin	5.68	David Rubin	2.16	Jolie Rubin	0.82
Tim Mabee	18.04	Jeff Kane	5.48	Jon Vietor	2.16	Sarg Serges	0.80
Richard Lloyd	16.88	Phil Simborg	5.36	Elaine Kehm	1.98	Don Marek	0.80
Reggie Porter	16.32	John Stryker	5.20	Fred Badagnani	1.92	Fred Gehlhoff	0.72
Paul Friedman	15.44	Paul Klein	4.96	Henry Gray	1.60	Scott Richardson	0.68
Jake Jacobs	14.96	Arlene Levy	4.84	Marcy Sloan	1.52	David Flinn	0.64
Andy Krenitz	14.80	Wendy Kaplan	4.80	Nora Luna	1.44	Marv Arnol	0.60
Peter Kalba	14.60	Steve Klesker	4.48	Harold Seif	1.28	Peaches Stewart	0.56
Paul Franks	13.28	Tak Morioka	4.32	Russell Harris	1.28	Roz Ferris	0.56
Harry Cohn	11.92	Georgina Flanagan	4.24	Dave Cramer	1.28	Arlyne Simon	0.56
Joann Feinstein	11.84	Amy Valerio	4.12	Matt Surecki	1.28	Dave Groner	0.48
Phyllis Smolinski	11.22	Tim Serges	4.08	V.W. Zimnicki	1.20	Richard Stawowy	0.44
Stu Katz	10.24	Bill Keefe	3.92	Bruce Pollack	1.20	Elijah Miller	0.42
John Demian	9.88	Marty Tatosian	3.84	Ernest Ho	1.12	Tom Fahland	0.40
Mary Franks	9.24	Bob Koca	3.84	Ralph Levy	1.02	Boris Mindich	0.30
Norma Shyer	8.36	Leslie Lockett	3.80	Wally Wolf	0.96	Femi Owiku	0.28
Gary Kay	8.16	Dean Muench	3.80	George Barr	0.92	Elaine Andrews	0.24
Ken Bond	7.52	Don Jayhan	3.40	Darryl Purpose	0.88	Travis Kane	0.20
Ed Buerger	6.44	Jerry Brooks	2.88	Mark King	0.88	Nan Feiber	0.20
Alice Kay	6.40	Frankie Farjood	2.80	Gary Fries	0.88	Scott Kaplan	0.16

The November Player of the Month is **PETER KALBA**. Peter earned points on every November play date including a win on 12 November. Neil Kazaross (2.96) and Tak Morioka (2.56) placed 2nd and 3rd.

773

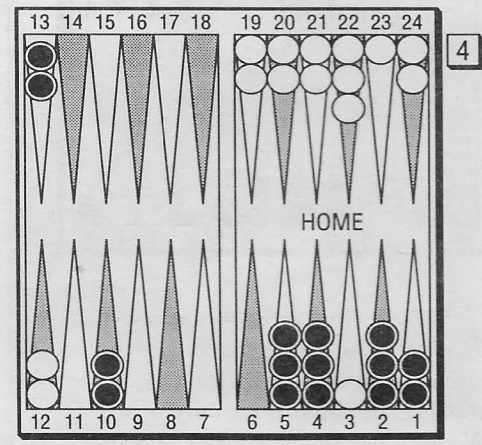
New Chicago Point Area
Code: Phone & Fax

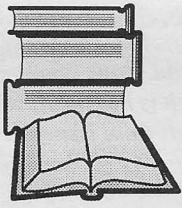
your move

PROBLEM #230

to be analyzed by Kit Woolsey

Match to 7 points. Black leads White, 1 to 0. White is holding a 4-cube. **BLACK TO PLAY 2-2.**





BACKGAMMON Upside Down

Danny Kleinman's review of the new Kit Woolsey/Hal Heinrich book:
NEW IDEAS IN BACKGAMMON

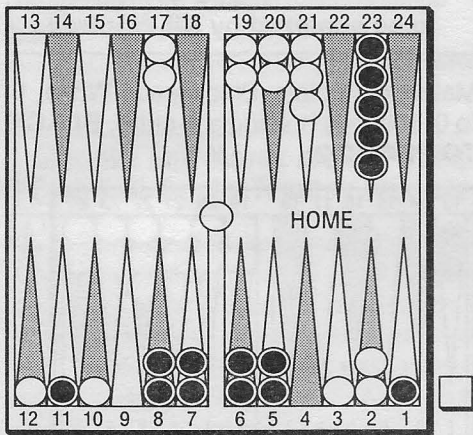
New Ideas In Backgammon ©1996 by Kit Woolsey and Hal Heinrich. Published by the Gammon Press, P.O. Box 294; Arlington, MA 02174. Soft cover, 336 pages. Price: \$40. [Postage: \$4 (Surface overseas: \$5). Air Europe, S.A.: \$15, Pacific: \$20]

What if what we know is wrong? The problem below arose in a match. Bear with me for a few seconds while I analyze it, though that is far more time than most experts would take to play at the table, or than I would spend on it while annotating the match.

We know what Black's priorities are. With five men piled on the deucepoint behind a broken prime and ten men far advanced on Black's side of the board, it is vital to escape before crashing. As it stands, only 5s escape. By advancing 23/22 with the ace, Black activates 6s and 4s as escaping numbers. Then the deuce becomes obvious: 11/9 is the only move that keeps Black's 4-prime, his only asset. Do you agree?

