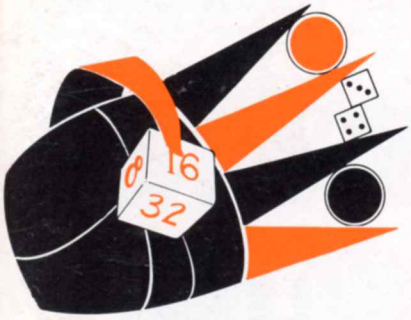
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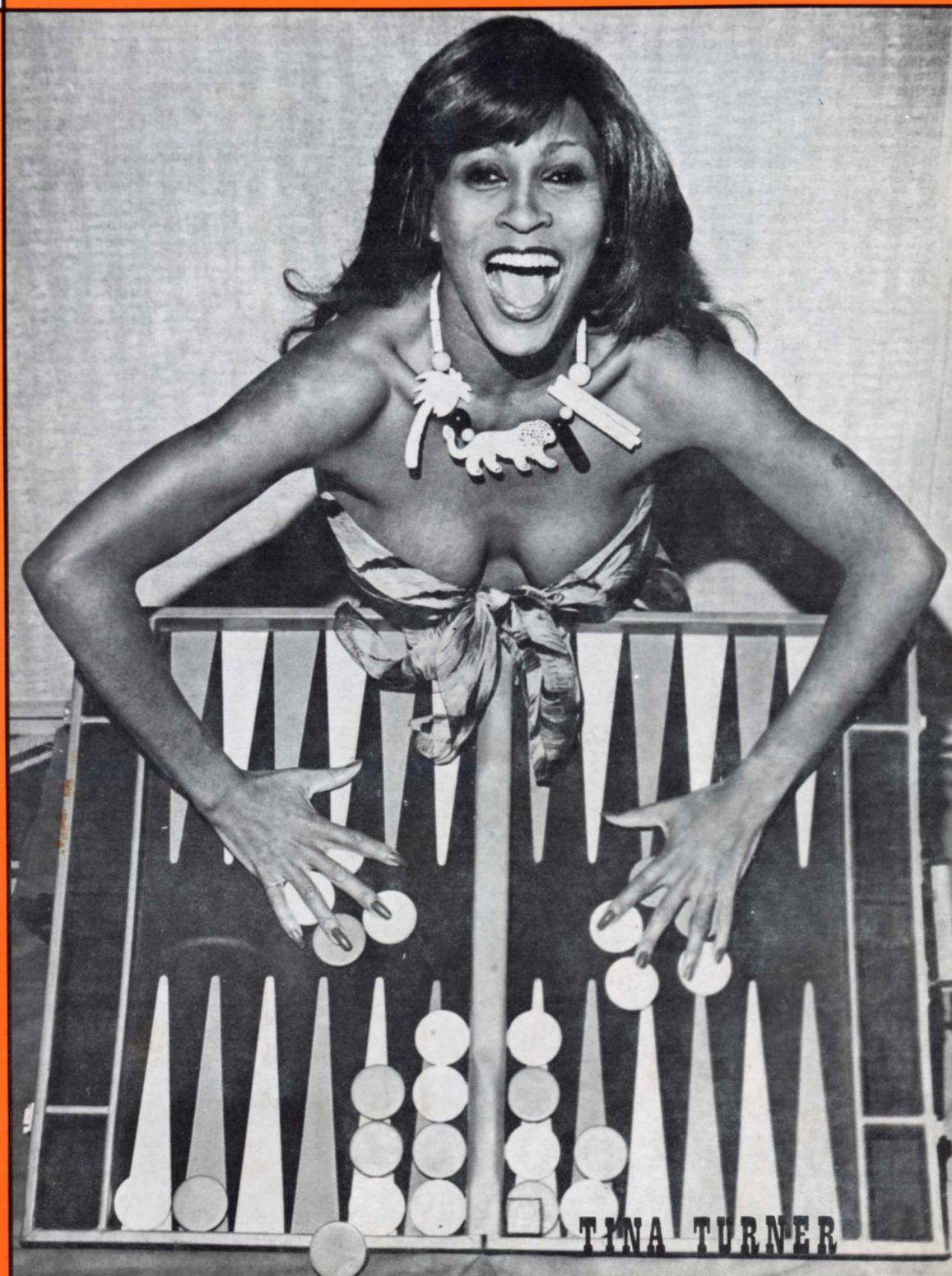
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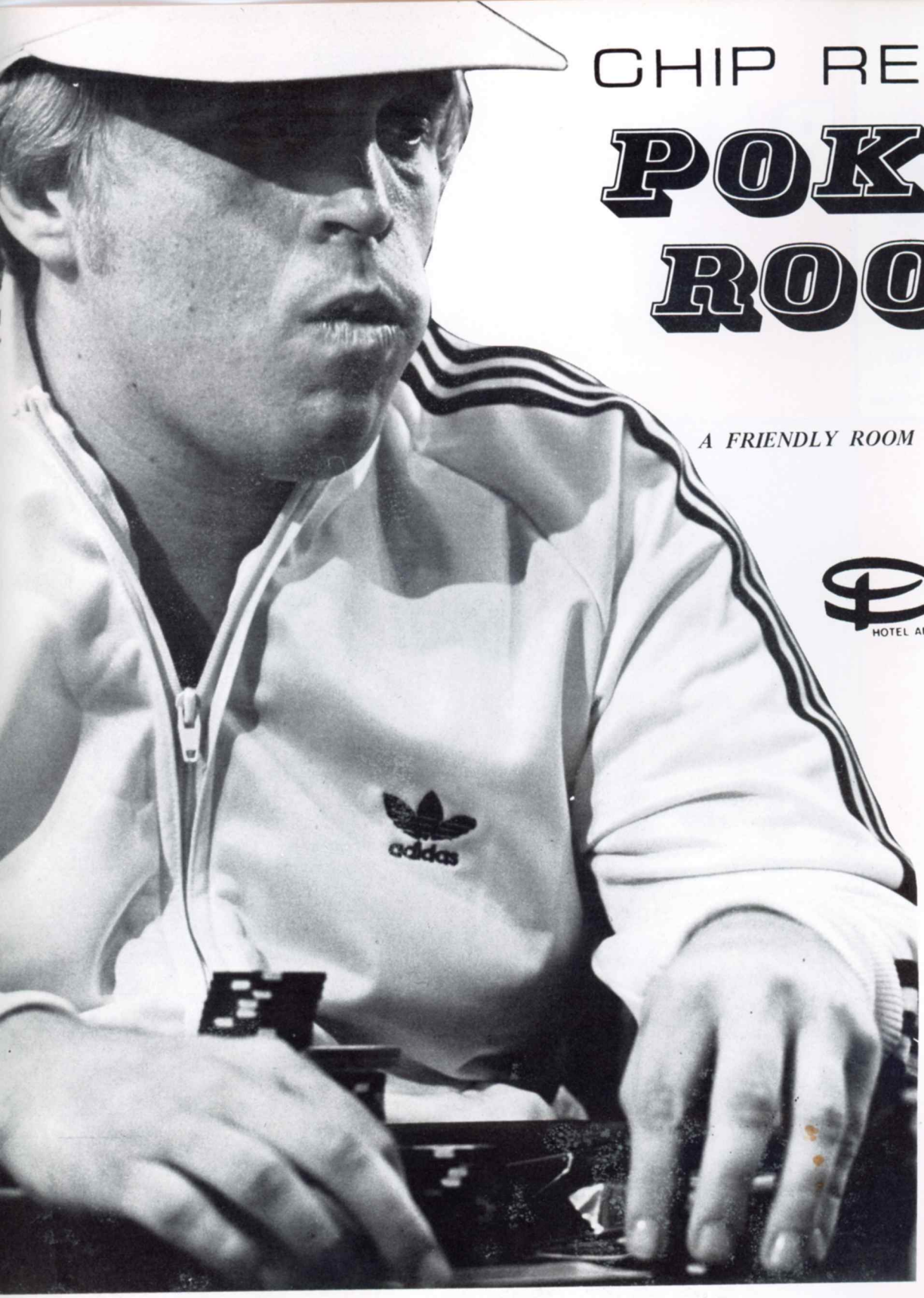
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Monte Carlo

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A FAVORITE TO WIN

by Roger Dionne

Ninteen seventy-six European champion Joe Dwek went for $6,000, the great Iranian-born Kumar Motakhasses for $5,500, last year's world champion, Paul Magriel, for $4,300, and on and on through seeded players and 8-player fields until auctioneer and tournament director Lewis Deyong had managed to coax $196,000 out of the gamblers' pockets into the Calcutta purse at the 1979 World Backgammon Championships in Monte Carlo, July 10-14. In their search for the best of it, none of them noticed particularly how much 34-year-old Italian champion, Luigi Villa, went for. After all, as soft-spoken and mild-mannered as he is, balding and short to boot, Villa looked more like an insurance broker or a government clerk than a tough tournament competitor.

The fifth of a million in the Calcutta auction was, of course, in addition to the $121,450 in the player pool. And then there was all the money bet with Londoner Peter Gold, who was making book on every player, every field and just about anything else connected with the tournament you wanted to bet. In all, there were 347 players in the Championship Division, 32 of whom were seeded, with the remaining 315 divided into 39 fields. Though they comprised less than one-tenth of the total entrants, Gold made the seeded players 8 to 5 favorites to produce the new world champion.

Five of the eight quarter-finalists were, in fact, seeded players: Americans Roger Low, Jeffrey Westheimer and Dennis Waterman (who prefers to be known these days as Swami Nivedano); South African Peter Bader; and Luigi Villa. The other quarter-finalists were from France, Germany and Egypt, which suggests the truly international flavor of this year's world championships.

(Continued page 26)

BACKGAMMON IN THE PUBLIC EYE

Backgammon in the public eye department includes Hugh Hefner making a fool of himself and backgammon on NBC-TV's *Chevy Chase Special;* a great backgammon game on the *Rockford Files;* not to mention an actor named James Gammon who keeps popping up everywhere.

New York's only backgammon column is in the Home Section Thursdays in the *New York Times*– by Paul Magriel, of course. Speaking of Paul, how about that outstanding article by Roger Dionne in the June 4th issue of *Sports Illustrated? "A Gamesman's War Against Luck, Disorder and Surface Chaos"* captured something special about backgammon and the Magriel myth. Content and pictures were remarkable.

Big, big feature articles appeared in the *Tampa Tribune* on Orrill Martin and the ABA and in the *Chicago Tribune* on Bill Davis and the NBL.

Reader's Digest even did a four-page feature on *"BACKGAMMON, Ancient Game, New Craze"* by Jon Anderson. When *Reader's Digest* acknowledges anything as a new craze, one can figure the craze to already to be an American institution! Too bad so many national publications like *Reader's Digest* have their offices in New York. It shows in the text. Surely, there must be someone other than Magriel, Lester and Plimpton doing something for backgammon.

Diversion Magazine is a specialized publication that caters to doctors. One of their regular features is backgammon.

Backgammon will also be a regular feature in the new *In Vogue* disco magazine published locally by Ralph Petillo. The column will be written by Dr. Cube. The magazine will circulate 250,000 free copies weekly to discos throughout the nation.

In the "Bad Ink" category, we find cry baby Diana Ross screaming foul after a six-figure loss at Pips. ★★



Dear Mom,

Just back from Aruba with lots to say . . . it was a great tournament! American Backgammon Championships sure have gotten it all together . . .

The package trip to the Aruba Concorde Hotel and Casino was run better than most trips I have ever been on – from my arrival at the Airport, where a travel representative was awaiting with tickets and boarding passes, to our landing in Aruba, where we had ground transportation to the Hotel.

When we got to the hotel, there was Louise Goldsmith waiting to check us in. All we did was sign our name to a pre-registration sheet and we were given our room key, then walked a few feet to the smiling Kate Wattson who entered us in the Tournament. We then went to our rooms to find our luggage already there! Believe it or not, this whole process took less than 20 minutes. What a way to start off a backgammon vacation . . . or any vacation! Oh, I must not forget the cool drinks that were waiting for us during the check-in – compliments of the hotel.

By evening, we were all ready for the Auction Dinner. The Aruba Concorde Hotel is kind of new, and their facilities are terrific! The main ballroom was beautiful, and the way everything looked, put the people into a wonderful mood.

The cocktail party prior to dinner gave everyone there a chance to see who was playing and who was not. Surprisingly enough, there were many who were not. After dinner – the Auction, conducted by Gino Scalamandre, began. Gino did a super job. The one team that was auctioned off in the morning before play began, was comprised of some who missed their plane connections, some who were late for one reason or another, and one who was simply forgotten the night before. Guess who won the Tournament?

After dinner, people were free to go to the Casino where you found quite a difference from most casinos all over. The people in Aruba are probably the most pleasant Island people one would want to meet . . . they can not do enough for you! In the casino, the dealers, pit bosses, etc., were so very pleasant at all times that it made quite a difference.

It was a really wonderful group of people – win, lose, whatever. Everyone was in a gay, happy mood, and the tournament went as smoothly as could possibly be. Each day, players abided by the time schedule, play was over when it should have been, there was a super doubles tournament, and the new "1440" tournament was a huge success.

Henry Wattson must be given a few pats on the back for his many changes in backgammon tournaments which he promotes. Though we all know how difficult it is for people to change their ways, the fact that backgammon tournaments have ALWAYS been run one way, does not necessarily mean that it is the RIGHT WAY. And, Henry Wattson is not afraid to make a change. A change to at least give players a better shot in the Tournament; a change making money distribution deeper in all divisions, and overall, a change trying to upgrade tournaments.

I had a terrific time – I loved the hotel, loved the people, tolerated the wind, laughed at the "gourmet food" – but had a terrific time! Of course, sometimes, no matter how much Tournament promoters do, or how hard they try, there are always a few who are not happy. In this case, very few.

Hopefully, the American Backgammon Championships will have more amd more and more backgammon tournaments. They will have me as their correspondent for each and every one of them, that's for sure!

Love, Russell

P.S. Francois Desmornes won and Steve Zoloton took second.
Billy Eisenberg and Ellen Jacoby Lee were semi-finalists.



LETTERS FROM READERS

Dear Mr. Maxakuli,

I read with interest the explanation of dice contributed by Larry D. Gerst of CHESS & GAMES, in the last issue of your magazine. In his letter to the editor, he comments that John Scarne never once in the 504 pages of Scarne on Dice *mention "the requirement that opposite sides of dice add up to seven to eliminate them from being defective."*

Scarne must have forgotten about Scarne's Complete Guide to Gambling, *Simon & Schuster, N.Y. In this book and under the title of* "Scarne's Official Rules for Craps" *(pg. R43), subtitled "Equipment," he says, "1. Two dice numbered from one to six in such a way that the spots on opposite sides add to seven." I guess it's a little like the Bible–one can find some passage to justify almost anything.*

Dan Cameron, Reno, Nevada

Dear Friends,

Here's my subscription. What sold me most was your editorials. I like the way he (or she) writes! He (or she) seems to recognize the little guy. There are others playing backgammon besides the big names and we like the game just as much–perhaps more because we don't play for big money! Maybe if we were in their class we might. The game is inherently a great game without the astronomic amounts of money given today.

