

20th nevada state tournament

## NEVADA STATE 20TH: WOOLSEY & BALBI PREVAIL

**K**it Woolsey (CA) and Brazilian Armando Balbi were the big winners at the 2003 Nevada State Tournament. This year's 20th anniversary event was held at the Riviera Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. Howard Markowitz directed.



Kit Woolsey rolls to victory in the 20th Nevada State Tournament.

Although attendance was down from previous years (due to the war and SARS), the quality of competition remained high with numerous worldwide "Giants of Backgammon" in attendance.

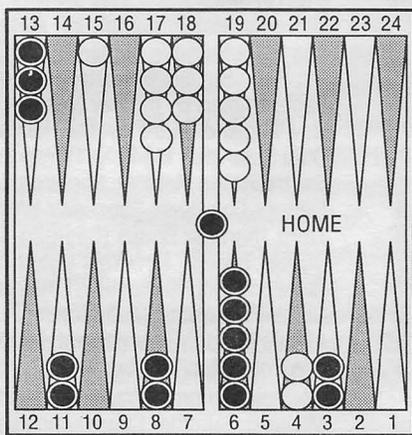
### WOOLSEY KEEPS A STIFF UPPER LIP

Kit Woolsey scratched in the Gin Rummy event preceding the backgammon tournament. Unfortunately, he tripped in the playing room and also scratched his upper lip bad enough to require a hospital visit. BG-wise, the nasty fall had no effect on his dice or concentration as he marched through a field of 92 in the Nevada State Championship to reach the finals. Ray Fogerlund of California was the other finalist defeating the very tough David Wells (IL) to earn a place at the grand table.

The unofficial betting line made Kit a 13-to-10 favorite in the 17-point finals. With Ray ahead 9-6 after ten games, it

looked like the smart money was on the underdog. In game 11, an interesting sequence developed:

Pos. 1. 17-pt. Nevada State finals. Kit Woolsey (Black) trails Ray Fogerlund (White) 6-9. **BLACK TO PLAY 5-1.**



Kit played Bar/20, 6/5 slotting. Ray



Super Jackpot champ Armando Balbi.

thought for almost two minutes before offering a cube that was scooped by Kit. Ray's 2-2 roll was good, but not good enough to lock the game up. Kit turned things around and five turns later, recubed

[Continued on page 4]

## TONY AND THE LOVE GODDESS



Here are Tony Martin and 21-year-old Rita Hayworth playing backgammon on the set of the 1940 musical "Music in My Heart." One wonders how Martin could keep his attention on the game with "The Love Goddess" (Rita's nickname) as his opponent. Δ

# CHICAGO POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

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

## LETTERS

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## PLAYING TOURNEY MATCHES ON SNOWIE

Recently at the Chicago Bar Point Club, I've noticed some matches being played on a computer using the Snowie platform. I like the idea for a couple of reasons. First, it exposes everyone to the power of today's bots. Second, giving both players the ability to replay the match and review their errors is a great learning method.

At the same time, it would seem to bring on a new set of director decisions. For example, what would be the ruling if the battery, or PC somehow failed mid-match? And how would the other players in the tournament feel if this held up the tournament? I am sure there are other director ruling problems one could conjure up.

As for playing on the computer via Snowie, both players would obviously have to agree to it. I personally like allowing it.—*Roland Dieter, Deerfield, Illinois*

*(Continued on page 3)*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



by Carol Joy Cole  
810/232-9731  
[cjc@tir.com](mailto:cjc@tir.com)

\* Denotes new or revised listing

### NATIONAL

*American Backgammon Tour events underlined.*

May 15	Third Thursday Bonus (Wisconsin State), Days Inn, Flint, Michigan	810/232-9731
May 17	Double Trouble, New York Chess & Backgammon Club, New York, NY	845/373-7272
May 17	Grand Rapids Swiss, Garden Room Café, Grand Rapids, Michigan	616/647-9965
May 17	Redwood Empire Monthly, Embassy Suites Hotel, San Rafael, California	707/477-6430
May 18	Austin Club Bimonthly Tournament, JC's Bar & Grill, Austin, Texas	512/261-8518
May 18	Backgammon By the Bay Monthly, Shattuck Hotel, Berkeley, California	831/688-9722
May 18	Greater Columbus Club Monthly, Lucky's Grille, Hilliard, Ohio	614/771-0981
May 18	New England Bonus Monthly, Holiday Inn, Somerville, Massachusetts	617/779-8209
May 25*	Ace Point Monthly Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, New York	212/753-0842
May 23-26	<u>24th Chicago Open, Oak Brook Hills Resort, Oak Brook, Illinois</u>	<u>847/674-0120</u>
Jun 1*	MSN Gammonzone Medallion Monthly, via computer <a href="mailto:GZMedallion@gammonzone.net">GZMedallion@gammonzone.net</a>	
Jun 1*	Official GamesGrid Monthly Tournament, via computer <a href="mailto:tournaments@cyberarts.com">tournaments@cyberarts.com</a>	
Jun 5*	Miami Valley Club Monthly, Buffalo Wild Wings Bar, Fairborn, Ohio	937/864-1748
Jun 6-8	<u>51st Gammon Associates Invitational, A.R. Private Club, Los Angeles, CA</u>	<u>818/901-0464</u>
Jun 7*	Universal Mall Bimonthly #3, All the King's Men, Warren, Michigan	313/330-7803
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
Jun 8*	Backgammon By the Bay Monthly, Shattuck Hotel, Berkeley, California	831/688-9722
Jun 8*	New England Club Playoffs, Holiday Inn, Somerville, Massachusetts	617/779-8209
Jun 8*	Ohio State Club Monthly, Thirsty Dog Brewery, Canton, Ohio	330/866-2811
Jun 8*	South Florida Monthly, Sheraton Suites Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, Florida	954/564-0340
Jun 14*	Father's Day Open, Sansone's West Oaks Bar, Houston, Texas	281/556-0428
Jun 19*	Third Thursday Bonus (Georgia), Days Inn, Flint, Michigan	810/232-9731
Jun 21*	Double Trouble, New York Chess & Backgammon Club, New York, NY	845/373-7272
Jun 21*	Redwood Empire Monthly, Embassy Suites Hotel, San Rafael, California	707/477-6430
Jun 22*	Greater Columbus Club Monthly, Lucky's Grille, Hilliard, Ohio	614/771-0981
Jun 28*	Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Mazzy's Sports Bar, Roswell, Georgia	770/333-1876
Jun 29*	Ace Point Monthly Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, New York	212/753-0842
Jul 2	Michigan Summer Warm-Up, Hilton Hotel, Novi, Michigan	810/232-9731
Jul 3-6	<u>Michigan Summer Championships, Hilton Hotel, Novi, Michigan</u>	<u>810/232-9731</u>
Jul 10*	Miami Valley Club Monthly, Buffalo Wild Wings Bar, Fairborn, Ohio	937/864-1748
Jul 12*	Firecracker Classic, Sansone's West Oaks Bar, Houston, Texas	281/556-0428
Jul 25-27	<u>1st Wisconsin State Championships, Radisson Inn, Madison, Wisconsin</u>	<u>608/276-8144</u>
Jul 26-27*	10th Summer Cooker, Steve Hast's residence, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	412/823-7500
Aug 1-3	<u>Thousand Islands Tournament, Pine Tree Point, Alexandria Bay, New York</u>	<u>585/396-0969</u>
Aug 3	Bar Point Sunday Bimonthly, Champs Bar, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois	773/583-6464
Aug 7-10	<u>Georgia Championships &amp; Peach Cup, Hilton Garden Inn, Atlanta, Georgia</u>	<u>770/333-1876</u>
Aug 16-17*	Peoria Summer Sizzler, Zell residence (Sat.) & Pizza Works (Sun.), Peoria, IL	309/674-0557
Aug 29-Sep 1	<u>51st Indiana Open, Sheraton Hotel &amp; Suites, Indianapolis, Indiana</u>	<u>317/255-8902</u>
Sep 19-21	<u>Florida State Championships, Sheraton Suites Hotel, Fort Lauderdale, FL</u>	<u>954/564-0340</u>
Sep 20-21*	24th Invitational Vietor Cup, Jon Vietor's residence, La Jolla, California	818/901-0406
Oct 10-12	<u>Illinois State Championships, Springfield Hilton Hotel, Springfield, Illinois</u>	<u>217/528-0117</u>
Oct 31-Nov 2*	<u>Minnesota Open, Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, Prior Lake, Minnesota</u>	<u>651/699-6758</u>
Nov 15-19*	2003 Backgammon Pro Am, Riviera Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada	702/893-6025
Nov 19-23*	Las Vegas Open, Riviera Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada	702/893-6025
Dec 26-28*	<u>Ace Point Holiday Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, New York</u>	<u>212/753-0842</u>