Of course I might devote considerable time to criticizing Black if he played anything but 23/22, 11/9.

Match play. Ignore score considerations. Black owns the doubling cube. **BLACK TO PLAY 2-1.**



In *New Ideas in Backgammon*, Kit Woolsey tells us that we are wrong. Not just a little wrong, but wrong by a mile: by about 0.588 points if the cube is at 2. Is Woolsey playing with a full deck?

Yes. Woolsey is playing with two full decks. Coincidentally, this, the last problem in his book, is #104, twice the number of cards in a single deck, but those are not the two decks he is playing with.

Woolsey's first deck is Jellyfish™, the state-of-the-art "neural network" program created by Fredrik Dahl, who supplied routines to facilitate special rollouts. Working with many expert matches selected from Hal Heinrich's massive database, Woolsey set Jellyfish™ to rolling out every play in search of significant errors made by the experts. Then he applied several successive filters to make sure Jellyfish was right and the players were wrong, culminating in 10,638 full cross-sectional rollouts per play (cubeless).

Might Jellyfish™ have mishandled some positions? Yes. Recognizing this, Woolsey discarded all problems for which Jellyfish's errors might distort rollout results. When he finished, Woolsey had problems for which the right answers were *known*.

Might the errors detected be the careless lapses that even experts suffer in the heat of long, hard matches—errors that have little instructive value? To guard against this, Woolsey checked Heinrich's and his own answers against the rollouts, and discarded any problem they both got right. Then he submitted the remaining problems to a panel of eight experts. More than five right answers disqualified a problem. Thus the book contains only problems in which what we "know" is wrong.

If Woolsey were playing only with this deck, I would dismiss the book as a mere museum piece of curiosities. His second deck, however, contains his own first-rate insight and analysis. After ascertaining which counter-intuitive plays are definitely right, he tries to figure out *why* they are right. Then he points out in clear detail, the features of the positions that justify the unusual plays.

Note that Woolsey's procedure inverts the usual. Knowledge of the right play leads to insightful analysis. In the best problem book of the 1970s, *Paradoxes and Probabilities*, the late Barclays Cooke used his own expert insights to point out the best plays and the reasons for them. The analysis led to the play. Keen as Cooke's insights were, his answers were often wrong.

You won't find many wrong answers in Woolsey's book. You can trust his careful methodology—the best collaboration between man and machine yet shown.

How can you use the book? You'll find a few general themes—such as the sometimes-overlooked value of points deep in your home board, the potency of points exactly six pips away from a gap in your board, and the effectiveness of several indirect covers for a slot when they can be brought together to form other useful points on rolls that fail to cover—to enlighten you.

Woolsey does conclude each problem with a brief reminder of the key insight. You'll do better still, however, to use the book to train your vision of the board to include more subtle features of each position. Study the book intensively and put it aside for a while—long enough to forget the answers to all the problems. Then return to the book and examine the problems freshly. You will look into them more deeply, and see the answers more quickly.

LOOK AGAIN AT PROBLEM #104. This is what I see the second time around:

- Regardless of how he plays, Black is in a desperate position. With five men back (six, if White rolls an ace) to White's four, and far fewer playable pips in the outfield, Black faces highly probable defeat in a priming battle. Perhaps Black should seek another path to victory: attack, and escape while White is on the bar. Prefer a battlefield on which you are more likely to win (another general theme of the book).
- Some of Black's 6s and 4s (the ones accompanied by 5s and 1s) escape even if Black stays on the deucepoint. The need to advance 23/22 would be substantially greater if White's bar-point weren't open.
- White's blot on Black's 10-point provides a reservoir of precious playable pips, a potential hitter for Black's escapes, and (along with White's other outfield checker material) to extend White's prime.
- Given Black's desperate plight, he'll need to get lucky to win. Black's best

[Continued on page 5]

UPSIDE DOWN...

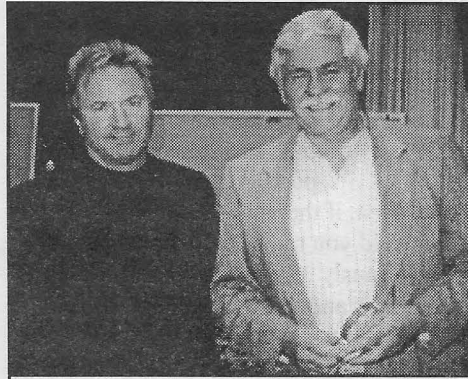
[Continued from page 4]

- hope of luck, besides rolling double-5s when not on the bar, is White's crashing.
- The hit 11/10*, followed by moving 10/8 to safety, leaves both sides with five men back.
- If Black puts a blot on his 9-point, then White's 1-6, 2-6, 3-6, 4-6 and 4-5 from the bar wreak havoc. That gives White only three men back, and three in the outfield to play with, while Black remains with six or seven men back and no spares on his own side of the board.
- After 11/10*, 10/8, White's ten otherwise nasty hitting rolls leave her with a man still on the bar.
- 11/19*, 10/8 does *two* good things (sends White's man back and safeties Black's blot), but 23/22, 11/9 does only *one* (activates more escaping numbers). This is an old theme, of course, but one that recurs in Woolsey's book.