Keep up the good work. I think it's great! Clubs like yours are promoting and encouraging the game.

Vincent Yarkin, Van Nuys, CA

Dear Editor,

Loved your comments on the Park 65 Backgammon Club. I, too, am a member. I agree with your observation that there are no "preying mini-hustlers" in our club–just maxi-hustlers.

(Name withheld by request) N.Y.

Dear Max,

Just a short note to let you know that I dropped in on the Owen Trayner Memorial Tournament at LeClub International in Ft. Lauderdale and enjoyed myself thoroughly. Thank you for letting me know about this event. You were right about the quality of the people in the Lauderdale Backgammon Club. I was impressed with the respect that everyone retained for the late Thayer. He must have been something!

Bill Cardona, Miami, Florida

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Trayner WAS SOMETHING! When the LVBC was first starting and struggling, he found us and wrote many letters of encouragement. Many of our projects, our graphics, our stationery and our creeds were suggested by him. He had no ulterior motives – he was just glad to see another club form and flourish. We were flattered and kept plugging. Today, the LVBC is the largest backgammon club in the world. Thanks, Owen ☆☆

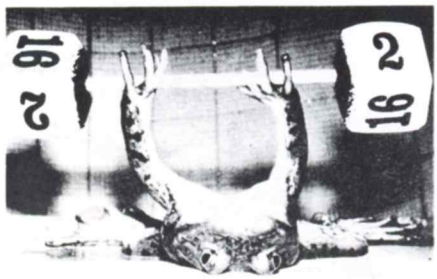
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FUN FACTS

DID YOU KNOW THAT:

Many famous tough guys played backgammon including Thomas Jefferson, Admiral Nelson, Sir Winston Churchill, Nazi Field Marshal Erwin Rommel (the Desert Fox) and General George Patton? . . .

Indianapolis has had an annual backgammon tournament for the last 25 years? . . .

Mensa, the high I.Q. society, has a special backgammon interest group? Of course, absurdities is another one of the S.I.G.'s of Mensa. . . .

Gammon is becoming a popular name given to newborns? Male or female – since the name is neutral.

Walter Richard was to backgammon in the 30's, what Prince Obolensky became in the 60's? Richard won thousands of converts to backgammon and made it the reigning vogue in American social circles. He also conducted the first regular tournament in this country.

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COVER: TINA TURNER, a one-woman motion machine that runs at top speed and delivers a dynamic show in the Continental Theatre of the Silverbird Hotel and Casino. With all of her energy and pzazz, Miss Tina could burn up any backgammon game!

Cover styled by Jackie Brett. Photo by Andrea Waller.

September 1979

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Jackgammon vs Gammonoid



DATELINE MONTE CARLO – The Gammonoid Merit I is the current world champion. Artificial intelligence triumphed over human intelligence in the challenge match between Merit I and Mr. Villa – the 1979 world champion. No sooner was the match over and there was talk about a new challenge match. This time between computers. It seems there is another gammonoid living in Beverly Hills named Jackgammon. Jack, masterminded by Danny Kleinman, plays a tough game and wants a shot at being the champ. Paul Magriel, who programmed Merit I, feels that Jack doesn't stand a chance but has his fighting machine in training just in case. That's the way it is in the fight game. A champion is no sooner crowned than some upstart is trying to knock him off. We make Jackgammon the favorite at 3 to 1. After all, he did come to Las Vegas and beat our 1977 champion and Jack was just a kid then.

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In addition to the magazine, members play at a reduced rate in all LVBC tournaments, are invited to all club parties free of charge, may buy equipment at wholesale costs from the club, get free use of the club facilities at RUMORS (unique in the world), enjoy full access to all the information Las Vegas has on tournaments and players throughout the world, and receive reciprocal benefits from all LVBC associates.

There is no other single better bargain in backgammon than the Las Vegas Backgammon Club. Call (702) 361-3910 to join or renew your membership.

Mirror Stars

There is an aborigine, indigenous to backgammon clubs, whose reason for being is to dampen the enthusiasm of less talented players.

He huddles with denizens of the same ilk discussing the fine and lofty points of backgammon.

He and his tribe are the foundation of the Mirror Stars. Their national anthem is "I'll Play That as a Proposition!" Their uniform is drab and pocketless. Their rituals include the secret handshake of the empty palm. They are of no value to backgammon. They are the bane of backgammon clubs.

These egomaniacs create an uncomfortable atmosphere by snickering and browbeating the lesser players.

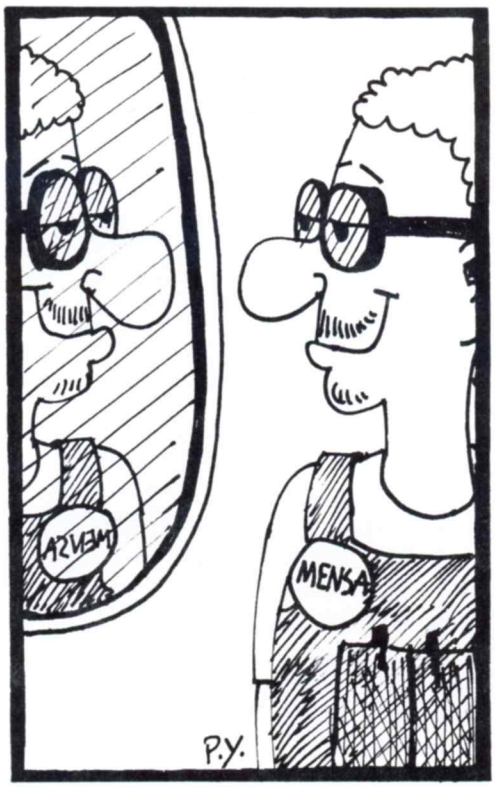
The intermediate player, who is the bread and butter of the backgammon club, finds himself in a no win situation: if he loses, he is out his cash and has no fun; if he wins, he is told how stupid and lucky he was and has no fun.

THE INTERMEDIATE FINDS HIMSELF IN A NO-WIN SITUATION

This is of no consequence to the Mirror Star since he is out to prove how great and smart he is and not to entertain the customer. He would rather be right than rich. But, while he is costing himself money and wonders why he can't get a decent game, he is also losing clientele for the backgammon club he inhabits.

The backgammon club operator should hasten to rid his club of the Mirror Stars. One sure way of accomplishing this is to eliminate sofas and easy chairs so they have nowhere to sleep.

The club owner should realize that the public joins backgammon not to earn a diploma in advanced



theory, but to be entertained. The new member is willing to spend money for membership, tournaments and side play in exchange for amusement. The Mirror Stars rob him of his good time.

Every man, woman and child in America could be a prospect for backgammon if backgammon clubs were entertaining. Al Roth, the shrewd and famous operator of the Mayfair Club in New York, long has been a proponent of backgammon as pure recreation. "When I talk to groups about backgammon," he says, "I never mention the game! I only talk about the diversions – the fun, the activities."

We agree with his views and believe that discouraging the Mirror Star elite is the first step in adding more enjoyment to the game. No one enjoys the game when a self-appointed crew of critics stands in judgment at every roll of the dice.

Who wants to be surrounded by humorless intellectuals who can't believe it's possible for them to lose even a single game? Who wants to be told that they are foolish when they are having fun?

The Cavendish Club in Los Angeles, perhaps the most successful backgammon club in the world, has the best policy of all. They simply suspend players who are habitual irritants. We applaud their no nonsense approach.

There is no room in backgammon for the Mirror Stars and their inflated egos.

ATTENTION CLUB OPERATORS: Don't cater to the few who pretend to understand backgammon best. Clear the space they now occupy and it will soon be overflowing with active, fun-seeking and consuming backgammon supporters.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

. . . OTHER ROADBLOCKS

Backgammon is stagnating in some communities for lack of good promoters. The cities and towns we have in mind are not small places where backgammon never was, but recognizable areas where backgammon once flourished.

Unfortunately, these operators are good ol' boy hold-overs from the early Obolensky days who have lost their enthusiasm, but not their grip on backgammon. No one challenges their position because they claim to be the voice of backgammon in their area. They no longer promote and publicize backgammon in their community; they don't publish newsletters; they don't recruit new players; they run lackluster tournaments; and they lament the lack of interest in backgammon.

Through the years, they have alienated enough players in their cities to fill the local sports arena. Their very presence impedes growth.

(Continued page 10)

EDITORIAL

(Continued page 9)

It's time for them to step aside. New, zealous backgammon directors can and do add life and numbers to backgammon.

A classic example of backgammon being promoted with gusto is Portland, Oregon. There are three eager promoters in Portland and they haven't even come close to whetting the appetite for backgammon in their community (see special feature elsewhere in this edition). In the Seattle area, the backgammon promoter and his full-time crew of six operate 10 regular tournaments a week and several annual events. Yet, we get reports from much larger cities that backgammon is on the wane.

New promoters interested in backgammon should jump right into the market. They will be astonished by the overwhelming response. Don't defer to the experts of backgammon biz. They are brawnless champions that talk a good game. Ominous references to mailing lists, personal drawing power and national connections are hog-wash!

A new promoter can do just as well with a little publicity in the local media and a well-placed ad in the hometown newspaper. Don't let the old-time, bored promoters kill backgammon in your town. Ask for his help to re-organize. If he won't give it, start anew with fresh ideas and zest. You'll be surprised! ✯✯



DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

Every other THURSDAY will be Doubles Night 2 on 2. Get a partner and come down and play. Excellent opportunity to learn. Entry Fee $30 per couple (limited to 16 teams). For additional info call 361-3910. Mike Van Dusen, Director.



SUPERCUBE III

by DAVE THOMPSON

Experienced backgammon players know that the more volatile a position is, the more they should want to double immediately; while the more fluid the position, the more often it's correct to bide their time.

Let's take a look at and distinguish between two different types of position in which a player has exactly the same 70% chance to win. In one type of position after the next two rolls (his own and his opponent's) half the time he'll be a 100% shot, and the other half he'll be only 40%. Another type of 70% shot is one in which half the time a player will be 75% by the time he rolls next, and the other half the time he'll be 65%.

In the first example, a player by doubling immediately will half the time earn a full additional unit, a result demonstrably more compelling than merely finding himself on the wrong side of 60/40 at doubled stakes, which will happen the other half the time.

In the second example, it's better simply to mark time, since if he becomes 75% to win and doubled, he'll have maximized his expectation (it's a full unit whether his opponent accepts or not); while, if he's only 65%, he'll not have lost control of the cube – as he would have had he doubled the roll before – but has the option of either turning it now or – more likely, particularly if the position remains fluid – of waiting to offer it on a subsequent roll.

* * * * *

FOOTBALL SEASON

In looking over the football point spreads for any given football weekend, it rarely happens that there isn't at least one number that seems clearly out of line, i.e., is unlikely to divide the betting action evenly. It's interesting to note how different bettors react to that situation in different ways.

One type of bettor gurgles happily as he exploits the linemaker's "mistake" and sends it in on the obvious choice. The other, more careful, bettor has learned over the years to respect the linemaker's opinion and is quick to suspect a trap.

To the uninitiated, a trap is a number designed to induce the public to bet the wrong way on a game. In effect then, the bookmaker himself is gambling, a vice which, conventional wisdom notwithstanding, is indulged in by a great many bookmakers.

In fact, I know of one bookmaker who often feels so strongly about his opinion on a game that he will adjust his line to encourage action on a team in addition to betting against that team with another book.

Of course, there's a great deal to be said for a bookmaker taking the more prudent course of balancing his books and grinding out the four and a half per cent vigorish. If nothing else, it permits the bookie to weather the inevitable short-term fluctuations and stay in action. Ultimately, of course, the degree to which a bookmaker is willing to take risks must be a function of his bankroll.

5TH ANNUAL AWARDS

The FIFTH ANNUAL AWARDS are upon us once again. It seems like only yesterday that we were feting Mike VanDusen, John Anderson and Clarine at the Aladdin Hotel. This year, we have an all-new group of winners, almost. Clarine did it again! The old powers fell too strong, late surges by relatively new members. The winners received cash prizes, trophies and neat merchandise. Later in summer, a huge party will be held in their honor. The party has been postponed because of interest in the Monte Carlo tournament which coincides with the end of the LVBC point race. The year-long contest to accumulate master points is one of the highlights of the weekly LVBC tournaments. The new point race starts immediately. Anyone can win!

CRAIG CHELLSTROP

A year ago Craig visited Las Vegas and stayed and stayed. Former Chicagoan, Chellstrop, remained long enough to win the top LVBC award of the year. An excellent tournament player, we suppose, because of his chess background. Craig at one time was a devoted and high-ranking chess player. He now enjoys the rank of top expert in the Las Vegas Backgammon Club. It pays to think. Craig Chellstrop is number ONE in Las Vegas for 1979!



DAVID EIG

You've heard of the young, new breed invading backgammon – David is it! Barely old enough to enter bars and already a recognized player. Originally from Miami, he came to Las Vegas and quickly became the point leader. He lost the race to a strong finish by Craig Chellstrop but only by a few points. David Eig is the legendary "Dr. Cube" whose columns appear in the *Las Vegas Backgammon Magazine.* He has vowed to win the next point contest hands down.



CLARINE

It's too bad Clarine doesn't live in L.A. or New York City. It seems women who play in those two cities get all the attention as top female players. Well, Clarine is our STAR and we'll match her against any of the women players that are claiming to be the top in the country. This is the second year in a row that Clarine has taken the "Top Woman Player" title in Las Vegas. The top looks like her permanent home!



