

CHICAGO POINT

NUMBER 66

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

JAN./FEB. 1994

first world-wide twin championships

FOGERLUND, ZALTASH AND HEINRICH LEAD PARADE OF WINNERS IN VEGAS

Ray Foglerlund and Abbas Zaltash are the victors of the First World-Wide Twin Championships tournament. The event, staged by the Nevada Backgammon Association, drew just over 200 players to the beautiful Treasure Island Hotel in Las Vegas. Attendance was down from previous Nevada winter events due to its pre-holiday scheduling.

Foglerlund, a 37 year-old fireman from Taft, CA defeated Dallas hotel developer Harvey Huie in an exciting 15-12 Nevada State finals. Foglerlund, whose only previous major victory was at the 1992 San Diego Gran Prix, paced himself to a 9-5 lead over Huie. But one doubled gammon later, Harvey had tied the score at 9-all.

At 11-all, Harvey turned another game around to gain a 12-11 edge. "Is your name Huie, or Houdini?" Ray asked as he left for his third break within six games.



Ray Foglerlund (left) cubes Harvey Huie in the Nevada State finals.

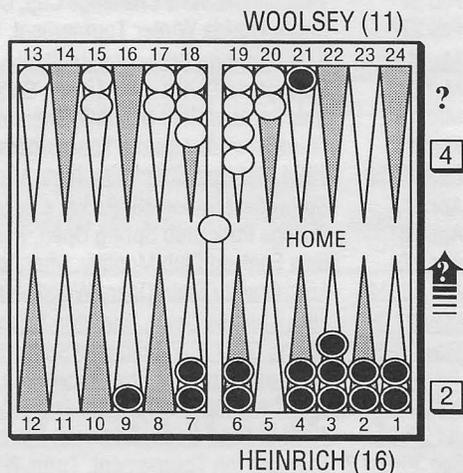
Upon returning, Foglerlund was able to win the next four points and the 5-figure prize money, but not before making one particularly controversial pick-and-pass play that he described as "A classic choke." [See Dec. 1993 *Flint Area BackgammonNews* for Ray's first-person account.] Still, it was a weekend of great play for the new Nevada State Champ who also reached the finals in Hyper-Gammon and the \$1000 Limited Jackpot.

PITTSBURGH's Abbas Zaltash chalked up another title defeating Texan Tom Wheeler

in the International Cup. Zaltash prevailed over 28 8-player knockout qualifiers in the high-entry Blitz-type format.

IT WAS A QUICK 2-hour Masters Invitational finals between 1990 World Champion Hal Heinrich (Canada) and author/analyst Kit Woolsey (CA). The 23-point finals ended following an aggressive cube by Heinrich in the following position:

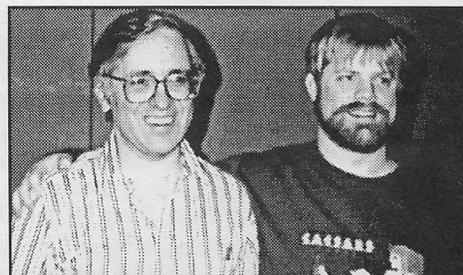
Master's Invitational 23-point finals. Hal Heinrich (Black) leads Kit Woolsey (White), 16-11. Black on roll. **CUBE ACTION(S)?**



Following double/take, Hal rolled 6-5 (21/10), Kit danced, Hal rolled 6-6 and went on to win a gammon.

In the postmortem, Hal thought the double was correct. Given the match score, Kit disagreed. Hal did admit that, "When the cube comes back to me on 8, it's nasty."

But that double aside, match commentator Malcolm Davis rated winner Heinrich's checker play as "... a work of art." Δ



Champions in every sense of the word. Masters winner Hal Heinrich (right) with runner-up Kit Woolsey.



Intermediate winner Mary Ritchie is all smiles with director Howard Markowitz.

1ST WORLD-WIDE TWIN CHAMPIONSHIPS

NEVADA STATE—CHAMPIONSHIP (92): 1-Ray Foglerlund (CA), 2-Harvey Huie (TX), 3/4-Alvaro Savio (BRZ) / Duane Jensen (MN); 1C-Doug Roberts (NY), 2C-Roger Hight (TX), 3C/4C-Dennis Culpepper (VA) / Richard Whitehouse (ENG). **INTERMEDIATE (82):** 1-Mary Ritchie (KS), 2-Leo Tuin (CAN), 3/4-Brendan Burgess (IRE) / Veronica Mooney (AZ); 1C-Mike Sherman (NV), 2C-Richard Weaver (TX), 3C/4C-Lee Hasson (CA) / Dwayne Haughton (CA). **BEGINNER (32):** 1-Ruth Blumenthal (FL), 2-Phil Klevmoen (NY), 3/4-Rafi Salem (CA) / Huck Seed (CA); 1C-Nasser Nikpour (AZ), 2C-Tom Caseletto (CA).

INTERNATIONAL CUP—CHAMPIONSHIP (28 x 8): 1-Abbas Zaltash (PA), 2-Tom Wheeler (TX), 3/4-Bill Phipps (WA) / Mike Svobodny (NY), 5/8-Harry Cohn (IL) / Perry Gartner (NJ) / Fred Kalantari (MN) / Doug Mayfield (CA). **INTERMEDIATE (28 x 8):** 1-Leo Tuin (CAN), 2-Bob Paris (FL), 3/4-Udo Geib (GER) / Ana Maria Zarb (SWZ), 5/8-Duane Eshima (CO) / Butch Meese (IN) / Charlie Raichle (CO) / Luisa Sequeira (POR). **BEGINNER (7 x 8):** 1-Tanya Dobbs (CA), 2-Jay Rau (CO), 3/4-Rafi Salem (CA) / Mitzie Wilson (NY).

MASTERS (16): 1-Hal Heinrich (CAN), 2-Kit Woolsey (CA), 3/4-James Colen (NY) / Bob Wachtel (CA).

HYPER-BACKGAMMON (192): 1-Mike Mooney (AZ), 2-Ray Foglerlund (CA), 3/4-Hal Heinrich (CAN) / Kent Goulding (MD).

LIMITED JACKPOTS: #1 (16): 1-Antonio Ortega (CR), 2-Aram Kouleyan (CA), 3/4-Mike Sherman (NV) / Joe Thomas (NV). #2 (16): 1-Yves Robin (CA), 2-Ray Foglerlund (CA), 3/4-Stu Hosen (TX) / Ami Tennenbaum (NJ).

BLITZ TOURNAMENTS—\$25 (136): 1-Richard Armbruster (CA), 2-Bill McLaughlin. \$50 (128): 1-Emil Sepasy (WA), 2-Ed Abou-Zeid (MA).

DOUBLES—MAIN (32): 1-Chris Campbell (CA) & Emil Mortuk (MI), 2-George Klitsas & Andreas Kourouklis (GRE), 3/4-Mary Ann Meese (IN) & Jack Kissane (NY) / Peggy & Dennis Culpepper (VA). **SATELLITE (16):** 1-Steve Sax & Dave Williams (CA), 2-Zohreh & Hossein Zafarianian (TX).

CHICAGO POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Bill Davis
2726 West Lunt Avenue
Chicago, IL 60645-3039
Telephone: 312/338-6380
FAX: 312/338-6384

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Harold Branch (KY) **Duane Jensen (MN)**
Carol Joy Cole (MI) **Neil Kazaross (IL)**
Jerry Godsey (Hong Kong) **Danny Kleinman (CA)**
Jake Jacobs (IL) **Kit Woolsey (CA)**

All rights reserved. A word about copying this publication—go ahead. You may copy any of this for noncommercial purposes as long as you give full credit to "CHICAGO POINT, 2726 West Lunt Avenue, Chicago, IL 60645-3039."

CHICAGO POINT is published monthly. The subscription rate is \$25/12 issues (\$35 international airmail in USD check drawn on U.S. bank).

Advertising Rates: 2 3/8" x 3 1/4" = \$40. 1/4 page = \$70. 1/2 page = \$115. Full page = \$200. If the ad is not "camera ready," request layout and typesetting for an additional charge.