### OUTSIDE USA

May 22-25	Arraial d'Ajuda Open, Hotel Village Arraial, Porto Seguro, Bahai, Brazil	5573-5751040
May 24-25*	Hi-Rollers Event, Hanover Hotel, Hinckley, Leicestershire, England	44152-2888676
May 23-25	Tournament of Spirits, Café de Twee Klaveren, Amsterdam, Netherlands	316-55377395
May 25*	Toronto Masters, Bayview Games Club, Toronto, Ontario, Canada	416/722-9709
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
Jun 14-15	"Open Air" Maghetti, Quartiere Maghetti, Lugano, Switzerland	4178-7674600
Jun 14-15*	Danish Mixed Doubles, Humlebæk BG Klub, Humlebæk, Denmark	4540-194479
Jun 19-Jul 3	Zakynthos Backgammon Festival, Peligoni Club, Zakynthos, Greece	44127-3261073
Jun 24-Aug 15	Sommer Cup 2003, Odense Backgammon Klub, Denmark	4566-139097
Jul 3-6	15th City of Venice Tournament, Cà Vendramin Palace, Venice, Italy	3932-90513415
Jul 5-6	Keren di Bona Memorial Trophy, Hilton National, Coventry, England	44152-2888676
Jul 7-13	World Championship, Grand Hotel, Monte Carlo, Monaco <i>USA contact: 954/527-4033</i>	
Jul 14-15	13th Nice Open, Promenade des Anglais, Nice, France	33493-879436
Jul 16-20	5th Czech Open, Renaissance Marriott Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic	49911-409505
Jul 19-20*	8th Liverpool Open, Liverpool Bridge Club, Liverpool, England	44793-1553829
Jul 24-27	Grand Prix de Lugano, Hotels Splendide & Eden, Lugano, Switzerland	4179-3374425
Aug 9-10*	Studio Anne Carlton Trophy, Hilton National Hotel, Coventry, England	44170-7659080
Aug 30-31*	Gammonitis Tournament, George Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Solihull, England	44127-3261073

# LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

The issue of using Snowie to play a match came up at the Michigan Summer Championships in Novi last year when two players had trouble finding a board to play on. I did not allow it because it did not provide the same playing conditions that other competitors had to use. Snowie does not allow misplays to be made, as real life does, and it may show a running pip count, which of course is not permitted in live matches. — Carol Joy Cole, director, Flint Area Backgammon Club, Michigan

All of the matches played on the computer

using Snowie at the Bar Point Club have occurred between two consenting players with the pip count feature turned off. It is true that the playing conditions are different; however they are also different when one compares playing on a new Taki-board vs. using a small inferior set with faded pips and undersized checkers.

That said, we are only permitting Snowie computer matches at our regular weekly club tournaments. It's a great learning tool. Our policy could change however, if we receive any objections from our players (which have yet to occur).—Ed.

## BARRY LIKES THE OLD PIX

I came across your website

(www.chicagopoint.com) by accident last night. Excellent site. Saw Michael Maxakuli's old backgammon pictures and can't believe it's been 20 years since Russell Sands won the \$100,000 in Vegas. I'll always miss the Dunes Hotel.—Barry Epstein, former BPC player, via Internet

## LOOKING FOR AN EXPERT

I am producing an event in June in Montauk, New York. For part of our event the client would like a backgammon expert to conduct a tutorial in history, strategies, etc. Do you have a good source I could tap into for potential experts in this field? Please contact me at the numbers below to discuss this further.—Daniel Laiblin, Campos Creative Works, Inc., Santa Monica, California

Why don't you contact Bill Robertie. He's a renowned author/analyst and a two-time world champion who lives out east in Boston. Bill can be reached online at: Gammon\_Press@msn.com —Ed.

## QUIZ CORRECTION

Jake Jacobs writes: Paul Franks gets bonus points in last month's 'Thai'ny Quiz. (Assuring that he is good enough to play in Thailand!) He alertly pointed out that in Problem #8, Black's spare should be on the 6-point, and not on the 5-point. As depicted, Black could have played Bar/22, 5/3, avoiding a direct shot without the need to break his five point board. In the real game the spare could not move and Bar/22, 12/10, moving into the line of fire, was best. To all CHICAGO POINT readers who were as

[Continued on page 8]



**AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 2003**

**AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 2003**

Compiled through 13 April 2003 after 5 events  
(Coming in May & June: Chicago, Los Angeles, New York)



**AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 2003**

Malcolm Davis	22.88	Greg Merriman	5.58	Mike Cyrkiel	2.58	Steve Kovach	1.06
Gyl Savoie	22.39	Jeremy Bagai	5.27	Ben Elliott	2.57	Jim Price	0.95
Sam Pottle	15.64	Walter Trice	5.27	Bob Green	2.57	Neal Uphoff	0.93
Dave Cardwell	15.01	Tom Hodous	5.15	Rich Madzel	2.45	Bill Etue	0.89
Brian Barber	13.80	Marilyn Kubiak	5.15	Dixie McGaffick	2.45	Angela Hoffman	0.75
Raymond Rickard	12.29	Philip Smith	4.82	Terry Seymour	2.45	Betty Coppic	0.74
Gregg Cattanaach	12.03	Frank Talbot	4.80	Wendy Kaplan	2.30	Eloise Johnson	0.71
Hunter Jones	11.15	Bob Glass	4.73	James Bray	2.24	Bill Chibnik	0.70
David Rubin	10.57	Vadim Musaelyan	4.50	Ray Woo	2.24	Paul Lombardo	0.61
Bill Finneran	10.57	Herb Roman	4.44	Peter Roubicek	2.24	Kent Williams	0.61
Steve Sax	10.40	Ed Ratajczyk	4.28	David Rogers	2.10	Jill Brown	0.32
Simon Kennedy-Rose	9.00	Dana Nazarian	4.16	Connie Tipton	1.78	Larry Strommen	2.08
Ron Sanders	8.89	Trina Smith	3.56	Rebecca Marti	1.78	Miriam Bureson	2.00
Curtis Lucas	8.66	Terry Leahy	3.44	Ron Zimet	1.61	Arkady Kuperman	1.87
Richard Reasin	7.13	Beth Martinson	3.29	Mary Downing	1.50	Jerry Padova	1.87
Drew Robinson	7.08	Carol Falk	3.10	Steve Delpero	1.46	Jill Ferdinand	1.76
Jeff Kane	6.90	Petko Kostadinov	3.00	Max Muench	1.25	Mark Damish	1.73
Mary Franks	6.40	Rainer Stachowitz	2.96	Matt Holleman	1.25	Bob Howington	1.61
Jim Zimmerman	6.02						



**CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB**

**2003 PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

COMPILED  
THRU 30 APR.