1978-79 Point Standings

Chellstrop, Craig	90	Geffner, Sandy	4
Eig, David	80	Rachev, Dimiter	4
VanDusen, Mike	60	Rutman, Harry	4
Sarkissian, Vartan	53	Seidner, Ed	4
Hiatt, Don	50	Thompson, Dave	4
Ford, Gary	42	Virginia, Tony	4
Hershleder, David	42	Yuhasz, David	3
Clarine	39	Ashmore, Bud	3
Ashley, Dave	38	Bellak, Terry	3
Munchkin	38	Bleier, Ron	3
Wilson, Sam	35	Bram, Meir	3
Mancari, Tony	34	Caruso, Frank	3
Wolfson, Karen	31	Chin, Kenny	3
Anderson, John	30	Cloy, John	3
Drogseth, Wayne	26	Cooper, Jim	3
Hattori, Eddie	26	Fritz, Guy	3
Seif, Harold	26	Greenfader, Larry	3
Reynolds, Jack	23	Hoope, Craig	3
Brown, Harry	19	Lopez, Arnie	3
Kiskis, Richard	18	Margulies, Alan	3
Klonarakis, Tony	16	Mendonca, John	3
Murray, Paulette	16	Richards, John	3
Vernoff, Bob	16	Sabshon, Mitch	3
Ritholz, Gordon	13	Schwing, Bobby	3
Bowen, Cherie	10	Sklansky, David	3
Fulton, Stan	10	Sutton, John	3
Gromek, Bob	10	VanLear, Paul	3
Kurajica, Carlo	10	Yanish, Michael	3
Brush, Eli	9	Zwerner, Jodi	3
Cameron, Dan	9	Baker, Bob	2
Karr, Ron	9	Brown, Mike	2
King, Cliff	9	Hawke, Glenn	2
Naifeh, Don	9	Horowitz, Lee	2
Brush, Rex	8	Keehn, Susan	2
Bulic, George	8	Kocher, Terry	2
Campbell, Chris	8	Michaels, Stuart	2
DeFelice, Dorothy	7	Nolan, Diane	2
Liakos, John	7	O'Mahoney, Bill	2
Navales, Pedro	7	Powers, Mel	2
Storlazzi, Steve	7	Schott, Darius	2
Tedone, Robert	7	Steele, Zeena	2
Vogelman, Reid	7	Scutero, Ruth	2
Amico, Patrick	6	Toberman, Bill	2
Citro, Frank	6	Allen, Jim	1
Hepburn, Loraine	6	Bellak, Don	1
Johnson, Steve	6	Berk, Alan	1
Mataya, Jimmy	6	Casey, Mike	1
Schartz, Richard	6	Colucci, Rick	1
Shapiro, Mitch	6	Galante, Don	1
Slinker, Andrea	6	Gillette, Trudy	1
Williams, Bob	6	Gussow, Jeff	1
Bingen, Sandy	5	Hunter, Norman	1
Ciaffone, Bob	5	Ison, Mary	1
Ehrenhaft, Henry	5	Jacob, Fred	1
Fort, John	5	Linebaugh, Bob	1
Graflund, Jack	5	Marshall, Brian	1
Nabit, Alaina	5	Mishaikoff, Simeon	1
Temes, Marv	5	Pfeffer, Herb	1
Wexler, Jonathan	5	Thayer, Doug	1
Cicchetti, Al	4	Wilkins, Gary	1
Creamcheese, Suzy	4	Williams, Linda	1
Ford, Sally	4	Yared, Elias	1

The Las Vegas ASSOCIATION

CLUB	STATE	DIRECTOR	PHONE No.
American Backgammon Club	Michigan	Michael Kolian	(313) 459-5776
Arlington Backgammon Club	Illinois	Sargis Serges	(312) 394-1331
Atlanta/Georgia Backgammon Society	Georgia	Craig Tyndall	(404) 266-8957
Barcelona Backgammon Club	Spain	Jordi Arque	211 46 15
Black Hills Backgammon Club	South Dakota	Rod Woodruff	(605) 892-4978
Calgary Backgammon Club	Canada	Wayne Roberts	(403) 265-9400
Campbell Bridge & Backgammon Studio	California	Martin Miller	(408) 378-3711
Cavendish North	Michigan	Bob Ciaffone	(313) 642-9616
Cavendish of Philadelphia	Pennsylvania	Mae & Fred Block	(215) 878-5777
Chattanooga Backgammon Club	Tennessee	David Harris	(615) 267-6418
Dueling Oaks Backgammon	Wisconsin	Merrill Schrager	(414) 271-0493
Duluth Backgammon Club	Minnesota	Ray Boisjoli	(218) 724-2435
Federal Hill Backgammon Association	Maryland	Michael Maguire	(301) 528-1157
Flint Backgammon Club	Michigan	Carol Cole	(313) 732-8594
Hamilton Squash Club	Canada	Ernie Geisel	(416) 527-1010
Hawaii Backgammon Players Assn.	Hawaii	Bernard Bergstein	(808) 533-2227
House of Backgammon	Illinois	Phelicia Krakow	(312) 674-2598
Iowa Backgammon Association	Iowa	Tom Owens	(319) 364-9236
Jacksonville Backgammon Club	Florida	Linda George	(904) 733-2217
Louisville Backgammon Club	Kentucky	Larry Strasberg	(502) 451-3950
National Backgammon League	Illinois	Patt Rottman	(312) 831-5037
New Orleans Backgammon Club	Louisiana	Joanne Ippolito	(504) 282-3210
Newport Backgammon Club	Rhode Island	Robert Howayeck	(617) 674-4905
Northern Nevada Backgammon Assn.	Nevada	Bill O'Brien	(702) 825-3280
Omaha Backgammon Club	Nebraska	Carolyn Caniglia	(402) 330-3333
Oregon Backgammon Players	Oregon	Norman Hunter	(503) 238-6351
Pacific N.W. Backgammon Assn.	Washington	Ted Barr	(206) 285-6768
Richmond Backgammon Club	Virginia	Richard Murad	(804) 270-6234
So. Illinois University Backgammon Club	Illinois	Jordan Gold	(618) 529-1667
St. Louis Backgammon Club	Missouri	Phil Dunlop	(314) 839-2365
St. Thomas Backgammon Club	Virgin Islands	Vernon Ball	(809) 774-1829
Thunder Bay Backgammon Assn.	Canada	Rita Zandette	(807) 622-3045

Association with the Las Vegas Backgammon Club is free to those clubs which will adhere to the LVBC Tournament rules and the LVBC Rules of Backgammon Etiquette. The LVBC Association is a group of grass-roots backgammon clubs devoted to the love and promotion of backgammon. The group is bound together for support and exchange of information and ideas.

LVBC Associates have access to the club hotline, receive hospitality benefits for their members visiting Las Vegas, receive aid in setting up and operating their club, receive free space to publish their ideas and schedules in the *Las Vegas Backgammon Magazine* (circulation 10,000), and receive complimentary copies of the *Las Vegas Backgammon Magazine* for their members. All in all, Associate Members enjoy many shared benefits which a union of organizations can provide, including reciprocal visiting rights between clubs in the Association.

For details on Association, write to the Las Vegas Backgammon Club or call (702) 361-3910.

NEW ASSOCIATES

Atlanta/Georgia Backgammon Society

CRAIG TYNDALL is a name worth remembering. He is rapidly becoming the premier promoter in the Southeast. Primarily responsible for this feat is the excellent monthly newsletter published by the GBA. This newsletter is not of the normal "one man's opinion" variety, but a well-rounded publication with dozens of contributions authored by other GBA members. The club holds a monthly tournament at the Riviera Hyatt House on Peachtree. Other activities include the annual Christmas Tournament for the benefit of Muscular Dystrophy, the annual Dogwood Festival Backgammon Tournament and the upcoming Labor Day Backgammon Cruise to Nassau. Rich Atlas is the able assistant director. Either can be reached at (404) 266-8957.

Jacksonville Backgammon Club

This club was officially organized in 1977 and has maintained a tight group of 65 enthusiastic players. They meet every Tuesday night at Zachary's, Jacksonville's hottest disco. Currently, the club is directed by LINDA GEORGE, an unselfish and competent promoter known internationally for her participation in major tournaments. We first saw Linda at the pool in Monte Carlo and were surprised to find she was a backgammon director and not a yacht starlet enjoying an idle weekend. Contact the Jacksonville Backgammon Club at (904) 733-2217.

Richmond Backgammon Club

The Richmond Backgammon Club (RBC) is a non-profit organization interested in promoting the game in Richmond and vicinity to a point where individual players get satisfaction from its competitiveness, financial rewards, and opportunity for social encounters. The RBC meets every Monday night at the Jewish Community Center at 5403 Monument Avenue. Meetings are scheduled from 7:30 to 10:00 at which time the Center closes. Members, however, frequently adjourn to some of the local nightspots that welcome their patronage to continue playing. The club phone list also allows easy access to fellow members for arranging games between meetings. The 1979 Officers are as follows: President, RICHARD MURAD; Vice-President, Meir Binshtok; Secretary, Virginia D. Smith; Treasurer, Benjamin T. Kutner. The club also has the now-famous annual Virginia Cup Tournament. Reach the RBC at (804) 270-6234.

Chattanooga Backgammon Club

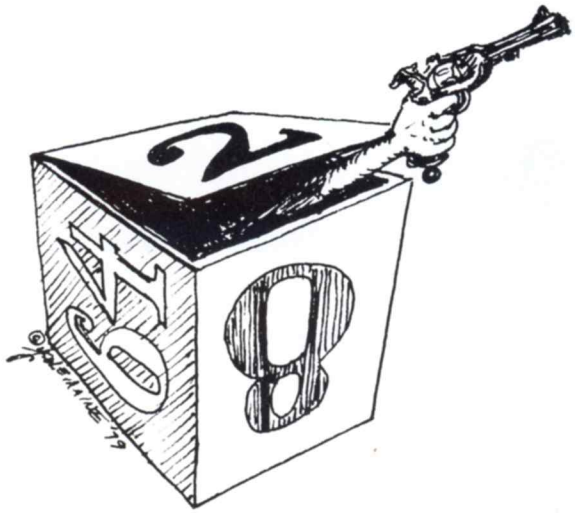
DAVID HARRIS is the director of the CBC. He also owns a place called David's Lounge at 422 Vine Street where the club holds bi-weekly tournaments. David has been a long-time member of the LVBC and so has the club assistant director, Carlene Peters. The club's current accelerated membership drive is proving a huge success. Welcome to the Association! (615) 267-6418.

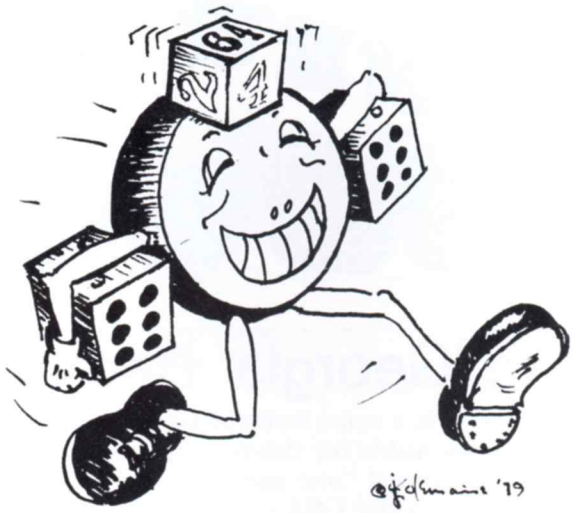
Federal Hill Backgammon Association (Maryland)

The FHBA is the sister club of the Fells Point Backgammon Club. There is a trophy bowl that travels between the two organizations. That is just one of the activities of this fine new club that also holds Tuesday tournaments at HammerJack's on Charles Street and Lush's on East Cross Street. MICHAEL MAGUIRE is the competent treasurer/director of the club. When in Baltimore, call (301) 528-1157.

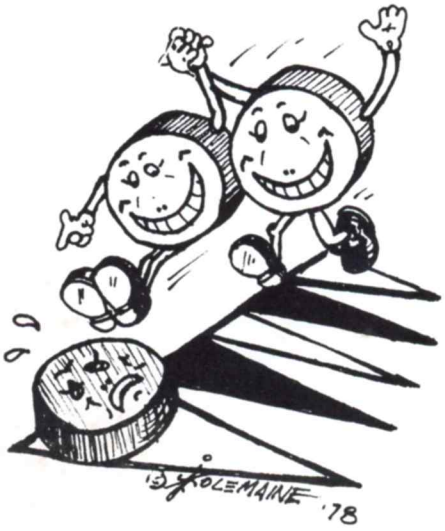
American Backgammon Club (Plymouth, Michigan)

President, MICHAEL KOLIAN; Vice-President, K. Wroeblewski; Secretary, Pamela Kolian. It is a small group, but very active in Michigan. The club is shopping around for a new clubhouse while currently holding tournaments in community halls. Watch this group closely – it will grow! (313) 459-5776.





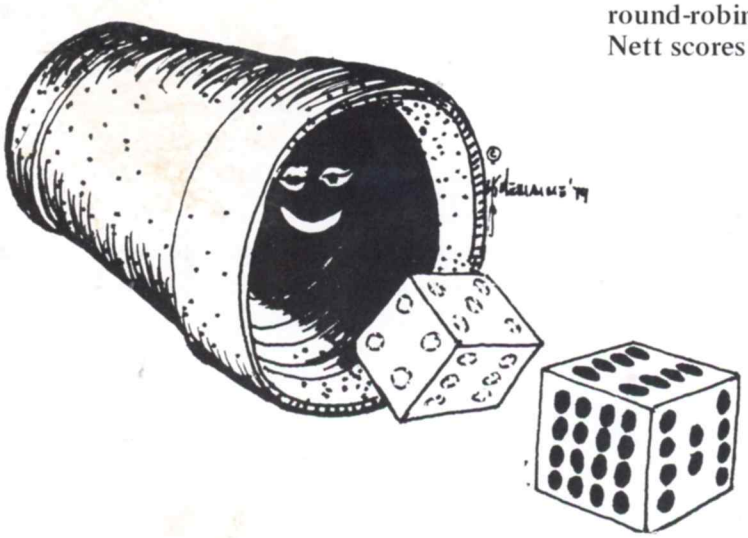
The 'Pipsqueakers' From



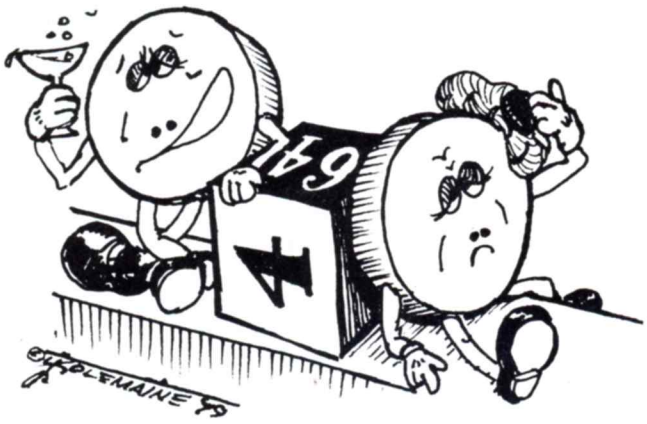
To any non-player they're mystifying. To followers of The Game, they're a little weird, but usually amusing. The "visual puns" displayed on these pages are the creation of Rush Kolemaine, Director the Pipmasters Tournament Backgammon Club of Portland, Oregon, who claims they only pop out of his pen five minutes prior to the printing deadline for his weekly newsletter, *Pipsqueaks.*

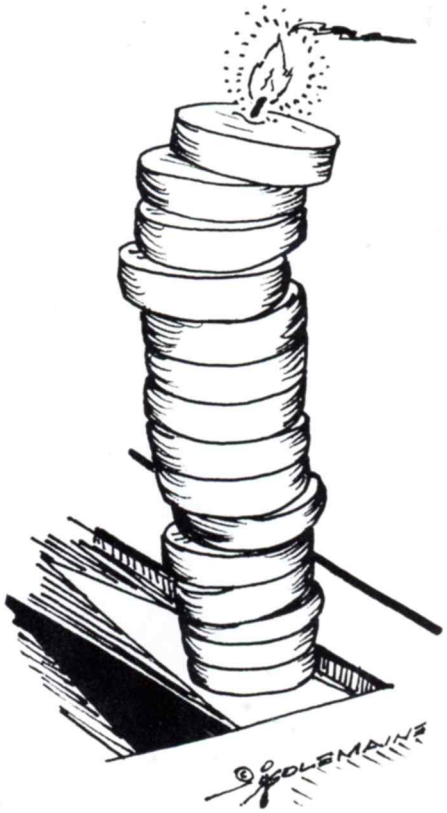
Kolemaine, a veteran of the advertising wars on Los Angeles' Wilshire Blvd. before returning to his hometown about a year ago, established his tournament backgammon program just last March with one weekly event guaranteeing a minimum of $100.00 First Prize. Since then, the Pipmasters "Phridayniter" tournaments have grown into the most popular and largest in attendance in Oregon, and a second weekly event has recently been initiated which is also growing apace with the first.