LETTERS

c/o CHICAGO POINT
2726 W. Lunt Avenue
Chicago, IL 60645-3039

THE TRUTH ABOUT RIO

I read in the last issue of CHICAGO POINT about the problems that happened with the winner Evert Van Eijck and Alan Steffen in Rio de Janeiro. It must be remembered that Rio is no more or less dangerous than other large metropolitan cities like Miami, New York, etc.

Last February, we went to Paris to participate in a tournament organized by Hervé Pietraru. A Brazilian player, Ricardo Spinola, was robbed in the subway and lost all his money and passport. This could happen anywhere.

Rio de Janeiro has many beautiful things to offer. Visitors experience a "Carioca" spirit of life that makes us unique in the world. I am sure that next October, you and many other players will come to Rio de Janeiro for our Open Tournament. Then you will understand why I am so proud to have been born and live in this special city.—*Alvaro Sávio, Brazilian Backgammon Association, Rio*

[Continued on page 4]

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

* Denotes new or revised listing

NATIONAL

American Backgammon Tour events underlined.

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| Jan 8 | Springfield Series #3, Parker's Sports Bar, Springfield, IL | 217/528-0117 |
| Jan 8* | Tri-State Championship, Backgammon & Chess Express, New York, NY | 212/587-8038 |
| Jan 9* | Winter Tournament, NY Chess & Backgammon, New York, NY | 212/302-5874 |
| Jan 9* | South Florida Doubles Tournament, Popfinger's, Ft. Lauderdale, FL | 305/785-1282 |
| Jan 11 | Chicago Bar Point Club Awards Night, Golden Flame, Chicago, IL | 312/338-6380 |
| Jan 15 | 1994 Nation's Capital Winter Open, Promenade, Bethesda, MD | 301/530-0603 |
| Jan 16 | New England Club Monthly, Sheraton Commander Hotel, Cambridge, MA | 617/643-8154 |
| Jan 19 | RSCARDS Winter Computer Modem Tournament, GEnie | 800/638-9636 |
| Jan 20 | Third Thursday Bonus Tourney & Awards Party, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| Jan 23 | Austin BG Assoc. Sunday Tournament, Bombay Bicycle Club, Austin, TX | 512/280-5945 |
| Jan 23* | University Championships, Oakland Holiday Inn, Pittsburgh, PA | 412/823-7500 |
| Jan 29 | Hawthorne Backgammon Classic, Hawthorne Race Course, Cicero, IL | 312/338-6380 |
| Feb 5 | Springfield Series #4, Ride The Nine, Bloomington, IL | 217/528-0117 |
| Feb 13 | Bar Point Doubles Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL | 312/252-7755 |
| Feb 13 | New England Club Monthly, Sheraton Commander Hotel, Cambridge, MA | 617/643-8154 |
| Feb 13 | 11th Fleet Underwood Memorial Tournament, Ramada Hotel, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| Feb 17 | Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| <u>Feb 18-20</u> | <u>16th Pittsburgh Winter Champs. Greentree Marriott, Pittsburgh, PA</u> | <u>412/823-7500</u> |
| Feb 27* | 14th Illinois State Challenge Cup, Cricket's Pub & Grill, Glendale Hts., IL | 708/924-8632 |
| Feb 27* | South Florida Winter Tournament, Ft. Lauderdale Inn, FL | 305/785-1282 |
| <u>Mar 4-6*</u> | <u>31st Gammon Associates Invitational, Bombay Bicycle Club, Burbank, CA</u> | <u>818/901-0464</u> |
| Mar 5 | Springfield Series #5, Parker's Sports Bar, Springfield, IL | 217/528-0117 |
| Mar 13 | New England Club Monthly, Sheraton Commander Hotel, Cambridge, MA | 617/643-8154 |
| Mar 17* | Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| <u>Mar 18-20</u> | <u>1994 Midwest Championships, Marriott Hotel, Oak Brook, IL</u> | <u>312/338-6380</u> |
| Apr 9* | Springfield Series #6, Parker's Sports Bar, Springfield, IL | 217/528-0117 |
| Apr 16* | College Park Club Spring Open, Promenade, Bethesda, MD | 301/530-0603 |
| Apr 17* | New England Club Monthly, Sheraton Commander Hotel, Cambridge, MA | 617/643-8154 |
| <u>Apr 22-24*</u> | <u>15th Granite State Open, Woodbound Inn, Jaffrey, NH</u> | <u>603/863-4711</u> |
| <u>May 27-30</u> | <u>15th Chicago Open, Sheraton Suites Hotel, Elk Grove Village, IL</u> | <u>708/674-0120</u> |
| <u>May 28-30*</u> | <u>Spring Gran Prix, Embassy Suites Hotel, La Jolla, CA</u> | <u>619/294-2007</u> |
| Jul 1-4 | Michigan Summer Championships, Novi Hilton, Novi, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| Jul 29-31 | Thousand Islands Tournament, Pine Tree Point, Alexandria Bay, NY | 716/442-8221 |
| Jul 29-31* | 42nd Indiana Open, Radisson Plaza Suites Hotel, Indianapolis, IN | 317/845-8435 |
| <u>Sep 30-Oct 2</u> | <u>Towpath Inn Tournament, Turin, NY</u> | <u>716/442-8221</u> |
| <u>Oct 5-9</u> | <u>4th Illinois State Championships & America Cup, Woodfield Hilton, IL</u> | <u>708/945-7801</u> |
| <u>Oct 7-9</u> | <u>Nation's Capital Fall Championships, Promenade, Bethesda, MD</u> | <u>301/530-0603</u> |
| <u>Nov 11-13</u> | <u>NY/NJ BG CO-OP Big Apple Series, Oritani Hotel, Hackensack, NJ</u> | <u>201/833-2915</u> |

OUTSIDE USA

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----------------|
| Jan 8-9* | DM Mixed Doubles, Øbro Skak-Klub, Copenhagen, Denmark | 4539/40 06 07 |
| Jan 10 | Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club | 852-846 1923 |
| Jan 14-16 | Backgammon-Meisterschaft, Hotel Klosterbräu, Seefeld/Tirol, Austria | 08341-12825 |
| Jan 20-23 | 3rd Dutch Open Championship, Hilton Hotel, Amsterdam, Netherlands | 3120-625 4775 |
| Jan 22-23* | Südwest-Jahresendturnier, Mannheim Sandhofen, Germany | 49 631/60106 |
| Jan 29-30 | BIBA Ranking Tournament No. 1, George Hotel, Solihull, England | 0522-53 68 36 |
| Jan 31-Feb 6* | Swiss Twin Snow Tournament, Hotel du Golf, Crans-Montana, Switzerland | 392/4801 9343 |
| Feb 3-6 | 6th Annual Pro-Am Tournament, Paradise Island Resort, Bahamas | 301/299-8264 |
| Feb 7 | Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club | 852-846 1923 |
| Feb 10-13 | 4th French Open Championship, Lutetia Hotel, Paris, France | 331-4288 6645 |
| Feb 11-13 | Rosendahl Open Tournament, Hotel Rosendahl, Tampere, Finland | 358-3165 4400 |
| Feb 24-27 | 8th Backgammon Tournament, Festival of Games, Cannes, France | 061-331 5816 |
| Mar 7* | Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club | 852-846 1923 |
| Mar 17-20 | 30th Ted Bassett & Gstaad Palace-Cup, Palace Hotel, Gstaad, Switzerland | 061-331 5816 |
| Mar 24-27 | International Winter Championship, Badrutt's, St. Moritz, Switzerland | 061-331 1516 |
| Apr 1-4 | 6th Nordic "Wide" Open, Elsinger, Denmark | 4539-40 06 07 |
| Apr 2-3 | British Open, George Hotel, Solihull, England | 0522-53 68 36 |
| Apr 21-24* | Düsseldorf Open, Hotel Antana, Kaarst, Germany | 02151/503 591 |
| Apr 27-May 1 | 3rd Tournament of the Américas, Cariari Hotel, San José, Costa Rica | 312/252-7755 |
| May 11-15* | First International Greek Championships, Athens, Greece | Fax 01-800 1513 |
| May 21-22 | BIBA Ranking Tournament #2, George Hotel, Solihull, England | 0522/53 68 36 |

KAZAROSS DEC. RALLY WINS CBPC POINT RACE

A strong December boosted Neil Kazaross ahead of Gary Kay to earn him 1993 Chicago Bar Point Club Player of the Year honors. Neil started fast in January, collecting 7.68 master points. It looked like smooth sailing for the San Diego transplant until he hit rough waters mid-year. Between 14 June and 11 Oct., Neil managed only 2.80 points.