Are you convinced that 11/10*, 10/8 is by far the best play? If not, perhaps you should read Kit Woolsey's analysis, which differs from mine in detail and emphasis. Even if you don't need Woolsey's help to see the right play in Problem #104, however, you will in many other positions.—
Danny Kleinman Δ

MAX IS BACK...

[Continued from page 1]



Super Jackpot champion Tony Goble (left) with Limited JP winner Andy Palumbo.

job well done.

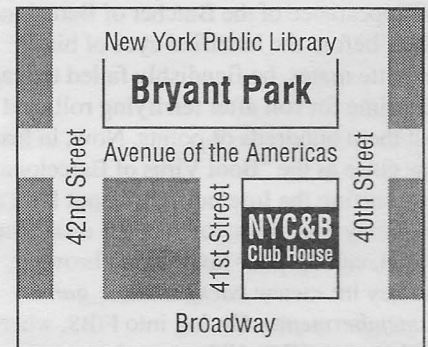
AT THE TOURNAMENT, Markowitz announced the World Series of Backgammon. Winning a 16-player \$150 qualifier earns you \$600 and a place in the round-of-128 at next year's Las Vegas Open. First prize will be \$100,000. More on this event in the January POINT. Complete results:

1996 LAS VEGAS OPEN

CHAMPIONSHIP (95): 1-Michael Maxakuli (NV), 2-Eliot Bean (CA), 3/4-Diane Haley (TX) / Babak Mojahed; 1C-Bill Phipps (WA), 2C-Ron Karr (CA); 1LC-Mike Corbett (FL). INTERMEDIATE (105): 1-Rudy Citrom (CA), 2-Marianne Rosen (CA), 3/4- Lloyd Hilling (AK) / John Mansey (MA); 1C-Reid Vogelmann (WI), 2C-J.A. Miller (IL); 1LC- Mick Dale (WA). BEGINNER (30): 1-AI Mason (MA), 2-Kazuko Numazawa (Japan), 3/4-Matt MaGwire / Gail Latter (MI); 1C-Karsten Busch (Germany), 2C-Ron Dumont (CA); 1LC-Gandolph Ascittuo (NY). SUPER JACKPOT (15): 1-Tony Goble (TX), 2- Mike Senkiewicz (NY). LIMITED JACKPOT (64): 1-Andy Palumbo (NY), 2- Arnold Zousmer (CA). DOUBLES (32): 1-Antonio Ortega (Costa Rica) & Neal Kupferman (OR), 2-Jorge Tsao (Costa Rica) & Dennis Rutkowski (CA). OVERFLOW DOUBLES (8): 1-Harry Brown (MI) & Larry Leibster (NJ). FIBS PLAYERS TOURNEY (32): 1-Steve Jacobson "Iax" (NJ), 2-Steve Clark "gammonKing" (CA). LADIES TOURNAMENT (27): 1-Antoinette Williams (NY), 2-Wendy Kaplan (IL). SENIORS TOURNAMENT (32): 1-Arnold Zousmer (CA), 2-Jonathan Bennetts (Canada). BLITZ TOURNEY: 1-Maureen Wasley (CA), 2-Zohreh Zafarianian (TX). WORLD SERIES OF BACKGAMMON QUALIFIERS #1-Jake Jacobs (IL), #2-Bob Glass (CA). AFTER TOURNAMENT TOURNAMENT Open: Jorge Tsao (Costa Rica). Intermediate: Marty Ronek (NY)

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Bill Davis
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Peter Kalba
773/252-7755

Sunday Bimonthly, 12:30 P.M. at Braxton Seafood Grill, 3 Oakbrook Center Mall, Oak Brook; 708/574-2155.

PUB CLUB: Tourn. Monday, 7:30 P.M. at Harpo's, 290 S. Schmale, Carol Stream. V. W. Zimnicki (708/924-8632).

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY: Tourn. Monday, 6:30 P.M. at Alexander's, 3101 E. 79th St., Chicago. J.A. Miller (773/734-9430).

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL BG CLUB: Tourn. 1st, 3rd, 5th Monday, 6:15 P.M. at Ride The Nine, 503 N. Prospect, Bloomington. Lane O'Connor (309/454-1947)

SANGAMON VALLEY BG ASSN: Tourn. Wednesday, 6:00 P.M. at Brewhaus, 617 E. Washington, Springfield. Ben Zemaitis (217/483-4028).

WINNETKA BG CLUB: Tournaments Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. at 620 Lincoln, Winnetka. Trudie Stern (847/446-0537).

CENTRAL ILL. BG CLUB: Tourn. Thur., 6:30 P.M. at River Station, 212 Constitution Ave., Peoria. Linda Woods (309/686-6662).

PRIME BG CLUB: Tournaments Friday, 7:30 P.M. at Honest John's (Holiday Inn), 1000 Busse Road, Elk Grove Village. Joann Fenistein (847/674-0120).

NORTH CLUB: Daily except Sunday, 1:00 P.M. at 4747 W. Peterson (Suite 2), Chicago. Greg Defotis (773/286-6719).



