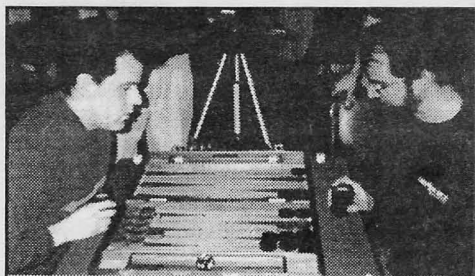


25th pittsburgh championships

SAVOIE TAKES PITTSBURGH

Bagai over Glass in Masters

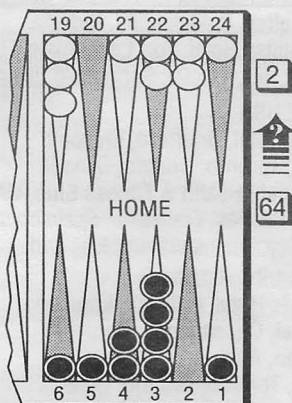
The threat of a record snowstorm (and its eventuality) in the East didn't stop the Pittsburgh Championships from filling up three main fields at their 20th annual bash. 175 players (160 in the main events) were treated to backgammon and food all weekend. In addition, 2002 ABT awards were distributed at the Saturday Auction.



Gyl Savoie ponders a difficult move vs. David Rubin in the Championship finals.

The Open victor was Canadian Gyl Savoie who defeated David Rubin (IL) 13-8. Savoie played a brilliant match, rated "World Class" by Snowie. (Rubin rated on the edge of "Expert/Advanced.") Here's an example of why Gyl received his ranking:

Pittsburgh Open 13-pt. finals. Gyl Savoie (Black) leads David Rubin (White), 4-2. Black on roll leading in the pipcount 32-33. **SHOULD BLACK DOUBLE?**

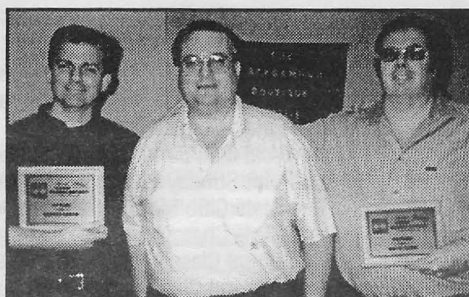


Savoie spent a lot of time on this position before turning the cube (the take is trivial). Snowie rollouts show the cube to be correct by a margin of 0.648 vs. 0.618 for no double.

Throughout the match, Gyl was faced with close, difficult decisions and most of

the time, chose correctly. A well-earned victory that makes him the man to catch in the 2003 ABT race.

In the 32-player Masters field, Jeremy Bagai (PA) edged Bob Glass (CA) at double match-point. Another big win for the author of *Classic Backgammon Revisited*.



The Pittsburgh Masters Champ Jeremy Bagai (left) with director Steve Hast and runner-up Bob Glass (right).

Thanks to Steve Hast and staff (including John Brussel as auctioneer!) for another great charity event. Complete results: Δ

20TH PITTSBURGH CHAMPIONSHIPS

CHAMPIONSHIP (64): 1-Gyl Savoie (Canada/MI), 2-David Rubin (IL), 3-Jeremy Bagai (PA) / Walter Trice (MA); 1C-Bill Finneran (VA), 2C-Bob Glass (CA); 1LC-Gregg Cattanach (GA). ADVANCED (64): 1-Hunter Jones (MD), 2-Tom Hodous (WV), 3/4-Ben Elliott (NC) / Bob Green (OH); 1C-Marilyn Kubiak (PA), 2C-Rich Madzel (MD); 1LC-Rainer Stachowitz (VA). NOVICE (32): 1-Trina Smith (WA), 2-Connie Tipton (PA); 1C-Rebecca Marti (VA), 2C-Bill Etue (VA). MASTERS JACKPOT (32): 1-Jeremy Bagai (PA), 2-Bob Glass (CA), 3/4-Mike Corbett (FL) / Neil Kazaross (IL). AMATEUR JACKPOT (32): 1-Bill Finneran (VA), 2-Ilia Guzei (WI), 3/4-Gregg Cattanach (GA) / Greg Merriman (MI). AMATEUR JACKPOT #2 (14): 1-Hunter Jones (MD), 2-Don Heinsler (FL). PITTSBURGH MEMORIAL CUP (16): 1-Chuck Bower (IN), 2-Bruce Russell (WI). THREE RIVERS AMATEUR CUP (16): 1-Paul Wick (PA), 2-Asad Zaltash (PA). MICRO BLITZ (80): 1-Sho Sengoku (CA), 2-Carol Joy Cole (MI). OPEN DOUBLES (26 teams): Bill Finneran (VA) & Chen-Fu Yu (MD), 2-Doug & Wanda Roberts (MA). LIMITED DOUBLES (6 teams): 1-Natasha & Vadim Musaelyan (NC). \$20 QUICKIE (64): 1-Steve Brown (MN), 2-Rainer Stachowitz (VA). \$10 QUICKIE (64): 1-Ron Salzer (NJ), 2-Pete Townsend (PA).

2nd carolina invitational

SANDERS & WEAVER WIN IN CHARLOTTE

Paul Weaver reviews his Queen City Cup Masters Victory...

Ron Sanders of Charlotte, NC prevailed over a 22-player field to win the Carolina Invitational. The 2003 ABT kickoff event was held at the Holiday Inn in Charlotte 17-19 January. Jeb and Robin Horton were gracious hosts to over 70 backgammoners including 57 in the main tournaments—a 12% increase over 2002.

Sanders, a veteran player from the 1970s, won the undefeated bracket to face Chicago's Herb Roman in the finals. Sanders lost the first match to Roman, but won the second to claim the trophy.

Ten players ponied up \$300 to enter the Queen City Cup. Paul Weaver, a world-class player from Birmingham, Alabama



Carolina Open Champ Ron Sanders (left) and Queen City Cup victor Paul Weaver.

was the eventual winner. Weaver, who conducted a very entertaining seminar at the tournament on Friday evening, shares some of the more interesting positions with POINT readers on his march to victory...

THE QUEEN CITY CUP by Paul Weaver

The Queen City Cup acts as Masters event at the Carolina Invitational. Sam

[Continued from page 6]

CHICAGO POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

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LETTERS

c/o CHICAGO POINT

3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 504

Chicago, IL 60659-3155

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BUILDING A BOARD

My son wants to make his own backgammon board for a construction project in high school. Do you know where we might find a template or pattern? At the very least we need dimensions. Appreciate your help.—Linda Fouke, via e-mail

We have an article from the January 1931 Popular Mechanics titled "Inlaid Backgammon Board Easy to Make" and would be happy to mail it to you (or anyone else who sends a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: CHICAGO POINT; 3940 W. Bryn Mawr 504; Chicago, IL 60659). It is dimensioned for 1.25" checkers but could be converted to larger sizes as necessary.

Regardless of the type of board your son builds, Chicago boardmakers Tak Morioka and Bob Zavoral both suggest that he obtain the checkers and dice cups prior to construction. That's good for

[Continued on page 3]

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



by Carol Joy Cole

810/232-9731

cjc@tir.com

* Denotes new or revised listing

NATIONAL

American Backgammon Tour events underlined.