During that period, defending BPC champion Gary Kay returned to the top spot. Going into December, Kay's lead was 24.28-22.64. But a repeat victory was not in the dice. Kay had his worst month of the year while Kazaross was earning 5.12 points, including a lock-up victory 21 Dec.

Asked what was involved in winning the CBPC title, Neil commented, "You have to keep playing tough, even when things aren't going well. I thought about giving up during my summer cold-spell. I couldn't win a match. But you have to weather it. You have to play it out.

"This is harder than winning a major weekend event for two reasons. First, you

have to show up almost every week. Second, you have to force yourself to always play tough for 12 months. The Bar Point Club certainly has many top players and without a doubt the most depth of any tournament club in the country."

Awards Night (on 11 Jan. at the Golden Flame) will honor Neil Kazaross, Gary Kay, John Demian, Jake Jacobs and the rest of the Top-20 finishers.

OTHER PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Argentina Assn. of BG ... | Juan Rosa/Paula Estacolchic |
| Bloomington-Normal (IL) BG Club .. | William Hutchison |
| British Isles BG Assn. (BIBA) | Paul Lamford |
| Central Illinois Backgammon Club | Dick Nelson |
| College Park (MD) BG Club (92/93) | Ed Maslansky |
| Costa Rican Backgammon Assn. | Antonio Ortega |
| Flint (MI) BG Club | John Carrico |
| Gammon Assoc. (CA) ... | Art Benjamin/Ray Foglerlund |
| Greater New York BG Club (92/93) | Dr. Bob Hill |
| Hong Kong Backgammon Club | Jerry Godsey |
| Hoosier (IN) BG Club | Don Woods |
| New England (MA) BG Club (92/93) | Jim Kasarjian |
| Plymouth (MI) BG Club | Dean Adamian |
| Prime Backgammon Club of Chicago | Paul Franks |
| Pub Club (IL) | Kurt Schurecht |
| San Diego Backgammon Club | Mike Fujita |
| Sangamon Valley Backgammon Assn. ... | Greg Tomlin |
| Winnetka (IL) BG Club | Frank Dickerson |
| Worldwide Backgammon Fed. | Sami Akirov (UK) |

KUCHENBROD SUCCUMBS TO CANCER

Terry Kuchenbrod lost his battle with cancer at his home in Louisville, KY last month. He was 54. At his side were his wife Mary, son Wade and daughter Wendy. They had about three hours together before he weakened and slipped away in the early morning hours of 16 December.



Terry Kuchenbrod in the 1992 Midwest Championships semifinals.

Terry was a U.S. Coast Guard veteran and retired truck driver. He loved backgammon, attending many regional events every year. Terry's enthusiastic and resouceful play helped to place him 90th on the KG International Rating List with a 1658 rating. His last weekend tournament was 6-7 Nov. at the Louisville Fall Tourney where he won the Consolation.

We all feel the loss. Terry will be missed. We extend our sympathy to Mary, Wade and Wendy.—Harold Branch



CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 1993 PLAYER OF THE YEAR—FINAL

COMPILED THRU 31 DEC.

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------------------|------|------------------|------|--------------------|------|
| NEIL KAZAROSS | 27.76 | Paul Klein | 5.84 | Howard Markowitz | 1.84 | Mike Spiropoulos | 0.80 |
| GARY KAY | 24.28 | Alex Itkin | 5.28 | Phil Simborg | 1.84 | Dan Judd | 0.64 |
| JOHN DEMIAN | 20.24 | Dave Cramer | 5.12 | Tad Wilson | 1.84 | Mike Cohen | 0.64 |
| JAKE JACOBS | 20.24 | Richard Stawowy | 5.04 | Elaine Kehm | 1.84 | Greg Roland | 0.60 |
| DON JAYHAN | 20.20 | Marcy Sloan | 4.80 | Tim Serges | 1.76 | Kurt Schurecht | 0.60 |
| TAK MORIOKA | 18.16 | Georgina Flanagan | 4.64 | Lou Salzman | 1.64 | Barbara Levinson | 0.56 |
| YAMIN YAMIN | 17.48 | Joann Feinstein | 4.48 | Steve Grubart | 1.60 | Richard Beagarie | 0.56 |
| TIM MABEE | 16.08 | Arline Levy | 4.44 | Tony Schroeder | 1.56 | Don Marek | 0.48 |
| DAVID RUBIN | 15.08 | Danny DeRoche | 4.08 | Bob Zavoral | 1.52 | Graham Sievers | 0.48 |
| PHYLLIS SMOLINSKI | 12.96 | Bill Keefe | 3.80 | Pim Van Haastert | 1.32 | Paul Reiner | 0.48 |
| STU KATZ | 12.16 | Amy Trudeau | 3.76 | Betsy Miller | 1.28 | Frank Callea | 0.44 |
| PAUL FRIEDMAN | 11.92 | Peggy Fleming | 3.72 | Kevin McDonough | 1.28 | John Meyers | 0.40 |
| MARY FRANKS | 11.48 | Femi Owiku | 3.62 | Steve Katz | 1.24 | Mark Murray | 0.36 |
| RALPH LEVY | 11.28 | Stan Kucharz | 3.56 | Reggie Porter | 1.22 | Andy Bittman | 0.36 |
| ED BUERGER | 10.48 | Brigid O'Meara | 3.24 | Frankie Farjood | 1.20 | Greg Try | 0.32 |
| ALLEN ZIMMERMAN | 10.32 | Jeff Kane | 3.20 | Tom Shields | 1.12 | Harry Hayward | 0.32 |
| BILL DAVIS | 9.36 | Andy Krenitz | 3.20 | Jim Pappas | 1.12 | Jay Ward | 0.32 |
| PAUL FRANKS | 9.24 | Marty Tatossian | 3.16 | Dave Rockwell | 0.96 | Katy Clark | 0.32 |
| BOBBIE SHIFRIN | 8.96 | Bob Ebbeler | 3.16 | George Barr | 0.96 | William Frierson | 0.32 |
| JOHN BRUSSEL | 8.44 | Scottie Mitchell | 2.80 | Peter Bouman | 0.96 | Bill Cox | 0.24 |
| Herb Roman | 8.08 | Dick McCall | 2.56 | Roland Dieter | 0.96 | Art Clay | 0.24 |
| Deeb Shalati | 8.00 | Larry Strommen | 2.56 | Ron Stur | 0.96 | John Macaluso | 0.24 |
| Jolie Rubin | 7.96 | Jill Ferdinand | 2.44 | J.A. Miller | 0.96 | Kevin Muench | 0.24 |
| Norma Shyer | 7.92 | Don Desmond | 2.24 | Barry Miller | 0.88 | Andy Argy | 0.24 |
| Howard Ring | 7.44 | Bruce Wittert | 2.16 | Ray Kershaw | 0.88 | Dean Muench | 0.24 |
| Ken Bond | 7.36 | John Stryker | 2.08 | Earl Risch | 0.88 | Joe Mangine | 0.24 |
| Leslie Lockett | 7.32 | Chuck Olson | 1.92 | Larry Yakowenko | 0.88 | Mark Kay | 0.24 |
| Sarg Serges | 7.20 | Don Woods | 1.92 | Mary Vitale | 0.84 | Greg Feller | 0.20 |
| Peter Kalba | 7.12 | Jon Vietor | 1.92 | Jerry Brooks | 0.80 | Jerry Strzeczewski | 0.16 |
| V.W. Zimmnicki | 6.96 | Wilcox Snellings | 1.92 | Joe Koucharian | 0.80 | Barry Epstein | 0.16 |
| Alice Kay | 6.04 | | | | | | |

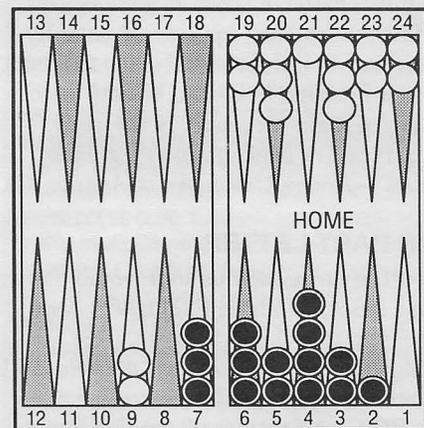
Winning December Player of the Month honors (5.12 points) helped to propel **NEIL KAZAROSS** to the 1993 CBPC Championship. Ed Buerger (3.76) and Sarg Serges (2.80) finished second and third. See related story above.