Fresh Slices — from the — Butcher

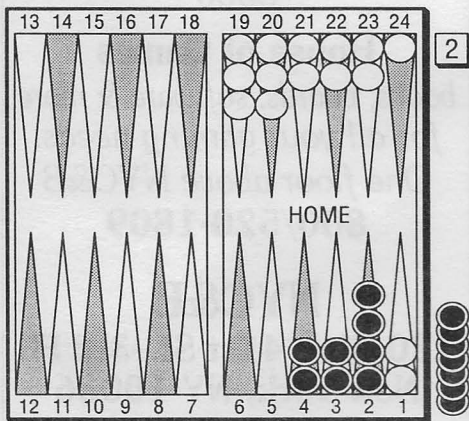
by Jake Jacobs

Do you hear them, the ominous sounds? The crunch of cleaver crushing bone? The warm tap, tap of dripping blood? Try to run, try to scream, but it's too late! He's back! Is it Jason? Is it Freddy Krueger? Far worse. The Butcher is back, and he's now online!

Loyal readers no doubt remember the last appearance of the Butcher of Barcelona, when, before the horrified eyes of his chouette mates, he fiendishly failed to leap a 3-prime for roll after terrifying roll, and cost them hundreds of points. Now, in his new guise as the "Boot Virus of Barcelona," he is surfing the Internet. Those not faint of heart may track him down in the usual way. Log in, call up your favorite net browser, and key in: <www.backgammon_game.dismemberment>. Or, log into FIBS, where he chouettes 17 to 18 hours a day.

This position was given to me by a third party. When reporting a game, I like to provide color commentary, and biographical information on the players, but I wasn't there. You'll just have to picture the maniacs that inhabit this chouette for yourself. (You'll also need to supply your own result for this game—I forgot to ask!)

Money game. WHITE (The Butcher) TO PLAY 4-2.



Notice the wonders of modern technology? Aided by gobs of gigabytes and mountains of megahertz, the Butcher was able to leap a 3-prime. Not accustomed to this luxury, he wasn't sure if he was supposed to.

The first question is: should he keep the

anchor? My guess was that he should run. Others thought it right to stay anchored. If that is so, should he close his board with 6/4, 5/1 or keep his options (and the acepoint) open for a trap play with 6/2, 5/3? In talking about the position, two more questions

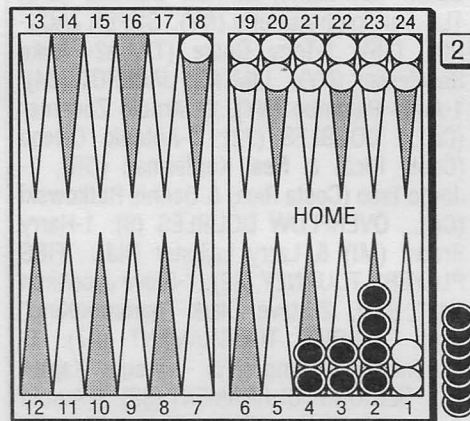
arose. First, if the opposition's next roll is 3-2, would you rather have run or stayed? The obviously related question is: if you were Black and the Butcher had run out with 4-2, how should you play 3-2?

I now have the answers. Some of the differences in equities between plays were quite small, and I had to reroll the various positions and sub-positions with Jelly-Fish™ several times. First, playing for the double shot is correct. The extra games won compensate for the extra gammons and backgammons lost. Leading the Crawford game with your opponent 2-away, it would be right to run, but barely.

Not closing the board is a mistake. When White owns the cube, the non-closing play barely outperforms running. The gain is an expected value of just 0.002 on a 1-cube. For all other cube positions, it is the worst choice. The drawback is easily recognized. Ask yourself: if I hit and Black enters with a 4-1, will I leave him unmo-lestled on my 1-point, or strive mightily to close him out?

This all being so, let's slightly change the problem by closing the board and shifting one White checker into the outfield. Now how should you as White play 4-2?

Money game. WHITE TO PLAY 4-2.



I would run, too, but we're wrong. We gain very few extra wins (over running while our 1-point is slotted), but that outside crossover costs us plenty of gammons. Now we lose almost as many gammons running as staying back, so keeping the anchor is still best.

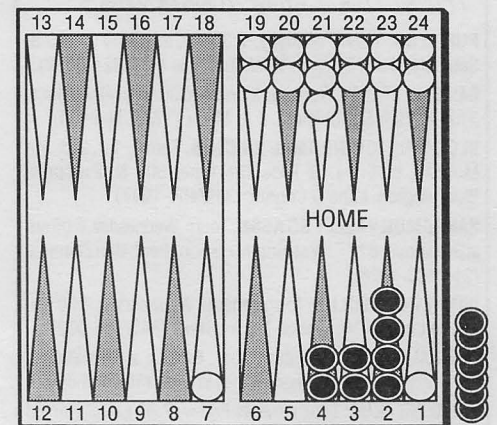
Black rolls a 3-2. Should we have stayed or run with 4-2? Run, run, run! If this seems surprising (it did to some), let's look at the best play for Black if White has run with 4-2.

Black has three reasonable choices to consider: the three plays that leave an immediate single shot. The safest play (in terms of absolute fewest shots) is 4/1*, 4/2. White gets additional shots only if he fans on Black's two point board. Bearing one checker off while hitting with 3/1*, 3-off is slightly riskier. White may fan, or may enter on the 3-point, and some of the parlays force Black to leave more than 11 hitting numbers of the repeaters.

The most dangerous of the single shot plays is 3/off, 2/off. White will get lots of extra shots. Over the board, I would estimate that in the next two rolls, White hits the safest play 33%, hits the play that bears off on checker 35%, and hits the "two checkers off" play 43%. This last play will lead to some shots after three or even four rolls.