Mar 6*	Miami Valley Club Grand Opening, Buffalo Wild Wings, Fairborn, OH	937/864-1748
Mar 8	Ides of March Open, Sansone's West Oaks Bar, Houston, Texas	281/556-0428
Mar 8	Springfield Series #5, Wildlife Sports Bar, Springfield, Illinois	217/528-0117
Mar 9	South Florida Monthly, Sheraton Suites Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, Florida	654/564-0340
Mar 9*	Backgammon By the Bay Monthly, Shattuck Hotel, Berkeley, California	831/688-9722
Mar 9*	Colorado State Tournament, Cadillac Jack's, Denver, Colorado	719/598-5085
Mar 15	Redwood Empire Monthly, Embassy Suites Hotel, San Rafael, California	707/477-6430
Mar 16*	Austin Club Bimonthly Tournament, JC's Bar & Grill, Austin, Texas	512/261-8518
Mar 20*	Third Thursday Bonus (Ohio State), Days Inn, Flint, Michigan	810/232-9731
Mar 21-23	<u>20th Midwest Championships, Wyndham Lisle Hotel, Lisle, Illinois</u>	<u>773/583-6464</u>
Mar 23	New England Club Monthly, Holiday Inn, Somerville, Massachusetts	617/779-8209
Mar 27	Last Thursday Monthly Tournament, Tournesol Bistro, Studio City, CA	818/901-0464
Mar 29	Atlanta Chouette Tournament, Mazzy's Sports Bar, Roswell, Georgia	770/333-1876
Mar 29*	Double Trouble, New York Chess & Backgammon Club, New York, NY	845/373-7272
Mar 30	Ace Point Monthly Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, New York	212/753-0842
Mar 30	20th Fleet Underwood Tournament, Holiday Inn, Flint, Michigan	810/232-9731
Apr 1*	MSN Gammonzone Medallion Monthly, via computer	GZMedallion@gammonzone.net
Apr 1*	Official GamesGrid Monthly Tournament, via computer	tournaments@cyberarts.com
Apr 5*	Springfield Series #6, Peoria Pizza Works, Peoria, Illinois	217/528-0117
Apr 5*	Universal Mall Bimonthly #2, All the King's Men, Warren, Michigan	313/381-6639
Apr 6*	Bar Point Sunday Bimonthly, Champs Bar, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois	773/583-6464
Apr 6*	Ohio State Club Monthly, Thirsty Dog Brewery, Canton, Ohio	330/866-2811
Apr 11-13	<u>Ohio State Championships, Radisson Cleveland, Middleburgh Hts., OH</u>	<u>330/866-2811</u>
Apr 12*	Tax Refund Classic, Sansone's West Oaks Bar, Houston, Texas	281/556-0428
Apr 13*	New England Club Monthly, Holiday Inn, Somerville, Massachusetts	617/779-8209
Apr 13*	Backgammon By the Bay Monthly, Shattuck Hotel, Berkeley, California	831/688-9722
Apr 17*	Third Thursday Bonus (Chicago Open), Days Inn, Flint, Michigan	810/232-9731
Apr 19*	Double Trouble, New York Chess & Backgammon Club, New York, NY	845/373-7272
Apr 24*	Last Thursday Monthly Tournament, Tournesol Bistro, Studio City, CA	818/901-0464
Apr 25-27*	Granite State Championships, Albany Airport Comfort Inn, Latham, NY	603/863-4711
Apr 26*	Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Mazzy's Sports Bar, Roswell, Georgia	770/333-1876
Apr 26*	Springfield Series Grand Finale, Wildlife Sports Bar, Springfield, Illinois	217/528-0117
Apr 27*	Ace Point Monthly Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, New York	212/753-0842
Apr 30-May 4	20th Nevada State Tournament, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada	702/893-6025
May 23-26	<u>24th Chicago Open, Oak Brook Hills Resort, Oak Brook, Illinois</u>	<u>847/674-0120</u>
Jun 6-8	<u>51st Gammon Associates Invitational, A.R. Private Club, Los Angeles, CA</u>	<u>818/901-0464</u>
Jun 7-8*	<u>Ace Point Summer in the City, Ace Point Club, New York, New York</u>	<u>212/753-0842</u>
Jun 8*	Bar Point Sunday Bimonthly, Champs Bar, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois	773/583-6464
Jul 3-6	<u>Michigan Summer Championships, Hilton Hotel, Novi, Michigan</u>	<u>810/232-9731</u>
Jul 25-27*	<u>1st Wisconsin State Championships, Radisson Inn, Madison, Wisconsin</u>	<u>608/516-9109</u>
Aug 1-3*	<u>Thousand Islands Tournament, Pine Tree Point, Alexandria Bay, New York</u>	<u>585/396-0969</u>
Aug 7-10*	<u>Georgia Championships & Peach Cup, Hilton Garden Inn, Atlanta, Georgia</u>	<u>770/333-1876</u>
Aug 29-Sep 1*	<u>51st Indiana Open, Sheraton Hotel & Suites, Indianapolis, Indiana</u>	<u>317/255-8902</u>
Sep 19-21*	<u>Florida State Championship, Sheraton Suites Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, FL</u>	<u>954/564-0340</u>
Oct 10-12*	<u>Illinois State Championships, Springfield Hilton Hotel, Springfield, Illinois</u>	<u>217/528-0117</u>

OUTSIDE USA

Mar 8-9	Slattery Scottish Open, Bradford Hilton Hotel, Bradford, England	44152-2888676
Mar 9*	Toronto Monthly, Bayview Games Club, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	416/722-9709
Mar 11-14*	5th International Championship, Abu Dhabi Health & Fitness Club, UAE	9712-4436333
Mar 13-16	Partouche Trophy, Palm Beach Casino, Cannes, France	Spain contact: 34950-133009
Mar 21-23	Hi-Rollers Event, Hanover Hotel, Hinckley, Leicestershire, England	44152-2888676
Apr 5-6	British Open, Hilton National Hotel, Coventry, England	44152-2888676
Apr 12-13*	Gammonitis Tournament, Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Gatwick, England	44127-3261073
Apr 17-21*	15th Nordic "Wide" Open, Scandic Hotel, Copenhagen, Denmark	4533-363601
Apr 24-27	2nd Velden Open, Casino Velden, Velden, Austria	392-69018168
Apr 13*	Toronto Monthly, Bayview Games Club, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	416/722-9709
May 1-4*	3rd Città di Jesolo BG & Gin Torneos, Casa Bianca Hotel, Venice, Italy	3932-90513415
May 3-4*	County Cups Trophy, Hilton National Hotel, Coventry, England	44152-2888676
May 23-25*	Hi-Rollers Event, Hanover Hotel, Hinckley, Leicestershire, England	44152-2888676
May 30-Jun 1*	10th Oslo Open, Vika Atrium, Oslo, Norway	4798-219323
Jun 7-8*	Hilton Trophy, Hilton National Hotel, Coventry, England	44152-2888676
Jun 14-15*	Gammonitis Tournament, George Hotel, Solihull, England	44127-3261073
Jul 3-6*	15th City of Venice Tournament, Cà Vendramin Palace, Venice, Italy	3932-90513415
Jul 7-13*	World BG Championship, Grand Hotel, Monte Carlo, Monaco	USA contact: 954/527-4033
Jul 16-20*	5th Czech Open, Renaissance Marriott Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic	49911-409505

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

designing a storage tray as well as general playing dimensions. Basically, the pip length should accommodate 5 checkers, with room for 12 checkers all the way across. Also, six checkers laid side-by-side in a quadrant should have about 3/16" "play" (spacing) between bar and rail.—Ed.

CHECK YOUR EXPIRATION

I love CHICAGO POINT, especially the problem of the month, and wish to continue as a subscriber. Unfortunately, I'm not certain if my subscription has expired. What is my status?—Bart Brooks, W.

Vancouver, BC, Canada

Subscribers may check their expiration date by checking the envelope label. "exp. 161" means you will receive issues through Number 161.—Ed.

SEEKING BACKGAMMON'S COMPUTER ROOTS

I'm looking for an electronic backgammon board (table top-type). I currently have one which was purchased in the late 1970s, distributed by Fidelity Electronics. In that aforementioned time period, there seemed to be a lot available. Can you help me with a manufacturer or distributor?—Peter Cole, via e-mail

Check Mel Leifer's "Gammon Links" online at: <http://www.chicagopoint.com/links.html> under "Computer Players/Electronic Games" for the type of game you seek.—Ed.

BACKGAMMON ON BOARD VI

Paula and I just got back from the Backgammon On Board cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to St. Maarten and St. Thomas. The backgammon tournament was our initial impetus to go on the trip, but afterwards we both agreed we would have been happy to go for the cruise alone. We both had a really incredible time and the fun of being on the ship exceeded my expectations by a mile. It really was great.

My cruise pictures can be found at: <http://pages.prodigy.net/gcattanach/cruise1.html> —Gregg Cattanach, Doraville, Georgia


Are you going to start calling Backgammon On Board the "Kit Woolsey Benefit Tournament"? He always seem to win everything!—Tom Wright, Houston, Texas

See page 5 for the report.—Ed.

