

turkish world cup V & giant jackpot

GRANDELL DOES IT AGAIN

Sweeps World Cup and Giant JP

by Harald Johanni

He won the Turkish Giant Jackpot in 1997, the Turkish World Cup IV in 1998, so why not win them both in 1999? That's exactly what the hottest player in the world, Jerry Grandell of Sweden did!

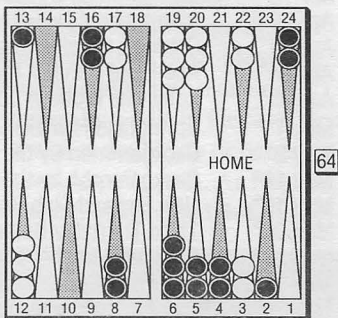
This year the beautiful Hyatt Regency Hotel in Istanbul hosted one of the biggest backgammon tournaments in the world 15-24 January. The cocktail party, gala dinner and the prize giving ceremony had the best food of any Istanbul tournament. In previous years, the players would go to the playing room immediately after dinner. But this year, the band at the gala dinner had many dancing until late in the

evening. Credit director Abraham Eitan with a great job.

Grandell actually lost a **GIANT JACKPOT** match in the quarter-entry level, but reentered and qualified. Victories over Russian Slava Pryadkin and Tom Zarrinnam (US), set up a quarterfinal match against Nack Ballard (US). In the tough battle, Jerry eventually prevailed via an 8-cube win.

Perhaps an easier match in the 25-point semifinals? I don't think so! With Grandell and Mike Senkiewicz (US) tied at 18-all, Mike had a tough 5-2 to play:

Position #1
Giant JP. 25-pt. semifinals.
Jerry Grandell (White) and Mike Senkiewicz (Black) are tied 18-all.
BLACK TO PLAY 5-2

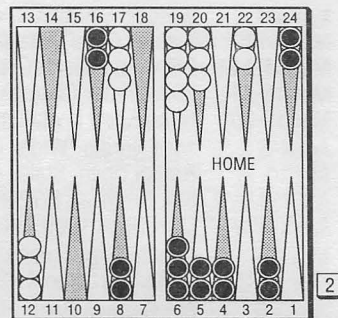


Mike (Black) should try to keep his position as flexible as possible. Black can't play 5s and 4s with his back checkers so he should make these numbers work for him on his side of the board. 13/6 is best! Now 4s cover the 2-point and 5s slot the ace.

Mike played 13/8, 6/4 and after 3-2:13/8 by Jerry, the man from NY rolled 5-4: 16/7, leaving two blots. Jerry correctly doubled and Mike correctly took.

After a hit by Jerry, Mike was able to stabilize his position and rolled 4-3:

Position #2
Giant JP. 25-pt. semifinals.
Jerry Grandell (White) and Mike Senkiewicz (Black) are tied 18-all.
BLACK TO PLAY 4-3.



An anchor on the 24-point is better none at all! 6/3, 8/4, preparing the board and not leaving the anchor is best. But Mike played 24/21, 8/4 giving up more than 1% of his winning

21st pittsburgh championships

KAZAROSS IS BACK

Rolls Over Competition in Pittsburgh

Caraplis Honored at '98 ABT Ceremony

After his record-setting American Backgammon Tour year in 1994, Chicago's Neil Kazaross went into a winless hibernation on the national scene. At this year's 21st Pittsburgh Championships, it was a different story. The An-Neil-ator woke up. Kazaross won six matches in a row to claim his first ABT title in nearly five years.



Neil Kazaross hits a critical shot in the finals of the Pittsburgh Championships.

This year's Pittsburgh charity event was again held at the Greentree Marriott 12-14 February. Director Steve Hast and staff did a fine job managing nearly 150 participants—a slight increase over 1998. And as usual, there was a bounty of good food and drink all weekend long.

Kazaross eliminated Mike Rezai (OH) in the semifinal round before facing New York Ace Point Club assistant manager Charlie Russell in the 15-point finals. A relative newcomer to tournament backgammon, Russell displayed a good deal of poise and confidence over the table. He played Kazaross even-up through the first four games. Then in game 5, Neil's skill



Turkish double champ Jerry Grandell.
[Photo by Harald Johanni.]

Grand Prix de Suisse
1999 October 26-31
LUGANO-SWITZERLAND

Grand Prix de Lugano
1999 August 18-22

CHICAGO POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Bill Davis

3940 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue 504
Chicago, IL 60659-3155

Tel: 773/583-6464 ♦ Fax: 773/583-3264

E-mail: chipoint@interaccess.com

<http://homepage.interaccess.com/~chipoint>

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Carol Joy Cole (MI)

Laila Leonhardt (IL)

Jake Jacobs (IL)

Antonio Ortega (C.R.)

Duane Jensen (MN)

Walter Trice (MA)

Danny Kleinman (CA)

Kit Woolsey (CA)

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CHICAGO POINT is published monthly. The subscription rate is \$30/12 issues (\$40 international airmail in USD check drawn on U.S. bank).

Advertising Rates: 2/3" 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

3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 504
Chicago, IL 60659-3155

E-mail: chipoint@interaccess.com

WOMEN IN BACKGAMMON: ANOTHER VIEW

Regarding the POINT's January 1999 article "Blonde's-Eye View of Sex in Backgammon," I completely disagree with it on every point. These words could be much stronger, but I'll try to be civil.

If Ms. Leonhardt wishes to stir the feminist pot, I would suggest she do so where it is needed. I do not believe that would be in the world of backgammon. I have yet to hear of any tournament or club that has barred women from participation. If the sport is open to all, then how can this be considered male-dominated? Just because men wish to play?

I do agree that there is an ego factor in this sport, but what sport isn't there? I don't believe it's directed at women however, but totally at the frustrations of losing.

[Continued on page 3]

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

NATIONAL

American Backgammon Tour events underlined.