Issue 67 of CHICAGO POINT will be mailed 28 Feb. Remember that your POINT subscription entitles you to 12 issues—even if it takes 13 months to receive them!

your move

PROBLEM #201

7 point match. Neil Kazaross (Black) leads Howard Ring (White) 5-0. **BLACK ON ROLL. CUBE ACTION(S)?**



64

SHADES OF GRAY

RULINGS CONTEST WINNERS

by Danny Kleinman

The co-winners of last month's Rulings Contest are **Ed Maslansky** (Silver Spring, MD) and **Jeremy Bagai** (Philadelphia, PA) who will split the \$50 cash prize. Both Ed and Jeremy had four answers in agreement with Danny Kleinman.

For the record, entrants had the the greatest difference of opinion with Danny's rulings on #2 and #6. The Chicago Bar Point Club only differs with Danny on #3, preferring (A).—Ed.

1. (B) Tough luck, Vanna. You can't pass by saying "Take": no matter what you claim to "mean" by that. The rules specify that you must say "Pass" or other words to the same effect. If you'd said "Drop," for example, or "I'll give you a point," you would be deemed to have passed. Instead you chose the one word which most clearly designates a *take*. Never mind that your position "was" a pass, or that 90% of all other backgammon players would think it so. We've all seen (and made) bad takes. I rule that you just did so. Of course, Clint was entitled to act on that basis, so his good roll stands. Next time, abide by the rules.

2. (C) Carl, you bought 100% of Bob's action and sold none. You never even approached Bob to offer him a share. If

Bob had won the tournament, you'd have been entitled to a large prize. You're entitled to nothing now. Alan, you lucked out. In effect, you made a private bet with Bob, booking against him. You "sold him short," as anyone who dealt in stock market shares would say. You get to keep the \$200 he wagered. But had he won, you'd be liable for half the amount of the prize accruing to Bob's "owner" in the Calcutta.

3. (C) Frank, you are entitled to a 2-in-30 chance of drawing a buy. To give you this chance, I'll draw once from 15 random names including yours. If your name is drawn, you get a bye. Ed and Dave, you were awarded byes in a random drawing where each of you had a 2-in-29 chance. But you were entitled only to a 2-in-30 chance. You should each therefore receive a 29-in-30 chance of keeping your bye. So if Frank draws his bye, a 1-in-15 chance, I'll draw between you to see which of you keeps the second bye. This gives each of you a 1-in-30 chance of losing his bye (the 1-in-15 chance that Frank draws a bye, multiplied by the 1-in-2 chance that the other draws the second bye) and thus a 29-in-30 chance of retaining it.

4. (D) Whoa, Jim! What business have you touching any die on the playing surface until both have landed? You've broken the rules. Who knows whether the die still spinning might have toppled over, struck the other die, and changed its setting from a 6 to some other number? There are several ways to interpret your roll:

- (a) Your turn is over because you picked up a die
- (b) You must play a 6-2
- (c) You must reroll the die you lifted prematurely and play the new number plus a 2

I won't choose among these interpretations. Instead, because you committed the infraction, I'll offer the choice to Sally.

5. (D) However, I'll give 1/2 credit for (B). What sort of sportsmanship is this from the namesake of one of our most distinguished Supreme Court justices, Hugo? Who cares whether one size is "standard" or not? Use the dice Betty can see most clearly. If you insist on "rolling for choice of dice," as the rules permit, of course, I'll allow it. But if you use the smaller dice, then in any dispute as to what the roll was after either of you has completed a turn, I will presume Betty's account to be correct.

6. (B) Dick, you confused poor Jane by putting your cup and dice on the board while she was distracted looking at the score. If you objected to her using your dice, you should have stopped her before she rolled. But why should you object to this anyway if all dice were equally fair and random? You don't get a free shot. Jane, play your double-6s. Δ

Have you ever been involved in a questionable ruling? Get Danny Kleinman's opinion. Write to: Shades of Gray; c/o CHICAGO POINT; 2726 W. Lunt Avenue; Chicago, IL 60645-3039.

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO NEIL AND WALTER

Neil Kazaross is exactly right. In my November reply to Kati Pratt, I did misread the equity charts: my own as well as Roy Friedman's. And my equities are actually much closer to Bill Robertie's than to Roy's.

Your Problem #199 and Walter Trice's solution of it are very neat. In my view, Walter is one of backgammon's greatest treasures.—Danny Kleinman, Los Angeles, CA

FOUR PART LETTER

First off, if any generous soul would like to buy me a Backgammon Exclusiv[®] board for me, please feel free to do so. [See "Amalgamation," CHICAGO POINT No. 65.]

Second, where can I write to Hong Kong BG Club President Jerry Godsey?

Third, is *Das Backgammon Magazin* still publishing? My envelope (with check enclosed) was returned unopened.

Finally, does Toronto have any major or minor backgammon events? Please supply a contact.—Maurice Barie, Ferndale, MI

Jerry's address is: Macau Industrial Limitada; P.O. Box 182; Macau, Via Hong Kong

Yes, the German language *Das Backgammon Magazin* is still published four times per year by Harald Johanni. See "Amalgamation" for the particulars.

For Canadian backgammon contacts, refer to this month's "Backgammon Clubs In North America." on pages 5 and 6.—Ed.

THE RULINGS CONTEST

The "Rulings Contest" was very interesting. Keep up the great columns. Just as a matter of interest, Danny, I want you to know that the British Isles Backgammon Association has adopted your ruling (first

mentioned in the POINT in early 1991) regarding premature actions. I'm happy to say that since it's adoption, I have not had a single occasion to rule on a premature action. Prior to this, rulings were necessary at almost every tournament. Has any other Director/Association taken this rule on board?—Michael Crane, Director, BIBA, Lincoln, England

Last month's "Rulings Contest" leads me to ask: Are we not due for an update of tournament rules that might include standard solutions to some of these and other situations that have arisen in the past few years?—Woody Woodworth

I really enjoyed this contest. All the problems were very thought-provoking and the idea for the feature itself was inspired. Lots of fun. Thank's Danny and Bill.—Jeremy Bagai, Philadelphia, PA

[Continued on page 7]

CHICAGO POINT's 1994 Listing of...

Backgammon Clubs In North America

Information for this listing has been obtained directly from the featured backgammon clubs. Changes are inevitable and we suggest that you always call before attending. As a service to our readers, CHICAGO POINT would like to maintain an accurate listing of Backgammon Clubs in North America. Please send information including updates, club closings and new clubs to: **CHICAGO POINT; 2726 W. Lunt Ave.; Chicago, IL 60645-3039.** Or FAX: 312/338-6384.