'DETESTS' THE CLOCK

Mailed out my fee for the Midwest Championships Advanced division today. I am assuming for that division, time clocks are not commonly needed/used. I detest them, just as I did golf carts being required, to "rush folks" (dollars) through 18 holes, before I dropped out of that "sport."—Roland Dieter, Deerfield, Illinois

[Continued on page 8]




**AMERICAN
BACKGAMMON
TOUR ★ 2003**

AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 2003

Compiled through 2 March 2003 after 3 events

(Coming in March & April: Midwest Championships, Ohio State)



**AMERICAN
BACKGAMMON
TOUR ★ 2003**

Gyl Savoie	22.39	Tom Hodous	5.15	Petko Kostadinov	3.00	David Rogers	2.10
Hunter Jones	11.15	Marilyn Kubiak	5.15	Rainer Stachowitz	2.96	Connie Tipton	1.78
David Rubin	10.57	Drew Robinson	4.90	Philip Smith	2.73	Rebecca Marti	1.78
Bill Finneran	10.57	Bob Glass	4.73	Ben Elliott	2.57	Max Muench	1.25
Simon Kennedy-Rose	9.00	Vadim Musaelyan	4.50	Bob Green	2.57	Matt Holleman	1.25
Ron Sanders	8.89	Curtis Lucas	4.50	Rich Madzel	2.45	Steve Kovach	1.06
Jeremy Bagai	5.27	Herb Roman	4.44	Dixie McGaffick	2.45	Dave Cardwell	1.06
Walter Trice	5.27	Sam Pottle	4.44	Terry Seymour	2.45	Bill Etue	0.89
Gregg Cattanach	5.21	Trina Smith	3.56	Peter Roubicek	2.24	Betty Coppic	0.74



CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB

2003 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED
THRU 28 FEB.

Bob Zavoral	7.28	Howard Ring	2.16	Roger Hickman	1.20	Joe Szwedo	0.72
Tak Morioka	6.46	Paul Baraz	2.08	Norma Shyer	1.20	Kathy Sorci	0.72
Michael Peters	6.40	Eric Johnson	1.92	Wendy Kaplan	1.12	Richard Stawowy	0.72
Alice Kay	4.00	David Rockwell	1.92	Phil Martorelli	1.12	Brian Barber	0.72
Lucky Nelson	4.00	Peter Kalba	1.92	Carol Hooker	1.12	Joe Sylvester	0.72
Tim Mabee	3.84	Larry Goldstein	1.92	Rory Pascas	1.08	Bill Bartholomay	0.72
Phyllis Smolinski	3.52	Georgina Flanagan	1.80	Barry Miller	1.04	Doug Rodgers	0.64
Tim Carroll	3.44	Mark Murray	1.80	Linda Rockwell	0.96	Don Jayhan	0.64
Bill Keefe	3.36	Barbara Levinson	1.76	Paul Friedman	0.96	Los Moshinsky	0.64
Herb Roman	3.24	Arlene Levy	1.68	Aaron Ashmann	0.88	Roland Dieter	0.56
Tim Serges	3.14	Royal Robinson	1.68	Bill Davis	0.76	Joann Feinstein	0.48
Joe Wollick	2.52	Bob Steen	1.48	Elaine Andrews	0.72	Bobbie Ivanova	0.48
Val Zimnicki	2.36	Phil Simborg	1.44	Carter Mattig	0.72	Wayne Wiest	0.48

January Player of the Month: **BOB ZAVORAL** grabbed the early lead in the 2003 BPC 2003 points race splitting first in the Masters bracket three weeks in a row to earn 4.08 points. Michael Peters was a close second with 3.92 points and Tak Morioka placed third with 3.18.

February Player of the Month: **ALICE KAY** won 10 matches in a row including the Club Doubles Championship (with Howard Ring) to earn 4.00 points and February honors. Tim Mabee (3.84) and Tak Morioka (3.28) finished 2nd and 3rd respectively.

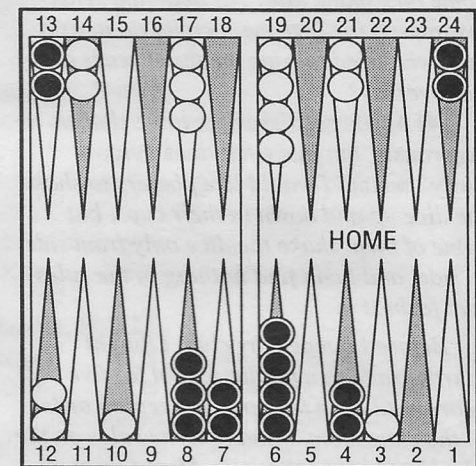
If you finish in the Top 20 for 2003, you'll be entered in a drawing for over \$300 worth of valuable merchandise. The higher you finish, the better your winning chances. Individual awards: 1st—Trophy + \$150, 2nd—\$100, 3rd—\$50. 1st through 20th—one ounce solid silver dollar. 1st through 6th—Invitation to participate on the Chicago Bar Point Club team in the 2004 Illinois State Challenge Cup.

your move

PROBLEM #288

to be analyzed by Kit Woolsey

Match to 7 points. White leads Black 6 to 4 (Crawford). **BLACK TO PLAY 2-2.**



DEAR MISS LONELYBLOTS



© 2003 by Danny Kleinman

DIRECTOR DILEMMA'S

Dear Miss Lonelyblots: I run a backgammon club and direct weekly tournaments. Interest in backgammon is growing in my city, and so is my club's patronage. Trouble is, with the increased participation comes an increasing number of players who are (to put it more politely than their behavior warrants) very childish, and an increasing number of disputes.

I know what I should do about it, and what I want to do (which is more extreme), but I feel constrained by the lack of specific rules explicitly stating what players may and may not do, and what actions I can take as a director when they violate those rules.

Here are some of the things that concern me:

(1) Extremely slow play. I've already told three of the slowest players that they must play faster, but it hasn't helped. The club doesn't have clocks and can't afford to buy them. Shall I announce penalty points for slowness?

(2) Last week, a player grabbed his opponent's wrist because she was rolling in a manner he didn't like. I told the man he was not entitled to do so, and warned him not to do it again. Should I do more?

(3) Twice in the last two months, a man who had won his match walked over to another match whose outcome would determine his next opponent and harassed the players. I warned him repeatedly, then barred him from approaching within 30 feet of any match in progress but his own. What should I do to him when he does it a third time? (a) Bar him from the club altogether? (b) Call his mother to take him home and spank him? (c) Beat him senseless myself (believe me, I could do it, as a man who tried to rape me three years ago discovered)?

(4) A rule requires dice to be shaken vigorously, but just what does "vigorously" mean? I would like players to shake the dice up and down in their cups, but some of them shake the dice only from side to side, and I can find nothing in the rules that forbids it.

Before I opened my club, I taught fourth grade in a public school for five years until I got fed up with keeping order in the classroom. I had to write rules on the blackboard for my pupils. Must I treat my

backgammon patrons the same way and write detailed rules, or should I expect them to be fair and act like adults? Please advise!—Director Deirdre

DEAR DEIRDRE: Be glad your schoolmarm days are over, and you are not hemmed in by bureaucratic procedures. As backgammon club director, you can bar players without need to justify your actions by reference to specific rules. That is not to say you should bar anyone without cause.

Rules are appropriate to define details of procedure—when a player may double or redouble, what happens after an illegal move or a premature roll, and so forth. They are not appropriate to define proper behavior, however. So, here are my recommendations:

(1) Clocks can't recognize *unduly* slow play, but you and other experienced players can. Matches must proceed at a reasonable pace lest an entire tournament bracket be delayed. If a match appears to be taking too long, walk over and watch for a few minutes to see why. A player may need a long time to play a difficult roll or act on a difficult cube, but you'll soon recognize a player who is merely dawdling.

One warning should suffice, after which (yes!) penalty points may be awarded to an opponent. If a player is consistently slow, tell him he is welcome to find an opponent who can tolerate his tempo to play on the side, but not to enter tournaments until he learns to play faster (perhaps by watching some of the better players at your club).

(2) Grabbing an opponent's wrist, as Mike Svobodny did to Gaby Horowitz many years ago, may be necessary to expose a die cradled in a finger. Otherwise it is inexcusable. Your warning should suffice. If the man does it again, bar him from the club. You have cause, and other patrons will thank you.

(3) Harassment of any kind is intolerable, but you haven't made it clear just what the man did. You ask what to do "when" (not "if") he does it a third time, implying that he surely will. If he did indeed harass others, there shouldn't be a third time. Twice is enough. Bar him now, before he provokes you into losing your temper and doing something that will give him cause for legal action against you.

(4) Never mind defining "vigorously" precisely. Vigorously is however a player needs to shake the dice to produce random rolls, as contrasted to rolls that are more likely to produce some numbers than others. You be the judge of that.