Mar 5-7	Gammon Associates Invitational, A.R. Private Club, Los Angeles, CA	818/901-0464
Mar 6	Springfield Heineken Series #5, Peoria Pizza Works, Peoria, IL	217/483-4028
Mar 7	16th Fleet Underwood Memorial & Benefit, Ramada, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Mar 7*	Milwaukee Sunday Bimonthly, John Hawks Pub, Milwaukee, WI	414/463-2498
Mar 13*	Colorado State Championship, Cheers, Denver, CO	719/574-5598
Mar 14	New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA	508/829-3283
Mar 18*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Mar 19-21	<u>1999 Midwest Championships, Radisson Hotel, Lisle, IL</u>	<u>773/583-6464</u>
Mar 21	Backgammon by the Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	831/688-9722
Mar 21*	Austin Bimonthly Tournament, Bombay Bicycle Club, Austin, TX	512/261-8518
Mar 27	Clarine's Monthly Tournament, A.R. Private Club, Los Angeles, CA	213/822-9745
Mar 28	Ace Point Sunday Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, NY	212/753-0842
Mar 28	Louisville Monthly Tournament, Oldenberg Grill, Louisville, KY	502/458-9660
Apr 4*	Spring 1999 FIBS Tournament, via computer modem	E-mail: davide@sco.com
Apr 4*	Backgammon by the Bay, The Whole Shabang, Alameda, CA	831/688-9722
Apr 9-11	Nation's Capital Spring Tournament, Promenade, Bethesda, MD	301/530-0604
Apr 10	Springfield Heineken Series #6, Parker's Sports Bar, Springfield, IL	217/483-4028
Apr 11	New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA	508/829-3283
Apr 11	Bar Point Sunday Tournament, Anyway's Grill, Oakbrook Terrace, IL	773/583-6464
Apr 15*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Apr 18*	Backgammon by the Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	831/688-9722
Apr 20-25	International Twin Championships, Four Queens, Las Vegas, NV	702/893-6025
Apr 24*	Clarine's Monthly Tournament, A.R. Private Club, Los Angeles, CA	213/822-9745
Apr 25*	Ace Point Sunday Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, NY	212/753-0842
Apr 25*	Louisville Monthly Tournament, Oldenberg Grill, Louisville, KY	502/458-9660
May 1*	Springfield Heineken Grand Finale, Parker's Sports Bar, Springfield, IL	217/483-4028
May 2*	Backgammon by the Bay, The Whole Shabang, Alameda, CA	831/688-9722
May 16*	Backgammon by the Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	831/688-9722
May 16*	New England Club Bonus Tourney, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA	781/983-7852
May 20*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
May 29*	Clarine's Monthly Tournament, A.R. Private Club, Los Angeles, CA	213/822-9745
May 30*	Ace Point Sunday Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, NY	212/753-0842
May 30*	Louisville Monthly Tournament, Oldenberg Grill, Louisville, KY	502/458-9660
May 28-31	<u>20th Chicago Open, Wyndham NW Chicago Hotel, Itasca, IL</u>	<u>847/674-0120</u>
Jun 11-13*	<u>1999 Georgia State Championships & Peach Cup, Atlanta, GA</u>	<u>770/333-1876</u>
Jun 6*	Bar Point Sunday Tournament, Anyway's Grill, Oakbrook Terrace, IL	773/583-6464
Jul 2-5	<u>Michigan Summer Championships, Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi, MI</u>	<u>810/232-9731</u>
Jul 17*	27th Hawaii State Championships, Pacific Club, Honolulu, HI	808/735-5252
Jul 30-Aug 1*	<u>Thousand Islands Tournament, Pine Tree Point, Alexandria Bay, NY</u>	<u>716/442-8221</u>
Aug 13-15	<u>Minnesota State Championship, Location TBA, MN</u>	<u>612/378-1536</u>
Sep 3-6	<u>47th Indiana Open, Sheraton-Westin Hotel, Indianapolis, IN</u>	<u>317/255-8902</u>
Sep 24-26*	<u>Towpath Inn Tournament, Towpath Inn, Turin, NY</u>	<u>716/442-8221</u>
Oct 8-10	<u>Illinois Championships & America Cup, Holidome, Rolling Meadows, IL</u>	<u>847/945-7801</u>
Oct 8-10	<u>Nation's Capital Championships, Promenade, Bethesda, MD</u>	<u>301/530-0604</u>
Oct 15-17*	<u>1999 Florida State Championships, Days Inn, Ft. Lauderdale, FL</u>	<u>954/938-4304</u>
Nov 26-28*	<u>5th Thanksgiving Weekend, Belden Village Holiday Inn, Canton, OH</u>	<u>330/966-2811</u>

OUTSIDE USA

Mar 4-6*	1st St. Petersburg Open, St. Petersburg Hotel, Russia	7812-3254705
Mar 6-7	Ryddale Scottish Open, Stakis Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland	441522-888676
Mar 6-7*	Sydney Open Championship, Arncliffe Hotel, Sydney, NSW, Australia	612-95672294
Mar 11-14	35th Ted Bassett Cup & Pro Am, Palace Hotel, Gstaad, Switzerland	4161-2710137
Mar 18-21	25th Winter Championships, Palace Hotel, St. Moritz, Switzerland	4161-2710137
Mar 19-20*	Hong Kong Invitational, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong, China	8522-5231306
Apr 1-5	11th Nordic "Wide" Open, Scandic Hotel, Copenhagen, Denmark	4539-400607
Apr 10-11	British Open, Stakis Nottingham Metropole, England	441522-888676
Apr 26-May 2	5th <i>European BG News</i> Mayday Tournament, Almeria, Spain	34950-133009
Apr 30-May 2*	Oslo Open 1999, Bridgens hus, Oslo, Norway	4722-360966
May 8-9*	County Cups Trophy (Swiss #2), Stakis Nottingham Metropole, England	441522-888676
May 24-25*	bb99 Tournament #2, Great Barr Hotel, Birmingham, England	441522-888676
Jun 2-6	6th German Open, Hotel am Kaiserbrunnen, Brakel, Germany	49521-64314
Jul 8-12	City of Venice Tournament, Casinò Municipale, Lido, Venice, Italy	3941-5900769
Jul 10-11	Monte Carlo Warm-Up Weekend, Loews Hotel, Monte Carlo, Monaco	954/527-4033
Jul 12-18	World Championship, Loews Monte Carlo, Monaco	USA contact: 954/527-4033
Jul 22-25*	1st Czech Open, Casino Bellevue, Marienbad, Czech Republic	49911-40505
Aug 21-29*	3rd Mind Sports Olympiad, London, England	E-mail: mso@dickson.demon.co.uk
Sep 3-5*	European Championship/Mitteuropa Tourney, Nova Gorica, Slovenia	3902-40074658
Dec 8-12	6th Tournament of the Americas, Cancun, Mexico	USA contact: 773/583-6464

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

Many of the women who play backgammon today were introduced to the game by a man, perhaps a boyfriend or husband. Some have continued to play; others have not. This was purely by choice and not from the treatment received from other players.

Personally, I think that having an all-female tournament sends the wrong signal. More should be done at the grassroots level to promote backgammon to women. Teaching and suggesting reading material are just a few of the things that can be passed along to encourage more participation. Offering large payoffs in a tournament may bring in new players to watch, but not to stay. Even if new players try their luck, it will soon become evident that if they're not devoted to the sport, the chances of recovering their losses are slim.

I believe that these suggestions are a

more constructive approach towards attaining increased participation in our sport—both male and female. I'm sorry that Laila has received some dirty looks in the past. I think, however, that if this has been the case both here and abroad, she might want to check her attitude—or deodorant before screaming discrimination.—Ken Bruck, Fort Wayne, IN

STANDARDIZE ABT TOURNAMENTS

Bravo for the concept of the American Backgammon Tour. As each year passes, it becomes more important to create certain standards for each sanctioned event to increase the skill factor. I'm not talking about standardizing the format. Different tournaments (3-flight, double elimination, round robin) add interest. But I do think that at least in 3-flight and double elimination events, all main flight rounds should be played to a minimum of 11-points. Such was not the case at a few events last year.—Perry Gartner, Englewood, NJ

BG CLUBS IN NORTH AMERICA NOW ONLINE

Is "Backgammon Clubs in North America" somewhere on the Internet? I am always referring players to different clubs, and having it online would be great!—Renée Rosenbloom, Rochester Backgammon Club, NY

I just found the listing of backgammon clubs on the <www.bg-info.com> site. I had never seen such an extensive list before, so I congratulate you both on getting this together.—Jim Briggs, webmaster, Beltway Backgammon Club <<http://www.erols.com/briggs.belair/bbc.htm>>

Chicago Point maintains the list of Backgammon Clubs in North America and Laila Leonhardt graciously posts the material online at her bg-info website.—Ed.

WATCH OUT FOR THOSE POINT GIRLS!

I just got on the Web and decided to visit CHICAGO POINT Backgammon Online: <http://homepage.interaccess.com/~chipoint>. I clicked on the Drew Barrymore picture and was sent to a porn site. Were you aware of this link and if so, why is it on a backgammon site?—Thomas Polk, Long Beach, CA

That will teach you not to click on a pretty girl again! Be warned in the future (smile).