WEST

| CLUB NAME | LOCATION | CITY & STATE | MEETING ON | TIME | CONTACT | TELEPHONE | MAIL INQUIRIES TO |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|--------------------|--------------|---|
| Gammon Associates | Bombay Bicycle Club | Burbank, CA | Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Patrick Gibson | 818/901-0464 | 7641 Orion Avenue; Van Nuys, CA 91406 |
| Gammon Associates | Bombay Bicycle Club | Burbank, CA | Sunday | 2:00 PM | Patrick Gibson | 818/901-0464 | " |
| Backgammon Club of San Diego | Kopper Kettle | El Cajon, CA | Wednesday | 6:30 PM | Mike Fujita | 619/294-2007 | P.O. Box 178119; San Diego, CA 92117 |
| San Francisco Backgammon | Golden Gate Grill | San Francisco, CA | Tuesday | 7:45 PM | Doug Adsit | 415/931-4600 | 3200 Fillmore Street; San Francisco, CA 94123 |
| San Francisco Bridge & BG Club | Clubroom | San Francisco, CA | Mon., Wed., Fri. | 9:00 PM | Augie Hunt | 415/776-6949 | 777 Jones Street; San Francisco, CA 94109 |
| Colorado Backgammon | J.L.'s Cheers | Denver, CO | Tuesday | 7:30 PM | Earl Earp | 303/778-1105 | 102 W. 4th Avenue; Denver, CO 80223 |
| No. Nevada Backgammon Assn. | Rapscaillon Seafood House | Reno, NV | Thursday | 7:30 PM | Jim Allen | 702/329-1227 | 449 W. Plumb Lane; Reno, NV 89509 |
| Pacific NW Backgammon Assn. | Shakey's Pizza | Bellevue, WA | Monday | 7:00 PM | Chuck Breckenridge | 206/778-8181 | 18204 Olympic View Drive; Edmonds, WA 98020 |
| Puget Sound Backgammon Assn. | European Connection | Seattle, WA | Tuesday | 7:30 PM | Guy Thurber | 206/244-6737 | 428 SW 127th Street; Seattle, WA 98146 |

CENTRAL

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------|----------------------|--------------|--|
| Bloomington-Normal BG Club | Ride The Nine | Bloomington, IL | 1st/3rd/5th Tues. | 6:15 PM | Lane O'Connor | 309/454-1947 | 108 Riss Drive; Normal, IL 61761 |
| North Club | Office Building | Chicago, IL | Daily except Sun. | 12:30 PM | Greg Defotis | 312/286-6719 | 4747 W. Peterson Ave. 402; Chicago, IL 60646 |
| Chicago Bar Point Club | Golden Flame | Chicago, IL | Tuesday | 6:30 PM | Bill Davis | 312/338-6380 | 2726 W. Lunt Avenue; Chicago, IL 60645 |
| Chicago Bar Point Club | Braxton Seafood Grill | Oak Brook, IL | Sunday bimonthly | 12:30 PM | Peter Kalba | 312/252-7755 | 2510 W. Iowa Street; Chicago, IL 60622 |
| Pub Club | Cricketer's Pub & Grill | Glendale Hts., IL | Most Sundays | 1:30 PM | V.W. Zimnicki | 708/924-8632 | P.O. Box 72216; Roselle, IL 60172 |
| Pub Club | Fiddler's Restaurant | Villa Park, IL | Monday | 7:30 PM | V.W. Zimnicki | 708/924-8632 | " |
| Prime BG Club of Chicago | TJ's Lounge/Radisson Hotel | Lincolnwood, IL | Friday | 7:00 PM | Joann Feinstein | 708/674-0120 | 8149 Kenton; Skokie, IL 60076 |
| Central Illinois Backgammon Club | Chi-Chi's | Peoria, IL | Thursday | 6:30 PM | Ed Zell | 309/673-7622 | 1920 W. Sherman Avenue; Peoria, IL 61604 |
| Sangamon Valley BG Assn. | Parker's Sports Bar | Springfield, IL | Tuesday | 6:00 PM | Mark Kaye | 217/789-6275 | 2602 Peoria Road A; Springfield, IL 62702 |
| Sangamon Valley BG Assn. | Parker's Sports Bar | Springfield, IL | 1st Sat./Nov.-Apr. | 11:30 AM | Mark Kaye | 217/789-6275 | " |
| Winnetka Backgammon Club | Winnetka Community House | Winnetka, IL | Wednesday | 7:00 PM | Trudie Stern | 708/446-0537 | 4200 W. Lake 302C; Glenview, IL 60025 |
| Hoosier Backgammon Club | Spats | Indianapolis, IN | Thursday | 7:00 PM | Butch Meese | 317/845-8435 | 7620 Kilmer Lane; Indianapolis, IN 46256 |
| Flint Area Backgammon Club | Ramada Inn | Flint, MI | Thursday | 7:00 PM | Carol Joy Cole | 810/232-9731 | 3003 Ridgecliff Drive; Flint, MI 48532 |
| Plymouth Backgammon Club | Box Bar & Grill | Plymouth, MI | Wednesday | 7:30 PM | Dean Adamian | 313/981-5706 | 42954 Barchester; Canton, MI 48187 |
| Cavendish North BG Club | Clubhouse | Southfield, MI | Daily except Sun. | 1:00 PM | Joe Sylvester | 810/642-9616 | 30065 Greenfield Road; Southfield, MI 48076 |
| Minneapolis Backgammon | Minneapolis Athletic Club | Minneapolis, MN | Monday | 5:00 PM | Fred Kalantari | 612/339-4971 | 4701 Valley View Road; Edina, MN 55424 |
| Cleveland Area Backgammon | Boulevard Sports Tavern | Cuyahoga Falls, OH | Tuesday, Alt. Sat. | 6:30 PM | Irv Taylor | 216/663-7332 | P.O. Box 28515; Cleveland, OH 44128 |
| Austin Backgammon Assn. | Bombay Bicycle Club | Austin, TX | Monday | 7:30 PM | Jackie Seiders-Smart | 512/280-5945 | 7715 Copano Drive, Austin, TX 78749 |
| American Backgammon Club | Vickery Feed Store | Dallas, TX | Sunday | 6:00 PM | Kati Pratt | 214/827-8402 | 5631 Ellsworth; Dallas, TX 75206 |
| Dallas Backgammon League | Humperdink's | Dallas, TX | Wednesday | 7:45 PM | Rich Weaver | 214/620-7462 | 2682 Hearthstone; Dallas, TX 75234 |
| Houston Backgammon Club | Sidney's | Houston, TX | Tuesday | 8:00 PM | Jack Butler | 713/774-9439 | 5931 Reamer Street; Houston, TX 77074 |
| San Antonio Backgammon | Dad's | San Antonio, TX | Mon., Wed., Fri. | 8:00 PM | Marcel Mommers | 512/620-5210 | 3812 Greenridge Drive; Cibolo, TX 78108 |

(Continued on opposite side)

Backgammon Clubs In North America

(Continued from opposite side)

CENTRAL (continued)

| CLUB NAME | LOCATION | CITY & STATE | MEETING ON | TIME | CONTACT | TELEPHONE | MAIL INQUIRIES TO: |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------|------------|--------------|--|
| Milwaukee Backgammon Club | Gas Lite North | Milwaukee, WI | Wednesday | 7:00 PM | Marv Arnol | 414/355-8805 | 9031 N. 70th Street; Milwaukee, WI 53223 |
| Milwaukee Backgammon | Univ. of Wis.-Milwaukee | Milwaukee, WI | Occasional Fridays | 7:00 PM | Bob Holyon | 414/672-8359 | 911 South 11th Street; Milwaukee, WI 53204 |