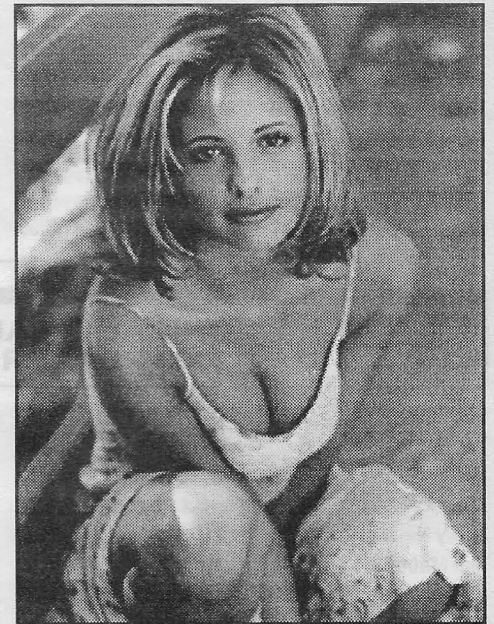
You can't expect people—children or

adults—to be fair. What you can do is set standards that will rein in the tendencies of some people to be inconsiderate of others; and impose fairness by your own procedures and decisions.—Miss Lonelyblots

SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR PLAYS BG IN CHICAGO

Apparently vampire-slaying, kick-boxing cover girl Sarah Michelle Gellar enjoys an occasional game of backgammon. Here's an Internet report by Windy City Wendy about one of "Buffy's" visits to Chicago:

"It was one of those mellow places, the kind where they've got board games and books for the java junkies to enjoy. I scanned the crowd and was quite surprised to see Sarah Michelle sitting alone. [Scaring the boys off, we suspect, what with the brown belt in Tae Kwon Do and that heart-and-dagger tattoo on the inside of . . . Mmmmm, but we won't say where!]



A crouching Sarah Gellar searches for her dice. Where could they be?

"She was just sitting at a table, chain smoking cigarettes, all of which she bummed off of the other patrons. She seemed bored. She called over to one of the cafe workers and asked for help setting up one of the backgammon boards, and then she struck up a game with some other random male patron. [A game player, this vampire slayer, and always a heart breaker! Let's hope her intentions here were anything but cruel.]

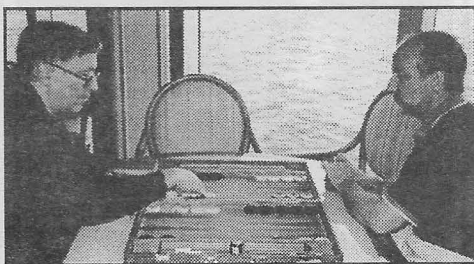
"When the game was over, Buffy turned to the backgammon players at the next table and exclaimed, 'He beat me! And I even taught him how to play!'" Δ

VICTORY ON THE HIGH SEAS

Woolsey and Friedman Sail to Victory

Kit Woolsey and Mike Friedman sailed to victory aboard the Golden Princess in the Backgammon on Board cruise tournament 1–8 February 2003. Nearly 30 people (16 of them backgammon players) enjoyed a week of extravagance aboard the Golden Princess with stops at the beautiful ports of St. Martin and St. Thomas. The event was put together by the Cruise Consultants and Chicago Bar Point Club.

Directors Bill Davis and Peter Kalba made sure that the tournament didn't interfere with all the activities that a Golden Princess cruise provides including four pools with live entertainment, Vegas-style evening shows, games and contests galore, a full casino, and a bacchanalia of food. When the dice settled, Kit Woolsey (CA) had duplicated last year's performance winning two events. Kit defeated Gregg Cattanach (GA) at double match-point in the Open, then rallied from an 8–1 deficit to edge Bill Davis in the 13-point

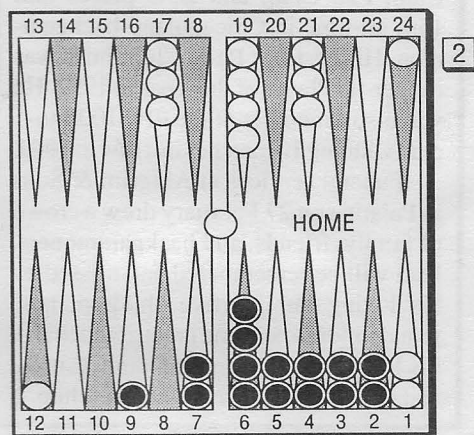


Kit Woolsey and Gregg Cattanach battle at double match-point in the Open finals.

finals of the Caribbean Jackpot.

Leading 9–8, a careless blunder by Davis probably sunk his winning chances...

Caribbean Jackpot 13-point finals. Bill Davis (Black) leads Kit Woolsey (White) 9–8. **BLACK TO PLAY 2-2.**



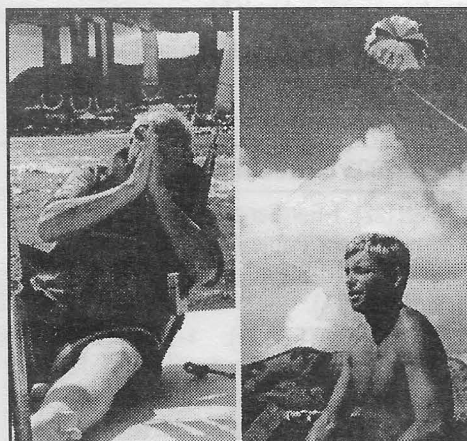
Bill played all of the checkers inside ending with five men on the 5-point. Kit danced, then Davis rolled 5–5 exposing a blot. When Woolsey responded with a 5–5 of his own, it was all downhill from there. Smoothing out the checkers 7/5(2), 6/4, 5/3 is safer and better for the future bearoff.

The Captain's Trophy and \$500 was captured by Mike Friedman (Canada). Mike received his trophy from Captain Andy Proctor in an informal ceremony aboard the ship.



Princess Captain Andy Proctor presents the Captain's Trophy to Mike Friedman.

Whether there will be a Backgammon On Board VII in 2005 remains to be seen. Although the vast majority of attendees really love this event, attendance for the last two events has lagged.



Peter Kalba (left) says a prayer prior to parasail liftoff from a speedboat off the Orient Beach in St. Martin. And there he is, flying high at right.

Travel Agent Sue Will of the Cruise Consultants said another backgammon cruise is possible, but she needs to hear from interested future cruisers (Sue is at 309/699-6005 or cruiserbag@insightbb.com).

We certainly hope it happens. A cruise is fun by itself; but with backgammon added, the week is pure magic.—*Bill Davis*

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL WINS 23RD ILLINOIS STATE CHALLENGE CUP

The Bloomington-Normal Backgammon Club is the 2003 Illinois State Challenge Cup Champion. The 23rd annual event was held at the Peoria Pizza Works 23 February 2003. Seven 6-player Illinois backgammon clubs were in attendance with teams made up of their top point-finishers for the 2002 season.



Bloomington-Normal Illinois State Challenge Cup winners (from left): William Hutchison, Jim Zimmerman, Terry Leahy, Henry Sur, Randy Reiff, and Michael Flohr [Photo by Ed Zell.]

This was the third Challenge Cup victory for Bloomington since 1994. The team members (pictured above) amassed a 23–13 record through six rounds of play to capture the title. There was a 3-way tie for second place (18–18) among Tuley Park (Chicago), Sangamon Valley (Springfield), and Winnetka. The Pub Club (Villa Park) finished fifth (17–19), followed by Chicago Bar Point Club and Peoria (16–20).

Special recognition to Terry Leahy (Bloomington), Jim Zimmerman (Bloomington), and Tom Meyer (Pub Club) who each won five out of six matches. And congratulations to the Bloomington Team.—*Ed Zell, director, Peoria Backgammon Club Δ*

2003 MIDWEST BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIPS

21–23 MARCH 2003



**WYNDHAM LISLE
LISLE, ILLINOIS**

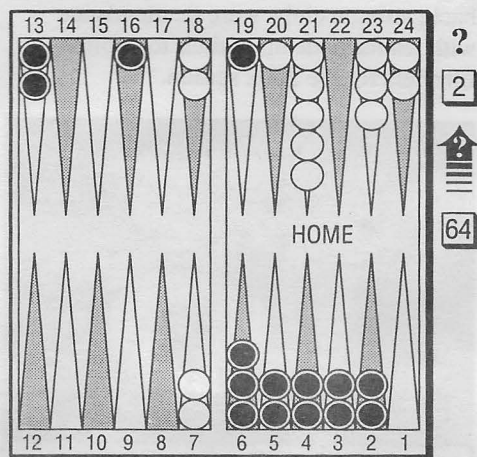
Information: (773) 583-6464
chicagopoint.com/mbc.html

CHARLOTTE...

[Continued from page 1]

Pottle, a strong player from Madison, Wis. was my opponent in the semifinals.