If safety were the only factor, our choice would be easy, but it is not. The more checkers off, the more you still win after being hit. Moreover, the more checkers off, the more likely a gammon or backgammon will occur. It should be apparent that 2% extra shots is not enough to dissuade us from taking a man off. To me, the big question is: Is *one more* man off enough to compensate for another 8% shots? No. The best play is 3/1*, 3-off. Clearing the 4-point is very much the worst. However, taking two men off is almost as good as clearing the 3-point, and is the best play if Black owns the cube, and at certain match scores.

BLACK TO PLAY 3-2. A match to 7 points with no cube this game. White has 6 points. Black has either 6 points, 5 points, or 4 points.



Maybe this is an easier problem than it looks. I think I would have gone wrong.

[Continued on page 7]

AMALGAMATION

CHICAGO POINT has a new area code for phone and fax: 773. Please make a note of it... Visiting the Bar Point Club in November: **David Wells** (MA) who is pondering a move to Chicago... Michigan to Chicago, Illinois: **Joe Sylvester**... **Paul Magriel** (NY) tells us his classic work "Backgammon" is set to be reprinted in a quality paperback format. The price tag will be around \$45... Belated congratulations to **David & Jackie** (Greene) **Cardwell** (GA) who were married in October... Best of luck to **Alan & Lourdes Steffen** who have taken over from **Michael Valentine** as new proprietors of New York's Ace Point Backgammon Club. For info, call them at: 212/753-0842... *Essential Backgammon* editor **Dan Frank Verlag** tells us that he'll soon publish an *EB* Special: *100 Doubling Positions* with commentary and rollout results. Dan has also prepared an overview of the contents for the first year of *EB*. Non-subscribers can get a copy by mailing one U.S. dollar to: Dan Frank Verlag; Vorsteigstr.1; D-70193 Stuttgart, Germany... For the third time in as many months, **Leslie Lockett** (IL) won the US99 radio call-in contest. Her take in November: \$1,000... **Jake Jacobs** (IL) had his 15-match Pub Club winning streak stopped by Kurt Schurecht on 18 Nov. Nice run! Speaking of Jake, his new book, "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Four-Point!" should be shipping within a month. Details in the January POINT... Bar Point Club Fall

... THE BUTCHER

[Continued from page 6]

When Black needs two points, the best play is 3/1*, 3-off. Black wins 3.4% more gammons, and 0.9% more games than when he clears the 4-point. He wins a whopping 5.3% more gammons with this play than he would by taking two off. That is the unexpected drawback to taking two off. Black loses less often after suffering a hit, but gammons less often.

Taking two men off is very much better when Black needs to win three points. White loses only 0.1% BGs after the 4-point is cleared, and just 0.2% if the 3-point is cleared. When Black takes two off, White is backgammoned 3.8%.

How about double match-point? Take two off! It wins 0.3% more than clearing the 3-point.

This seems to be all the blood we can squeeze out of this position. With the Butcher on the loose, I'm sure the future will bring us plenty more carcasses to dissect. Even better news: the Butcher's old nemesis Captain Blood plays in this same chouette. With all the gigabytes at their disposal, I expect to be reporting on a 16,384 cube real soon. Δ

Trophy Tourney runner-up **Matt Surekci** (IL) is a good BG player and a great tennis player. Matt was on Turkey's Davis Cup tennis team in the late 70's and early '80s... Happy Holidays from CHICAGO POINT. Δ



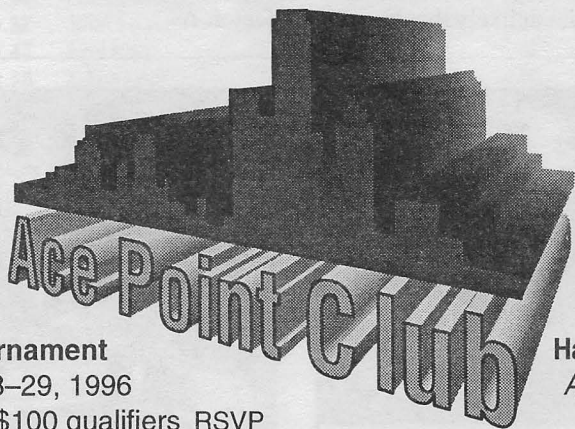
Chicago Bar Point Club 1000-to-1 Club

Name	Wins in a Row	Date Completed
David Rubin	11	1 Feb 94
Neil Kazaross	10	8 Feb 94
Phil Simborg	11	5 Apr 94
Frankie Farjood	11	25 Apr 95
Harry Cohn	11	9 May 95
Neil Kazaross	10	19 Sep 95
Neil Kazaross	11	12 Dec 95
Herb Roman	10	11 Aug 96
Andy Krenitz	12	5 Nov 96

The named players listed above have won at least 10 matches in a row in Chicago Bar Point Club competition and have earned an engraved doubling cube to honor their achievement.