Bob Zavoral	12.32	Roger Hickman	3.92	Peter Kalba	1.92	Linda Rockwell	0.96
Tim Mabee	11.72	Paul Friedman	3.92	Larry Goldstein	1.92	Steve Klesker	0.96
Lucky Nelson	8.48	David Rockwell	3.84	Joann Feinstein	1.76	Aaron Ashmann	0.88
Tak Morioka	8.02	Joe Sylvester	3.40	Doug Rodgers	1.76	James Roston	0.72
Michael Peters	7.68	Bill Davis	3.24	Glenn Martells	1.72	Elaine Andrews	0.72
Carter Mattig	7.04	Arline Levy	3.20	Royal Robinson	1.68	Bill Bartholomay	0.72
Herb Roman	6.72	Tim Serges	3.14	Rory Pascar	1.64	Ken Bond	0.72
Phil Simborg	6.16	Barbara Levinson	3.12	Jake Jacobs	1.44	Elaine Kehm	0.72
Phyllis Smolinski	5.20	Roland Dieter	2.96	Ken Tibbs	1.36	Don Jayhan	0.64
Mark Murray	5.16	Wendy Kaplan	2.80	Mitch Pomper	1.20	Los Moshinsky	0.64
Joe Wollick	5.08	Georgina Flanagan	2.68	Phil Martorelli	1.12	Gary Kay	0.56
Richard Stawowy	4.56	Eric Johnson	2.52	Carol Hooker	1.12	Brian Levanthal	0.56
Tim Carroll	4.48	Paul Baraz	2.48	Rodney Gonzalez	1.12	Don Garner	0.56
Bill Keefe	4.40	Bob Steen	2.28	Nora Luna-Righter	1.04	Bobbie Ivanova	0.48
Val Zimnicki	4.16	Howard Ring	2.16	Barry Miller	1.04	Wayne Wiest	0.48
Brian Barber	4.04	Norma Shyer	2.16	Joe Szwedo	0.96	Matt Beach	0.32
Alice Kay	4.00	Ed Buerger	2.00	Kathy Sorci	0.96		

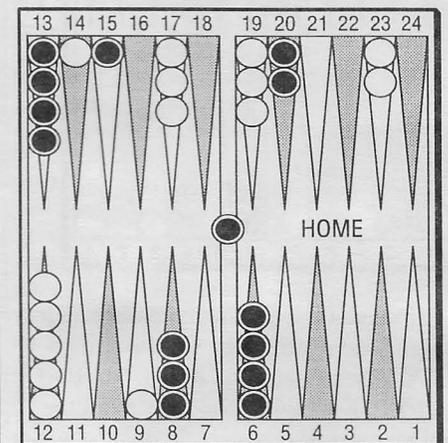
**TIM MABEE** earned a stellar 4.80 master points to earn April Player of the Month honors. Richard Stawowy (3.84) and Herb Roman (3.48) finished second/third.

your move

**PROBLEM #290**

to be analyzed by Kit Woolsey

Money game. **BLACK TO PLAY 5-2.**



# ASK DANNY



© 2003 by Danny Kleinman

## LOADED DICE

**D**ear Danny: I won't play backgammon money games or tournaments unless precision dice are used. Now there is a rumor that even precision dice can be loaded. I have heard that the manufacturers will load their dice for a high price and that there are buyers willing to pay that price.

Have you ever heard of this? Can the translucent dice be loaded, or just the solid ones? I don't want to play paranoid. What (if anything) can I do to protect myself?—*Concerned about the Dice*

**DEAR CONCERNED:** Precision dice can protect you against deviations from randomness that stem from imperfections in the construction of the dice and in the tumbling of the dice when rolled. They cannot protect you against cheating.

Yes, at least some manufacturers have

loaded dice in a variety of ways, and attempt to justify their actions by saying that the cheaters who use loaded dice pay premium prices. I forget now whether the \$75 price quoted by a downtown Los Angeles manufacturer in 1984 was per die or per pair of dice, but I'm sure that regardless, the price has kept up with inflation.

Obviously, opaque dice can be loaded without risk of detection in more ways than translucent dice, but do not sell modern technology short. Where substantial money is to be made from loaded or magnetically controlled dice, backgammon cheaters and their crooked suppliers will find a way.

In backgammon as in war, the offense is always two or three steps ahead of the defense. Your best defense lies in knowledge of the character of the players and the sponsoring organizations, and in diligent observation: of the manner in which players shake and roll the dice, the way the dice tumble and come to rest, and the results of games. It is by such observation primarily that the cheaters in Southern California in the early 1980s were detected and exposed, not by visual inspections of their dice.

Be forewarned, however, that the task of confirming suspicions of cheating is

hazardous. The first suspicions were voiced to me by expert players who had lost heavily against weaker opponents, defying presumed astronomical odds. Because the improbable sometimes does occur, such evidence is not conclusive; I have heard false accusations leveled against honest players.

The hazards are not only epistemological, but also to life and limb. People who are willing to cheat are often willing to kill to avoid exposure that will curtail their lucrative scams. I survived a murderous attack with only minor injuries, but a victim of high-stakes cheating at gin rummy was not so lucky. The person who told me about that cheating said, "Don't go running to complain, for the people to whom you are most likely to complain may be the ones doing the cheating." Alas, a victim of the cheating did not receive this warning, and a few days later was found bludgeoned to death in his home.—*Yours, Danny Δ*

Questions for Danny Kleinman should be addressed to: Ask Danny, c/o CHICAGO POINT, 3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 504; Chicago, IL 60659-3155 or send e-mail to: [bg@chicagopoint.com](mailto:bg@chicagopoint.com)

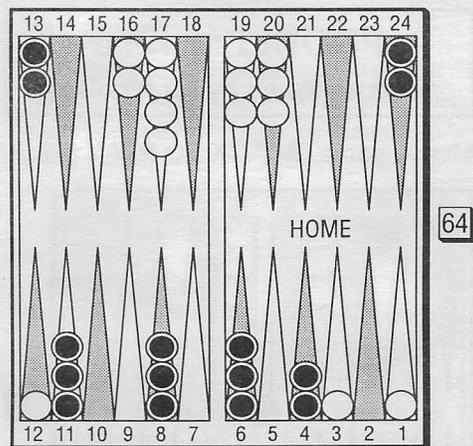
## VEGAS...

[Continued from page 1]

Ray out to win two points.

Fast forward to game 14 with Ray on top 12-8 and Kit checking out his options with double-3:

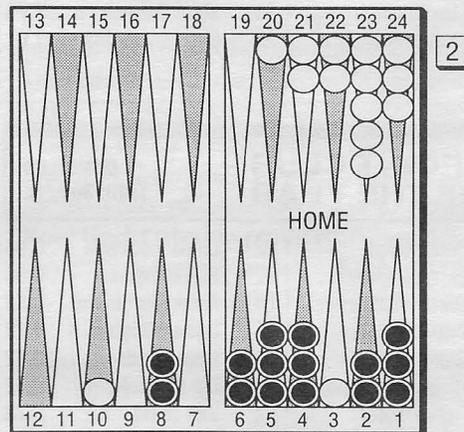
**Pos. 2.** 17-pt. Nevada State finals. Kit Woolsey (Black) trails Ray Fogerlund (White) 8-12. **BLACK TO PLAY 3-3.**



Although there are many choices, Kit opted to send another checker back with 24/12\*. When Fogerlund rolled 2-6 (Bar/23, 24/18), Kit "upped the ante" with the doubling cube. Ray accepted, only to watch

things go against him. Even so, lots of play remained. In Pos. 3, Woolsey is faced with a big decision late in the game:

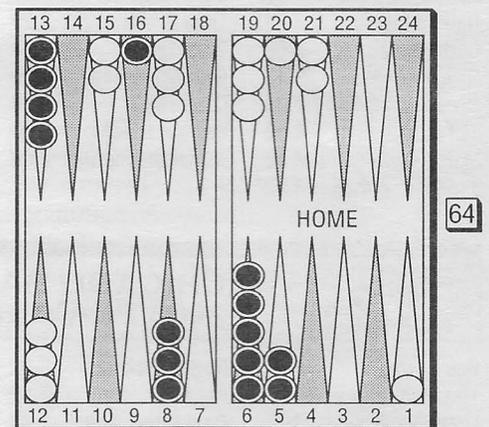
**Pos. 3.** 17-pt. Nevada State finals. Kit Woolsey (Black) trails Ray Fogerlund (White) 8-12. **BLACK TO PLAY 3-2.**



Kit made the aggressive play, hitting 8/3\*. Ray danced. Then Kit rolled a 6-4 and couldn't cover. Ray danced again. Next Kit tossed 4-4 which gave Fogerlund yet another shot. He missed that, too and saw his lead cut to 12-10.