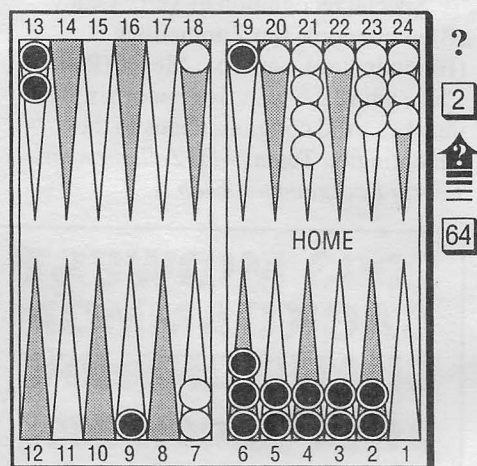
POS. 1. 11-point semi's. White leads Black, 9-8. Black on shake. **CUBE ACTION(S)?**



Trailing 8-9 in an 11-point match, I decided not to double Position 1. With any significant gammon threat, the trailer at this score doubles much earlier than for money, and the leader also passes much earlier.

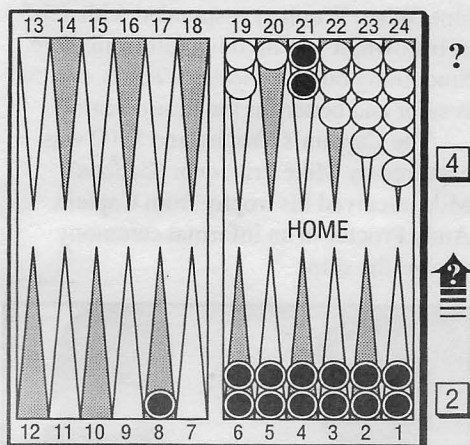
Black is a favorite, winning 60% of the games and 14% gammons. While the double would be very premature in a money game, the Snowie rollout indicates it is a close "no double" at the score.

POS. 2. 11-point semi's. White leads Black, 9-8. Black on shake. **CUBE ACTION(S)?**



Black rolled a 7, and White rolled 6-1, one of only six numbers that left a shot, resulting in Position 2. Black now wins 69% and 21% gammons. I doubled and Sam passed. The Snowie rollout says close take for money, but huge pass at the score.

POS. 3. 13-point finals. White leads Black, 9-8. Black on shake. **RECUBE ACTION(S)?**



My opponent in the finals was Vadim Musaelyan, originally from Armenia and now living in Charlotte. Trailing 9-10 in a 13-point match, and owning a 2-cube, I considered redoubling in Position 3. White needs about 40% winning chances to take, while Black can redouble as an underdog.

With 11 immediate shots (31%), the possibility of future shots, and some small racing vig, I estimated my winning chances at 45% and redoubled. The rollout put my winning chances at 39%, but the redouble is still clearly correct. White's take is trivial.

I made the mistake of missing the shot, but then Vadim also made a mistake and rolled a repeater (6-4), leaving me an ace shot. I was lucky to roll the ace and also lucky to notice that it hit.

Thanks to Jeb and Robin Horton for doing an outstanding job running the Carolina Invitational.—Paul Weaver

2003 CAROLINA INVITATIONAL

OPEN (22): 1-Ron Sanders (NC), 2-Herb Roman (IL); 1C-Sam Pottle (WI), 2C-David Rogers (NC), 3C/4C-Steve Kovach (GA) / Dave Cardwell (GA).

INTERMEDIATE (25): 1-Drew Robinson (OH), 2-Dixie McGaffick (FL); 1C-Terry Seymour, 2C-Philip Smith (NC), 3C/4C-Peter Roubicek (GA) / Betty Coppic (GA).

NOVICE (10): 1-Max Muench (IL), 2-Matt Holleman (NC).

QUEEN CITY CUP (10): 1-Paul Weaver (AL), 2-Vadim Musaelyan (NC).

DOUBLES (12): 1-Manuel Arce & Peter Roubicek (GA), 2-Vadim Musaelyan (NC) & Petko Kostadinov (SC).

BLITZ TOURNEY (16): 1-Herb Roman (IL).

2 PT QUICKIE (16): 1-Steve Kovach (GA).

LAST CHANCE (9): 1-Bill Davis (IL).

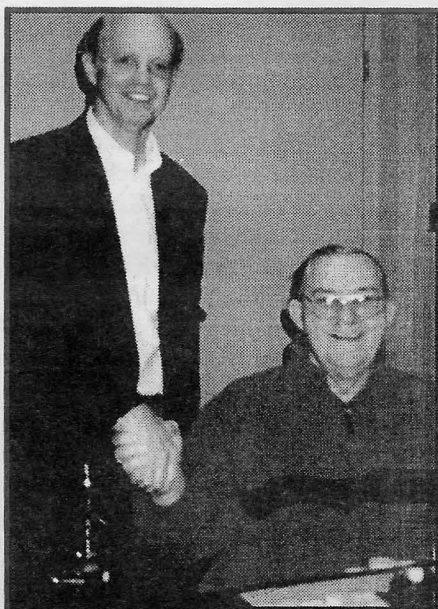
WARM-UP #1 (8): 1-David Rogers (NC).

WARM-UP #2 (8): 1-Charles Salsman (NC).

DON JAYHAN DIES

Don Jayhan, an active Chicagoland backgammon player since 1979, is dead. Jayhan fell victim to Leukemia and after an extended battle with the disease, died at his son Steve's home in Fox Lake, Illinois on 26 Feb. 2003. He was 75.

Despite the gravity of his illness Don faithfully attended weekly Chicago Bar Point Club events placing 17th during the 2002 season. He played last two months attached to an oxygen tank (assisted by chouette partners Bill Keefe and Val Zimmnicki). His final BPC play date was 18 February.



Don Jayhan receives an award from BPC director Bill Davis for placing 17th overall in the 2002 season. The presentation was made at BPC awards night 14 Jan. 2003. [Photo by Peter Kalba.]

Don Jayhan's first Chicagoland points were earned at the National Backgammon League back in January 1979. His final point total of 168.28 earned at the NBL, Gammon's of Chicago, Prime Club, Pub Club, and BPC places him 15th all-time in Chicagoland backgammon. His best Bar Point Club finish was runner-up Player of the Year in 1992. He was also a member of the BPC 1000-to-1 club winning 10 matches in a row in 1999.

Funeral services at Ahlgrim & Sons in Palatine on 27 February drew a crowd of family, friends, and backgammoners. Don will be remembered and missed by his loving family (five children, nine grandchildren, and one great grandchild), his longtime companion Dottie Tsitsos, and all of the BG players who knew him. Δ

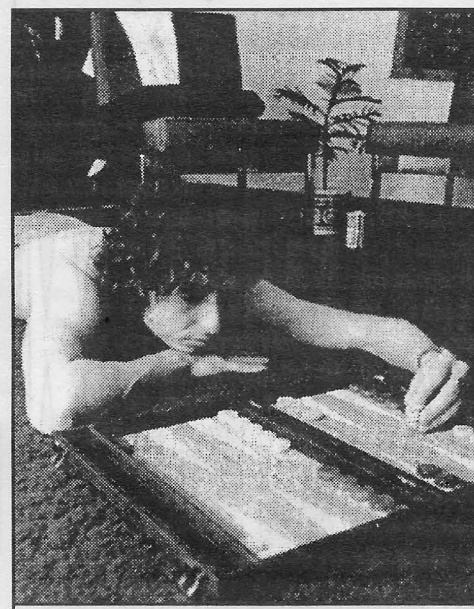
AMALGAMATION

Spaces still remain in all divisions of the 20th Midwest Championships (21-23 March at the Wyndham Lisle in Illinois) but hurry! For the complete schedule, go to www.chicagopoint.com/mbc.html... The next generation of precision dice is here.