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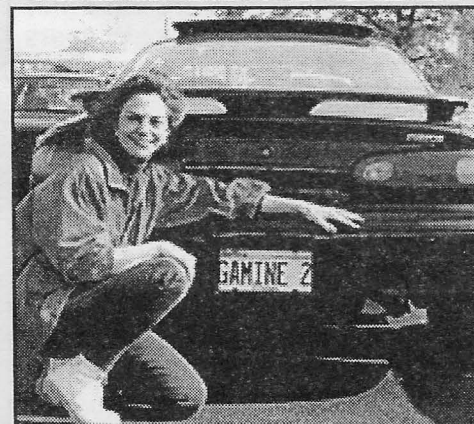
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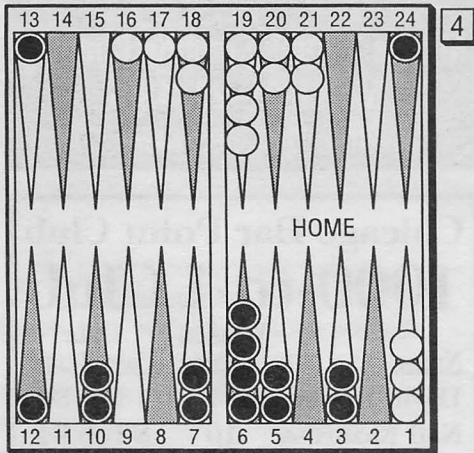
Send a photo of your vanity backgammon license plate to BG Vanity; CHICAGO POINT; 3940 W. Bryn Mawr 504; Chicago, IL 60659-3155



Leslie Lockett—Kenilworth, Illinois

**PROBLEM #229
ANALYZED**

by Walter Trice

Match to 11 points. White leads Black, 4 to 2. **BLACK TO PLAY 6-2.**

The recent film *Rob Roy* climaxes with a swordfight between the dastardly (but elegant) villain Cunningham and the crude (but valiant) hero Rob Roy MacGregor. Cunningham, by far the superior technician, soon has the Highlander down, wounded and disarmed. Holding the tip of his blade inches from the throat of his erstwhile nemesis, he pauses for a moment to savor the triumph.

Perhaps he is simply unwilling to extinguish his enemy's consciousness of defeat too quickly. Whatever the reason, the hesitation is fatal: Rob Roy grabs his opponent's weapon with one bare hand and, while the astonished Cunningham watches the blood well through Roy's fingers, picks up his claymore with the other. A single stroke cleaves the villain nearly in two.

As Cunningham expires, his expression

communicates a feeling that every backgammon player will recognize: "Unfair! This is not how the game was supposed to end. I had it won . . ."

IT WAS HIS OWN FAULT, of course. In backgammon there is always another game, and with experience, we learn to respect the resources available to a desperate opponent. So it was very surprising for me to find that in Problem #229, many strong players favored hitting with 24/16*. "I want to send a fourth man back for the gammon," was the typical justification for the play.

But the open 4-point provides White with resources that are quite significant in her otherwise desperate situation. (Did you notice, for example, that 4-4 actually hits 2 checkers?) White will try to make the point. If she doesn't roll 4-3 or 4-4, she will slot it if she can, and perhaps make it later. Having four men back, she will be happy to occupy all of the open points in Black's home board, to maximize her chances of anchoring on the 4. If she gets the anchor, she'll have two main game plans to choose from, and her choice will depend on how quickly each side's position advances in the next few rolls.

If Black moves forward awkwardly while White's home board position remains sound, White will be happy to break the advanced anchor and play the ace-point (sometimes deuce-point) game. In other circumstances she'll give up the deeper anchor and play the 4-point game, aiming to save the gammon while preserving some chance of winning by going forward. Sometimes she'll hit a blot from (or through, or on) the 4-point. Sometimes the open 4 will allow extra back men to escape so that White can preserve her timing for the deep-anchor game.

If Black simply makes his own 4-point with the 6-2 it is quite unlikely that he will

lose by failing to get his straggler out in time. Having one man back compared to three is a huge advantage in a priming contest: one escapes more readily than three, and 14 priming checkers are a more powerful and ponderous force than 12. Furthermore, if the priming battle comes down to the crunch before Black's back man escapes, it is likely that White will still own her opponent's ace point, enabling Black to kill some numbers and slow himself down. And it is visually evident that Black's spare outfield checkers are less advanced than their White counterparts. White will have to escape one of the three back men quickly to have a chance, and this is not so easy to do.

A solid five point prime is very effective at containing three checkers that are one point back from the edge. Without opposition, it would take White an average of 14.5 turns to roll enough aces and sixes to get the three checkers out. In contrast, the original formation with the 4-point open (and 6s blocked in the outfield) can only hold them for 7.3 turns. The solid prime makes a difference in two classes of variations: it makes it harder for White to win going forward (by attacking and extricating her back men), and it tends to ensure that White's ace-point game will be busted.

Meanwhile, though the immediate hit is the surest way to send a fourth man back, it is *not* the best way to go after the fifth and sixth. If the Black laggard just sits there, it will soon be showered with White checkers, some of which will be blots. As a result, 10/4, 6/4 is not only best for the win (88% vs. 81%), but also best for the gammon (32% vs. 25%) and best for the backgammon (7% vs. 2%). These results come from a manual rollout of 180 trials for each play.