Woolsey won a doubled gammon in the next game to take the lead for good. But Ray looked like he might turn things around in game 16 when:

**Pos. 4.** 17-pt. Nevada State finals. Kit Woolsey (Black) leads Ray Fogerlund (White) 14-12. **WHITE TO PLAY 6-1.**



Ray spent a minute with the play before moving 10/9\*, 10/4. Kit answered with 5-1 playing Bar/20\*, 6/5. When Ray threw 6-6 dancing, Kit turned the cube for the third game in a row, and for the third game in a row, Ray took and lost. Woolsey went on to capture the 20th Nevada State Tournament by a final score of 17-12.

## A THRILLING SUPER JACKPOT FINISH

When the entry fee is \$4000, it's obvious that the field will be extremely strong. And that was the case in this year's Super

[Continued on page 7]

# ALTERNATIVE RULES TO MAKE THE GAME INTERESTING

by Phil Simborg

Over the years in various chouettes and games, I have tried several alternative rules aimed at making backgammon more interesting, or more skillful . . . or just more fun. Here are some you might try:

**ROLL OVER RULE.** Each player has the option of making his opponent roll over *one time* during the game. Once the option is exercised, it can't be used again. *Reason:* It takes away one joker, making the game a little more skillful. The decision as to when to use the option also adds skill to the game.

After playing this for a while, we added some variations including the following:

- you cannot use the option once there is no contact;
- you cannot use the option after there has been cube action; and
- if both players have their option remaining and one player exercises his option, the other player may use his option to cancel the other's.

**NO COCKED DICE RULE.** When my brother and I play, we play on a set with very low, flat checkers, and just got tired of rolling over all the time. So we play, as long as the dice are flat, we don't care if they end up on a checker or the wrong side of the board, and even off the board, so long as the dice are flat.

**THREE DOUBLES RULE.** My brother just can't stand it when someone rolls three doubles in a row in a race or bearoff situation, so we play the three double rule. If a player rolls the third double in a row in a no-contact position, the third roll simply does not count *and* he loses his turn.

**OPENING ROLL HANDICAP OPTION.** In money games, I often found myself sitting across from world-class players or competitors far superior to me, so I just didn't want to play them for money. For some reason, they couldn't understand why I felt that as in golf or bowling, I deserved a handicap when I played them. But sometimes they would give me a handicap: the Opening Roll option. This option gives me

the choice of taking the opening roll or letting my opponent play it regardless of who has the higher die.

**MANDATORY EXTRAS.** In our Chicago chouette, we often play by the rule that if you drop an initial cube and there are any takers, the dropper must offer an extra. Takers are not required to take the extras unless there is only one taker.

**PAY FOR DANCING RULE.** In our current Chicago chouette, there is a player who believes he dances (fails to enter from the bar) more than anyone else in the game. So I made him a bet to prove he's wrong: every time he dances on a one point board, I pay him a point, and every time he dances on a two-point board, I pay him a half-point. Of course, he pays me the same. (After about one year of this, of course I'm losing my shirt on this bet!)

**MAKE YOUR BEST PLAY RULE.** Again, in our Chicago chouette, if player A is getting gammoned, when it is his roll and his opponent has 4 or less checkers left, he does not have to play his move until he sees his opponent's roll and his own next roll. We have found that this saves a lot of time and rarely makes any difference in the result. Granted, there will be a few fewer gammons, but we think that's a good thing in a money game.

**CONSULTING RULES.** In chouettes all over the country, consulting rules vary greatly. Most allow consulting only after the cube has been turned. Some don't allow consulting at all. My favorite is no consulting unless there has been a recube and take. (I also like a rule that says no settlements unless the cube is at 4 or more. This greatly speeds up the game.)

**CRAWFORD RULE REVISION.** I like the Crawford Rule (when a player reaches match point, the doubling cube is out of play for one game), but I think the rule could be improved by bringing back a variation of the old Holland Rule. In post-Crawford games, the trailer should not be allowed to double on his first opportunity. This gives the leader a little more information in the take/drop analysis and makes it more interesting and skillful.

**ROLLING RULES.** To shut the mouths of those who constantly complain about their dice, or constantly complain that their opponents don't shake, etc., I have tried some interesting alternatives. One is to simply roll for each other. In one money

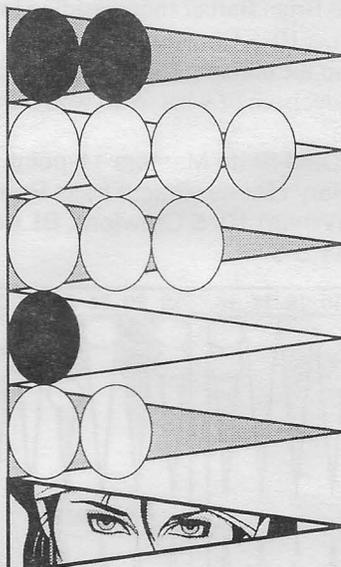
game, to ensure fairness, we had a third party roll for both of us. And in another chouette, we each rolled one die for the other every roll.

**GAMMON/DRINK RULE.** In my favorite chouette of all time, if you get gammoned, you must down a shot of the liquor of your choice. (In our wilder times, you also had to drink a shot whenever you rolled 6-6, and your opponent had to have one if you rolled 1-1!)

**NO GAMMON OPTION.** In a money game, when you are doubled, you have the option of taking the cube but also paying 1/4 of the cube to ensure there are no gammons or backgammons. What this means is that if you are taking a 2-cube, you pay a half-point, and that means that *neither side* pays extra for a gammon or backgammon.

**PAUL'S RULE.** My good friend Paul Franks always tries to get this rule agreed to in advance. Simply stated, "Paul's Rule" is that regardless of who is up in the score, he gets paid.—*Phil Simborg* Δ

**Michigan Summer**



**Backgammon Championships**

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## OHIO FAVORS CARDWELL & HICKEY

**D**ave Cardwell battled more than just determined backgammon players in his quest to win in Ohio. He was also fighting a cold. He won on both fronts.

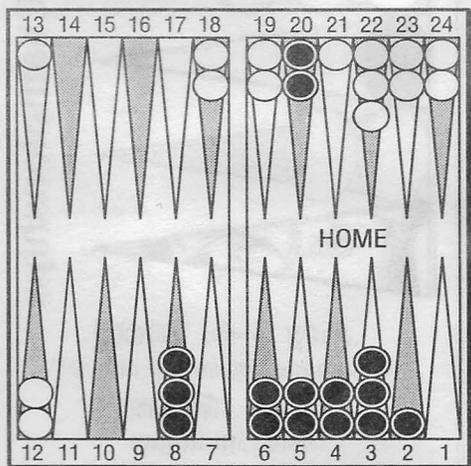
This year's Ohio State Championships, held at the Radisson Cleveland Hotel 11-13 April, saw a 20% increase in the Open attendance to 31 players. Joe Miller directed the ABT event, ably assisted by wife Fran.

Cardwell, the Atlanta Backgammon Association director, won the double elimination format without a loss topping Richard Reasin (NY) in the finals. The win was worth 13.95 American Backgammon Tour points and coupled with his consolation semifinal finish in Carolina, Dave currently stands 4th in the nation after five events.