Larry "Diceman" Strommen (IN) has purchased a state-of-the-art lathe that produces ultra-precision dice. Aside from being perfectly balanced, they possess a highly-polished finish (including on the corners) that sparkles. Price: \$6/die. Larry will officially premiere them at this month's Midwest Championships. In a few weeks, you'll be able to learn more at Larry's official website: www.precisiondice.com... New clubs and play dates announced. **Brett Meyer** (843/764-0768) directs the Charleston Backgammon Society, Mondays (7:00 pm) at the Bourbon Street Cafe in N. Charleston, South Carolina. For backgammon in Fairborn, Ohio, contact **Roger Foster** (937/864-1748) about the Miami Valley Backgammon Club meeting at Buffalo Wild Wings first Thursday monthly at 7:00 pm. Additionally, two clubs have expanded. **Joe Wollick** (847/942-2068) adds Thursdays to his Pub Club

schedule. The Grand Opening is set for 20 March at 7:00 pm at Main Street Billiards & Cafe; 113 S. Main Street; Algonquin, Illinois. And Gammon Associates director **Patrick Gibson** (818/901-0464) now holds last Thursday monthly (6:00 pm) tournaments at **John Rockwell's** new dining establishment Tournesol Bistro Provençal in Studio City, California... Congratulations to **Alice Kay** (IL) for joining the BPC 1000-to-1 Club by winning 10 matches in a row in February... Additional 2002 Players of the Year: **Peter Bennet** (United Kingdom), **Richard Munitz** (Ace Point Club), **Ted Chee** (Backgammon By the Bay), and **Carl Sellars** (Toronto)... Need chouette sheets? **Greg Cattanach** (GA) has created one that you can print right off his website: <http://pages.prodigy.net/gcattanach>... From Las Vegas: Condolences on the passing of former Chicagoland player **Eileen Cohen**. Eileen's 58.80 master points place her 85th on the all-time list. And South Florida director **Elayne Feinstein** reports that 41-year-old **David Menkes** (FL) died 23 February of a cerebral hemorrhage. David had been on a waiting list for a kidney transplant at the time of his death... **Mary Ann Meese** (IN) is looking good following the loss of 35 pounds. Husband **Butch** has lost some, too!... **Marcy Sloan** (IL) sent us the 16

Dec. 2002 *People* magazine that includes some just-released 1975 photos of **Bob Dylan**. Apparently Bob was a backgammon fan. He was described by photographer **Ken Regan** as a "Master of war. Only



Bob Dylan played backgammon in 1975.

Bob would play backgammon by himself."... Finally, **Lou Steiner** (PA) suggests: "If you make the right plays, God will reward you." No mention from Lou about what happens if you make the wrong plays. Δ

Accommodations

For reservations, contact directly the Velden Tourist Office and mention "Backgammon":

Veldner Tourismus GmbH
Villacher Strasse 19 - 9220 Velden
Telephone: ++43 4274 2103 or 448866
Fax: ++43 4274 210350
E-Mail: info@velden.at
www.velden.at • www.tiscover.com/velden

Entry Fees

Masters-500 Euro. Quarter-Entry-135 Euro
Champion-200 Euro. Quarter-Entry-60 Euro
Intermediate-50 Euro. Quarter-Entry-22.5 Euro

Registration Fees

Includes Friday Welcome Cocktail and Sunday Gala Dinner
2003 WBF Members-30 Euro
Open-40 Euro

Sponsors

Casino Velden, Casinos Austria, Dal Negro, and the Worldwide Backgammon Federation

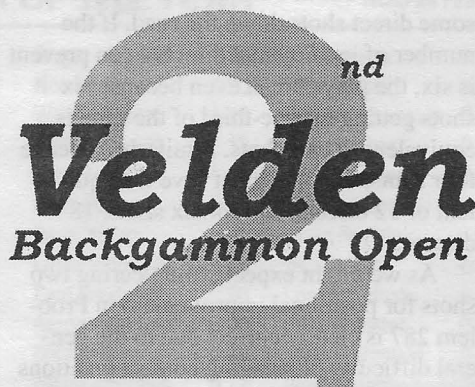
Trophies & Awards

- Casino Velden offers a **FREE WEEKEND FOR TWO** to the Warm-Up winner.
- Alfredo & Maria Sperti offer a special **PRESIDENT BACKGAMMON BOARD** to the Sperti Trophy winner.
- Various trophies are awarded by Casino Velden to Main Tournament and side event winners.

Tournament Committee

To be announced at the tournament by Alberto da Pra, President of the Worldwide Backgammon Federation

Worldwide Backgammon Federation
is proud to present the



April 24th-27th, 2003
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Velden, Austria

MINIMUM GUARANTEED
Money Prize: 20.000 Euro

MARCO FORNASIR, Director
Telephone: ++39 02 69018168
Fax: ++39 02 69018163
E-mail: fornasir@iol.it

Thursday, April 24

- 17:00 Registration at Casino Velden
- 18:00 Quarter entries. Jackpots, 1-Pt. Matches
- 20:00-22:30 Break for Dinner
- 22:45 Start of Warm-up. (Free to registered players.) Quarters, Jackpots, 1-Pt. Matches

Friday, April 25

- 17:30 Start of Sperti Trophy. (Free to WBF supporters only.) Warm-up, Quarters, Jackpots and 1-Point Matches
- 18:00-20:00 Registration at Casino Velden
- 20:00 Welcome cocktail in the Casino Lounge
- 22:00 Final Registration
- 23:00 Start of play: Main Tournament. Warm-up, Sperti, Quarters, Jackpots and 1-Pt.

Saturday, April 26

- 16:00 Main Tournament continues. Start of Progressive Consolation Tournament
- 17:00 Warm-up, Sperti Trophy, Quarters, Jackpots and 1-Point Matches continue
- 20:00-22:30 Break for Dinner
- 22:30 Velden Super-Jackpot. Play continues

Sunday, April 27

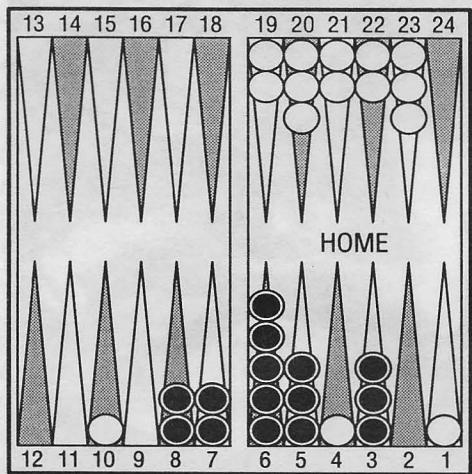
- 14:30 Start of Last Chance Tournament
- 15:00 Start of Finals. Warm-up, Sperti Trophy, Quarters, Jackpots, 1-Pt. Matches continue
- 21:00 Casinos Austria Dinner Party and Awarding Ceremony at Casino Velden

last month's position

PROBLEM #287 ANALYZED

by Mary Hickey

Match to 5 points tied at 4-4. **BLACK TO PLAY 3-2.**



It's unlikely that Black can bring this game home without ever leaving a shot. For money, the choice to volunteer six shots now by making the 4-point (7/4*, 6/4) not only provides some insurance against leaving a direct later, but also represents an opportunity to win a gammon if all goes according to plan. For money, this is the right approach. A 2-ply, 216-trial Snowie rollout emphatically backs this up, showing a cubeless equity of 0.807 for the pointing play and only 0.686 for the passive 8/5, 8/6.

But what about in the given situation: double match point where gammons don't matter? In addition to your immediate danger of being hit, White can make your ace- or deuce-point and wait for a shot until the very end without fear of losing a gammon or backgammon. We'd expect a rollout according to score to show the effect of this factor, but it isn't necessary to perform one for this purpose alone. That's because the money rollout already shows the hit is wrong by a substantial margin at DMP even without this strategy adjustment. The hitting play wins only 77.9% of the games, compared to 80.7% for clearing the 8-point.

Does this apply to all six-shot cases? Of course not. Nothing in backgammon is that absolute! Even in this case, if the only safe play available was the ugly and inflexible 6/3, 5/3, the rollout shows it would be worse than the pointing play, since it only wins 75.3% of the games.

To test the above assumption regarding the effects of White's strategy change, I ran

a second rollout with checker play according to score. It didn't come close to eliminating the 2.6% difference between the second and third choice plays. As expected, the hitting play won less often than before, yielding only 76.9% wins now; but the ugly 6/3, 5/3 won only 75.0% of the games—still decisively worse. Clearing the 8-point remained best with 80.9% wins which is about the same as before.

I have created some comparison cases, but space restrictions prohibit their inclusion here. They can be found online at: www.chicagopoint.com/prob287.html.

Over the board, how can we determine the level of acceptable risk now for a substantial positional gain in the future? In the late game, it's easier to make a few simplifying assumptions that allow us to formulate a general principle for cases where gammons are either irrelevant (as in this DMP problem) or unlikely.

We will assume that (1) a direct shot will be hit one-third of the time (12/36), and (2) getting hit now or later is equally damaging.

I've found that a convenient way to evaluate these decisions over the board is to look at the position after the best of the "safe" plays and ask the following: What is the incremental chance I'll have to leave a direct shot later if I don't improve my position now by making the play that leaves a few indirect shots?