An outspoken advocate of players' rights, Kolemaine's tournament follow a unique format, offering first-time players the opportunity to match their skills against three to seven other players of varying experience and abilities in as many games during a qualifying opening round-robin, thereafter being paired in match play according to their Nett scores in the round-robin.









Portland...

Regulars who have established their levels of competence with Pipmasters are allowed to by-pass the rounders in favor of pick-up games or casual chouettes. While the description gives the format the image of a complex operation, in practice it is run with professional smoothness and has contributed greatly to the popularity of tournaments at The Wooden Horse Eating Establishment in Portland's downtown Galleria.

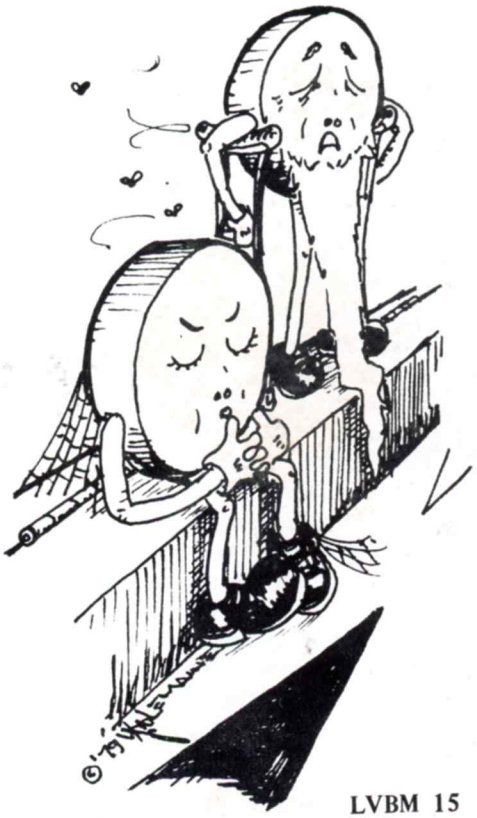
Another aspect of the professionalism demonstrated by the Pipmasters operation is the extensive public relations and publicity effort, offering free introductory lessons for beginners in The Game prior to each tournament, regular contact with local media, and *Pipsqueaks,* which appears in the mailboxes of all players every week.

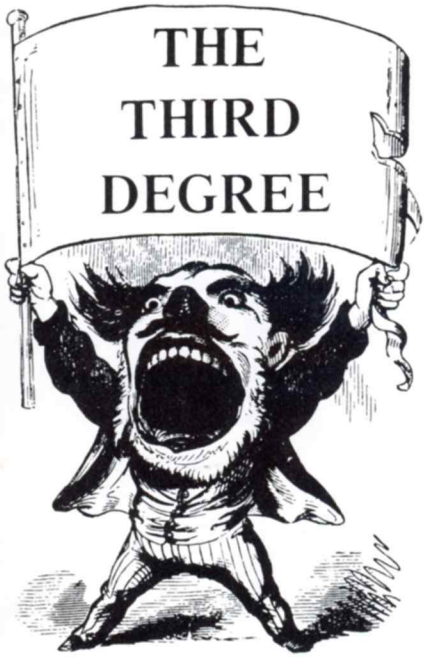
This newsletter, an inexpensive production paid for with the help of co-operating tournament sponsors, currently reaches over 500 readers with complete results of the last tournaments, items of general backgammon interest from around the country, and news about what is going on locally along with a re-cap of who did how well at the last tourney.

Written in a casual "hang loose" and breezy style (complete with occasional misspelllinggs, literary and historical references and occasional digs at well-known players), the four-to-six page publication is eagerly awaited by the growing number of aficionados in the Portland area. According to Kolemaine, who puts it out singlehandedly, he hears more complaints when the newsletter is delayed at the post office than he does when a match is delayed in starting on tournament nights!

We've enjoyed the cartoons that appear in nearly every issue so much here at the LVBC, we asked permission to reprint the ones shown here for the amusement of our own readers, who may recognize some of "pipsqueakers" antics from their own experience.

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CAN YOU EXPLAIN THESE PECULIAR UTTERANCES HEARD IN BACKGAMMON ROOMS?

What are boxcars, midnight, snake eyes, snowflakes and Claude Rains?

The first three were easy. Boxcars and midnight are double 6's. Snake eyes, of course, are double 1's. Snowflakes was a little harder but turned out to be descriptive and simple after we were told it meant double 5's. Claude Rains was downright hard work! Basically, it means a game where one player slots everything and the other player never hits. Hence, Claude Rains, the "Invisible Man"!

What is Duo-Gammon?

Duo-Gammon is a new form of doubles backgammon developed by the National Backgammon League of Chicago. Team members alternate moves. Each player must make his own move entirely by himself. Partnership consultation on doubling decisions (offering, accepting, rejecting) is limited to an exchange of positive, negative or neutral statements about the situation (e.g., "I want to accept the double."). No reason for any statement may be given. Complete rules appear elsewhere in this magazine.

What are Swiss Tournaments?

We, too, would like information from anyone using this system. All we now know is that the Swiss System (adopted from chess) allows a relatively large number of players to take part in a relatively short tournament. The system favors the weaker player since after each round players with the same score must play each other and no contestant may play the same opponent more than once. The system consistently works to reduce the number of players with high scores.

Is it true some clubs are using the Jacoby Rule in tournament play?

Yes. And, it is getting favorable response. It makes slow games almost extinct. It keeps players on their toes. It gets the tournament director home before dawn.

Why not a Universal Master Point System?

We are pragmatists. Knowing as much as we do about record-keeping, mailing lists, address changes and the like, we can't believe that those offering master point systems on a national basis are sincere. The WBC's program collapsed a long time ago and left a lot of disappointed people and many angry club directors.

We follow up on every point system that we ever hear about. Those that work are of local scope with a dedicated director sitting right on top of things. Competing for long-term gains is important to some players. Many clubs keep these difficult and expensive records for this reason. It is a good-will gesture by the local promoter and a way of encouraging on-going interest in tournament play.

The Richmond Backgammon Club seems to have the most competent system. When we checked it out, we found that they had access to a sophisticated computer that kept the records for them. And that is the answer! When a group of Boston investors were interested in establishing a national organization like the Bridge League, they found that computer time was essential.

They also found that it would take over a million dollars to organize properly. Some, like the ABPA, believe it can be done on a shoestring. Most will disagree. Players, we have learned, are paying good money to have their accomplishments registered by and stored in the archives of imaginary national record keepers.

We are skeptical. We know of no computers nor of offices full of recording secretaries. The job is too colossal. We suspect extensive use of the universal file. But, if it will make players feel more secure to think that some omnipotent power is watching their progress, let them keep spending their money.

When we hear of a national responsible group proposing a workable master point system, we'll let everyone know. And, our endorsement will be forthcoming.

What did you think of the Gambling Times*'s backgammon issue?*

Our publisher, Michael Maxakuli, was flattered to be mentioned in the editorial by name. Editor Len Miller is well-known and admired by us. But, obviously, he turned the backgammon job over to someone else who flubbed it. Not only were there very few features on backgammon, but also there were major errors in many of them. Particularly funny is a fiction story where the author has the hero gammoning the villain after he already has four men off. Some cynics are even suggesting that the backgammon articles were props and filler for the gorgeous, inside cover ad promoting the Rums of Puerto Rico Tournament.

Don't despair. The future of backgammon in *Gambling Times* looks bright. Beginning next month, *Gambling Times* will carry a monthly column by Ted C. Barr, a leading backgammon professional in the Pacific Northwest and backgammon columnist for the *Seattle Times* newspaper. We know Ted Barr's work and can vouch for it. The grapevine has it that Ted is also writing a revolutionary backgammon book to be published by the Gambling Times Press. ✯✯



SPECIAL NOTICE:

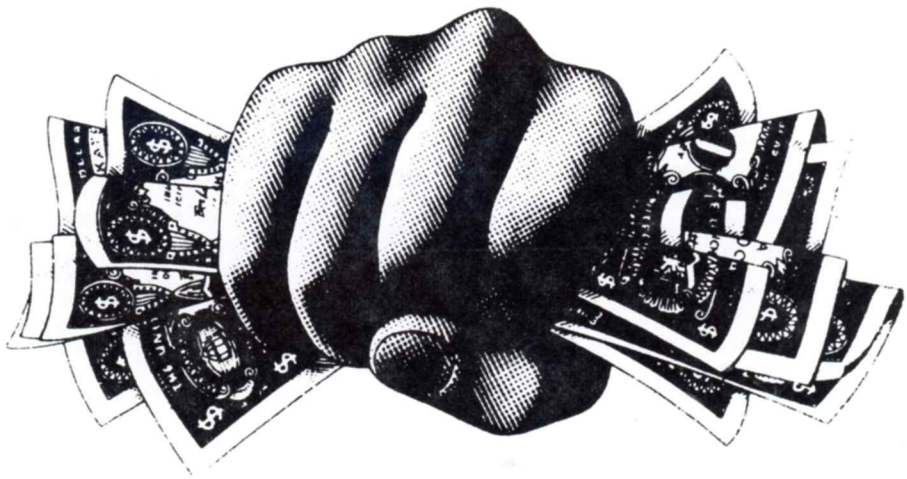
LOUISE GOLDSMITH, executive director of the Amateur Backgammon Championships, would like to inform backgammon directors, players and friends that she is not associated in any way with L.G. Promotions. L.G. Promotions (Lesvia Guerra), a New York firm currently promoting backgammon tournaments, has not been established, operated or endorsed by Louise Goldsmith.

Ms. Goldsmith is and will continue to be administrator of the Amateur Backgammon Championships. ABC under the direction of Louise Goldsmith, is the sole promoter of the Las Vegas World Amateur Tournaments and other successful events in Aruba and Los Angeles.



The Labors of Sisyphus

BACKGAMMON FOR CASH



by Bob Ciaffone

There are some facets to playing backgammon for money and (hopefully) profit that I have not seen discussed adequately because texts concentrate on the technical parts of the game. Here are some of my views on the gambling part of the game.

Usually, you will be playing an opponent for a pre-set length of time. Assuming you are the better player, it is costly to get involved in games that are likely to drag on forever. When doubled in close situations, your rule of thumb should be to drop if the game will take overly long to play. Leave the half-hour long back games for tournaments and social encounters.

The concept of time-saving should also be applied to your own doubling strategy. There are many situations that are theoretically sound doubles, but also obvious takes. By waiting to strengthen the position before doubling, one may have the possible pleasant results of the opponent passing, thus saving time, or accepting when it was correct to drop. Furthermore, a side effect of this strategy is to confront the opponent with pressure situations. Part of out-playing your adversary is presenting him with opportunities to make bad decisions. You put him under pressure by doubling when he will be unsure whether to take or pass, not by doubling early. If your opponent's eager outstretched hand is constantly reaching across the board to grab the cube at the same instant you are preparing to double him, you are not using the optimum doubling strategy for that particular opponent.

By far the biggest edge you can have over your opponent is to keep a cool head when the dice turn against you. Even some of the best technical players in the world are notoriously poor gamblers because they lose far more money than they should once they get behind. (Furthermore, many players consider losing to someone an outright personal insult.) Gambling recklessly and heatedly when stuck is called "steaming". The tactics a "steamer" uses at backgammon to try getting even quickly are doubling very early and taking nearly all the opponent's doubles. Besides the obvious damaging effect of being mathematically incorrect actions, these tactics have the reverse effect of what was intended, for they severely cut down the total number of games to be played in that session. A smart player knows the adage "time equals money" is especially true when gambling at backgammon.

THE OFFICIAL LAWS OF DUO-GAMMON

FROM THE NATIONAL BACKGAMMON LEAGUE
by Bill Davis

The game of DUO-GAMMON is played by four persons, two on each team. The rules of play and methods of scoring are exactly the same as for tournament backgammon singles with the following exceptions:

PART 1. CORRECT PROCEDURE

1.1 THE OPENING THROW – The Order of Play

A. For the opening throw, one player from each team throws a single die. Tie dice require a re-roll. Whichever team throws the higher number wins and decides which member will play the numbers upon both dice. Upon completion of that play, the opposing team decides which member will throw and play for their first turn.

B. The game proceeds with each team alternating players for their subsequent turns (throw and play). The same player may not throw and/or play for his team twice in succession.

1.2 LEGAL THROWS

The dice must be shaken thoroughly, rolled together, and come to rest flat (not "cocked") upon the board at the player's right or left, otherwise they must be thrown again.

1.3 THE PLAY – Moves and Strategy

A. Each player must make his own moves entirely by himself. He may not ask or look to his partner for advice, approval or disapproval, nor may his partner offer this information.

B. During the actual play of the game, team members may not discuss plans, strategy, score considerations or any other information that could have an effect on the course of the match.

1.4 DOUBLING

A. A double may only be offered by the team member who will throw and play next for his side.

B. An opponent's offered double may only be accepted or rejected by the team member who will throw and play next for his side.

C. Partnership consultation on doubling decisions, (offering, accepting, rejecting) is limited to an exchange of positive, negative or neutral statements about the situation; e.g., "I want to accept the double." No reason for any statement may be given.