### IT'S MARY AGAIN

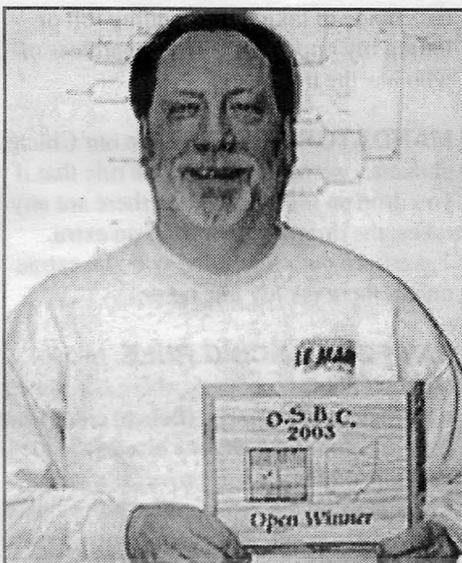
Mary Hickey (OH) successfully defended her 2002 Ohio Masters title with another big win in 2003. But it was a lot closer than last year. Mary spotted her opponent, the respected Brian Barber (now residing in Chicago), a 10-5 Crawford lead before turning up the burners. Here, she's faced with the decision of what to do with 5-5:

**Pos. 1.** Ohio State Masters 11-point finals. Mary Hickey (Black) trails Brian Barber (White) 10-5 Crawford. **BLACK TO PLAY 5-5.**



Mary could run both checkers and trail 83-85 in the race. Instead she ran one back man and kept a lone checker back. Good decision as two rolls later, Brian broke his 13-point and Mary rolled a great 8.

The next game saw a very interesting play from Ms. Hickey. Can you find it?

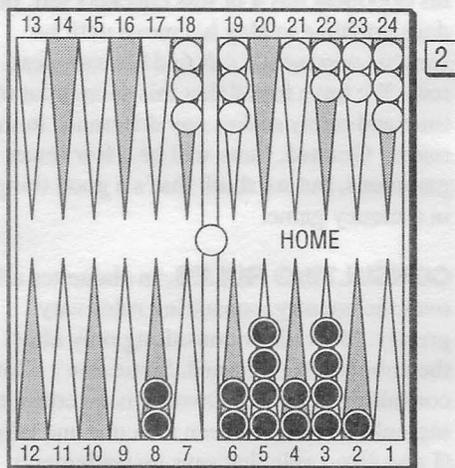


Ohio Open Champion Dave Cardwell.  
[Both photos by Joe Miller.]



It's two Ohio Masters titles in a row for player/analyst Mary Hickey.

**Pos. 2.** Ohio State Masters 11-point finals. Mary Hickey (Black) trails Brian Barber (White) 10-6. **BLACK TO PLAY 4-2.**



Rather than simply play 8/2, Hickey tried for a second checker pickup and gammon by making the ace point! Barber obliged by rolling a deuce, Mary sent another man back and eventually won four

points to knot the score at 10-all. Although analysis shows the play to be incorrect, give Hickey an "A" for creativity.

The final game was extremely tight. Brian had shots for the win but failed to hit. In the end, the very likable and popular Mary Hickey had won another Ohio Masters plaque. Let's title this close match: "Barber Shaved by the Belle."

Complete results: Δ

### 2003 OHIO STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

**CHAMPIONSHIP (31):** 1-David Cardwell (GA), 2-Richard Reasin (NY); **1C-Gregg Cattanach (GA), 2C-Carol Falk (MI).** **ADVANCED (19):** 1-Ed Ratajczyk (OH), 2-Drew Robinson (OH); **1C-Philip Smith (NC), 2C-Jim Price (MI).** **NOVICE (13):** 1-Steve Delpero (PA), 2-Angela Hoffman (MI); **1C-Eloise Johnson (NY), 2C-Jill Brown (NY).** **MASTERS (12):** 1-Mary Hickey (OH), 2-Brian Barber (IL). **DOUBLES (10):** 1-Petko Kostadinov (SC) & Philip Smith (NC), 2-Jim Price (MI) & Jim Slomkoski (MI). **BLITZ (32):** 1-Tom Meyer (IL). **2-POINT QUICKIES (32):** 1-Jon Vietor (CA).



## SUNDAY BACKGAMMON

8 JUNE 2003 @ 12:00 NOON

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17 W. 517 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
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Double  
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\$30 Open  
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## VEGAS...

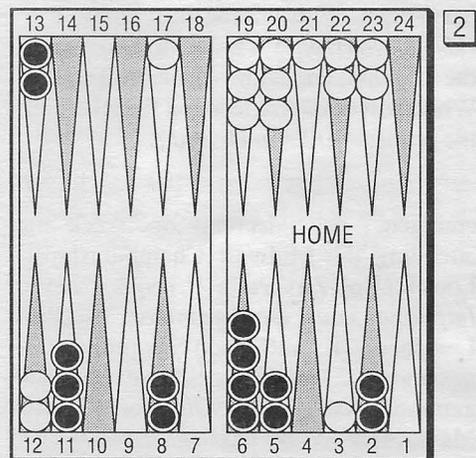
[Continued from page 4]

Jackpot with names like Svobodny, Magriel and Ballard in the hunt. The eventual finalists were Armando Balbi (Brazil) and Stuart Hosen (TX). The 19-point match was bound to be exciting with \$30,000 to the winner and \$15,000 for second. And it was.

"It's hard to win a 19-point match when you lose three gammons in the first 12 games," claimed Hosen who was down 11-16 at the time. But Stu doesn't quit and rallied to tie the score at 17-all, setting up what would be the final game.

Following a 4-3 for Balbi played 24/20, 24/21, and 6-4 for Hosen (8/2, 6/2), Armando offered an advantage cube and Stu accepted. The game was relatively uneventful until:

**Pos. 5. Nevada State Super Jackpot.** Armando Balbi (Black) vs. Stuart Hosen (White) at double match-point. **BLACK TO PLAY 6-2.**



Trailing 103-113 in the race before his play, Armando is supposed to hit loose (11/3\*). Instead he passively moved 8/6, 8/2 and it almost cost him. Hosen rolled 6-3, utilized his "escape clause" by running to the 13-point, and eventually built up a 25 pip racing lead only to see it evaporate over the next three turns. In the end, Hosen needed double 3s or better to win and failed. Congratulations to Armando Balbi on a super victory. [View the movie of the last two rolls online at: [chicagopoint.com/vegassuperjp.html](http://chicagopoint.com/vegassuperjp.html)—Ed.]

### IN OTHER EVENTS . . .

. . . Tracy Galloway (Beginner) and Brian Draper (Intermediate) made it a clean sweep for California in the main events by

winning their respective divisions. Additionally, Michael Ginat (Australia) won the Limited Jackpot, Ira Ofsink (CA) won the 128 player Seniors Tourney, and the Texas team of Stuart Hosen and Curtis Lucas captured the Doubles.

Howard Markowitz has announced the dates of the Backgammon Pro Am (Nov. 15-19) and Las Vegas Open (Nov. 19-23), both at the Riviera Hotel. Results: Δ

### 20th NEVADA STATE TOURNAMENT

**CHAMPIONSHIP (92):** 1-Kit Woolsey (CA), 2-Ray Foglerlund (CA), 3/4-John Ritchie (KS) / David Wells (IL); 1C-Gyl Savoie (MI), 2C-Mike Sherman (NV), 3C/4C- Ed O'Laughlin (FL) / Steve Sax (CA); 1LC-Drew Giovanis (NV), 2LC-Nack Ballard (CA).