Since 10/4, 6/4 dominates 24/16* in all departments, the match score is not a factor. Δ

**Morioka and Marek are Bar Point
Club Fall Trophy Tourney Winners**

52 players attended the Chicago Bar Point Club's Fall Trophy Tourney on 19 November at the Golden Flame in Chicago, Illinois. Tak Morioka won the Open title over Matt Surekci and Don Marek was victorious at double match-point over Alice Kay among the Intermediates. Results:

OPEN (32): 1-Tak Morioka, 2-Matt Surekci, 3/4-Jake Jacobs / Wendy Kaplan; 1C-Neil Kazaross, 2C-Peter Kalba. INTERMEDIATE (20): 1-Don Marek, 2-Alice Kay, 3/4-Femi Owiku / Ed Buerger; 1C/2C-Elaine Kehm / Boris Mindich.



Tak Morioka became the first two-time BPC Fall Trophy Tourney victor with his 7-4 victory over Matt Surekci. Matt got a match-winning shot in the final game, but missed.



A semifinalist in 1995, Don Marek moved into the Intermediate winner's circle this year by edging Alice Kay.

WINNER'S CORNER



Oct.-Dec. 1996

•**1996 Argentine Championship** (Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mondays in Oct.)... CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Jorge Stolkner, Juan Rosa. JUNIOR WINNERS: Tomasa Elhom, Sergio Czemerinsky, Basilio Theocharidis. BEGINNER WINNERS: Mabel Mateo (2), Luis Rodrigo.

•**Springfield Series #1** (Springfield, IL; 2 Nov.)... OPEN (14): 1-John Jennings, 2-Patrick Jaeggi; 1C-Ben Zemaitis, 2C-William Hutchison; 1LC-Greg Tomlin.

•**Asian Championships** (Hong Kong; 4-6 Oct.)... OPEN (34): 1-John Simon, 2-Jeremy Bagai (US), 3/4-Robin Swaffield / Martin Barkwill (UK); 1C-Yutaka Inoue (JPN), 2C-Theo Cassidy (AUSTL); 1LC-Manlam Wong, 2LC-Don Rae. CHAMPIONSHIP (21): 1-Kazuko Numazawa (JPN), 2-Susumo Kajikawa (JPN); 1C-Makoto Nonomura (JPN); 2C-Harry Turner; 1LC-Mari Uemura (JPN), 2LC-Cynthia Roberts. DRAGON SLAYER (128): 1-Marc Mostacci, 2-Sunil Balani. TEAM (9): 1-*Invincibles* (Hasselquist, Sjolander, Ben-Zeev), 2-*Unbeatables* (Godsey, Swaffield, Bagai). SUPER JACKPOT #1 (8): 1-Jerry Godsey, 2-Don Rae. SUPER JACKPOT #2 (4): 1-Patrice Hattu. MINI-SUPER JACKPOT (16): 1-Robin Swaffield, 2-Steve Nelson.

•**Backgammon by the Bay Monthly** (San Mateo, CA; 20 Oct.)... OPEN (18): 1-Paul Tanenbaum, 2-Brad Louis, 3/4-Peter Bell / David MacBryde; 1C/2C-Jeremy Gundel / Rawlin Pullen. INTERMEDIATE (14): 1-Ron Dumont, 2-Julius High; 1C-Richard McIntosh, 2C-Paul Stokes. BEGINNER (7): 1-Cheryl Mandala, 2-Andy Paik; 1C-Avo Sadakian.

•**96/97 WBF Italian Champs—#3** (Lugano, Switzerland; 27 Oct.)... MASTER (12): 1-Karl Wey, 2-Enrico Ostini; 1C-Vittorio Castro. CHAMPIONSHIP (12): 1-Riccardo Romano, 2-Sergio Montefusco; 1C-Navid Haghghat. INTERMEDIATE (19): 1-Michele Maffei, 2-Giorgio Tomba; 1C-Alberto da Pra.

•**Grand Prix de Suisse** (Lugano, Switzerland; 30 Oct.-3 Nov.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (45): 1-Giorgio Falcomer (ITA), 2-Carsten Joh (GER), 3/4-Elio Hamoui (ITA) / Filippo Oddo (ITA); 1C-Nino di Bella (ITA), 2C-Samie Maroun (ISR); 1LC-Markus Rindisbacher (SWZ), 2LC-Andreas Humke (GER); *Ladies Prize*-Lila Swan (US). INTERMEDIATE (19): 1-Bambi de Bruin (SPA), 2-Giuseppe Ricciardi; 1C-Marina Dreke (GER), 2C-Enis Kapuano (TUR); 1LC-Hans Reinhardt (GER); *Ladies Prize*-Bambi de Bruin. BEGINNER (24): 1-Hans Rechsteiner (SWZ), 2-Peony Herbert (GER); 1C-Daniel Glaus (SWZ), 2C-Roland Michel (SWZ); 1LC-Fabiano Ceresa (SWZ). SUPERJACKPOT (16): 1-Giorgio Falcomer (ITA), 2-Gordon Cross (GER) 3/4-Ion Ressu (SWZ) / Peter Heitmüller (GER). DOUBLES (11): 1-V. Castro & A. Rusca (SWZ), 2-P. Heitmüller & J. Orlowski (GER). TEAM (16): 1-G. D'Onofrio & H. Bodholdt & S. Maroun, 2-G. Cross & C. Joh & P. Heitmüller.

FRANCO ROSSO (53): 1-Hendrik Muysers (GER), 2-Filippo Oddo (ITA). SWAROVSKY (45): 1-Karl Neugerbauer (GER), 2-Samie Maroun (ISR). WARM-UP HOTEL EDEN (43): 1-Carsten Joh (GER), 2-Yannis Tomazos (GRE).