1.5 PERMISSIBLE GAME COMMUNICATION

During the play of the game, a player may:

a) ask or answer questions concerning proper procedure and correct order of play;
b) stop his partner from throwing and/or playing out of correct turn;
c) offer doubling opinions to his partner in accordance with Law 1.4C
d) discuss applicable penalty rulings with his partner whenever the rules specify "jointly" ("Jointly" is henceforth defined as an open conference of game strategy resulting in a team decision on a particular penalty.);
e) make comments that do not have an effect on the course of the match; however, these comments should be kept to a minimum.

1.6 BREAK PERIODS

Break periods may only be taken between games during a match in accordance with the tournament rules.

PART 2. IREGULARITIES AND PROCEDUR AL PENALTIES

2.1 THROWING and/or Playing Out of Correct Turn

A. A team member's throw and/or play is out of correct turn if he has played his team's previous move. The infraction can only be established before a member of the non-offending team throws his dice.

B. Upon establishing a throw and/or play out of turn, the non-offending team may jointly:

a) accept the roll and compel the play by the correct player;
b) accept the roll and play, or accept the roll and compel the play by the incorrect player;
c) reject the roll (or roll and play) and compel the correct player to re-roll and play.

2.2 OFFERING A DOUBLE Out of Correct Turn

A. The infraction may only be established before the acceptance or rejection of the double by a member of the non-offending team.

B. Upon establishing a double out of correct turn, the non-offending team may jointly:

a) accept the double and compel the throw and play by the correct player;
b) reject the double and lose the value of the doubling cube;
c) forbid the double for the current turn and compel the throw and play by the correct player.

2.3 ACCEPTING OR REJECTING A DOUBLE Out of Correct Turn

A. The infraction may only be established before a member of the non-offending team rolls his dice (in the case of an accepted double), or begins to reset the pieces for a new game (in the case of a rejected double).

B. Upon establishing an acceptance or rejection of a double out of correct turn, the non-offending team may jointly require the offending team to accept or reject the double with play proceeding normally.

2.4 UNAUTHORIZED INFORMATION

A. Conveying play suggestions and/or game strategy (verbally or through body movement) that could have an effect on the course of the match. See Law 1.3. PENALTY: A warning or score adjustment against the offending team may be issued by the tournament director. Repeated violations could lead to forfeiture of the match.

B. Giving reasons for a doubling statement (verbally or through body movement) in an effort to explain the logic for a particular decision. See Law 1.4C. PENALTY: A warning or further positive action may be issued by the tournament director:

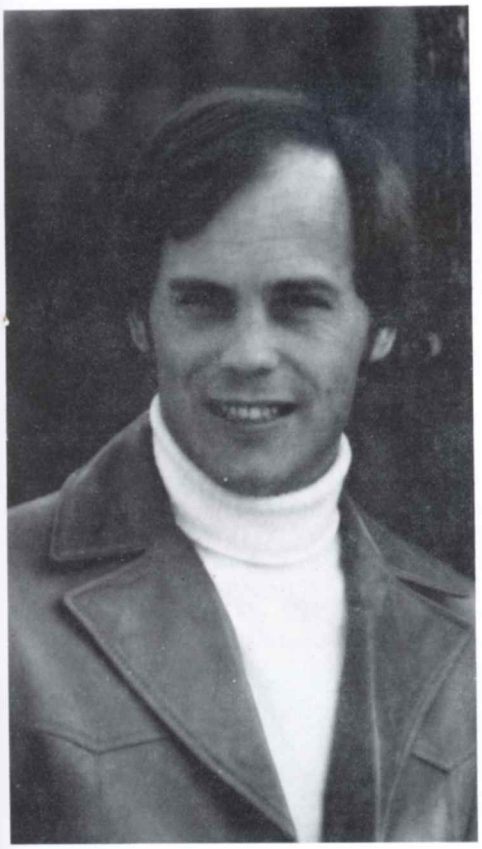
a) In the case of giving reasons for whether to offer a double, the non-offending team may jointly require or forbid the offering of the double for the current turn.

b) In the case of giving reasons for whether an offered double should be accepted or rejected, the non-offending team may jointly require the offending team to accept or reject the double with play proceeding normally.

PROFILE PAGE •••

JIM HOWE

Texas Backgammon Association Director



My involvement in backgammon began in 1969, while watching a few Dallas oilmen playing for a dollar a point. Only after kibitzing perhaps a hundred games or so, did I venture into this great exciting game of the unknown. At that time, backgammon books were scarce, tournaments were unheard of, and there was only a handful of players whose skills left something to be desired. Today, 10 years later, backgammon has indeed found a foothold as one of our great American pastimes.

For the next five years I played backgammon casually, perhaps two or three times a week, until 1974 when I played in my first tournament – and WON! From then on I have been hooked!

In 1975, I played in my first major tournament in Nassau where I did not fare too well at all, but then realized that there was a lot to this game that I didn't know. From that point on I began studying the game seriously, realizing the more I played, the more there was to learn. In 1977, which has been my most active year as a player, I played in 75 tournaments, winning 8 and placing in 25 overall.

In March of 1977, I started the Texas Backgammon Assn. serving as its executive director. It was at that point that we realized Texas badly needed a backgammon association for the benefit of the backgammon player and not the promoter. Set up as a well-organized, non-profit association for the players, it conducts tournaments on a monthly basis alternating between Dallas and Houston, and informs the members of other regional, national, and international backgammon tournaments.

The financial premise of the association is on a non-profit basis striving to reach a break-even status at a year's end. During our first year we had approximately 150 members and averaged 85 players per tournament with an average calcutta of $3,400. Today, 23 tournaments later, we have grown to over 300 members with over 100 players per tournament and an average calcutta of $4,500.

Now, almost 2½ years since our inception, the Texas Backgammon Assn. has attributed many accolades as a well-run tournament from the local players and from players across the U.S. and Canada who have participated. In conjunction with success, I feel we have reached that plateau and will strive to continue to satisfy the backgammon player and further enhance this great game.

MOZAFAR

West Coast Backgammon Institute Director

As a representative of the game of his native Iran, he likes to introduce it to people in the best manner. His students call him "master," but be insists he is still only learning the game he has been playing for over 20 years.

In San Francisco he is known as "The Backgammon Ambassador." The game, of course, is backgammon and the man is MOZAFAR BEHROOZNIA.

When Mozafar moved to Oregon two years ago, backgammon was not the popular pastime it has come to be, due largely to his efforts. He has worked hard to bring backgammon into people's lives. He opened Game Galaxy, Portland's first game store. He founded The West Coast Backgammon Institute through which he has taught many hundreds, both beginning and advanced backgammon, in schools, clubs, private seminars, and individual instructions.

There are now three weekly tournaments under Mozafar's direction, one of which is Portland's longest running tournament. Two more weekly tournaments are being planned for the Portland area and one in Tacoma, Washington.

Special events, such as, The WCBI Backgammon Championship, and the Portland Backgammon Championship are annual events both hosted by Mozafar. Mozafar also enjoys playing in tournaments around the country, and was a finalist in the recent Black and White Scotch Classic in Pebble Beach.

Mozafar has a whole new set of activities that center around his beautiful son, Rasheed, born May 30.



BACKGAMMON BITS

. . . . .MICHAEL MAXAKULI is there a tournament he's missed from So. America to Europe? U.S. Chess Champ WALTER BROWNE and wife in Las Vegas to make final arrangements for the $50,000 challenge match at Caesars Palace against world chess champ ANOTOLI KARPOV. It will be the largest prize ever for a single game. . . Why are so many chess players good backgammon players? Former entertainment writer with *LV Backgammon Mag.*, HANFORD SEARL, now TV and radio editor at *Billboard Magazine* in Los Angeles . . . MICHAEL JOSEPH alive and well . . . New York's famous BAR POINT club out of business . . . ZEMBY'S Side by Side Backgammon haunting everyone; can't pick up a magazine where it isn't featured . . . PUGGY PEARSON famous poker player and backgammon enthusiast got a full page color picture in *Sports Illustrated.* He said, "That's nothing. *Playboy* did a six-page layout with a centerfold on me a few years back" . . . Did you know there is a clothing co. by the name of BACKGAMIN OF CALIFORNIA?



LUCIE and MICHAEL JOSEPH



MICHAEL MAXAKULI

GEORGE BASSMAN, former director of backgammon at Cavendish, L.A. is the voice you'll be hearing through the ear phones on long flights. Mr. Bassman's scores, by the way, are favorite on the Ol' Professor nightly radio show on KDWN. Do you remember *"I'm Getting Sentimental Over You"?* He wrote it . . . New England Backgammon director FRANCESCA PARKINSON, an amazing woman, author of *Knit & Crochet Your Own Designs* published by Arco Publishing, N.Y.. . . VERN & PAT ANDREWS off to Land-o-Lakes for Silver Anniversary . . . REINA SCARAZZO, beauty in backgammon award of the month. LEN YELINEK (Escape Travel) did what no one expected—gave up backgammon and got married! . . . PAM and RUDY SCHNEIDER, former LVBC mentor at Dirty Sally's are expecting their first . . . DAVID BOYER new elected Jaycee treasurer . . . VAL BOJANIC finished with year-long project to build his own house. We mean with his own hands, too. Wow! TV's NANCY DREW (PAMELA SUE MARTIN) and her husband, JORGE BRUCH, play some tough backgammon; Pam is now filming a new movie called *"Lady in Red".* We've known some fancy backgammon playing ladies in red in our town . .



REINA SCARAZZO



JORGE BRUCH and PAMELA SUE MARTIN

The third annual Plimpton Cup (Nov. 28-Dec. 2, 1979)

World Amateur Backgammon Championship

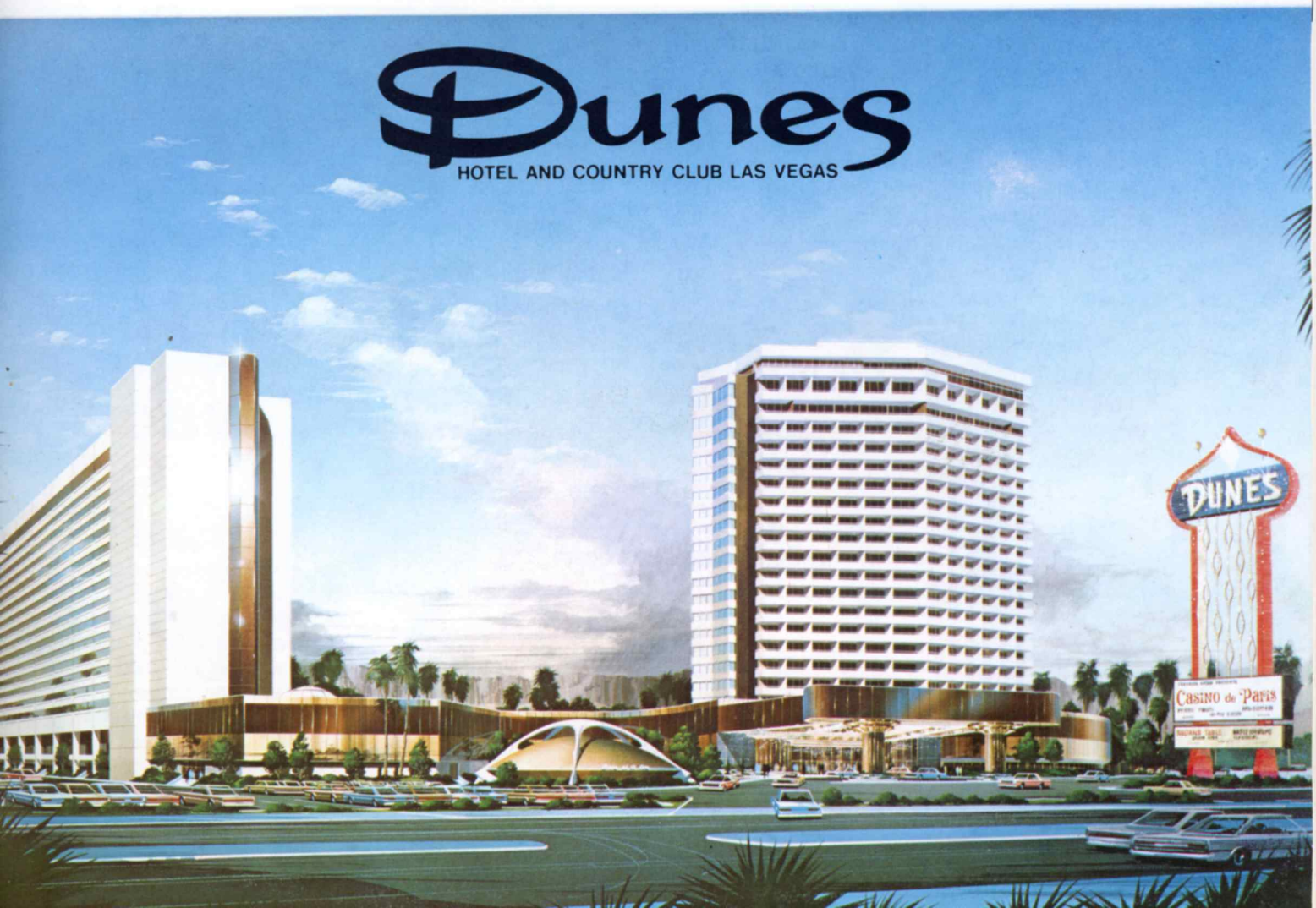
THE PRIZE POOL WILL BE: **$100,000.00** + **$400.00 per player.**

NUMBER OF PLAYERS	750	1250
TOTAL PRIZE POOL	$400,000.00	$600,000.00

Beginners Tournament: $25,000.00 in Prizes. $50 entry fee.

Open Tournament: The Prize Pool will be: $5,000.00
plus $500.00 per player.

World Computer Backgammon Championship



ELIGIBILITY FOR THE PLIMPTON CUP

Amateurs only. A professional player is one who has ever won $1,000 or more in a single backgammon tournament after deducting his entry fee, or makes a living playing backgammon.

The Eligibility Committee reserves the right to refuse entry, without explanation to anyone it deems detrimental to the best interest of the tournament.

INCENTIVES TO REGISTER EARLY

1. All players will start in groups of 16 with no first round byes. **Byes will be given in the fifth round based upon order of registration.**
2. 5% of the Prize pool will go to the Early Bird (registered before Sept. 30) that goes the furthest but doesn't win one of the top prizes.
3. Register prior to Nov. 8 and save $50.00.

American Backgammon Championships held tournaments in 1978 with total prizes exceeding **$750,000.00.** To get on our mailing list drop us a card with your name, address and telephone number.