**INTERMEDIATE (108):** 1-Brian Draper (CA), 2-Patricia Geoffroy (MA), 3/4-David R. Cohen (TX) / Rudy Citrom (CA); 1C-Cy Yehros (CA), 2C-Jonah Seewald (CO), 3C/4C-Paul Foster (AZ) / Jeff Whitelaw (NV); 1LC-Len Dangremond (MI), 2LC-Tom Duggan (England).

**BEGINNER (39):** 1-Tracy Galloway (CA), 2-Ronald Bernstein (VA), 3/4-Andrew Gordon (PA) / Gaudent Radoslovich (NY); 1C-Joy Zuke (WA), 2C-Trina Smith (WA); 1LC-Daniel Stroberger (WA), 2LC-Minda Fajtlowicz (CA).

**SUPER JACKPOT (16):** 1-Armando Balbi (Brazil), 2-Stuart Hosen (TX), 3/4 Nack Ballard (CA) / Danilo Sahione (Brazil).

**LIMITED JACKPOT (16):** 1-Michael Ginat (Australia), 2-Patrick McCormick (CA), 3/4-Ray Baker (CA) / Robert Caradien (CA).

**SENIORS (128):** 1-Ira Ofsink (CA), 2-David R. Cohen (TX).

**DOUBLES (32):** 1-Stuart Hosen (TX) & Curtis Lucas (TX), 2-Ray Foglerlund (CA) & Trina Smith (WA).

**DOUBLES OVERFLOW (8):** Emil Mortuk (MI) & Akemi Ota (MI), 2-Harvey Huie (TX) & Howard Ring (IL).

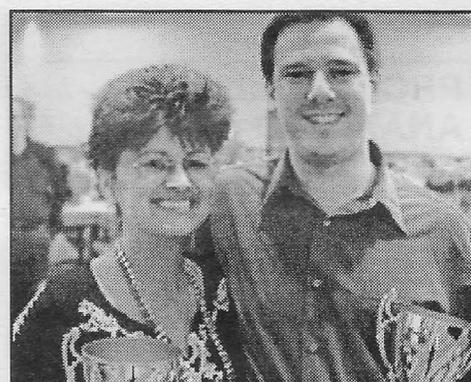
**BLITZ (320):** 1-Mark Kaczmarczyk (NY), 2-Mike Sharp (CA).

**MINI-MATCH (128):** 1-Jinelle Girard (Canada), 2-Patrick McCormick (CA).

**SATURDAY \$500 JACKPOT (20):** 1-Tom Zarrinam (CA), 2-John O'Hagan (IN).

**SATURDAY \$100 JACKPOT (32):** 1-Bart Brooks (Canada), 2-Bob Schumacher (MN).

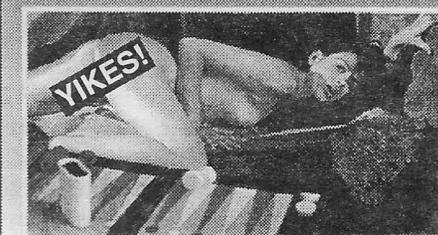
**\$50 AFTER TOUR. TOURNEY (28):** 1-Norm Wiggins (CA), 2-Rageb Shadallah (CA). **\$20 AFTER TOURNAMENT TOUR. (24):** 1-Sharon Rich (WA), 2-Bear Lumbra (NH).



Vegas winners Tracy Galloway (Begin.) and Brian Draper (Inter.) show off their hardware.

### GOING TOO FAR

I don't play games...  
I get right to the fun...  
**OOPS!**  
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We like it when products promote backgammon, but this is taking it too far. Here the girl claims to be "...an expert in backgames."



### ILLINOIS ACTION



Chicago  
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**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:** Tournaments Monday, 7:00 P.M. at Danny's Grill and Bar, 345 W. North Ave., Villa Park. Tournaments Thursday, 7:00 P.M. at Main Street Billiards & Cafe; 113 S. Main Street; Algonquin. 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).

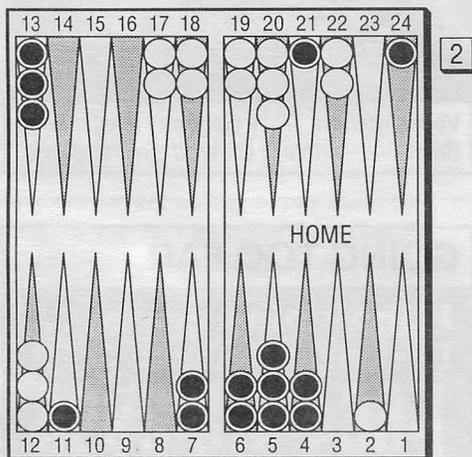
**WINNETKA BG CLUB:** Tournaments Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. at 620 Lincoln, Winnetka. Trudie Chibnik (847/446-0537).

**T/P BACKGAMMON CLUB:** Tournaments Wednesday, 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).

**PROBLEM #289  
ANALYZED**

by Antonio Ortega

Match to 7 points. White leads Black, 5 to 3. **BLACK TO PLAY 5-3**

**B**lack, who trails in the race 144–125, has rolled an excellent number. In money play, this roll would let him come close to equalizing the game. At this score in the match, with White owning a 2-cube, the cube is dead, the game will be played to the end, White's gammons are meaningless and Black's gammons win the match. For

these reasons, Black's good roll has actually made him a favorite in the game.

Black has four constructive plays, each embodying a different strategy. Play A, 24/21, 11/6, is defensive and safe, anchoring on the 21-point, and lifting the remaining blot. Play B, 24/21, 13/8, makes a defensive anchor too but is also aggressive, risking a new blot in an effort to prime White. Play C, 7/2\*, 5/2, attacks in Black's inner board, hitting and making the 2-point. Play D, 13/8, 11/8, creates a 5-prime. Other plays, such as 21/13 or 21/16, 5/2\*, aren't even plausible. Let's examine the four best plays.

**Play A, 24/21, 11/6**, the purely defensive play, has the advantage of avoiding getting attacked on White's 4-point. It prepares to run with big doubles or fight on Black's side of the board. The trouble with this play is that White can escape with any 6 or 5-1, leaving at most a direct shot. According to Snowie, this play gives Black an equity of +0.159.

**Play B, 24/21, 13/8**, also anchors in the 21-point, but slots the crucial 8-point. Black expects to cover this point in his next roll if White fails to hit. In money play, leaving this voluntary direct shot would be wrong, but at this score, where losing a gammon doesn't cost extra, Black does better to take the risk than to play the safe 11/6 with his 5, increasing his equity to +0.192.

**Play C, 7/2\*, 5/2**, is the most aggressive.

It sends White to the bar, makes a fourth inside point, and gives Black the initiative. This play wins more match-winning gammons than any of the others; if White dances or reenters without hitting, Black has many good numbers to remake the bar point, anchor on the 21-point, make a fifth inside point or hit White again. On the down side, White may reenter, hit, and escape easily. In money play, the increased gammon danger Black incurs would make Play C the worst of the four plays, but at this score it is better than either anchoring play, improving Black's equity to +0.218.

The priming **Play D, 13/8, 11/8**, keeps White from springing her last back man with a 6. Although White can attack the blot in the 21-point, her aces are duplicated, and the extra gammons she wins are not useful to White. When the opponent has only one man back, preventing escape is paramount. Even in money play, Play D would be right, and at this score it is best by far, producing an equity of +0.292.

Finally, how should White play her aces next turn if Black moves 13/8, 11/8? With 1-1, 1-3 and 1-4, White must point on her 4-point. With 1-2 she must hit loose (13/11, 5/4\*); with 1-5 she must advance to the 22-point; and with 1-6, her best roll, White will of course leap out from behind the prime.—Antonio Ortega Δ

**LETTERS...**

[Continued from page 2]

alert as Paul, by way of making amends: if you enter the 2004 Thai Open (first-time entrants only!), I will personally buy you a Singha.—*Jake Jacobs, Tucson, Arizona*

**BACKGAMMON GEAR**

I have a very nice backgammon board design I am selling on T-shirts, tote bags, mugs and coasters. It can be viewed at: [www.cafeshops.com/annesgraphics](http://www.cafeshops.com/annesgraphics). I would be grateful if you could pass this information along to someone who might be interested.—*Anne Thurston, via Internet*

**BOB'S PLAY WAS SECOND BEST**

I did over 129,000 and 83,000 rollouts (not mini's) of Bob Zavoral's 4-1 in the Crystal Beaver finals (April 2003 POINT, page 1) and it turns out that Bob's decision to make a 5-prime is 0.020 worse than the correct play of hitting and making Malcolm Davis's barpoint.