NORTHEAST

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|--------------|---|
| College Park Backgammon Club | Promenade Cardroom | Bethesda, MD | 2nd & 4th Sunday | 12:00 N | Barry Steinberg | 301/530-0604 | 6100 Westchester Pk. Dr. T2; College Park, MD 20740 |
| Cavendish Club of Boston | Clubroom | Brookline, MA | Daily | 12:00 N | Carl Saldinger | 617/734-2230 | 111 Cypress Street; Brookline, MA 02146 |
| New England Backgammon Club | Sheraton Commander Hotel | Cambridge, MA | Sunday monthly | 12:30 PM | Seth Towle | 617/643-8154 | 975 Massachusetts Avenue 501; Arlington, MA 02174 |
| New England Backgammon Club | Sheraton Commander Hotel | Cambridge, MA | Monday | 7:30 PM | Seth Towle | 617/643-8154 | " |
| Granite State Backgammon Club | Folkway Restaurant | Peterborough, NH | Occasional Wed. | 7:00 PM | Lincoln Bedell | 603/863-4711 | South Road; East Lempster, NH 03605 |
| New Jersey Backgammon Assn. | Best Western Oritani Hotel | Hackensack, NJ | Tues. & Fri. | 7:45 PM | Ron Whitney | 201/833-2915 | 279 Glen Court; Teaneck, NJ 07666 |
| Ace Point Backgammon Club | Clubroom | New York, NY | Daily | 3:00 PM | Michael Valentine | 212/753-0842 | 41 E. 60th Street; New York, NY 10022 |
| Backgammon & Chess Express | Clubroom | New York, NY | Daily; Tour. Sun. monthly | 1:00 PM | Nick Rabchenok | 212/587-8038 | 64 Fulton Street 606; New York, NY 10038 |
| Coterie | Clubroom | New York, NY | Daily | 1:00 PM | Louise Goldsmith | 212/371-5151 | Private club. Telephone for information. |
| New York Chess & Backgammon | Office Building | New York, NY | Daily, Tour. Sunday | 12:00 N | Steve Manning | 212/302-5874 | 120 W. 41st Street 3; New York, NY 10036 |
| Saratoga Backgammon Club | Spa City Diner | Saratoga Springs, NY | Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Lee Hoge | 518/584-1714 | P.O. Box 563; Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 |
| Greater New York BG Club | Woodbury Ramada Inn | Woodbury, NY | Friday | 8:00 PM | Dr. Bob Hill | 718/341-3779 | 194-22 115th Road; Jamaica, NY 11412 |
| Cavendish Club of Philadelphia | Clubroom | Philadelphia, PA | Daily except Sunday | 1:00 PM | Ken Reiver | 215/473-9564 | 3801 Conshohocken Avenue; Philadelphia, PA 19131 |
| Pittsburgh Backgammon Assn. | Murphy's Tap Room | Pittsburgh, PA | Tuesday | 8:30 PM | Steve Hast | 412/823-7500 | 3560 Ridgewood Road; Pittsburgh, PA 15235 |

SOUTH

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|---|
| Suncoast Backgammon Assn. | New York, New York Lounge | Clearwater, FL | Mon. & Wed. | 7:00 PM | Drew Giovanis | 813/726-1398 | 25350 U.S. Hwy 19 N. 67; Clearwater, FL 34623 |
| South Florida Backgammon | Popfinger's | Ft. Lauderdale, FL | Sunday | 1:00 PM | Elayne Feinstein | 305/785-1282 | 2621 NE 7th Terrace; Pompano Beach, FL 33064 |
| Backgammon Club of N.W. Florida | Olde English Pub | Lynn Haven, FL | Thursday | 7:30 PM | Rick Bieniak | 904/773-2013 | P.O. Box 416; Wausau, FL 32463 |
| Orlando Backgammon | Coach's Locker Room | Orlando, FL | Tuesday | 7:30 PM | David Thomas | 904/736-2844 | P.O. Box 803, Deland, FL 32721 |
| Backgammon Society of Sarasota | Crazy Fox Tavern | Sarasota, FL | Tuesday | 7:30 PM | Cal Kendall | 813/486-9119 | 824 Capri Isle Blvd. 207; Venice, FL 34292 |
| Atlanta Backgammon | Tony's Grill & Tap | Roswell, GA | Wednesday | 7:00 PM | Dave Cardwell | 404/682-1969 | P.O. Box 956547; Duluth, GA 30136 |
| Backgammon In Louisville | Delta Lounge | Louisville, KY | 2nd & 4th Tuesday | 6:30 PM | Quint McTyeire | 502/896-9783 | 4906 Crofton Road; Louisville, KY 40207 |

CANADA

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|--|
| Calgary Backgammon | Buckingham Pub | Calgary, AB | Occasional Mondays | 7:00 PM | Hal Heinrich | 403/229-2024 | 402-1122 15th Ave. SW; Calgary, AB T2R 1K5; CANADA |
| Toronto Backgammon | Le Spot | Scarborough, ON | Thursday | 8:00 PM | Charles Morrison | 416/841-3523 | 135 Timpson Drive; Aurora, ON L4G 5N2; CANADA |
| Jackhammer's Backgammon | Jackhammer's | Scarborough, ON | Friday, Saturday | 7:00 PM | Al Jones | 416/434-8113 | 414 Century Street; Oshawa, ON L1K 1C6; CANADA |
| Nat'l Capital Backgammon Club | Lunegan's Pub | Vanier, ON | 1st Sun./Sep.-Jun. | 12:00 N | Eden Windish | 613/741-2530 | 396 Talbot Street; Ottawa, ON K1K 2N6; CANADA |
| Le Gammon | Clubroom | Montreal, QB | Daily, Tour. Thur. & Sun. | 2:00 PM | Michel Merlitti | 514/845-8370 | 552 St. Catherine East; Montreal, QB H2L 2E1; CANADA |

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 4]

1994 HOOSIER TOURNEY UPDATE

Scheduling Hoosier Backgammon Club tournaments for 1994 took a lot of thought. Our decisions were partially based on the repeated comments we've heard, i.e. "There are too many tournaments," and "The Hoosier Club is not large enough to justify having two major events each year." We appreciate these comments and also understand some player disappointment that there will be no National Labor Day Tournament in 1994.

In past even-numbered years, World Cup tournaments have been scheduled in early August, most recently in Dallas. This year, Kent Goulding had a scheduling problem during that period due to World Cup Soccer in Dallas. Kent worked with us, exploring the possibility of beginning World Cup IV on Labor Day. We agreed with him that having NLD on top of WC IV might cause some players to choose between events, possibly hurting the attendance of both. Kent has assured us that staging World Cup Backgammon over Labor Day is a one-time occurrence which means that the annual NLD tournament will return to Indy in 1995.

The Indiana Open was squeezed out of the 1994 Spring schedule by the Midwest Championships, Easter and the Tournament of the Americas in Costa Rica. With the information we had at the time, we chose to schedule the 42nd Indiana Open July 29-31 at the Radisson Hotel.

Hopefully, with the decisions we have made, no one will feel that there is a need to fill the weekend void prior World Cup IV which starts on Labor Day Monday. Bill Robertie and Kent Goulding have some great things planned for WC IV including the addition of an Advanced division. Hope to see you in Indianapolis and Dallas.—
Butch and Mary Ann Meese, HBC Directors, Indianapolis, IN

DO ICELAND MEMBERS COMPLAIN ABOUT 'COLD DICE'?

In Iceland, there are no backgammon publications and only recently I organized 20 players to form the first backgammon club in the country. We're now thinking about subscribing to a good BG newsletter and yours had been mentioned to me. Could you please send me a sample issue?—
Johannes Jonsson, Reykjavik, Iceland

Here's the January issue, Johannes. Be sure to thaw it in the microwave at low power for 30 seconds.—Ed. Δ

who did what

WINNER'S CORNER



Oct.-Dec. 1993

1st Israeli Open (Tel Aviv, Israel; 14-17 Oct.)... OPEN (48): 1-G. Karmeli, 2-A. Even, 3/4-I. Omrad / G. Slomo; 1C-I. Omrad, 2C-J. Sjolin; 1LC-S. Kagan. INTERMEDIATE (44): 1-R. Itskovits, 2-G. Daalgard, 3/4-H. Avitan / R. Nisimi; 1C-M. Avishar; 1LC-J. Sabi.

Campeonato Argentino 1993 (Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mondays in Nov.)... CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Clement Arazi, Juan Rosa (2), Celia Mauas, Oscar Franco. JUNIOR WINNERS: Paula Estacolchic (2), Sol Manzione, Pablo Ferrandini, Osvaldo Tundis. BEGINNER WINNERS: Pablo Fontana, Jorge Fernandez, Jorge Yudica, Ana María Garayalde, Judith Ohana.