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(212) 486-1489
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(213) 474-5544

PLIMPTON CUP PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

1st	50%
2nd	20%
3rd	10%
4th	5%
5th — 8th	2% each
Winners 1st 4 rounds	$1,000 each
Women's Prize	1%
Hotel Guest	1%
Early Bird	5%

RULES There will be staggered starting times with first round matches beginning either Wed., Thurs. or Fri. Amateurs will begin with 11 point matches. The finals in the amateur tournament will be 19 points.

A special feature will be the Second Chance flight. Thus those eliminated in the preliminary rounds will have a second chance at all the prizes. There will be a $100 fee for those choosing to sign up for a second chance. Detailed rules will be given to all players at registration.

ENTRY FORM

Mail your entry form with a $25.00 registration fee to:

American Backgammon Championships
Suite 1006,
575 Madison Avenue
N.Y. N.Y. 10022 (212) 486-1489

PAYMENT ALTERNATIVES Amateur or Open

Registration fee, mail by Nov. 8, 1979	$ 25
Balance Nov. 28-30, 1979 (Cash only)	$475
TOTAL	$500

OR

Pay by cash when registering Nov. 28-30 at The Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas	$550

Amateur registration closes at 10 a.m. Fri. Nov. 30th.
Open registration closes at 4 p.m. Thur. Nov. 29th.

Player _____

Address _____

_____
City State Zip

Telephone _____

Social Security # _____

Check the appropriate box:

- ☐ Plimpton Cup $25.00 advance registration fee
- ☐ Open $25.00 advance registration fee
- ☐ Beginners $50 full payment

LVBC

☐ Here is my check for $_____ payable to American Backgammon Championships.

Charge My Master Charge ☐ Visa ☐ Acct. # _____

Name _____ Exp. Date _____

Amount _____ Signature _____

Fill in if you wish to have Casino credit at the Dunes Hotel.

BUSINESS NAME _____ POSITION _____ No Yrs _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE ( ) _____

CHECKING ACCOUNTS

BANK # 1 _____ BRANCH _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ Account No. _____

BANK # 2 _____ BRANCH _____

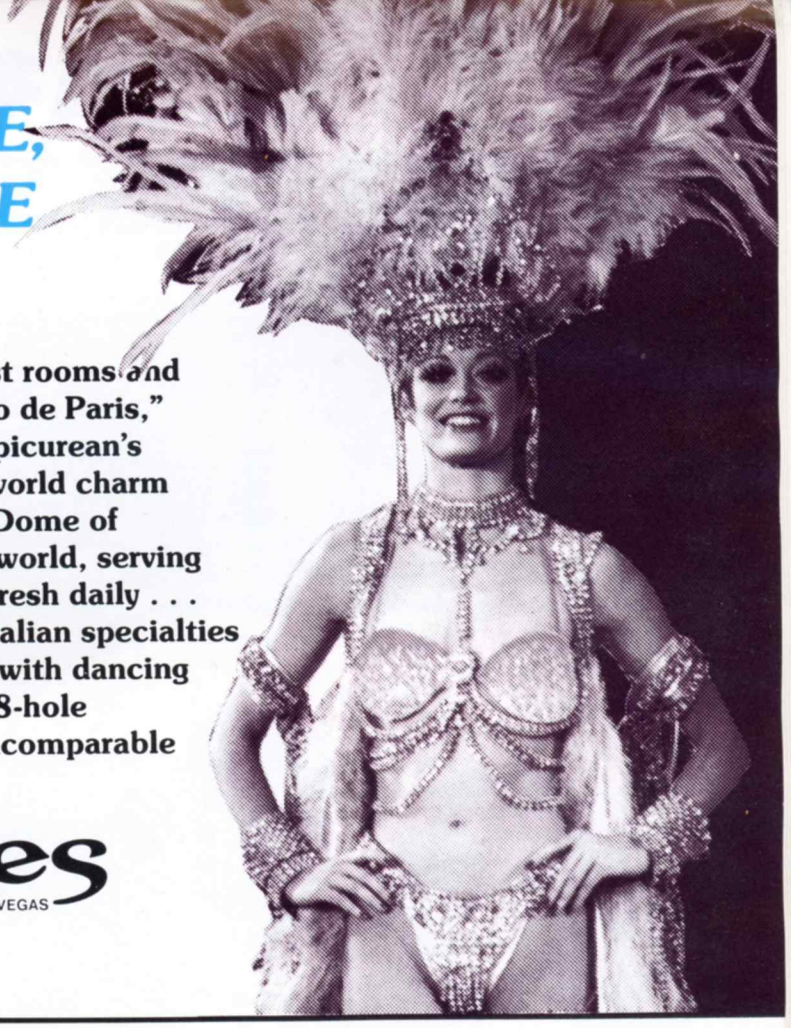
CITY _____ STATE _____ Account No. _____

AMOUNT OF CREDIT REQUESTED $_____

PAYMENT OF PRIZES

All Prizes are to be paid on Dec. 2, 1979 with the exception of the prizes exceeding $50,000. Those prize winners will be paid 20% of their winning on December 2, 1979 with the remaining prize money to be placed in escrow to be paid in five equal annual installments beginning January 10, 1980. The prizes in only the beginner tournament will include merchandise.

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(See over for ordering information)

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"Leader in Backgammon & quality games"

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Standard size - 15" x 20" 22.95
Large size - 18" x 24" 29.95

D. DECORATOR BACKGAMMON framed in solid oak. This beautiful board enhances any decor and adds a touch of sophistication to almost any room. The inlaid playing field in earth tones is full professional size. Marbelized backgammon men included.

23" x 28½" 109.00


C.


D.

E. PRECISION DICE machined to tolerance with inlaid pips for accuracy and rounded corners for action. These are the very best money can buy and are available exclusively from Chess & Games Unlimited in a rainbow of colors as well as clear lucite.

Solid and transparent colors 6.00 pair
Clear Lucite 11.00 pair

F. DICE CUPS in heavy marbelized catlin, lined for a random roll. Select from many attractive colors. Monogramming available. 8.00 each


E.


F. G. H.

G. DOUBLERS in matching marbelized catlin. Three popular sizes and many colors. Monogramming available.

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2" 9.00

H. BACKGAMMON MEN. Thick marbelized catlin in a variety of colors.

Small - 1¼" diameter 8.00
Medium - 1½" diameter 10.00
Large - 1¾" diameter 15.00

J. PONDEROSA PINE backgammon table at an unbeatable price. For less than the price of a quality table alone, remove the glass top and play backgammon. Marbelized backgammon men included.

27½"x32½"x28"H 155.00


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K. SOLID OAK, contemporary styling and its' convertible features make this our most popular table. A conversation piece, this beautiful table converts to a cocktail table, desk or all purpose table. The luxurious playing field is tournament size. Marbelized backgammon men included.

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AND FACES



TRUDY GILLETTE and TONY ROSS

. . . Looking forward to having TONY ROSS move to Vegas . . . TRUDY GILLETT now with Doris Evans Realty . . . Reno big on backgammon because of LVBC alumni. STEVE LEHMAN promoting backgammon with NNBA's BILL O'BRIEN at Bahama Mama's. SHARON FREEMAN doing the same at Cozmos . . . Meanwhile, the Magic Factor has the world's only backgammon board dance floor . . . BOB CIAFFONE in LV talking about KIM BRANDT & HANS BERLINER, Dispersion of Force Concepts and Danger Index. Sounds like we need to get our hands on some of this info. Whoever has it, please send it to this mag . . .

. . . JOHN KLEINMAN back in town and already has won a tournament and landed a job as photog. at *Las Vegas Sun* . . . TERRY BELLAK sporting new real estate license

STEVE HERMAN hosted a backgammon party for RONDA STOLTZ . . . Deceased: SUSAN CONRAD, amiable tournament enthusiast and supporter in L.A. And, CHERYL SONNE', beloved wife of backgammon entrepreneur LARRY SONNE', from Michigan . . . Up-date on the longest running backgammon match in LV, JOE CHIODO trails wife MAGGIE 30,000 to 2,896 . . . DONNA and NORM PAVALON off to a Wisconsin vacation . . .



LINDA KRUEGEL and TODD VANDER PLUYM



NORM and DONNA PAVALON



DAVID COOPER and CAROL BOYER





DAVE COOPER, best ad man in the West, worst backgammon player in the world! . . . MITCH SHAPIRO flying for Scenic Airlines. How many times can you see the Grand Canyon?

TODD K. VANDER is amazing. Not only has he licked his temper and improved his game, but now we learn that he is the premier builder of sand castles in the world. Not just your average castle but works of art! They have been featured on many national TV shows and he is mentioned in the *Guinness Book of World Records*. .

BITS & FACES



CHER

..LVBCers enjoyed the company of CHER at a disco roller skating party in her honor at Caesars Palace . . . BEN STRAHAN, already lucky enough to have BARBARA McNAIR, now the architect on the most exciting project in Las Vegas, the DUNES' expansion program . . . BOBBI LAYNE now director of backgammon at CAVENDISH, Los Angeles. Her ex, JEFF KULLER, doing outstanding job at DIRTY SALLY'S (Redondo). . . . . CAROLE McCUNE now a part-time Vegan . . . DR. HARRY SANTRIZOS, doctor par excellence, has new offices at 1055 E. Tropicana, LV . . . New ventures for SUZY CREAMCHEESE in Houston! Aspen now has ANDRE'S for backgammon. The club opened with PRINCE OBOLENSKY hoopla and a beaming owner, ANDRE ULRYCH. . . FormerLVBCer GIOVANNI is in charge at Andre's . . .



LINDA KRUEGEL, SANDY and KIM BINGEN

LINDA KRUEGEL, SANDY and KIM BINGEN boating on Lake Michigan in Saugatuck . . . GOBEL, BEATY, BALL, LESTER and others in constant high stakes action at Jockey Club, Miami . . . SANDY CLARK in TV *Vega$* episode–good legs! . . . PLATO's RETREAT, now famous all nude night club, features backgammon of course . . . In town–JEFF MERVIS, HUGH SCONYERS, JAMES ALLEN, BOB JOHNSON, BILL FOSTER from Los Angeles–DON KENDAL, K. RUSTONJI, HENRY WATTSON from NY –JOHN CLOY, Dr. DEAN YARBRO from Tex–PETER KALBA, Illinois–and Boston sent us SIDNEY . . . Did ELLEN JACOBY LEE really do all that in the Aruba tournament? CLIFF KING surprised us on the *Mike Douglas Show*

☆☆



DR. HARRY SANTRIZOS and MICHAEL MAXAKULI



SHECKY GREENE and MRS., SUZY CREAMCHEESE and ALAN MARGULIES

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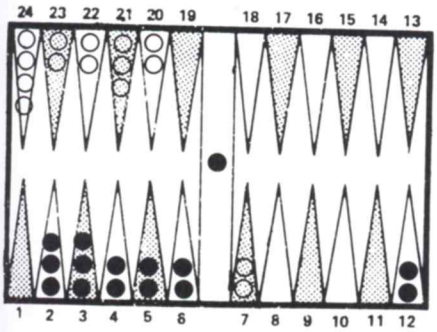
DR CUBE

by David Eig

They wait. It is a Monday, however, and the players at Rumors Discotheque seem to be going hungry as the lack of action is becoming more and more painfully obvious. To this strange breed, the disco dancing going on outside the backgammon is viewed as some vague constant motion; the ritual of a different hunt. So they wait.

The monotony is suddenly broken by a high stakes player who approaches our table, and says, "Well, boys, why don't you pool your money together and you can both play me!" To my surprise, the challenge is accepted by my young friend sitting with me. I back out.

The games that followed were exciting and loose. One such game of interest was where the youngster was doubled to 16 as illustrated below:



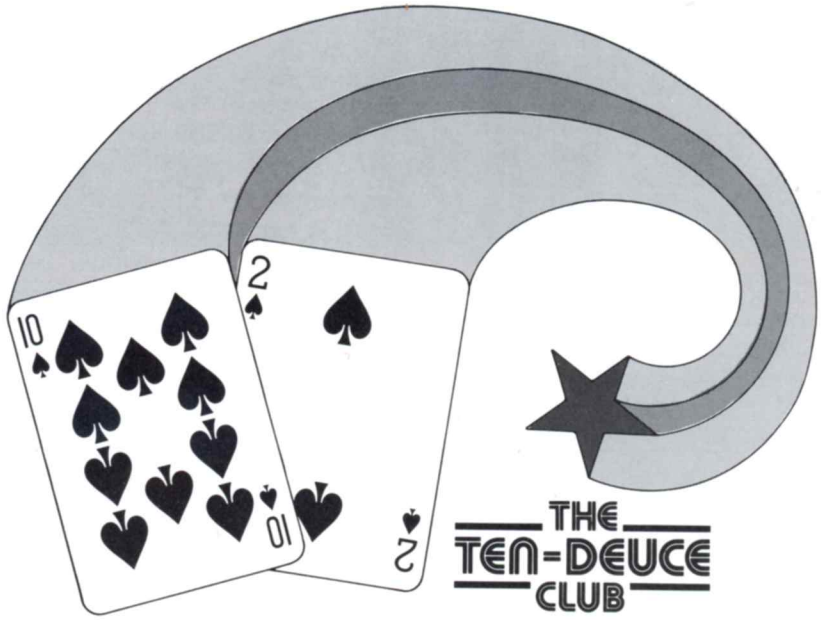
White Doubles to 16
Should Black take?

Black is a very slight favorite to get off the bar in two rolls; however, even if Black does come in and get a shot it still has to be hit. Should Black come in early, White will have the added advantage of hitting and passing as White will likely be in his outer board on the next roll. Black is too far behind in the race to win that way, and with just his chances of hitting, Black does not have a take.

Beads of perspiration developed on the forehead of the young hustler studying the position for his decision. Cigar smoke wafted from the highroller across the table and into the face of his opponent. You could measure the tension in kilo-watts as we all waited eagerly to see what would happen. Finally, muttering something about not letting the size of the cube affect him, he took. To everyone's surprise he ended up winning a 32 game! The highroller shrugged. Next time, the odds will overcome.

DAVID EIG is available for lessons – if interested, contact LVBC office 361-3910.





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MAGAZINES IN REVIEW



by V. H. Yanko

Just as we were saying that we hadn't heard from any magazines for months and months, they ALL went to press in time for the summer season. Here is our review of these publications.

INTERNATIONAL BACKGAMMON REVIEW

Publisher/editor, Lewis Deyong –It used to be called *International Backgammon News* and was 30 pages fatter when Phillip Morris paid the bills. It featured fabled resorts and celebrated aristocracy playing backgammon. Nothing has changed. You can still read about places you can't afford and people with funny titles in front and/or in back of their names. Buy yourself a Piaget, rent a tuxedo, hang a handle on your name and jump right in! We agree with the name change from I.B. News to I.B. Review. Someone must have noticed that there never was any news in the magazine.