But that's very close so Bob was justified in not rushing the play!—*Simon Kennedy-Rose, Laurenceville, Georgia* Δ

**AMALGAMATION**

May 31, 2003 marks the actual 20th Anniversary of the first Chicago Bar Point Club tournament. Over the years, we've played at three locations: Pat's Pub (1983–1993), Golden Flame (1993–2002), and Clarion Hotel (2002–present). Thanks to **Peter Kalba** for 20 years of assistance, and to hostess **Rose Gecht** who has provided distinguished service at all three locations... **Kathy Posner** (IL) will team with **Jake Hartford** (IL) during his WLS-AM 890 Saturday morning radio shows (6:00–9:00 A.M.) in May. Those outside of Chicago-land can listen on the internet at [www.wlsam.com](http://www.wlsam.com)... New BPC player **Vincent Bennett** (IL) invites you to enter one of his free online ladder tournaments at [www.playmakerworld.com](http://www.playmakerworld.com). For info, e-mail [Vincentat.snipes11111@msn.com](mailto:Vincentat.snipes11111@msn.com)... **Hugh Sconyers** (TX) recently appeared on the "Wild Chicago—Vegas Road Trip" TV show in Chicago. When the moderator commented how serious people take the World Series of Poker, they featured a closeup of Hugh... Redwood Empire director **Timothy Jaxon** (CA) is doing fine following an

emergency appendectomy one week after attending the Midwest Championships... Look for **Bob Zavoral's** (IL) book review of *Improve Your Backgammon* by **Paul Lamford** (UK) and **Simon Gasquoine** (UK) next month... Condolences to Nevada Backgammon Association Director **Howard Markowitz** on the passing of his mother. She was 94... Houston Club director **Tom Wright** (TX) is an excellent golfer who played on two NCAA championship teams at the University of Houston in 1966 and 1967. After graduation, he entered PGA tour events until 1974. As Tom puts it, "I left golf for a sales career—couldn't make a putt!"... We're losing players to Vegas! **Paul Friedman** (IL) has purchased a home in Las Vegas right next to **Paul and Mary Franks** and is scheduled to move from Chicago in the fall... Nevada State Beginner champ and Midwest Battle of the Sexes finalist **Tracy Galloway** (CA) couldn't be prouder of her son **Billy Galloway**, who at 14-years-old, is a first degree Black Belt in Taekwondo. As he continues to build up tournament victories, his goal is to make the 2008 Olympics in Beijing... Let's close with a quote from **Benjamin Lipson**: "You can't expect to win unless you know why you lose." Δ

# WINNER'S CIRCLE



MAR.-MAY 2003

•**Springfield Series #5** (Springfield, IL; 8 Mar.)... OPEN (18): 1-Jena Rooney, 2-Faddoul Khoury; 1C-Greg Michaels, 2C-Sean Garber (IN); 1LC-Scott Day (IN).

•**Redwood Empire Monthly** (San Rafael, CA; 15 Mar.)... OPEN (8): 1-Roger Gabrielson, 2-Ted Chee. INTERMEDIATE (7): 1-Joan Clark.

•**Crockford's Annual Doubles Tournament** (London, England; 22-24 Mar.)... OPEN (16 teams): 1-Sami Akirov (ISR/UK) & Hooshang Sakhai (Iran), 2-Yossi Hassidof (ISR/Spain) & Falafel Natanzon (ISR); 1C-Barry McAdam (UK) & Engin Ongel (TUR/UK), 2C-Tobais Hellweg (GER) & Arild Idsoe (NOR).

•**Atlanta Spring Chouette Tourney** (Roswell, GA; 29 Mar.)... OPEN: 1-Manuel Arce, 2-Stuart Thomson.

•**Ace Point Monthly** (New York, NY; 30 Mar.)... OPEN: 1-Igor Schein, 2-Richard Munitz. INTERMEDIATE: 1-Eydie Noble.

•**Boise Club Monthly** (Boise, Idaho; 1 Apr.)... OPEN: 1-Mike Jones, 2-Rob McDonald, 3-Tom Roberts.

•**Springfield Series #6** (Peoria, IL; 5 Apr.)... OPEN (17): 1-Milad Doueihy, 2-Ramez Abi-Akar; 1C-E Zell, 2C-John Jennings; 1LC-Terry Leahy.

•**Universal Mall Series #2** (Warren, MI; 5 Apr.)... OPEN (23): 1/3-Dan Kiurski / Jim Slomkoski / Wally Wolf.

•**British Open** (Coventry, England; 5-6 Apr.)... OPEN (85): 1-Ian Shaw, 2-Peter Bennet, 3/4-Tony Lee / Nigel Merrigan; 1C-John Slattery (SCOT), 2C-Ray Kershaw, 3C/4C-Mardi Ohannessian / John Wright; 1LC-Dave McNair (SCOT), 2LC-Leslie Singleton. FRIDAY KNOCKOUT (32): 1-Simon K. Jones, 2-David Nathan. SENT TO COVENTRY (64): 1-David Nathan, 2-Martin Hemming. £100 JACKPOT (8): 1-Dave McNair (SCOT), 2-Martin Barkwill. DOUBLES (20 teams): 1-Dice & Sleazy, 2-White Van Men. SPORTSMANSHIP TROPHY: Cliff Connick.

•**Northwest Indiana Monthly** (Porter, IN; 12 Apr.)... OPEN: 1-Charlie Halberstadt, 2-Darcey Brady Wade; 1C-Terry Greaves.

•**Tampere Open** (Tampere, Finland; 12 Apr.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (16): 1-Jani Toivola, 2-Simo Suhonen, 3/4-Tapio Palmroth / Matti Tienari. INTERMEDIATE: 1-Pan Nuutinen, 2-Janne Rantanen.

•**Tax Refund Classic** (Houston, TX; 12 Apr.)... OPEN (24): 1-Patrick Lee, 2-Bill Riles; 1C-Scott Ward, 2C-Brian Nenninger.

•**Neil Davidson Trophy** (East Grinstead, England; 12-13 Apr.)... OPEN (30): 1-Gavin Crawley, 2-John Clark, 3/4-Lawrence Powell / Andrew Sarjeant; 1C-John Slattery, 2C-Wayne Felton. BUY-BACK KNOCKOUT (32): 1-Jordan Wensley, 2-Myke Wignall. FRIDAY JACKPOT: 1-Myke Wignall, 2-John Slattery. SATURDAY JACKPOT (8): 1-John Slattery, 2-All Hogg. POKER TOURNAMENT (16): 1-1-Tom Duggan, 2-Dod Davies, 3-Victor Bede.

•**South Florida Monthly** (Ft. Lauderdale, FL; 13 Apr.)... Open(8): 1-George Nader, 2-Raymond Rickard. INTERMEDIATE (5): 1-John Gdowik, 2-Eron Maerovitz.