Let's say that the better positional play leaves two shots, but I think it will prevent some direct shots down the road. If the number of incremental direct shots I can prevent is six, the plays break even because six shots getting hit one-third of the time is equivalent to two shots. Similarly, to leave four shots, the play must save the equivalent of 12 direct shots, and for six shots, 18 direct shots.

As we might expect, volunteering two shots for positional improvement in Problem 287 is clearly correct due to the general difficulty of bringing contact positions home. Leaving four shots is wrong in this case but might be correct if either the gain on the risky play or the weakness of the safe plays were greater. Leaving six shots can only be justified if the safe alternative is appallingly inflexible.

Bottom Line: In endgames where gammons are not a factor, the risk of an indirect shot can be justified if it prevents you from leaving the equivalent of three times as many direct shots later. This benchmark can also be a useful starting point for over-the-board analysis of more complex positions.—*Mary Hickey* Δ

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 3]

We presently use clocks for all Grand Crystal Beaver matches only. In the main tournaments clocks may be used (a) when both players are in agreement, and (2) at the director's discretion when any match is unduly delaying the tourney.

Look for a clock rules discussion along with backgammon clock rule modifications in the next issue.—Ed. Δ

ILLINOIS ACTION



Bill Davis
773/583-6464

Peter Kalba
773/252-7755

Tuesday, 6:00 P.M. at Clarion Hotel, 5615 N. Cumberland Ave., Chicago; 773/693-5800.

Sunday Bimonthly, 12:00 NOON at Champs Sports Bar, 17 W. 517 Roosevelt Rd., Oakbrook Terrace; 630/691-1888.

PUB CLUB: Tourn. Mon., 7:00 P.M. at Danny's Grill and Bar, 345 W. North Ave., Villa Park. Joe Wollick (847/942-2068).

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL BACKGAMMON CLUB: Tournaments Monday, 6:30 P.M. at Caboose Smokehouse, 608 W. Seminary, Bloomington. Rob Farmer (309/821-9766).

SANGAMON VALLEY BACKGAMMON ASSOC.: Tournaments Wed., 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).

T/P BACKGAMMON CLUB: Tour. Wed., 6:30 P.M. at Java Oasis; 2240 S. Michigan, Chicago. J.A. Miller (312/719-1245).

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



2003 Ohio State Backgammon Championships

April 11-13, 2003

Radisson Hotel Cleveland SW
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(800) 333-3333 or (440) 243-4040
Free shuttle from airport to hotel!

Info: Joe Miller (330) 966-2811
jm@neo.rr.com

WINNER'S CIRCLE



Jan.-Feb. 2003

•**Springfield Series #3** (Springfield, IL; 4 Jan.)... OPEN (23): 1-Randy Reiff, 2-Greg Tomlin; 1C-Cliff Mayoh, 2C-Sean Garber (IN); 1LC-Shane Joos.

•**Bright 'n' Breezy** (Brighton, England; 4-5 Jan.)... OPEN (111): 1-Edwin Turner, 2-Barry McAdam, 3/4-John Clark / David Startin; 1C-Julian Fetterlein, 2C-Francine Brandler (USA); 1LC-Paul Watts, 2LC-Amir Mossanen. TIDAL WAVE (64): 1-Peter Christmas, 2-Peter Bennet, 3/4-Monica Bekerson / Dave Raynsford. FRIDAY KO (54): 1-Julian Fetterlein, 2-Tony Lee. DOUBLES (32 teams): 1-Drop Said Red, 2-There's No "f" in Pier.

•**World Cup Challenge VII** (Bucharest, Romania, 5-12 Jan.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (63+1 re-entry): 1-Slava Pryadkin (Ukraine), 2-Maria Krancheva (Bulgaria), 3/4-Mads Andersen (Denmark) / Aaron Davidian (Israel); 1C-Matvey "Falafel" Natanzon (Israel), 2C-Stuart Hosen (USA), 3C/4C-Eli Royme (Israel) / Francois Tardieu (France); 1LC-Shimon Kagan (Israel), 2LC-Atanas Georgiev (Bulgaria). INTERMEDIATE (20): 1-Ronen Itzikovitz (Israel), 2-Razi Bobrov (Israel); 1C-Dan Apetroae (Romania), 2C-Sergey Kurilenko (Russia); 1LC-Henrik Veje (Denmark). BEGINNER (16): 1-Hazi Davidian (Israel), 2-Paul Sebastian (Romania/USA); 1C-Pascal Larriere (France), 2C-Ciprian Radulescu (Romania); 1LC-Andranik Harutynyan (Armenia). KICK-OFF (256): 1-Malcolm Davis (USA), 2-Jes Bondo (Denmark). DOUBLES (32 teams): 1-Morten Nielsen (Denmark) & Arkadiy Tsinis (Russia/USA), 2-Leonid Riskin (Ukraine/Germany) & Slava Pryadkin (Ukraine); 3/4-Pascal Larriere (France) & Francois Tardieu (France) / Matvey "Falafel" Natanzon (Israel) & Dirk Schiemann (Germany). TEAM TOURNAMENT (16 teams): 1-Alp Revenge: Heinz Edy (Austria), Janotta Hardy (Germany) & Tobias Hellweg (Germany), 2-French Team: Serge Rived, Jean-Philippe Rohr & Francois Tardieu (France). \$500 JACKPOT (16): 1-Stuart Hosen (USA), 2-Carsten Joh (Germany/Spain). \$1500 SUPER JACKPOT (16): 1-Peter Heitmueller (Germany), 2-Tobias Hellweg (Germany). MASTERS TOURNAMENT: Cancelled... *Attending players enjoyed Abraham Eitan's \$50,000 added money courtesy of the Grand Casino at the Marriott. An unsatisfying end to a hard-fought finals as Maria Drancheva's time clock flag dropped making Slava Pryadkin the winner.*

•**Dinner for the Winner Monthly** (Boise, ID; 7 Jan.)... OPEN: 1-Tami Jones, 2-Dennis Swigart

•**New Year Special Tournament** (Houston, TX; 11 Jan.)... OPEN (32): 1-Bill Riles, 2-Josh Danart; 1C-Kathy Tubbs, 2C-Gonzalo Molina.

•**New England Club Monthly** (Somerville, MA; 12 Jan.)... EXPERT (14): 1-Ernie Pittelli, 2-Eddie Abouzeid; 1C-Joe Moore, 2C-Jim Pascoe (CT).

A/B DIVISION (10): 1-Martha Reed, 2-Mark Kushinsky; 1C-Dean Carmeris, 2C-Anne Bidner.

•**Ohio State Club Monthly** (Canton, OH; 12 Jan.)... OPEN (10): 1-Jim Slomkoski (MI), 2-Joe Miller.

•**South Florida Monthly** (Ft. Lauderdale, FL; 12 Jan.)... OPEN (8): 1-Perry Gartner (NJ), 2-Al Tesoro. INTERMEDIATE (12): 1-John Gdowik, 2-John Broomfield, Jr.

•**Toronto Club Monthly** (Toronto, Canada; 12 Jan.)... OPEN (14): 1-Art Jenkins, 2-Milan Makovac.

•**Boston Open** (Boston, MA; 16-20 Jan.)... OPEN (26): 1-David Wells (IL), 2-Neil Kazaross (IL), 3/4-Greg Thomajan (MA) / Walter Trice (MA); 1C-John O'Hagan (IN), 2C-Ed O'Laughlin (FL). ADVANCED (28): 1-Bill Whitney (MA), 2-Igor Schein (CT), 3/4-Mark Kushinsky (MA) / George Saba (MA); 1C-Jason Lahmani (CA), 2C-Martha Ghio (NY). INTERMEDIATE (14): 1-Howard Peelle (MA), 2-Dean Carmeris (MA); 1C-Arlene Austin (PA). COMBINED LAST CHANCE (52): 1-Doug Zare (MA), 2-Stan Livingston (WI). GAMESGRID MASTERS JACKPOT (8): 1-Herb Gurland (MA), 2-Ed O'Laughlin (FL). MASTERS GIANT JACKPOT (6): 1-Howard Markowitz (NV), 2-David Wells (IL). AMATEUR JACKPOT (8): 1-George Saba (MA), 2-Bill Barrows (MA). AMATEUR JACKPOT OVERFLOW (8): 1-Joe Moore (MA), 2-Linc Bedell (NH). QUIZGAMMON 3 CONTEST (22): 1-David Wells (IL), 2-Doug Zare (MA). DOUBLES TOURNAMENT (12 teams): 1-Ed Bennett (NM) & Larry Liebster (NJ), 2-Alex & Doug Myers (MA). LADIES CUP (12): 1-Martha Ghio (NY), 2-Wanda Roberts (MA). SENIORS TOURNAMENT (16): 1-Gil Evans (NH), 2-Jim Pascoe (CT). GREAT LOBSTER CHASE (128): 1-Patrice Robertie (MA), 2-Nora Luna (MA). EXACTO TOURNAMENT (4): 1-Andy Natale (IL). CHOUETTE TOURNAMENT (8): 1-Nora Luna (MA), 2-Carlos Salgado (NY). MASTERS FINAL JACKPOT (4): 1-David Wells (IL).