By the way, that link was to a celebrity site—not a porn site.—Ed.

[Continued on page 5]



AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 1999

Compiled through 14 Feb. 1999 after 1 tournament
(Upcoming in March: Gammon/Associates 43rd, 1999 Midwest Champs)



Neil Kazaross	20.29	Gary Marchenia	5.25	Paul Klein	4.06	Ed King	2.22
Carol Falk	11.03	Roger Nellist	5.06	James Roston	3.13	Kerim Urkun	2.14
Drew Giovanis	9.65	Howard Markowitz	4.76	Gary Fries	2.59	A.J. Fronce	1.05
Charlie Russell	9.29	Mike Rezaei	4.06	Jerry Kruth	2.22	Irv Taylor	1.05
John Brussel	5.88						

The top three finishers for 1999 will be honored at the 2000 Pittsburgh Championships with individually-engraved ABT marble trophies.



CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 1999 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED
THRU 28 FEB.

Steve Mellen	6.64	Bob Zavoral	2.32	Bill Davis	0.88	Marty Tatosian	0.48
Arlene Levy	4.16	Neil Kazaross	2.00	Laila Leonhardt	0.88	Sam Pottle	0.44
Tim Carroll	3.60	John Jennings	2.00	Glenn Martells	0.88	Harry Cohn	0.32
Paul Franks	3.52	David Araiza	1.84	Richard Lloyd	0.88	Georgina Flanagan	0.24
Harold Elgazar	3.52	Don Jayhan	1.76	Joe Wollick	0.72	Amy Valerio	0.24
Tak Morioka	3.36	Carter Mattig	1.76	Peter Kalba	0.72	Mark Murray	0.24
Jerry Brooks	2.56	Herb Roman	1.52	Phyllis Smolinski	0.72	Sonja Peacock	0.16
Brian Kozin	2.56	Bob Steen	1.28	Alice Kay	0.64	Ken Tyszko	0.16
Marc Rosset	2.56	Gary Kay	1.28	Mark Dalton	0.64	Richard Stawowy	0.12
Phil Simborg	2.56	Bill Keefe	1.12	Daniel Lillian	0.64		

January's Player of the Month was **STEVE MELLEN** who continued his winning ways from 1998. Runner's-up were Jerry Brooks (2.56) and Brian Kozin (2.56).

Newcomer **HAROLD ELGAZAR** won February BPC top honors with 3.52 points including an outright win on 16 February. Steve Mellen finished second earning 3.20 points. Arlene Levy and Tim Carroll tied for third with 2.56 points each.

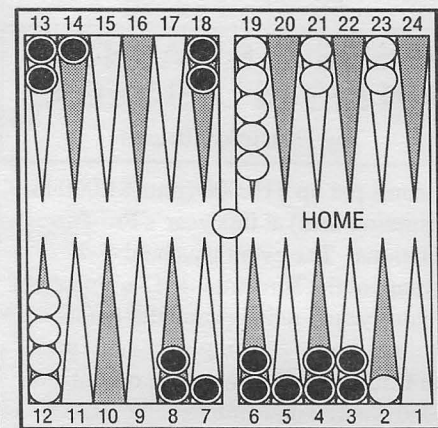
If you finish in the Top 20 for 1999 (bold names on list), you'll be entered in a drawing for over \$300 worth of valuable merchandise. The higher you finish, the better your winning chances. Individual awards: 1st—Trophy + \$150, 2nd—\$100, 3rd—\$50. 1st through 20th—one ounce solid silver dollar. 1st through 6th—Invitation to participate on the Chicago Bar Point Club team in the 2000 Illinois State Challenge Cup.

your move

PROBLEM #252

to be analyzed by Kit Woolsey

15-point Pittsburgh Championships. Neil Kazaross (Black) leads Charlie Russell (White), 7 to 3. **BLACK TO PLAY 4-1.**



SHADES OF GRAY

A RULES AND RULINGS COLUMN

© 1999 by Danny Kleinman

WHEN THE PIP FALLS OUT

Dear Danny: On January 6 at the Winnetka (Illinois) Club Awards Night, I was playing against Ed Buerger when a very unusual thing happened. I rolled what would have been a 6-1, but it was actually 6-0, as the white pip had fallen out. We found the pip on the floor at a later point, but couldn't say for sure how many rolls occurred with the pip missing. It should be noted that these were high quality precision dice, that were no longer precise with the ace pip missing.

The director Trudie Stern had never encountered anything like this before and wondered what rule covers this. Should I have to roll again? One die or both dice? Should the roll stand? Can the game be voided because there is no way to determine when the pip fell out and how it effected my rolls up to this point.—Roland Dieter, Deerfield, IL

DEAR ROLAND: it is desirable to play with the best dice available, for imperfections in the dice may produce probabilities of rolls that deviate slightly from the theoretical chances using fair dice. Therefore upon discovery of the fallen pip, that dice should be replaced if a superior die is available.

However, there is no reason to cancel the roll (which is a 6-1 despite the missing pip), the game, or the series of games that had been played using that die. The pip may have fallen out during the very roll when the "6-0" appeared or several shakes earlier. It's very unlikely that many rolls could have been made with a "0" face on

the die before anyone noticed. Regardless, there is no reason to think that the missing pip altered any of the rolls preceding its discovery. The current roll and all previous rolls in the game stand.

To rule otherwise would negate not only all the lucky and unlucky rolls cancelled but also the good and bad plays made by both players.

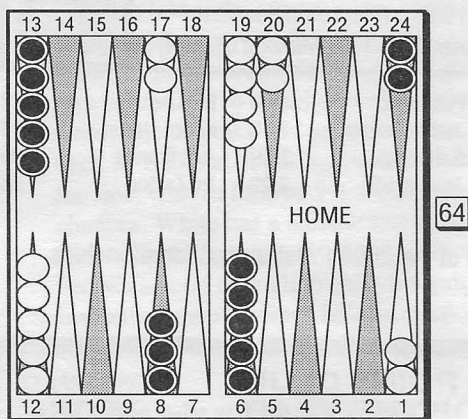
This presumes, of course, that neither player removed the pip in dubious hope of obtaining advantage.—Yours, Danny

THE HOROWITZ 6-6

Dear Danny: The following ruling question posed at rec.games.back-gammon by "Midas" generated more responses than any in recent memory. How would you rule on it?—Name withheld upon request.

I was playing in a small local tournament when a heated argument started between a regular player and a new Mediterranean guy. Here's what happened:

BLACK TO PLAY 6-6:



Black moved 24/7(2) and 13/18(2), obviously ending up with the correct structure but getting there in unorthodox

way! White protested that Black wasn't playing properly and said it was distracting. It turned into quite a row! Any thoughts?—Midas

DEAR MIDAS: What did Black play, double 6s or double 5s?

White should not have to figure it out, and the question should never arise. The rules say that players should move *clearly*. On this, Black's first roll of the game. Black's violation of the rules is harmless, for it is easy to figure out that in effect, Black played double 6s by moving 24/18(2), 13/7(2). However, it might not be so easy to figure out how "in effect" Black played some other roll at some other stage of the game. Furthermore, White should not have to expend the effort: it is hard enough already to watch for illegal moves while thinking about one's own strategy and contemplating possible cube turns.

White did well to protest immediately, before Black tried some "clever" way of playing some other roll later in the game, leading to confusion or dispute about what roll he played and from what prior position. In that case, the rules would give the benefit of any doubt to Black's opponent.