Swedish Open (Stockholm, Sweden (4-7 Nov.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (47): 1-Kioomars Mostafavi (DEN), 2-Mats Carlsson, 3/4-Max Enqvist / Frederic Wrang; 1C-Jorma Tattari (FIN), 2C-Mika Inkinen (FIN). INTERMEDIATE (36): 1-Per Hildebrand, 2-Ulf Gustavsson, 3/4-Navid Saljoughi / Bernt-Åke Hamsted; 1C-Keyhan Saljoughi, 2C-Johan Mistell. BEGINNER (22): 1-Anders Ivarsson, 2-Eddie Hasselblad; 1C-Georg Wallin; 1LC-Tommy Rundquist. INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Sweden-Denmark 2-3... Results reported by Swedish Backgammon Federation Director Ulf Ring.

NEBC Sunday Monthly (Cambridge, MA; 14 Nov.)... EXPERT (24): 1-John Mansey, 2-Tom Costigan, 3/4-Andy Latto / David Wells; 1C-Ed Abou-Zeid, 2C-Albert Steg. A DIV. (11): 1-Brian Wall, 2-Ivan Birn, 3/4-Richard Morehouse / Mark Damish; 1C-Alex Perry, 2C-Ernesto Adrienzen. B DIV. (11): 1-Jim Sullivan, 2-Joel Johnson; 1C-Nate Grove, 2C-Dan West.

2nd International Turkish Championships (Istanbul, Turkey; 24-28 Nov.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (58 + 6 buy-backs): 1-Gordon Cross (GER), 2-Paul Magriel (USA); 3/4-Arie Seller (ISR) / A. Havens (RSA); 1C-G. Menasherov (ISR), 2C-Peter J. Thomsen (DEN), 3C/4C-Ismet Demirel (TUR) / Matthias Pauen (GER); 1LC-Kioomars Mostafavi (DEN), 2LC-Frank Talbot (USA); Ladies Prize: Antoinette Williams. INTERMEDIATE (22): 1-Sviilen Todorov (BUL), 2-Gitte Dalgaard (DEN), 3/4-N. Kitt (GER) / T. Omrad (ISR); 1C-M. Eskinazi (TUR), 2C-Wally Wolf (USA), 3C/4C-Yavuz Eren (TUR) / David Ben-David (ISR); 1LC-H. Kharratian (GER); Ladies Prize: Gitte Dalgaard... Director Abraham Eitan (NL) reports that Championship winner Cross received a guaranteed \$30,000 money prize—fantastic equity.

Campeonato Argentino 1993 (Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mondays in Dec.)... CHAMPION-

SHIP WINNERS: Rubén Neumark, Celia Mauas. JUNIOR WINNERS: Osvaldo Tundis, Paula Estacolchic. BEGINNER WINNERS: Judith Ohana, Mirna Rigesti... Congratulations to AAB 1993 Divisional Winners Juan Rosa (Champ) and Paula Estacolchic (Junior). Juan (a repeat champion) wins airfare to Nice, France. Paula gets a flight to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Winner of \$8000 auto was Andranik Safarian. Leonardo Fernández Balagué won airfare to Europe.

Bar Point Sunday Tournament (Oak Brook, IL; 5 Dec.)... OPEN (16): 1-Neil Kazaross, 2-Don Desmond, 3/4-Paul Franks / Don Jayhan; 1C-Tim Mabee, 2C-John Stryker. INTERMEDIATE (11): 1-Brigid O'Meara, 2-Arlene Levy, 3/4-Frankie Farjood / Alice Kay; 1C-Phyllis Smolinski, 2C-Mark Murray.

NEBC Sunday Monthly (Cambridge, MA; 12 Dec.)... EXPERT (19): 1-David Wells, 2-Ed Guleserian, 3/4-Evan Diamond / Garbis Zerdelian; 1C-Jay Giuttari, 2C-Ivan Birn. A DIV. (12): 1-Larry Yeager, 2-Ray Mosher, 3/4-Andres Corroder / Richard Morehouse; 1C-Grant Gibian, 2C-John Smidt. B DIV. (10): 1-Dylan Small, 2-Sue Curtis; 1C-Nate Grove, 2C-Nora Luna.

Holiday Tourney (New York, NY; 18 Dec.)... OPEN (23): 1-Karen Davis, 2-Ami Tennenbaum, 3/4-Alan Steffen / Alex Radish; 1C-Bob Bieder, 2C-Masaaki Aoki.

Christmas Tournament (Ascona, Switzerland; 27 Dec.)... INTERMEDIATE (22): 1-Maurizio Colombi, 2-Reto Arrigoni, 3/4-Alberto da Pra / Marco Moresi; 1C-Andrea Morach, 2C-Pio Domeniconi, 3C/4C-Danilo Frigerio / Flavio Malfanti. Δ



ILLINOIS ACTION



Bill Davis
312/338-6380
Peter Kalba
312/631-8350

Tuesday, 6:30 P.M. at Golden Flame, 6417 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago; 312/792-0424.

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

PUB CLUB: Tournaments Monday, 7:30 P.M. at Fiddler's, 345 W. North Ave., Villa Park. Chouette play most Sundays, 1:00 P.M. at Cricket's Pub & Grill, 602 W. North Ave., Glendale Hts. V. W. Zimnicki (708/924-8632.)

SANGAMON VALLEY BG ASSN: Tournaments Tuesday, 6:00 P.M. at Parker's Sports Bar, 2801 Peoria Road, Springfield. Randy Armstrong (217/528-0117).

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

WINNETKA BG CLUB: Tournaments Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. at 620 Lincoln, Winnetka. Trudie Stern (708/446-0537).

CENTRAL ILL. BG CLUB: Tourn. Thurs., 6:30 P.M. at Chi-Chi's, 4415 N. Rockwood, Peoria. Ed Zell (309/673-7622).

PRIME BG CLUB OF CHICAGO: Tourn. Friday, 7:00 P.M. at TJ's Lounge, Radisson Hotel, 4500 W. Touhy, Lincolnwood. Joann Feinstein (708/674-0120).

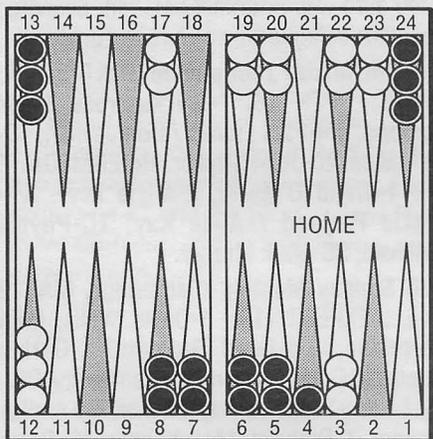
NORTH CLUB: Daily side play except Sunday at 4747 W. Peterson (402), Chicago. Greg Defotis (312/286-6719).

last month's position

PROBLEM #200 SOLVED

by Kit Woolsey

Match to 9 points. Black leads White, 4 to 3. **BLACK TO PLAY 3-3.**



Black has rolled a great number—one which at first glance looks like it plays automatically. There are two things Black wants to do: cover the blot on the 4-point and get his back men moving. The 3-3 roll allows him to do both with 24/21, 13/4. But what about defense? Should Black instead concentrate more on something like 24/18(2) or 24/21(3), 13/10?

Making the 4-point is *huge*. It builds the fifth part of a full prime, makes the next inner board point, and covers a blot that Black dearly wants to protect. In addition,

since Black is short on builders for the 4-point, locking it up now is even more important. Yes, Black will need a lot of justification to make any play other than 24/21, 13/4.

How important is it to build an advanced anchor here? It's certainly nice, but it's not vital. Black's back checkers are not fully blocked. White's bar point is open, and she's not favored to close it soon. This means that Black is in no great danger of losing a priming battle and going broke. After 24/21, 13/4 he will have two additional checkers on the midpoint to play with, as well as the checker he brings to the 21-point. This should give him all the time he needs to eventually extricate the other back men.

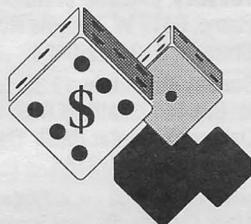
In addition, the suggested play starts to make an advanced anchor. Now that Black has made his own 4-point, White hits loose on her 4-point at her own risk. More reason to play 24/21, 13/4.