•**Northwest Indiana Monthly** (Porter, IN; 18 Jan.)... OPEN: 1/2-Al Imm / Terry Greaves.

•**Ace Point Superbowl Tournament** (New York, NY; 26 Jan.)... OPEN (8): 1-Gene Gold, 2-Mel Rappaport. INTERMEDIATE (12): 1-Jordan Lampe, 2-Eydie Noble; 1C-Ray Javadi... *Alan Steffen reports that the Ace Point is now hosting poker tournaments.*

•**9th Super Bowl Bash** (Palmdale, CA; 26 Jan.)... OPEN (16): 1-Ray Baker, 2-Norm Wiggins; 1C-Ray Fogelund, 2C-Azzam Masarani... *Hosted by Pat & Norm Wiggins.*

•**G/A Last Thursday Grand Opening** (Studio City, CA; 30 Jan.)... OPEN (22+20 buy-backs): 1-Niel Borden, 2-Patrick Gibson, 3/4-Paul Mangone / Steve Sax... *Directed by Patrick Gibson at John Rockwell's new upscale Tournesol Bistro Provençal.*

•**2003 Dutch Open** (Amstelveen, Netherlands; 31 Jan.-2 Feb.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (20): 1-Asger Kring (Denmark), 2-Ronald van Tiggelen (NL); 1C-Nis Jorgensen (Denmark), 2C-Bobby Koome (NL); 1LC-Curtis Lucas (USA), 2LC-Peter Bennet (UK). INTERMEDIATE (7): 1-Rosey Bensley (UK), 2-Nico van der Meer (NL); 1C-Yehuda Pelter (NL); 1LC-Paul Davitt (UK)

•**Columbia Memorial Tournament** (Houston, TX; 8 Feb.)... OPEN (38): 1-Jim Marsh, 2-Jack Erwin;

1C-Gary Fomby, 2C-David Cohen... *Chiva Tafazzoli of the Munich Club donated a backgammon board out of respect for the space shuttle tragedy.*

•**Jarvis Trophy** (Coventry, England; 8-9 Feb.)... OPEN (48): 1-Bob Young, 2-John Slattery, 3-Steffen Nowak. FRIDAY KO (10): 1-Paul Gilbertson, 2-Myke Wignall. DOUBLES (10 teams): 1-The B Team, 2-Annissa Associates.

•**Ohio State Club Monthly** (Canton, OH; 9 Feb.)... OPEN (13): 1-John Baron, 2-Mary Hickey.

•**Bar Point Doubles Club Championship** (Oakbrook Terrace, IL; 9 Feb.)... OPEN (27 teams): 1-Alice Kay & Howard Ring, 2-Wendy Kaplan & Tak Morioka, 3/4-Norma Shyer & Val Zimmnick / Kathy Sorci & Joe Szewedo; 1C-Carol Hooker & Phil Martorelli, 2C-Phyllis Smolinski & Bob Zavoral.

•**South Florida Monthly** (Ft. Lauderdale, FL; 6/2/02)... OPEN (8): 1-Mike Corbett, 2-Leon Shore. INTERMEDIATE (14): 1-Jerry Soskin, 2-Dixie McGaffick.

•**Gran Casino Open** (Mallorca, Spain; 18-23 Feb.)... MASTERS (27): 1-Carsten Joh (Germany/Spain), 2-Marcus Faltermann (Germany); 1C-Tom Jayes (England/Spain), 2C-Sascha Ertl (Germany); 1LC-Sami Sallak (Germany). CHAMPION (29): 1-Norbert Lisecki (Germany), 2-Aretis Rostomian (Armenia); 1C-Andreas Agh (Austria), 2C-Chiva Tafazzoli (Iran/Germany); 1LC-Peter Blachian (Germany). INTERMEDIATE (17): 1-Helge Mueller (Germany), 2-Thomas Unholzer (Germany); 1C-Roberto del Toro (Italy), 2C-Heimo Tauern (Spain); 1LC-Edith Afchani (Germany). WARM-UP (64): 1-Tom Jayes (England/Spain), 2-Sascha Ertl (Germany); 1C-Henning Frick (Germany). SUPER CUP (64): 1-Kolya Mosoyan (Armenia), 2-Arthur Muradian (Armenia); 1C-Peter Naguib (Germany). COUNTRY CLUB TROPHY (63): 1-Carlos Szechet (Argentina), 2-Kolya Mosoyan (Armenia). INSELRADIO CUP (62): 1-Marc Steyvers (Belgium), 2-Bertl Keil (Germany). MALLORCA ZEITUNG CUP (56): 1-Martin Schubert (Germany/Spain), 2-Peter Naguib (Germany). 5-POINT KICK-OFF (64): 1-Daniel Bruni (Switzerland). GOLDEN DOOR 1-POINT KICK-OFF (64): 1-Jacqueline Lange (Spain). TEAM CUP (15 teams): 1-*Saturday Night Fever*: Martin de Bruin (USA/Spain), Ingrid & Volker Sonnabend (Germany).

•**Springfield Series #4** (Peoria, IL; 22 Feb.)... OPEN (38): 1-Tak Morioka, 2-Rory Pascal; 1C-William Hutchison, 2C-Faddoul Khoury; 1LC-Randy Reiff.

•**Ace Point Monthly** (New York, NY; 23 Feb.)... OPEN (8): 1-Richard Munitz. INTERMEDIATE (8): 1-Pary Elghanian, 2-Raffi Lazo; 1C-David Scarimbolo.

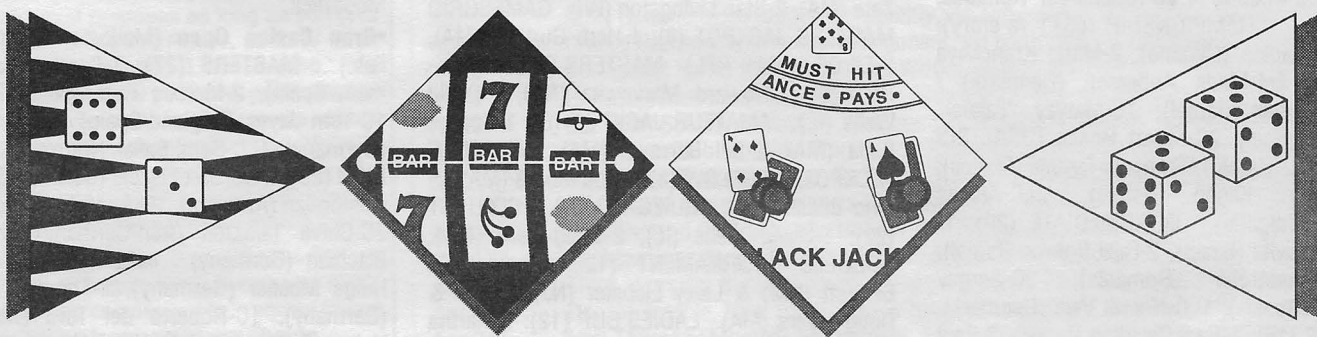
•**Southern Open—ABT** (Atlanta, GA; 27 Feb.-2 Mar.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (18): 1-Simon Kennedy-Rose (GA), 2-Vadim Musaelyan (NC); 1C Curtis Lucas (TX), 2C Zia Afshani (GA). INTERMEDIATE (12): 1-Petko Kostadinov (SC), 2-Peter Roubicek (GA); 1C-Philip Smith (NC), 2C Russ Haley (MS). KICKOFF (16): 1-Zia Afshani (GA), 2-Malcolm Davis (TX), 3-Tom Duggan (UK). DOUBLES (14 teams): 1-Save Kovach & Stuart Thomson (GA), 2-Zia Afshani (GA) & Diane Varner (NC). SUNDAY SHOOT-OUT (14): 1-Gregg Cattanaach (GA), 2-Jon Veitor (CA). LAST CHANCE (4): 1-Kate Elmore (GA), 2-Peter Roubicek (GA). Δ

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