Did the director explain this to Black? If he had, Black might have accepted correction without arguing. Regardless, Black has no excuse for creating a row. Complying with the rules imposes no hardship on Black. Failure to comply, or continued arguing, forebodes trouble in case of substantive disputes. No director should stand for it.—Yours, Danny

Have you ever been involved in a questionable ruling? Get Danny Kleinman's opinion. Write to: Shades of Gray; c/o CHICAGO POINT; 3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 504; Chicago, IL 60659-3155.

rio pro-am invitational

RUSSELL & WACHTEL WIN BIG IN LAS VEGAS

by Patrick Gibson

20 teams put up \$15,000 (plus \$1,000 in registration fees) at this year's Pro-Am Invitational. The event was held 4-7 February at the Rio Hotel in Las Vegas. In previous years, it had been held in the Bahamas. Lewis Deyong (England) and John Rockwell (CA) were the organizers.

Joe Russell and Bob Wachtel (CA) defeated Abe Mosseri and Matvey

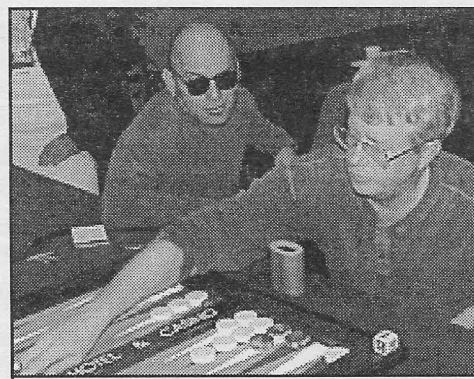
Natanzon (NY) in the doubles finals 23-12. Complete results appear below. Δ

RIO PRO-AM INVITATIONAL

RIO PRO-AM DOUBLES (20): 1-Joe Russell & Bob Wachtel, 2-Abe Mosseri & Matvey Natanzon, 3/4-Kit Woolsey & Donald Kahn / Paul Magriel & Steve Zolotow

\$2000 ENTRY JACKPOTS: 15 Players: 1-Tom Zarrinnam, 2-Malcolm Davis; 8 Players: 1-Howard Markowitz; 13 Players: 1-Danny Mayfield, 2-Kent Goulding.

\$1000 ENTRY JACKPOTS: 8 Players: 1/2-Kent Goulding / Elliott Winslow; 4 Players: Michael Ramsey.



The Pro-Am Doubles finals: Joe Russell "brings it home" as Bob Wachtel looks on. [Photo by Patrick Gibson.]

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 3]

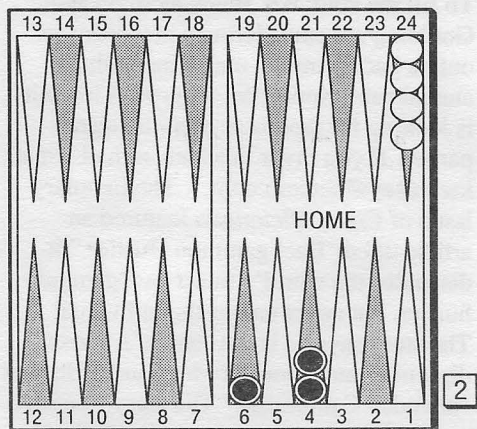
It is interesting to notice that Claudia Shiffer is the CHICAGO POINT Online girl of the month. Has she started to play backgammon at your club? If the answer is yes, I leave the Italy and I become a member immediately of your club!—*Marco Zuppone, Rome, Italy*

THE ZERO EQUITY POSITION

I just received the Jan./Feb. POINT today and read it from cover to cover. Enjoyed all the articles, results and advertisements. But on page 7 in the Letters section, you left out the position from Dean Muench's bearoff that is the only position of 5-men or fewer that has zero equity. Share it with us, please.—*Patrick Gibson, Van Nuys, CA*

Sorry about that! Here it is, better late than never.—*Ed.*

Zero equity position from Dean Muench's Grizzly Bearoff Contest (March, April 1989 POINT). **BLACK ON ROLL.**



The recent Letters question about zero equity positions by Helge Keller was very interesting. The location of the cube in the 8 vs. 3,1 position was not specified. There are of course four cube positions: Black, White, centered and cubeless. The answer Helge gave was accurate for only the Black (player with a checker on the 8-point) and cubeless positions. In the White (3-point, 1-point) or centered position, White would double Black out on all positions where Black's roll was less than eight pips, so that he would only win 17/36.

Incidentally, Dean's computer calculation of 850,084 cases was actually for bearoffs where *all* remaining checkers were in the inner board which was not the case (and would not necessarily always be the case) in the "simple" bearoff position posed by Helge. Although your reply

indicates 5 men (all in the inner board, which you did not specify) it seems that Dean's calculations probably meant 6 men.

Dean's 850084 is the square of 922. It seems that there are 923 possible *inner board* positions for each side with 6 men or less. Although Dean may have missed 1845 possible inner board positions of 6 men or less (923 squared minus 922 squared = 1845), these are not all the "simple" bearoff positions Helge refers to (defined as 6 men each or less).

I for one would be happy to see other "simple" bearoff positions including those with one or more men *outside* the inner board analyzed by some of our backgammon computer experts.—*Ed Buerger, Wilmette, IL*

Pity you forgot to include the position when responding to last month's letter about zero equity.

Another position which is easy to see zero equity is: Black has one on the 9-point, White has one on the 6-point and Black is on roll with the cube. Black wins outright 12/36 times. If he misses and White misses, Black claims with the cube, so of his 24 misses, he wins 6 of them, coming to 18 games.

I'm sure one could construct a position with a centered cube which has zero equity. But is there a position which is zero equity cubeless? If so, I don't know about it, and would be very interested in such a position.—*Kit Woolsey, Kensington, CA*

MORE "JELLY" NUMBERS

I thought I'd add my nickel's worth to the controversy over whether JellyFish™ rolls better than it should. Keeping track over a period of about 100 five point matches, these were the numbers I came up with in four categories:

Winning First Roll: JellyFish = 203, Norm = 178

Good Working Doubles in Races and Bearoffs: JellyFish = 145, Norm = 96

Desperation Hits: JellyFish = 22, Norm = 10

I did best in one category . . .

Flunking on a One Point Board: JellyFish = 27, Norm = 49

Two of these categories are to a small degree, subjective. Also, It may be that some of my good rolls were overlooked while I seldom or never overlooked Jelly's good rolls. However, that wouldn't explain the gross differences between the figures. Anyway, that's one more voice heard from.—*Norm Wiggins, Quartz Hill, CA Δ*



LADY'S TREASURE TOURNEY FILLS

Clarine of West Hollywood, CA anted up \$9,000 to claim the last space in the Lady's Treasure tournament. The special event to be held at this year's Midwest Backgammon Championships brings four of the top ladies in the world together to do battle for a winner-take-all prize of \$35,000.

Competing 19–21 March at the Radisson Lisle Hotel (a suburb of Chicago) are:

1. Laila Leonhardt (Denmark/Chicago, IL)
2. Antoinette-Marie Williams (New York, NY)
3. Mika Lidov (New York, NY)
4. Clarine (West Hollywood, CA)

The format will be best 2-out-of-3 matches to 9 points with a chess clock. All matches will be videotaped by Larry Strommen.

The winner's trophy is a hand-painted Kosta Boda glass artpiece ("Open Minds") made in Sweden and valued at \$250.