GAMMON

Publisher, Buddy Berke, Editor, Sidney Jackson – This magazine was promoted as the FIRST national backgammon magazine, which was untrue and pretentious. Everyone waited agog for new hot stuff since it was rumored that over $200,000 was spent in production. Instead, what was served was warmed-over articles, all of which had appeared elsewhere. The magazine seems almost like two different issues: Part of it is co-ordinated, creative and visually stimulating; suddenly it takes a turn for the worse. Substance disappears, hurry-up copy is tossed in and the graphics are cluttered. We overheard someone say that for $4.50 a copy there should at least be pictures of naked women. But our favorite critic quipped, "That's like shelling out five bucks for last year's Super Bowl Program."

BACKGAMMON GUIDE

Publisher/editor, Les Boyd – The best of the three in review. Trimlined but chock full of up-to-date information. Not one man's opinion but full of articles authored by players from many walks of life. Good problems and clear pictures. Fairly priced at $2 an issue. This is a new concept developed by the I.B.A. to disseminate backgammon info. Many of the articles are well chosen reprints from the news media. I was fascinated by a seemingly unrelated article titled *"Compulsive Gambling Ruins One Million Lives"*. Not of interest to backgammon, but good editorial catharsis. ☆☆

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LOOK.... ....BEFORE YOU LEAP



by Kent A. Goulding

There is a great deal of room for originality and creativity in backgammon. Most players are "conditioned" to respond to certain rolls in a set manner: with (3,1), MAKE THE 5 POINT; (6,5), RUN; etc. Certainly these plays are fine, and in most cases they are superior to other alternatives. It is, however, important to understand the reasons behind each of these moves, then make your play based on your personal style and the exact circumstances.

The following games were played this past May in the final round of the Baltimore Open Backgammon Championship. Both games help to illustrate cases of experienced players finding that the situation called for non-standard moves.

▶ – Kent Goulding

No.	Roll	Play
1.		
	(6,5)	24-18, 13-8

▷ – Al Hodis

Roll	Play
(5,2)	13-8, 24-22

My opening play of (6,5) is not standard. It is a seldom seen but powerful alternative to the "lover's leap" advocated by most experts. One of the doctrines in my system of backgammon is to try not to put more than four checkers on any one point. With that in mind, you should notice that playing (6,5) as I did leaves only one point with more than four checkers, while the standard play leaves one point with five checkers and another with six! It is equally important to attempt to establish a link between your backmen and your midpoint. Playing to Al's bar starts to form just such a link.

2.	▶	(6,1)	13-7, 8-7
	▷	(5,3)	8-3, 6-3
3.	▶	(5,1)	18-13, 8-7
	▷	(6,4)	22-16, 13-9

Again, I have not played the "natural" move of making Al's bar point. The problem with making his bar is that it allows Al to build his board without interference. My play does leave one man all the way back, but that checker is in little danger of being primed in, and it can be a thorn in Al's side. The move from my eight to seven point is an attacking move. It leaves an active builder on the bar point, and a passive builder on the eight, putting much more pressure on the advanced blot in my home board.

4.	▶	(6,2)	24-16*
	▷	(6,4)	bar-21, 13-7
5.	▶	(5,1)	13-7
	▷	(5,3)	21-16, 8-5
6.	▶	(3,1)	16-13, 7-6
	▷	(6,1)	6-5, 8-2

My play with (3,1) is totally out of character and probably incorrect. I have heaped a sixth man on my six point and failed to make a strong point in my board.

7.	▶	(4,1)	6-1*
	▷	(4,1)	bar-24*, 6-2
8.	▶	(5,4)	bar-21-16
	▷		DOUBLE
9.	▶	PASS	

This is a very dangerous double to take. My board is too weak and my checkers are too poorly placed to salvage the game.

This game shows that making moves other than the first that come to mind can be just as strong as playing the "standard" variations. By failing to leap with (6,5) I caused the game to develop in a much different pattern. Playing (5,1) as I did on the third move again changed the apparent course of the game. Although these plays may not be better than the more standard alternatives, they allowed me to play a game I was comfortable with and let me determine my own fate. It should be noted that although I lost the game, my first and third moves are not directly to blame. My sixth move may have been the culprit, leading to my demise on Al's seventh move when he hit me.

Following is a shorter game from the same match in which Al shows that he is not a victim of conditioning. He makes a very astute play that would not be considered by many experts.

No.		Roll	Play
1.	▶	. . .	
	▷	(3,2)	13-10, 13-11
2.	▶	(3,1)	8-5, 6-5
	▷	(6,2)	10-4, 6-4
3.	▶	(2,1)	13-11, 6-5
	▷	(4,2)	13-9, 11-9
4.	▶	(5,3)	8-3, 6-3
	▷	(1,1)	2(6-5), 2(24-23)

An excellent play. The natural reaction to double ones is to make the five point and the bar point.

(Continued page 26)

LAS VEGAS TOURNAMENT RESULTS

DATE	OPEN CLASS	INTERMEDIATE
April 19 (Doubles)	Clarine/Gary Ford	
April 22	Karen Wolfson	Tony Mancari
April 30	Craig Chellstorp	John Sutton
May 6	Craig Chellstorp	John Liakos
May 13	Harold Seif	Jonathan Wexler
May 17 (Doubles)	Michael Maxakuli/Mike VanDusen	
May 20	David Eig	Terry Bellak
May 27	Craig Chellstorp	David Sklansky
May 31 (Doubles)	Harold Seif/Paulette Murray	
June 3	Tony Mancari	Frank Caruso
June 10	David Eig	John Kleinman
June 14 (Doubles)	Chris Campbell/David Hershleder	
June 17	Vartan Sarkissian	Rachel Karr
June 24	David Eig	Diane Nolan
June 28 (Doubles)	Harold Seif/Paulette Murray	
July 1	Vartan Sarkissian	Al Cicchetti
July 8	David Eig	Simeon Mishaikoff
July 12 (Doubles)	David Hershleder/Chris Campbell	
July 15	David Eig	Rachel Karr
July 22	Simeon Mishaikoff	Don Naifeh

MONTE CARLO

(Continued page 4)

Young Roger Low, out of the Mayfair Club in New York and the favorite at that point, lost his quarter-final match to German Karl Laubmeier when he couldn't roll a one. "I figure that miss cost me about $50,000" was Low's comment. But then Laubmeier lost to Villa in the semi-finals, and Villa, who few people figured even to be in the running, went on to win the finals. Peter Gold had made his opponent, Jeffrey Westheimer, a 5-4 favorite in the 25-point match, while people making side bets on Westheimer were often having to lay 2 for 1. Yet after taking a commanding 21-13 lead, Westheimer seemed to choke completely. He played very tightly and conservatively, winning only one more point in the match. Final score: Villa – 25, Westheimer – 22.

Though he is not well-known in this country, Milan-based Luigi Villa has the credentials of a world-class player. Besides winning the Italian championship in 1978, he has won international tournaments at St. Moritz, St. Tropez and a Last Chance tournament in Dijon during the past year and a half. In 1977 he lasted until the round of 16 in the European championships in Monte Carlo, and in 1978 until the round of 32. It was that year he gave up his work as an insurance broker to become a full-time professional player.

"It's more amusing to play than to work," he laughed after his victory. Then he and his exuberant band of friends left the Sporting d'Hivers, where the tournament was held, en route to the Casino to collect the $34,866 Villa would receive for buying back the maximum 50% of himself in the Calcutta auction. It's quite clear that whatever others might have thought, Villa, at least, had made himself the favorite to win it all. ☆☆

LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP

(Continued page 25)

Time and again, players will do just that with little thought about the specific position. If Al builds his bar point, I will be left alone to build my bar or four point, and we will have a "prime vs. prime" position. He has a very strong game even without his bar, so he uses the remaining ones to move up to my two point. This leaves me needing not only my four and bar points, but my eight point as well, and puts a great deal of direct pressure on my blots.

5. ▶ (6,2) 13-7, 8-6
   ▷ DOUBLE
6. ▶ PASS

I cannot play on. Notice that if Al had used his ones to make the bar, I would be in much better position to accept the double. He would then be shooting at a six, but if he missed, I would be very much in the game.

Al's play with (1,1) immediately won a game for him which might otherwise have continued and gone either way. His play was a direct result of thinking before moving, rather than playing by rote. If you allow yourself to explore different styles of play and test alternatives to "book" moves, you will find the game much more enjoyable and rewarding.

* * *

EDITOR'S NOTE: KENT GOULDING is 27 years old, married, and a resident of Kensington, Md. Kent earns his living trading stock options. He learned backgammon in 1972 and has been a student of the game ever since. He was a quarter-finalist in the 1976 World Championship, and a semi-finalist in the 1978 World Championship. Besides winning the 1979 Baltimore Open, Kent has won or been among the leaders in almost every tournament he has played in. Although backgammon is his strongest game, he also enjoys studying chess and the Japanese games of Go and Shogi. ☆☆

Percentage chance to roll.

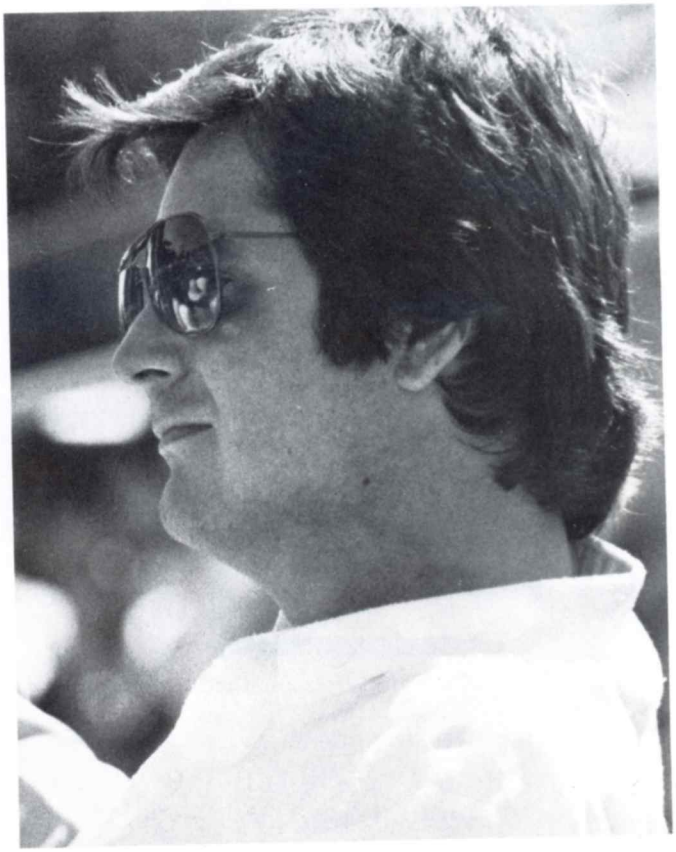
Any Double	17%
A Specific Double	3%
A Specific Combination	6%
A Specific Single Number On One Die	31%

Percentage Chances of Entering From the Bar in One Roll.

POINTS OPEN	1	2	3	4	5
1 MAN	31%	56%	75%	89%	97%
2 MEN	3%	11%	25%	44%	69%

LAS VEGANS THAT PLAY

NED DAY



He's our resident muckraker. And while some people spit that label out with ill-disguised venom, he relishes it. NED DAY, pictured here attending the Alan King Tennis Classic at Caesars Palace, is a columnist and Associate Editor of the feisty *Valley Times* newspaper.

Since moving to Las Vegas in 1976, Ned has won four state journalism awards for his hard-hitting news articles and columns. He delights readers with stories exposing money-grubbing scam artists and with irreverent columns which never fail to irritate self-serving politicians or self-satisfied fat cats.

Ned hails originally from Milwaukee, the same town which spawned LVBC President Michael Maxakuli, and says he was "blackjacked" into joining the club upon arrival in Las Vegas. Says Ned: "I knew Max back in the old days, when he was a living, breathing person, not just succession of poses in some magazine."

Ned is the son of famous professional bowler, Ned Day, a member of the Bowling Hall of Fame and the only man to win the world's championship five times. Ned's late father still holds the world record for stringing 33 straight strikes together in sanctioned match play.

Although he's a product of the great but somewhat sedate Midwest, Ned has found glittering Las Vegas to his liking.

"I don't smoke, drink, gamble, chase floozies or ingest foreign substances through my nose," he claims, "Las Vegas is my kind of town!"

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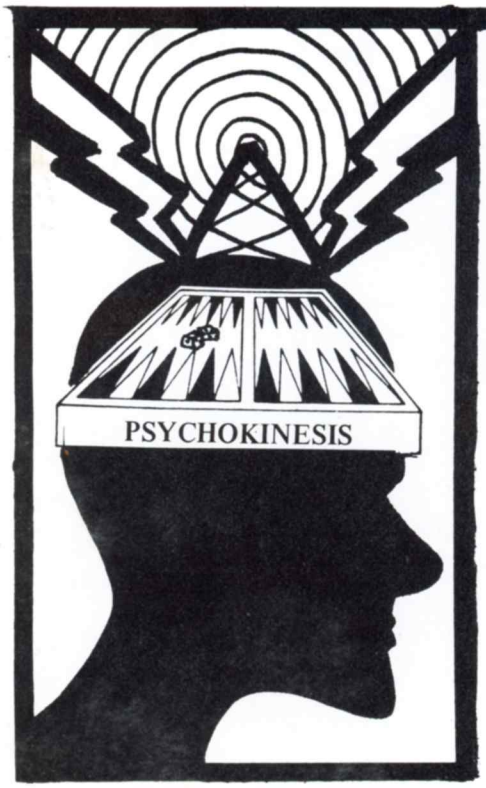
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CAESARS PALACE LAS VEGAS-NEVADA

CAESARS PALACE



by Robert E. Howayeck

Psychologists and Parapsychologists are often using the term "Psychokinesis" in their publications and lectures. Psychokinesis or (PK) is a term representing the ability of the MIND to TRANSFER MENTAL ENERGY which can be measured by ELECTRICAL IMPULSES into PHYSICAL ENERGY which, when focused correctly, can move physical bodies.

The energy is created in the mind and released through POSITIVE THINKING – believing in yourself. The secret for transforming this mental energy into physical energy is TOTAL CONCENTRATION. Total concentration is focusing your mind on an exact object (like the number you need to achieve your objective).

Energy can never be created or destroyed, only changed.

This law also holds true of MENTAL ENERGY or consciousness which is measured by ELECTRICAL IMPULSES. Impulses or energy can be FOCUSED (or directed) and released to move physical bodies (such as dice) kinetically through positive thoughts.

Energy is matter, and matter moves matter if there is enough force. Thoughts are a form of energy and they can move dice if you concentrate hard enough. CONCENTRATION is the prerequisite. So, start thinking of those numbers you need to hit, point, or pass your opponent.