•**Northeast Regional-ABT** (South Lee, MA; 1-3 Nov.)... OPEN (22): 1-Leslie Lockett (IL), 2-Ed Abou-Zeid (MA); 1C-AI Tesoro (FL), 2C-Steve Goldstein (NY). ADVANCED (16): 1-Lou Florio (MA), 2-Donny Lomuto (NY); 1C-Felix Goykhman (NY), 2C-Ed Johnson (NY). INTERMEDIATE (8): 1-Renee Rosenbloom (NY), 2-Dale Smith (NJ); 1C-Ann Dickson (NY). NOVICE (7): 1-Wanda delaBarre (MA), 2/3/4/5-Roger Abbey (NY) / Brit Abbey (NY) / Howard Peelle (MA) / Ruth Soloman (NJ). DOUBLES (16): 1-Felix & Laura Goykhman (NY), 2-Bob Hill (NY) & Bob Sahagian (NJ)... *A nice win for Chicago Bar Point Clubber Leslie who is pictured on page 7.*

•**Tampere Open** (Tampere, Finland; 1-3 Nov.)... OPEN (18): 1-Teppo Salo, 2-Mika Makinen, 3/4-Esa Tommila / Tomi Huovinen; 1C-Tapio Palmroth, 2-Mika Inkinen. SUPER JACKPOT (12): 1-Teppo Salo, 2-Mika Inkinen.

•**Midtown "Sweet 16" Invitational** (New York, NY; 9 Nov.)... OPEN (16): 1/2-Chuck Papazian / Alan Steffen, 3/4-Morton Holm / Alan Martin.

•**4th Annual Fall Classic** (Louisville, KY; 9-10 Nov.)... OPEN (15): 1-Holland McTyeire Sr., 2-David Coorsen, 3-Frank Frigo.

•**96/97 WBF Italian Champs—#4** (Rapallo, Italy; 9-10 Nov.)... MASTER (15): 1-Carlo Facchetti, 2-Nino Di Bella; 1C-Pio Bianchi. CHAMPIONSHIP (20): 1-Sergio Montefusco, 2-Roberto Catalano; 1C-Elena Grigore. INTERMEDIATE (14): 1-Maria Grigis da Pra, 2-Fabio Patti; 1C-Fabrizio Lo Surdo.

•**Townharbour TT Trophy Tourney** (Solihull, England; 16-17 Nov.)... OPEN (122): 1-Rick

Janowski, 2-Nick Check. FRIDAY NIGHT KO (32): 1-Rick Janowski, 2-Barry Williams. DOUBLES KO (31): 1-"Roger & Derek," 2-"B C & T." TOP LADY: Monica Beckerson. BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME: Mike Curtis.

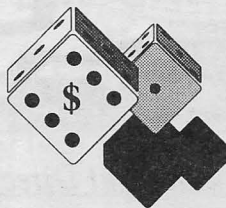
•**Backgammon by the Bay Monthly** (San Mateo, CA; 17 Nov.)... OPEN (20): 1-Nick Ballard, 2-Kevin Mansfield, 3/4-Mike Colgan / Ron Karr; 1C-Odis Chenault, 2C-Tom Henson. INTERMEDIATE (14): 1-Richard McIntosh, 2-Karl Mosgofian; 1C/2C-David Escoffery / David Nordlinger. BEGINNER (9): 1-Paul Ferguson, 2-Karsten Busch; 1C-Michael Mitzenbacher, 2C-Steve Pait.

•**NEBC Sunday Monthly** (Cambridge, MA; 17 Nov.)... EXPERT (19): 1-Linc Bedell, 2-Mary Hickey, 3/4-Mark Damish / James Pascoe; 1C-John Machakos, 2C-Ernie Pitelli. A DIV. (12): 1-Tim Spencer, 2-Paul Chatalbash, 3/4-Paul Farrand / Jim Sullivan; 1C-Tom Greaves, 2C-John Koulopoulos.

•**Finnish Open** (Helsinki, Finland; 22-24 Nov.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (46): 1-Petri Pietila, 2-Tapio Palmroth, 3/4-Mika Makinen / Hannu Ojanen. CONSOLATION (39): 1-Mika Inkinen, 2-Tuomas Laibert, 3/4-Teppo Salo / Sampo Niskanen. SUPER JACKPOT (14): 1-Arto Katjos, 2-Arno Stormbom... *Jaakko Salava directed. Results provided by Tapio Palmroth.*

•**2nd Thanksgiving Tournament** (Akron, OH; 29 Nov.-1 Dec.): OPEN (26) 1-Ali Haddad (AL), 2-Joe Miller (OH); 1C-Dave Groner (IN), 2C-Jim Pascoe (NJ). ADVANCED (23): 1-Carl Leatherman (PA), 2-Terry Kayser (OH); 1C-Venice Holmes (MI), 2C-Robert Wilk (OH). NOVICE (6): 1-Joe Steiner (OH), 2-Luther Lute (OH). OPEN DOUBLES (16): 1-Ray Glaeser (OH) & David Todd (MI), 2-Dave Groner (IN) & Mike Reza (OH). ADVANCED DOUBLES (4): 1-Marilyn Faller (PA) & Greg Shoultz (OH). Δ

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