For Midwest Championships information, contact Bill Davis at 773/583-6464 or go to the MBC website at: <http://homepage.interaccess.com/~chipoint/mbchome.html>

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March 19–21

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Tuesday, 6:15 P.M. at Golden Flame, 6417 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago; 773/792-0424.

Sunday Bimonthly, 12:00 NOON at Anyway's Chicago Grill & Bar, 5 E. Roosevelt Rd., Oakbrook Terrace; 630/932-9323.

PUB CLUB: Tourn. Mon., 7:30 P.M. at Tortilla Flats Cancun, 290 S. Schmale, Carol Stream. Joe Wollick (847/755-0887).

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY: Tourn. Monday, 7:00 P.M. at The Clique, 2347 S. Michigan, Chicago. Reginald Porter (773/471-5066).

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL BG CLUB: Tournaments Monday, 6:30 P.M. at Ride The Nine, 503 N. Prospect, Bloomington. Gary Daniels (309/452-3034)

SANGAMON VALLEY BG ASSN: Tournaments Wednesday, 6:30 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 Chibnik (847/446-0537).

PEORIA BACKGAMMON CLUB: Tourn. Thurs., 6:30 P.M. at Peoria Pizza Works, 3921 Prospect, Peoria. Ed Zell (309/674-0557).



Robbery at the 1998 Nordic Open: What's Being Done?

by Laila Leonhardt

Last year, there was something rotten in the State of Denmark. No, it wasn't Hamlet afoot, but a group of professional thieves that emptied the safe deposit boxes at the Radisson SAS hotel in Copenhagen during last year's Nordic "Wide" Open. Over Easter weekend, the pros made off with 900,000 Danish kroner DKr (about \$135,000) in prize money. In 18 minutes, 27 safe boxes were opened and robbed, while the hotel staff was distracted by some commotion in the lobby.

Frank Fiskers, the hotel's General Manager, immediately took full responsibility for the theft. Prior to start of play the day after the heist, he publicly assured both players and the Federation that the entire amount would be paid out very quickly. Fiskers agrees in the 29 January Politiken that insurance payments to the Danish Backgammon Federation (DBF) have been very slow. He also adds that he had told the Federation and the players not to worry since the hotel is fully insured for money stolen from hotel safe boxes. But in spite of this, no money has yet been paid to the tournament winners (although some players who had their individual boxes robbed have been paid).

The DBF has frequently tried to get a response from the Radisson SAS and their insurance company as to when they could expect the settlement. No firm statement has been forthcoming. Now several players are threatening the Federation with lawsuits unless something is done.

Late last year, DBF chairman Thomas Bræmer-Jensen learned that the Radisson received 200,000 DKr from their insurance company for coverage of the theft. Bræmer-Jensen contacted the Radisson stating that the Federation expected to receive that money as partial payment of the stolen 900,000 DKr. But the Federation received nothing and responded by subpoenaing the Radisson SAS in December 1998.

Soon it will be time for the 11th Nordic "Wide" Open (1-5 April) and 40 winners from last year have yet to be paid their \$100,000+ prize monies. A court battle lies ahead.

WHERE DOES THE FEDERATION STAND after this? What will happen to the best-attended tournament in the world?

The Federation arranges the Nordic Open; not the tournament staff. They annually make a profit of approximately \$5000 on the tournament (due to very low registration fees and jackpot fees)—not a lot of money when you're talking about covering a \$135,000 loss.

Should promoters be able to run a big-money tournament if they are unable to guarantee prize money, even in the case of a freak robbery? If so, there might not be many tournaments left to attend, at least not with big prize money.

This theft and the one in Malmo, Sweden (September 1997), both raise some sensitive issues on tournament director's/organizer's responsibility when running a tournament. Putting the money in an insured hotel safe deposit box must be considered a sensible action, and most likely one of the factors why the Federation has not lost face and (hopefully for them) attendance at the upcoming Nordic Open. According to Bræmer-Jensen, there will be a number of players attending this year's Nordic Open that are still owed prize money. Last year's unpaid champion Martine Oulés and Paul Magriel have both expressed the intention of venturing back to Denmark this Easter.

The general attitude seems to be that the Danish Federation in good faith, intrusted last year's prize money with the Radisson in their insured safe deposit box, and that the "bad guys" in this case are the Radisson and their insurance company. This, I might add, also seems to be the attitude in the Danish press.

NEXT MONTH'S NORDIC OPEN will be held at the Scandic hotel across from Tivoli in the heart of Copenhagen. The Federation has hired an insured guard service that will be present at the registration and take full responsibility for the money. They will also be present when the money is paid out to the winners. So the risk of stolen prize money has been eliminated.

This raises an important and somewhat troubling question: Will armed guards now become a common sight at backgammon tournaments across the globe?—Laila Δ

AMALGAMATION

On the *Jeopardy* Tournament of Champions semifinals 15 February, the category was "Dice Roll Nicknames." Here were three of the answers: 1-Hobo's delight on a rainy night. 2-Square pair. 3-Texas Sunflowers. What are the correct questions? Answer later in this column... **Carol Joy Cole** (MI) sent us an article from the *Flint Journal* on the increase of area codes in Michigan. Former Chicago BG expert **Kathy Posner** was spotlighted. President of Comm 2 public relations firm, Kathy has at least 13 phone numbers registered to her name. "I'm part of the problem," she says... **Laila Leonhardt** (IL) just returned from a visit to Denmark where she helped celebrate her mom's 50th birthday... He did it. **Kent Goulding** (MD) finally shaved off his moustache... Chicago to Sweden: **Jannica Tornqvist** whose US visa ran out... After eight years, **Bill Robertie** (MA) is ending publication of *Inside Backgammon*. He and partner Kent Goulding said the magazine was simply too time-consuming to continue. To fill the void, **Kit Woolsey** (CA) and Goulding are considering a new idea: an online backgammon magazine with an annual subscription fee (approx. \$36). Kit is looking for feedback from interested parties. If you favor this idea, e-mail Kit at: kwoolsey@netcom.com... The February issue of *Cigar Aficionado* featured an article titled "Backgammon Hustler." It discusses the world's finest backgammon hustler, but never names the individual. The story says he is the "son of a career diplomat" and "born in Maryland." He also "attended Cambridge." The story also says some of the facts have been changed to protect his identity. Any ideas?... **Jim Moore** (UK) recently informed all members that his Inner Table Backgammon Club has disbanded... Thanks to author **Marilyn Wann** who mentioned the CHICAGO POINT in her new book *Fat! So?... Because You Don't Have to Apologize For Your Size!* (ISBN: 0-89815-995-4) We're on the "Everyone Needs A Hobby" page, along with the *Flint Backgammon News*... Congrats to Carol Joy Cole (MI) on her 12 February retirement from the Flint Public Library with 30+ years of service... The correct *Jeopardy* questions (from above) were: 1-What is 6-6?, 2-What is 4-4? and 3-What is 5-5?... Finally, Historical chess master **Tartakower** gives us a quote more fitting for backgammon: "The player who plays best in a tournament never wins first. He wins second and finishes behind the player with the most luck." Δ

WINNER'S CIRCLE



Dec. 1998–Feb. 1999

•**NEBC Sunday Monthly** (Cambridge, MA; 13 Dec.)... EXPERT (19): 1-Garbis Zerdalian, 2-Ivan Birn, 3/4-Dan Chicoine / Mark Damish; 1C-Jim Pascoe, 2C-Seth Towle. A DIV. (7): 1-Joe Moore, 2-Marty Gross; 1C-John Schmidt, 2C-Jim Sullivan.