If White owned the bar point, then there might be a good case for getting everybody off the 24-point. If Black didn't take this opportunity to get them out now, he might not have a second chance. In the actual position, with the enemy bar point open, moving from the 24-point is not critical. "Offense before defense when possible" is a sound backgammon theme, as is accomplishing the goal which is most difficult to accomplish and most important to do quickly. 24/21, 13/4 follows all these principles. Δ

AMALGAMATION

Chicago's **Bobbie Shifrin** hit yet another poker machine Royal Flush at the recent Nevada State Champs... **Arnold Zousmer** (CA) and his wife spent New Year's Eve at the hottest ticket in the world: **Barbra Streisand** at the new MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas. Who were the other backgammon players in the audience?... **Jack Butler** does more than direct the Houston Backgammon Club. Last month he competed in a Senior Men's softball tournament at the Houston Astrodome and collected two hits. Not bad for a man 72 years young... A great feature of *European Backgammon News* is the "Places To Play" listing of current backgammon clubs in Europe. Write for subscription information to: **Martin de Bruin**, Editor; Paseo Maritimo Garrigues 78; 04630 Garrucha (Almeria); Spain... Thanks to *Games* magazine associate editor **Mark Danna** for including our Midwest Championships in the "1994 Game & Puzzle Events Calendar" (Feb. 1994 issue)... Congratulations to **Claudio Salamone**. The Argentina director is now internationally-recognized by the Worldwide Backgammon Fed.... **Harald Johanni** reports that Dec. 1993 is the last issue of *Das Backgammon Magazin*. But don't despair. Harald will premiere *Backgammon Magazin* including a new logo in March 1994. For details on the German language publication, write: Harald at Hochstr. 7, W-8500 Nürnberg 80, Germany. Δ

"Let the Good Times Roll."



16th Annual Pittsburgh Winter Backgammon Championships

February 18-20, 1994

Pittsburgh Greentree Marriott Hotel

- 1993 ABT Awards Ceremony
- Lower base main entry fees
- Optional Side Pools
- "Missing Person Reward"
- Master & Amateur Jackpot
- Quick Buck Blitz Tourney
- MicroBlitz & Fast Break
- ABT and KG-rated event

**Pittsburgh
Marriott
Greentree**

\$61/night
(double or single)

Make your
reservations
by Feb. 11

800/525-5902



To request an
invitation, call:

Steve Hast
(412) 823-7500

Be a Snake-Charmer.



18-20 March 1994

Chicago Marriott Oak Brook Hotel
Oak Brook, Illinois



Phone for an invitation:
Bill Davis 312/338-6380

Triple Your Trip.

\$300,000.00

Estimated combined total prize money (U.S. dollars) for the following three events:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Amsterdam (Holland) | Amsterdam Hilton | 20-23 January 1994 |
| Crans* (Switzerland) | Hotel du Golf | 31 Jan.-6 Feb. 1994 |
| Paris (France) | Hotel Lutetia | 10-13 February 1994 |

*Crans, one of the best skiing locales in the world, is only a one hour train ride from the Geneva Airport.

Organize your trip include all three destinations: Amsterdam to Geneva to Paris. The dates make it easy to accept this "Triple." For more details, see "Mark Your Calendar" on page 2.

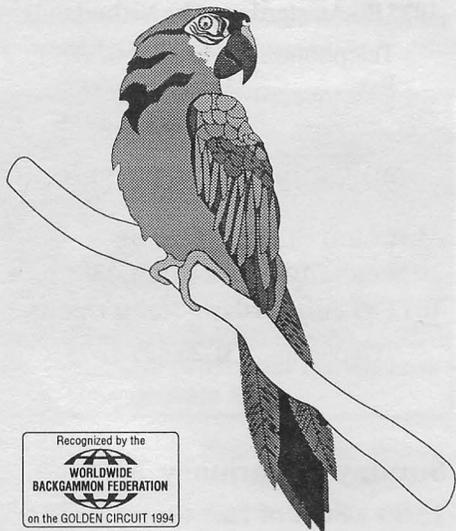
Thanks for coming. Have a nice Triple Trip and Lucky New Year 1994.

—Alberto da Pra, President, WBF

Recognized by the



on the GOLDEN CIRCUIT 1994



**COSTA RICAN
BACKGAMMON ASSOCIATION**
Mario Madrigal, President

ADMINISTRATION

Bill Davis, Director. Featuring Carol Joy Cole, Peter Kalba, Dru Heggen and ACB members.

Memories made here.

BACKGAMMON TOURNAMENT *of the Americas*

\$10,000 Added

April 27-May 1, 1994

Cariari Hotel & Casino, San José, Costa Rica

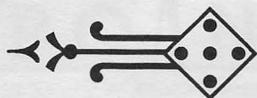
FEATURING . . .

- Confirmed seminars by Neil Kazaross and Joe Sylvester.
- Three Flight Tourney—three divisions.
- High Stakes El Cariari and the new Limited El Cariari.
- Doubles, Blitz, Piñata Jackpots.

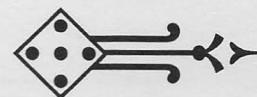
- Nature exploration from white water rivers to the tops of volcanoes.
- Fiestas with food and drink, music and dancing.

INVITATIONS AVAILABLE BY FEB. 1ST FROM:

Peter Kalba (IL) 312/271-8877
Mario Madrigal (CR) 506/40-84-95



THIRD DUTCH OPEN BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIP



Dear Backgammon Friend,

If you did not have the opportunity to participate in our very successful 1992 and 1993 Dutch Open Championships, we are proud to make you an offer you will find hard to refuse:

The Third Dutch Open Championship guarantees first place prize money of 50,000 Dutch Guilders to the winner without any restrictions.

This prize will make the Third Dutch Open Championship one of the tournaments with the biggest money prize in the world!

The tournament will be held at the Amsterdam Hilton, a great hotel with superb facilities, which will ensure you a pleasant stay in Amsterdam.

Hoping to have the honor of welcoming you, we send our very best regards,

Abraham Eitan, Director

Rob Zurel, Honorary Chairman

AMSTERDAM

20-23 JAN. 1994

AMSTERDAM

HILTON

**GUARANTEED MINIMUM
1ST PRIZE MONEY**

**hfl.
50.000,-
(Approx. \$27,000 us)**

Thursday, 20 January

15.00 Registration opens
15.30 Mini-Jackpots open
19.00 Registration closes
20.00 Start of Warm-up
Added prize: hfl. 3.000,-

Friday, 21 January

13.00 Registration opens
Warm-up tournament &

19.00 Mini-Jackpots continue
19.00 Registration closes
20.00 Welcoming cocktail & reception
21.00 Public Draw
21.30 Start of Tournament

Saturday, 22 January

13.00 Tournament continues
16.00 Start Super Jackpot

ENTRY FEES

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| CHAMPIONSHIP | hfl. 750,- |
| INTERMEDIATE | hfl. 400,- |
| BEGINNERS | hfl. 150,- |

100% return of all entry fees.

Championship registration fee—hfl. 150,-
Intermediate registration fee—hfl. 80,-
Beginner registration fee—hfl. 70,-

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

SPECIAL RATES FOR
TOURNAMENT PLAYERS:

Single or double hfl. 150,- per night
(Normally hfl. 395,-)

Please send or fax your reservation including your name and address, date of arrival, room type (single or double) and credit card information to:

**Amsterdam Hilton, Apollolaan 138
1077 BG Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

Telephone: 31-20-678 07 80
Fax: 31-20-662 66 88

FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Abraham Eitan, Director
2e Weteringdwarsstraat 43^{II}
1017 ST Amsterdam, Netherlands**

Telephone: 31-20-625 47 75

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday 23 January

13.00 Start of Last Chance
14.00 Start of Finals
16.00 Team tournament
(hfl. 300,- per team)
20.00 Award Ceremony & Farewell cocktail

A Ladies Tournament will be held with an added prize of hfl. 2.000,-