•**Nordic "Wide" Open** (Copenhagen, Denmark; 17-21 Apr.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (91): 1-Karsten Bredahl (Denmark), 2-Jyri Lammi (Finland), 3/4-Shahab Ghodsi (Norway) / Christer Hagenfeldt (Sweden); 1C-Nack Ballard (USA), 2C-Odin Svendsen (Norway), 3C/4C-Brian Elgaard (Denmark) / Halvor Losnedahl (Norway); 1LC-Mogens Knudsen (Denmark), 2LC-Sven Nilsson (Norway), 3LC/4LC-Serge Rived (France) / Kristian Stegenborg (Denmark). ADVANCED (88): 1-Audun Klubnes (Norway), 2-Morten Jacobsen (Denmark), 3/4-Bob Ebbeler (USA) / Steen Maglehoj (Denmark); 1C-Anne Lise Wagner (Denmark), 2C-Tommy Roubies (Denmark); 1LC-Michael Hansen (Denmark), 2LC-Thomas Kokholm (Denmark). INTERMEDIATE (114): 1-Anders Olsen (Denmark), 2-Brian Rosenkilde (Denmark), 3/4-Martin Reeh (Denmark) / Sammy Rihan (Denmark); 1C-Jorg Schneider (Denmark), 2C-Allan Christensen (Denmark); 1LC-Yvonne Hjorth (Denmark), 2LC-Gitte Hansen (Denmark). NOVICE (60): 1-Knud Rasmussen (Denmark), 2-Thomas Niebling (Denmark), 3/4-Morten Heise (Denmark) / Lennart Kurland (Denmark); 1C-Kevin Arnold, 2C-Karen Pors (Denmark); 1LC-Peter-Michael Valeur Bosse (Denmark), 2LC-Christian Skjaeran (Denmark). BEGINNER (45): 1-Linda Mansson (Sweden), 2-Martin Pedersen (Denmark), 3/4-Lars Holst (Denmark) / Mikael Lund (Sweden); 1C-Kerstin Klewweex (Germany), 2C-Toke Lorentzen (Denmark); 1LC-Birgitte Nissen (Denmark), 2LC-Soren Boelsgaard (Denmark). UNDER 21 (9): 1-Clement Breum (Denmark), 2-Bastian Stephensen (Denmark), 3-Thorbjorn Schionning (Denmark).

NETDINNER TOURNAMENT (80): 1-LDJ/Louisa Dahlin (Denmark), 2-Mr. Pedantic/David Startin (England), 3/4-Oysteij/Oystein Johansen (Norway) / Holm/Morten Holm (Denmark); 1C-Adahlin/Anne Dahlin (Denmark), 2C-Marianne/Marianne Husum (Norway). TEAM EVENT: 1-Elmo Team: Serge Rived (France), Sakura Sugawara (USA), David Wells (USA), 2-Hip Hurra Team: Jess Danielsen, Henrik Lober, Kim Valeur (all Denmark). DOUBLES: 1-Mika Laukkanen & Timo Vaatainen (Finland), 2-Ulla Juncher & Asger Kring (Denmark).

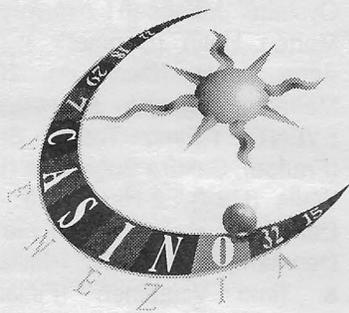
•**Albany Spring Classic—ABT** (Latham, NY; 25-27 Apr.)... Director Linc Bedell reports cancellation of the ABT events.

•**Springfield Series \$1,000 Grand Finale** (Springfield, IL; 26 Apr.)... OPEN (14): 1-Greg Michael, 2-Randy Armstrong; 1C-Fouad Malouf, 2C-Ed Zell; 1LC-Larry Whittenburg... *2002-2003 Springfield Series results reported by Ben Zemaitis.*

•**Atlanta April Monthly Tourney** (Roswell, GA; 26 Apr.)... OPEN: 1-Dave Cardwell, 2-Steve Kovach.

•**3rd Città di Jesolo BG & Gin Tournament** (Venice, Italy; 1-4 May)... CHAMPIONSHIP (43): 1-Daniel Bruni (SWIZ), 2-André Markov (BUL), 3/4-Alexander Rasic (SER) / Mark Werner (GER); 1C-Harald Johanni (GER), 2C-Elmar Kofler; 1LC-Vincenzo Riceputi. INTERMEDIATE (32): 1-Franca Boscari, 2-Zbigniew Szczerek (POL), 3/4-Sandro Mazza / Gordan Markotic (CRO); 1C-Lise Howard (SWIZ), 2C-Albertina di Silvio; 1LC-Nadya Marinova (BUL). TEAM TOURNAMENT (18 teams): 1-Lagalaga Team (Lorenzo Laganà, Valero Scremin, Mario Sequeira), 2-Mashina Team (Maria Krancheva, Nadya Marinova, Werner Schmucki). DOUBLES (32 teams): 1-Elmar Kofler & Laura Ziliani, 2-Andreas & Alexander Reichel (AUS). CASA BIANCA AL MARE TROPHY (40): 1st Champ.-Matteo di Napoli, 2nd-Champ.-Christian Liebe-Harkort (GER); 1st Interm.-Stafano Selvi, 2nd Interm.-Claudio Pagano. GIN RUMMY (64): 1-Marcel Leichti (SWIZ), 2-Lise Howard (SWIZ). TEXAS (28): 1-David Zampini. OMAHA (25): 1-Marcel Liechti (SWIZ).

•**County Cups Trophy** (Coventry, England; 3-4 May)... OPEN (40): 1-John Slattery, 2-Andrew Sarjeant, 3-Julian Fetterlein. FRIDAY WARM-UP (8): 1-1-Emmanuel Di Bona, 2-Michael Crane. DOUBLES (8): 1-The Team With No Name, 2-Nowak & Good. JACKPOT (8): 1-Rosey Bensley, 2-Paul Gilbertson. Δ



CASINÒ DI VENEZIA

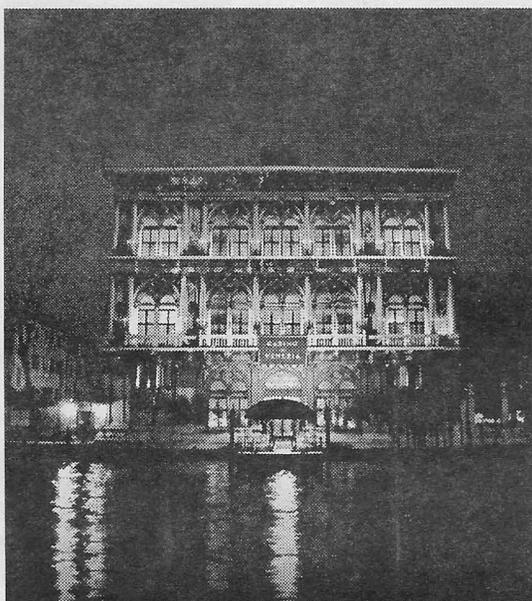
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casino of venice  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> july 2003

the event will be held in ca' vendramin calergi, the historical 16<sup>th</sup> century palace on the gran canal, which hosts the glamorous casino of venice in the city center ([www.vendramincalergi.com](http://www.vendramincalergi.com)).

	entry fees €	registration €
champion	630	70
intermediate	250	50
amateur	50	20
double (champ.)	500 <i>per team</i>	50
double (intern.)	120 <i>per team</i>	30

\* quarter entries will be organized for both categories



**thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> july**

- 15.30** registration / jackpot programme
- 16.00** quarter entries begin
- 18.30** warm up
- 23.00** 1<sup>st</sup> superjackpot

**friday, 4<sup>th</sup> july**

- 15.00** registrations
- 15.30** double consulting
- 17.30** champion public draw
- 18.00** champion tournament start
- 21.00** intern. & amateur public draw
- 22.00** intern. & amateur tournaments start

**saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> july**

- 14.30** progressive consolation
- 16.00** tournament continues
- 23.00** 2<sup>nd</sup> superjackpot

**sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> july**

- 13.00** last chance
- 15.00** finals
- 19.00** prize-giving & cocktail

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