•**United Kingdom Finals** (Birmingham, England; 12-13 Dec.)... CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS (8): 1-Brian Busfield, 2-Peter Ozanne. OPEN (60): 1-John Broomfield, 2-Emmanuel Ei Bona; 1C-Uldis Lapikens, 2C-Paul Stokes. FRIDAY NIGHT KO (27): 1-Peter Ozanne, 2-Bill Spiers. DOUBLES (14): 1-Bellringers. CRACKSHOT (60): 1-Simon K. Jones, 2-Paul Barwick. SUICIDE! (26): 1-John Hurst, 2-Tim Mooring.

•**Bright 'n Breezy** (Brighton, England; 2-3 Jan.)... OPEN (88): 1-Jim Johnson, 2-Dod Davies, 3/4-Dale Taylor / George Sulimirski; 1C-Paul Lamford, 2C-Diana Sulimirska; 1LC-Uldis Lapikens, 2LC-Sue Perks. FRIDAY NIGHT KO (38): 1-Brian Busfield, 2-Jac Arama. DOUBLES (20): 1-Caira & Her Font of Wisdom, 2-John & The Voices. TIDAL WAVE! (52): 1-Jeff Barber, 2-Nick Check.

•**4th Thailand Open** (South Pattaya, Thailand; 5-10 Jan.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (27): 1-Goran Hasselquist (THAI), 2-Joachim Johansson (SWE), 3/4-Tommy Grant (UK) / Peter Mautendorfer (GER); 1C-Andreas Schmitt (GER), 2C-Börje Sundbom (SWE); 1LC-Robin Swaffield (HK). INTERMEDIATE: 1-Gerhard Schulze (GER), 2-Khun Tiwa (THAI); 1C-Khun Naam (THAI); 1LC-Michael Burkhart (GER). SUPERJACKPOT (16): 1-Paul Czapor (GER). CHOUETTE TOURNAMENT (20): 1-Paul Czapor (GER), 2-Joachim Johansson (SWE). LADIES TOURNEY: 1-Melody Rae (HK), 2-Khun Khem (THAI)... *Thanks to Jake Jacobs for the results.*

•**Springfield Series #3** (Springfield, IL; 9 Jan.)... OPEN (14): 1-Greg Tomlin, 2-Mark Jennings; 1C-Ben Zemaitis, 2C-Vinton Knarr; 1LC-Michael Plog.

•**NEBC Sunday Monthly** (Cambridge, MA; 10 Jan.)... EXPERT (20): 1-Marty Storer, 2-Ed Abou-Zeid, 3/4-Garbis Zerdalian / Mark Damish; 1C-Jay Giuttari, 2C-Alex Zamanian. A DIV. (10): 1-Marcus Hermansen, 2-Tom Girnius, 3/4-Joe Moore / Yoav Elinesky; 1C-Marty Gross, 2C-Howard Peele.

•**Backgammon by the Bay Monthly** (San Mateo, CA; 17 Jan.)... OPEN (16): 1-Paul Albert, 2-Roger Gabrielson; 1C/2C-Timothy Jaxon / Kit Woolsey. INTERMEDIATE (11): 1-Glenn Nunez, 2-Pat Hruley; 1C-Sho Sengoku, 2C-Christian Stoddard. BEGINNER (6): 1/2-Alfredo Pereira / Cedric Gildoni.

•**Milwaukee Sunday Bimonthly** (Milwaukee, WI; 24 Jan.)... OPEN (10): 1-Sam Pottle, 2-Gerry Vangsness; 1C-Tom Machaj. INTERMEDIATE (5): 1-Barbara Levinson (IL).

•**Clarine's Monthly** (Los Angeles, CA; 30 Jan.)... OPEN (8): 1-Steve Sax, 2-Ray Foglerlund.

•**Ace Point Super Bowl Tournament** (New York, NY; 31 Jan.)... OPEN (15): 1-Alex Rasic, 2-Mads Anderson, 3/4-Jes Bondo / Harry Cohn; 1C/2C-Karen Davis / Eugene Gold. INTERMEDIATE (11): 1-Fred Fado, 2-Joe Miller; 1C-Kathryn Hanson. NOVICE (3): 1-Robert Regan.

•**Gedigian Annual Super Bowl Party Tourney** (Los Angeles, CA; 31 Jan.)... OPEN (22): 1-Ron Bruns, 2-Ray Foglerlund, 3-Jerry Hays; 1C-Norm Wiggins, 2C-Patrick Gibson.

•**Springfield Series #4** (Springfield, IL; 6 Feb.)... OPEN (31): 1-Neil Kazaross, 2-Alice Kay; 1C-Tak Morioka, 2C-Cliff Mayoh; 1LC-William Hutchison.

•**Jarvis Trophy** (Leicester, England; 6-7 Feb.)... OPEN (70): 1-Rob Dean, 2-John Gale, 3-Jeff Barber, 4-John Broomfield. FRIDAY NIGHT KO (12):

1/2-Kevin Stebbings / Jim Johnson. DOUBLES (12): 1-Glen Hoddle's Boys, 2-Not Colin's Mates.

•**Backgammon by the Bay Monthly** (Alameda, CA; 7 Feb.)... OPEN (14): 1-Johathan Weinstein, 2-Paul Albert.

•**Bar Point Sunday** (Oakbrook Terrace, IL; 21 Feb.)... OPEN (12): 1-Tak Morioka, 2-Harold Elgazar, 3/4-Peter Kalba / Harry Cohn; 1C-Carter Mattig, 2C-Bill Keefe. INTERMEDIATE (11): 1-Sam Pottle (WI), 2-Amy Valerio, 3/4-Sonja Peacock (WI) / Ken Tyszko; 1C-Mark Murray, 2C-Richard Stawowy.

•**Backgammon by the Bay Monthly** (San Mateo, CA; 21 Feb.)... OPEN (15): 1-Paul Albert, 2-Nicky Niknam; 1C-Roger Gabrielson, 2C-Beth Skillman. INTERMEDIATE (8): 1-Richard Gibson, 2-Sho Sengoku; 1C-Chris Bradford. BEGINNER (3): 1-Avo Sadakian. Δ

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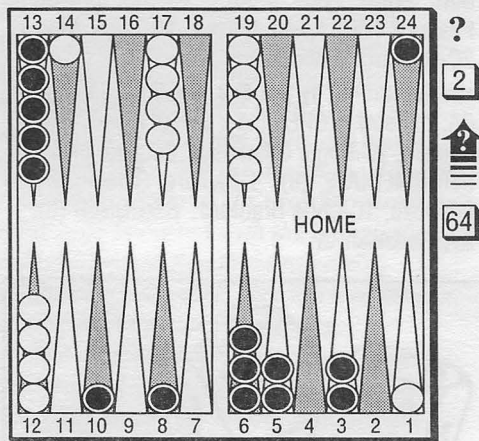
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PROBLEM #251 ANALYZED

by Antonio Ortega

17-point match. White leads Black, 14 to 10. Black to roll. **CUBE ACTION(S)?**



This position arose early in a game between two of the best players in the 1997 Tournament of the Americas in Costa Rica. Though Black enjoys only a modest lead in the race (eight pips plus the shake), he has made the 5-point and another good inside point, while White's only progress has been to bring one back man around to his outer board.

Black has a flexible position: no devastating rolls, but many minor threats utilizing most of his numbers. He can make the bar-point or the 4-point; hit White's outfield blot; hit (sometimes point on) Black's back man; run his own back man out to the midpoint; make the 9-point; or remake the 8-point (often bringing another man down from the midpoint). The only rolls that do none of these good things are 2-1 and 4-3. Even so, they make the mildly useful 10-point.

While White retains hope of attacking or containing Black's back man with useful

doublets, hitting in the outfield or springing his own back man, he also faces gammon danger with his stacked, undeveloped position if Black attacks his back man or sends another man back. In money play, this looks like a minimum double for Black and an easy take for White.

To confirm my appraisal, I performed 15,552 rollouts using JellyFish 3.0 at Level 5:

	White Owns 2-Cube	Cube Centered
BLACK WINS:		
Plain game	36.7%	76.9%
Gammon	19.7%	2.9%
Backgammon	0.4%	0.1%
WHITE WINS:		
Plain game	41.8%	19.6%
Gammon	1.4%	0.4%
Backgammon	0.0%	0.1%
Black's Equity	+0.654	+0.623

Trailing 10-14 in a 17-point match, Black has a stronger incentive to double and White must be wary of taking for two reasons:

1. If White takes, the cube is almost (but not quite) frozen. Black can seldom afford to pass a redouble that would put him behind 10-16 entering the Crawford Game. He can take and send the cube back to White at 8, putting the match on the line, with as little as 9% winning chances. White has a narrow and very high redoubling window; if his position becomes good enough to cash, his gain is relatively small, since he's an overwhelming favorite to win the game anyway.
2. With the cube at 2, gammons don't work fully for White (one of the two extra points is wasted).

Do these score considerations suffice to turn a clear money take into a pass?

If White passes, his match-winning chances leading 14-11 are about 71.5%. To

warrant taking, he needs at least 71.5% match-winning chances owning a 2-cube. JellyFish rollouts with a live cube are inappropriate because cashpoints and gammon prices differ substantially from money play. Therefore I used JellyFish in another way.

I performed 1296 cubeless JellyFish rollouts at Level 6 with JellyFish's variance reduction, a procedure that compensates for random deviations of the dice rolls and yields about the same accuracy as 30,000 manual rollouts. Then, multiplying the frequency of each outcome by White's match-winning chances at the resulting score, I was able to calculate White's equity as shown in the following chart:

	Cubeless	White's Score & Match Chances
WHITE LOSES:		
Plain game	42.0%	14-12 0.658
Gammon	22.4%	14-14 0.500
Backgammon	0.4%	14-16 0.250
WHITE WINS:		
Plain game	29.2%	16-10 0.913
Gammon	5.6%	wins 1.000
Backgammon	0.4%	wins 1.000

White's Match Equity = 71.60%

Too close to call? Not exactly. White has some cube vigorish, even though small. About one game in three, White will be able to cash with better than 91% game-winning chances, or redouble Black profitably with slightly less. The take is slim but clear.

When the match was played, Black correctly doubled. White (usually a fast player) thought for about six minutes, a reflection of the closeness of the decision. Then he passed.

Suppose the score were slightly different, with White leading 15-10 instead of 14-10. Then neither gammons nor the cube would be useful to White in the slightest, and his pass would be clear. Δ

GRANDELL...

[Continued from page 1]

chances and 10% more gammon losses.

Senkiewicz was punished for his error. Jerry closed Mike out, won a gammon and eventually won the match 25-19.

SPACE DOESN'T PERMIT my report on the finals (where Jerry defeated Leonid Riskin 25-13) or coverage of the World Cup V (Jerry defeated Israel's Joel Schiff 23-18). The complete tourney report will appear in the next issue of *Backgammon Magazin*.—Harald Johanni [To order Harald's magazine, see page 7—Ed.]. Δ

TURKISH WORLD CUP V & GIANT JACKPOT

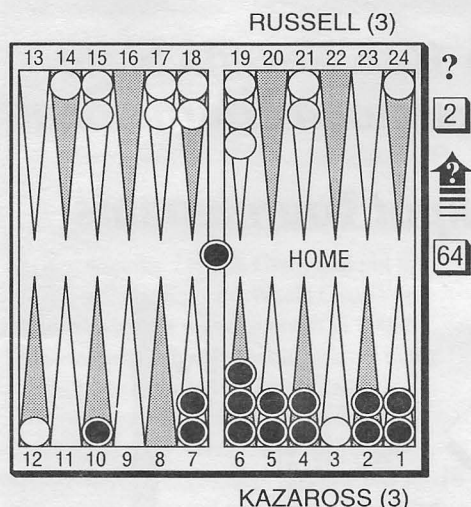
CHAMPIONSHIP (103): 1-Jerry Grandell (SWE), 2-Joel Shiff (ISR), 3/4-Lothar Wolf (GER) / Chris Ternel (DEN); 1C-Carsten Joh (GER), 2C-Philippe Bimes (FRA), 3C/4C-François Tardieu (FRA) / Shahab Godsi (IRN); 1LC-Gregory Abesadze (GEO), 2LC-Mario Mei (SWZ). INTERMEDIATE (16): 1-Ilia Shaniidze (GEO), 2-Kolya Mosoyan (ARM), 3/4-Jakov Nepomniachi (RUS) / Melody Rae (HK); 1C-Dorin Vianu (RUM), 2C-Martin de Bruin (SPN). BEGINNER (23): 1-Levent Sirin (TUR), 2-Auni Olcay (TUR), 3/4-Andreas Schmitt (GER) / Anna Høskuldson (DEN); 1C-Ingeborg Wais (AUS), 2C-Georgi Tukhareli (GEO); 1LC-Muhammed Ali Baba (TUR), 2LC-Pia Rasmussen (DEN). LADIES PRIZE: Kazuko Numazawa (JPN). GIANT JACKPOT (\$5000): 1-Jerry Grandell (SWE), 2-Leonid Riskin (RUS/GER), 3/4-Amshel Nadjar (FRA) / Mike Senkiewicz (USA). SUPER JACKPOT #1 (32): 1-Leinid Riskin (RUS/GER), 2-Elliott Winslow (USA), 3/4-Phil Laak (USA) / Dirk Schiemann (GER). SUPER JACKPOT #2 (16): 1-Elliott Winslow (USA), 2-Joel Shiff (ISR). SUPER JACKPOT #3 (16): 1/2-Alan Steffen (USA) / Michael Meyburg (GER). TEAM TOURNAMENT (20): 1-Pipmonsters [Peter Schneider, Johannes Levermann, Dirk Schiemann (GER)], 2-Gobi Canoe Pros [Malcolm Davis (USA), Olivier Egger (SWZ), Tapio Palmroth (FIN)]. DOUBLES TOURNAMENT (22): 1-Johannes Levermann / Dirk Schiemann (GER), 2-Kenji Shimodaira (JPN) / Harald Johanni (GER). KICK-OFF: 1-Inge Wais (AUS), 2-Dag Ekmark (NOR). ONE-POINTER (64): 1-Kenji Shimodaira (JPN), 2-D. Rats (RUS).

KAZAROSS...

[Continued from page 1]

and experience took center stage:

15-point Pittsburgh Championship finals. Neil Kazaross (Black) and Charlie Russell (White) are tied at 3-3. Black doubles. **SHOULD WHITE TAKE?**



Frankie Farjood supplies the JellyFish 3.0 numbers. Neil's match equity is 0.807 here; hence Charlie has a big drop.

Charlie saw it differently, taking the cube. Neil then rolled 5-2 in the position above. What would you do?

Neil played Bar/20, 5/3* instantly. In fact, when a kibitzer improperly commented how quickly he had made the bold move, Neil answered, "JellyFish would make this play faster than I did."

Kazaross was right. By hitting, his equity is 0.521. With the passive Bar/20, 6/4, his equity is only 0.353.

Neil went on to win a gammon and take a 7-3 lead. A different feeling came over the match. It was now the experienced pro versus the untested rookie. Kazaross shifted into overdrive and accelerated to a 15-6 victory. Welcome back to the winner's circle, Neil!

AS HAS BECOME a tradition during Saturday's Calcutta Auction, the top three finishers in the past year's American Backgammon Tour were honored for their achievements. All three victors (Alex Caraplis, Perry Gartner, Maurice Barie) were present to receive their beautiful marble trophies.

IN OTHER RESULTS, Carol Falk (MI) won in the Advanced and Kerim Urkun (OH) prevailed in the Novice. The Master's Jackpot was captured by Perry Gartner (NJ). Fred Gehlhoff (WI) won the Amateur Jackpot. Complete results at right: Δ

19th illinois state challenge cup

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL UPSETS CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB IN OVERTIME

In one of the most exciting finishes ever, The Bloomington-Normal Club upset the Chicago Bar Point Club at the 19th Illinois State Challenge Cup. The event was held at the beautiful Springfield Hilton Hotel on 7 February. Five 6-player teams from around the state participated. For the first time, Winnetka and Games People Play (Chicago) were unable to field teams.

The Bar Point Club, a heavy favorite, never trailed in any of the first three rounds of play. In the fourth and final round, a victory by Phyllis Smolinski would give the BPC possession of the massive Challenge Cup for a second year in a row (and also give Phyllis a 4-0 record to claim the \$340 side pool). Phyllis's victory over Pub Cluber Don Marek looked real good.

But spoiler Marek had other ideas. He rallied to force the match into a deciding game. Then trailing by a mile in the race, Don rolled back to where double 4s or better on his last shake would pull it out. As Phyllis helplessly watched, out popped 4-4.



Phyllis Smolinski gets hit with Don Marek's left hook: a necessary 4-4 to win the match. The roll cost the Bar Point Club the 1999 Challenge Cup and Phyllis nearly \$500.

That opened the door for Bloomington-Normal's cleanup man, Ed Bauder. With the dice gods smiling on him, Ed won a

double match-point squeaker for the 15th victory and force a playoff for the Cup.

The six team members from each squad paired up into three doubles partnerships to decide the title. The playoffs turned out to be no contest. Bloomington-Normal swept the first two matches to win the 1999 Illinois State Challenge Cup. Congratulations to Bloomington-Normal team members: William Hutchison, Mike Flohr, Dave Cornwall, Ed Bauder, Jim Zimmerman and director Gary Daniels. Complete results: Δ



The Bloomington-Normal BG Club. 1999 Illinois State Challenge Cup champions. Clockwise from lower left: Dave Cornwall, William Hutchison, Jim Zimmerman, Ed Bauder, Mike Flohr, Gary Daniels.

19th ILLINOIS STATE CHALLENGE CUP

1. BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL (15-9): William Hutchison (2-2), Mike Flohr (2-2), Dave Cornwall (3-1), Ed Bauder (3-1), Jim Zimmerman (2-2), Gary Daniels (3-1).

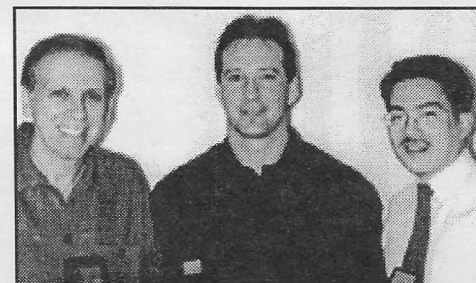
2. CHGO BAR POINT CLUB (15-9): Steve Mellen (3-1), Tak Morioka (3-1), Neil Kazaross (2-2), Jake Jacobs (1-3), Alice Kay (3-1), Phyllis Smolinski (3-1).

3. SANGAMON VALLEY (13-11): Greg Tomlin (4-0), Jeff Anderson (2-2), Ben Zemaitis (3-1), Mark Kaye (2-2), Randy Armstrong (1-3), Linda Woods (1-3).

4. PUB CLUB (11-13): Joe Wollick (1-3), Tim Mabee (2-2), Val Zimnicki (2-2), Mark Murray (2-2), Don Jayhan (2-2), Don Marek (2-2).

5. PEORIA (6-18): Milad Doueihy (0-4), Cliff Mayoh (1-3), Ed Zell (0-4), Fouad Malouf (2-2), Sue Will (1-3), Leonard Kaufman (2-2).

CHAMPIONSHIP (58): 1-Neil Kazaross (IL), 2-Charlie Russell (NY), 3/4-Mike Rezai (OH) / Paul Klein (IL); 1C-Drew Giovanis (FL), 2C-Howard Markowitz (NV); 1LC-John Brussel (IL). ADVANCED (63): 1-Carol Falk (MI), 2-Roger Nellist (NY), 3/4-Jerry Kruth (PA) / Ed King (OH); 1C-Gary Marchenia (MI), 2C-Gary Fries (VA); 1LC-James Roston (NY). NOVICE (17): 1-Kerim Urkun (OH), 2-A.J. Fronce (PA); 1C-Irv Taylor (OH). MASTERS JP (16): 1-Perry Gartner (NJ), 2-Ralph Stowell (MN). AMATEURS JP (32): 1-Fred Gehlhoff (WI), 2-Ed Bennett (NM), 3/4-Gary Fries (VA) / Frankie Farjood (IL). OPEN DOUBLES (16): 1-Bill Tallmadge (NY) & Marty Storer (NH), 2-Chuck Bower & Rob Maier (IN). LIMITED DOUBLES (8): 1-Joe LaFornara (NY) & Jennifer Waller (OH). MICROBLITZ #1 (64): 1-Sam Orandle (MD). #2 (32): 1-Bruce Hall (NC).



1998 ABT Top 3 (from left): Perry Gartner (2nd), Alex Caraplis (1st), Maurice Barie (3rd).

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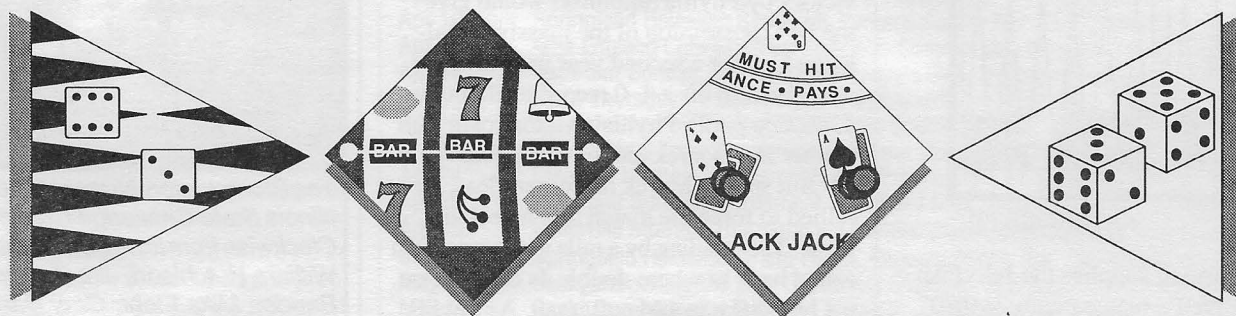
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