Thoughts focusing and concentration on those exact numbers needed increase the probability of the roll appearing. You have seen it happen in those critical situations of your game many times. You might not have been aware that it was you moving those dice. Or, if you did achieve it – it might have been hard making others believe in that power you have.

Just think of how many times the law of averages were against you and you won the points by getting that extra number at the exact time of the game to win the match.

Proper thinking is a positive method of play that is going to better your backgammon game.

ENERGY IS MATTER
and MATTER MOVES MATTER
IF THERE IS ENOUGH FORCE

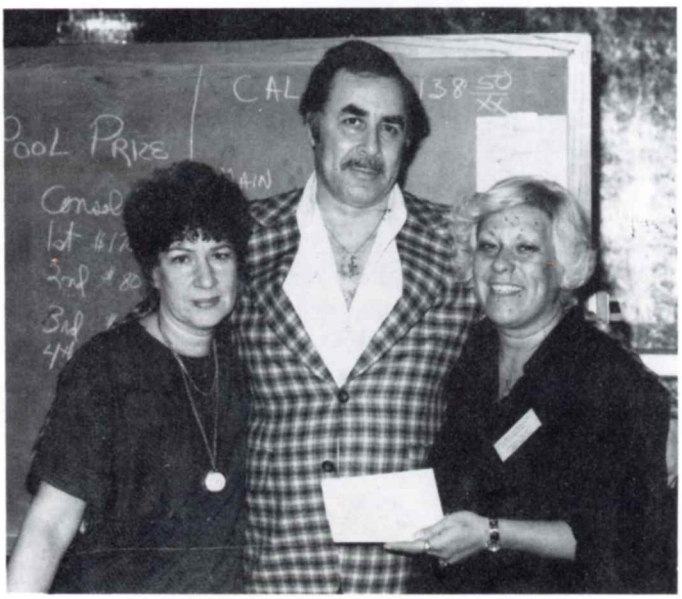
This method can be exhausting mentally and physically at first, but as you practice you will adopt your own style for getting those numbers. MORE FACTS: I won three out of the last six tournaments I entered in Rhode Island. I took second place once. The probability of the score is: 4/6 or 2/3 or 66% or .666. It works for me! ☆☆



HOUSE OF BACKGAMMON

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IDA WEIL – WALTER RHODES – PHELICIA KRAKOW

PRIORITIES: Real and Imagined

by Gaby Horowitz
and Dr. Bruce Roman

INTRODUCTION

Gaby Horowitz has been playing backgammon professionally for sixteen years. In addition to private teaching he has conducted many group classes and seminars and has co-authored articles for *International Backgammon News, Backgammon Guide, Gammon* and *Gambling Times* magazines. He is presently co-authoring a weekly backgammon column for the *Beverly Hills People* newspaper.

Gaby has won numerous tournaments including the Billy Eisenberg Cup and for the last three years in a row, the prestigious Pips International Petfinders' Tournament.

Gaby lives in Beverly Hills with his wife, Marcia, an attorney, where he is a real estate agent with the Harleigh Sandler Company.

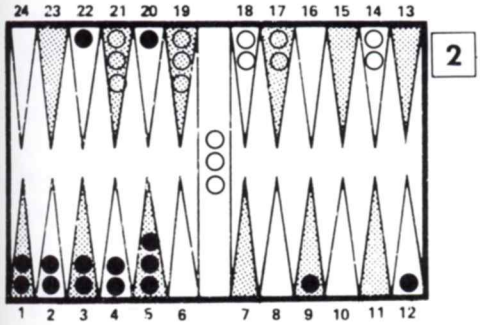
Dr. Bruce Roman is an orthodontist with practices in Long Beach, West Los Angeles (Westwood) and Torrance, California. He received his BS, DDS and post-doctoral certificate in Orthodontics from the University of California at San Francisco. Upon graduating magna cum laude he taught at the university level.

Bruce is a professional counselor of Dianetics and Scientology and has been a Minister of the Church of Scientology for six years.

He has co-authored many articles with Gaby including their weekly column in the *Beverly Hills People* newspaper.

Gaby and Bruce will be regular contributors to *Las Vegas Backgammon* and we welcome them with their first article in this issue.

Diagram 1 Black to play 3-2



The position illustrated in Diagram 1 occurred in a high-stakes game at a recent major backgammon tournament. Black has a 3-2 to play. We decided to analyze the position to emphasize the importance of evaluating priorities, both material and psychological, when several plays deserve consideration in a given position.

White will probably lose a gammon unless he rolls a 6-6 or establishes Black's 6 point. Black has three plays to consider:

Play A. Protest against a 6-6 making White's 5 point (B3-B5) and moving W12-W9 (Diagram 2)

Play B. Not worry about a 6-6 and play the man on W12 to W7 (Diagram 3).

Diagram 2

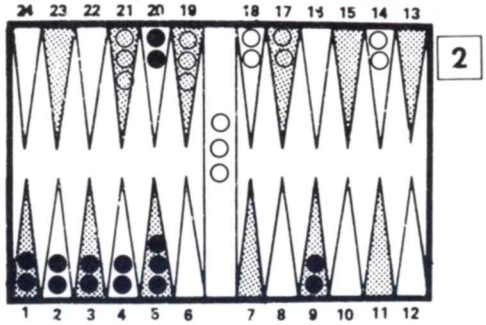
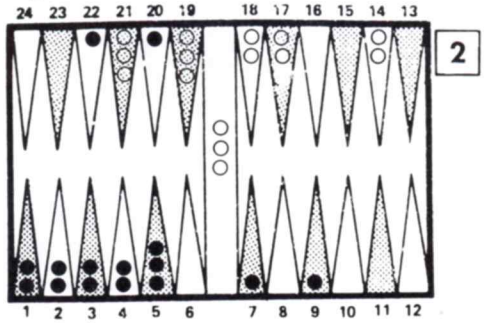


Diagram 3

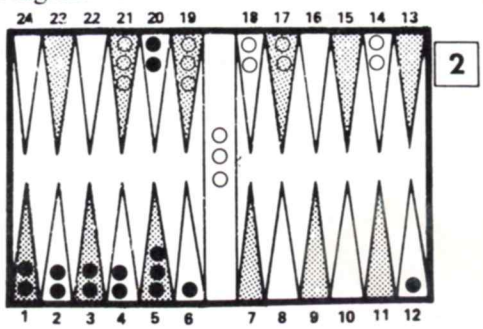


Play C. Make White's 5 point and slot B6 (Diagram 4).

Play A should be quickly dismissed. White is a 35-1 underdog to roll a 606 and will become the favorite in the game regardless of which play Black selects. This play leaves White with a very inflexible position in which 6's will play awkwardly and his chances of exiting one of his back men are reduced. This is the "panic" play of the faint-hearted! This type of myopic assessment of a position is the hallmark of the dilettante player.

Play B creates an excellent diversification of numbers: 4's, 5's, and 6's can be used to exit a man from White's inner board and 1's and 3's can be used to prevent White from establishing an anchor. This play makes no attempt to close Black's board nor safety any of Black's four blots.

Diagram 4



Play C is the "brilliant" player's choice. It shows an understanding of the concept of "working with numbers". When it succeeds it is the true kibitzer's delight. Black at once establishes the best anchor possible (White's 5 point), safeties two blots and diversifies his numbers so that 4's and 5's play out and 6's close his board. This is the spectacular move often selected by the skilled player who seeks status and self-esteem by impressing the spectators.

When superficially analyzing Play B and Play C, meritorious arguments can be evolved for both moves. Establishing the correct move requires that one consider a very basic fundamental: THE PURPOSE OF PLAYING BACKGAMMON IS NOT TO PROVE THAT YOU ARE "SKILLED", BUT TO WIN! Therefore, you must evaluate available plays with respect to this fundamental. It is this ability that differentiates the expert from the skilled "top player."

Play C violates a very basic rule of thumb: Do not slot when your opponent has a man on the bar. There are exceptions to this rule, of course, but none of them apply in the position illustrated in Diagram 1. Slotting on B6 actually INCREASES White's chances of establishing an anchor!

Black can easily win a gammon with his present 5 point board. He should concentrate wholly on bringing his two back men around and home as quickly as possible. This means AVOIDING GETTING HIT, thereby reducing the probability of any unnecessary complications that would prevent him from attaining his goal.

Play B is the correct move because it maximizes Black's chances of exiting one of his back men on his next roll.

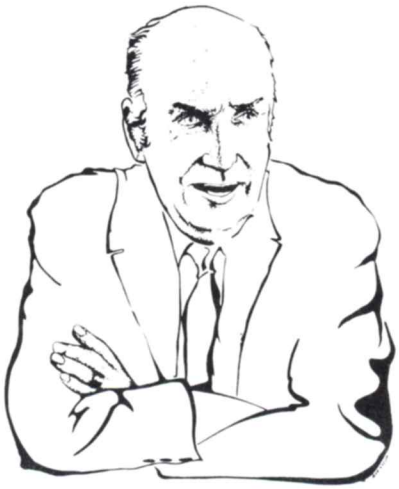
It can be observed that in the presence of knowledge and competence, self-propogated status and admiration become not only unnecessary, but also undesirable contrivances. There will always be arguments with respect to who is right and who is wrong in regards to available plays and priorities, but it can be left to the fool to argue with RESULTS! ☆☆

Owen R. Trayner, Jr., Memorial Backgammon Tournament

by Cricket Matthews

1979

LE CLUB INTERNATIONAL



FORT LAUDERDALE – It was a class act done in classy ambience to honor the memory of the classiest of gentlemen.

From a sentimental standpoint, the 1st Annual Owen Trayner, Jr. Memorial Tournament held in the elegantly refurbished Le Club International, May 18-20, was the most important in which many of us ever participated.

There's hardly a current player in South Florida who didn't catch backgammon fever from the late Owen Trayner. A prime mover in the latter-day upsurge of interest and enthusiasm for the centuries-old game, Owen was affectionately known to us as Mr. Backgammon.

His forte was teaching. Basking under his gentle and genteel courtliness, floundering beginners became lion-hearted. His admired widow Alyda – a competent competitor herself – continues directing the traditional weekly tournaments at Le Club. She shared equally as overwhelming warmth and respect poured out during the three-day affair.

Bill and Carol Ellis, dedicated supporters-players of note throughout the international circuit, served as directors. They were superlative and the huge crowd did not stint on kudos. Lambert Holm, always appreciated as an auctioneer, did shine again, ably abetted by the popular, peripatetic Londoner, Lewis Deyong.

Backgammon has been called, aptly, "the game of kings." Well, one does need a majesty's crown jewels to hock for attendance at every event of the proliferating tournaments. Joie de vivre and the constant hope of winning are enticements to cause less cooler cats to mortgage the old homestead to be part and parcel of such festivities.

Hence, the invitational OT Jr. shindig was a welcome treat with its comparatively modest open entry of $100.00, intermediate $75.00 –prize pots not to be sneezed at! Neither were the 72 championship contestants (combatants, maybe) a bunch of patty-cakers vying in that category. To name-drop a few – Tony Goble, Bud Clardy and wife Sam, Mike Corbett, Jason Lester, Arthur Dickman, Les Boyd, Gloria Donahue, Ralph Chafetz (the winner) and Joe Arlandi (the runner-up).

Tacky was out! Proper attire and good manners are de rigueur in Le Club. Such was the case during former world-wide functions from the beginning when I wrote the first backgammon social column in the *Miami Herald* more than 15 years ago. Even though the practice today remains in the majority it really should be 100%. Anyway, pretty and pleasant ruled the adjective roost to honor Owen. ☆☆

AMERICAN BACKGAMMON ASSOCIATION



ORRILL MARTIN

The American Backgammon Association celebrated its first year of existence in May, 1979 with a group of about 1200 players, about 90% of which are in Florida. Director ORILL MARTIN claims branch operations in St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Tampa, Sarasota, Orlando, Lakeland, Winter Haven, Tallahassee and a new branch opening in Fayetteville, North Carolina in July.

The 1979 A.B.A. Championships were held May 5th and 6th. The results were: Bob Carpenter, A.B.A. 1979 Champion; Calin Alimanestianu, Runner-up; Richard Patterson and Dennis Stearns, Quarter-Finalists.

During the past year, the association has gotten coverage on two television shows and excellent coverage in the area newspapers. The *Tampa Tribune* ran a full-page feature on the A.B.A. in which Orrill Martin is quoted as saying, "It's the sort of game that attracts a lot of jet-set type of people. But my organization is for the working man, I guess you could say I'm opening backgammon up to the masses." Bravo Orrill!

GRASS ROOTS SUCCESS STORY
Flint, Michigan

by Gary Gangnath

To celebrate the end of one year of providing the area with weekly backgammon tournaments, the Flint Backgammon Club held its First Anniversary Tournament on May 20-21 at Main Street Restaurant. The double-elimination event, with 9-point matches and a 15-point final, attracted 21 players who paid a $20 entry fee. A Calcutta auction and the first five rounds of play were conducted Sunday with the six finalists playing it off on Monday evening.

Since only a handful of the players had ever seen a Calcutta, we were afraid that the bidding would not generate much activity. However, after distributing typed explanations a couple weeks in advance and answering all questions before the auction, the bidding was fast and furious! We exceeded everyone's expectations by taking in $1220—about three times the entry fees.

Pairings and byes were determined randomly, with the qualification that no one receive more than one bye. Ironically, the only three players who did not receive byes made it to the final four.

The tournament was won by the favorite: 20-year-old Bruce Denison, a pre-med student at the University of Michigan/Flint. He acknowledged that the competition was tough, having fought back from a fourth-round loss. Besides his prize money, he was presented with a handsome backgammon plaque engraved with his name.

The Flint Club was spearheaded by librarian Carol Cole, who drummed up interest with free clinics at the public library. Bob Ciaffone of Cavendish North Backgammon Club and Linda Kruegel of the Las Vegas Backgammon Club have given great support to the fledgling Flint Club. Since April, 1978, the mailing list has grown to 250. Over 120 players have received 'gammon points' for placing in the weekly tournaments, which draw between 25 and 40 people per week. As in 1978, the top 10 gammon point winners for 1979 will receive special prizes. The weekly tournaments include a round-robin for novices and a limited double-elimination for open players.

The non-profit Flint Club has no formal officers or membership dues, and it meets in a rent-free disco/bar. Expenses are covered by a percentage of the entry fees from weekly tournaments and special events. In addition to the Club's Thursday night tournaments, a Monday night event has spun off at the bar (the Tender Trap) of one of the regular Flint players.

Carol publishes an informative monthly newsletter which she feels has been vital to the Club's success. Amy Mitoma, a Life Master in bridge and veteran bridge director, helps administer the Club and directs the weekly tournaments.

While the energies of people such as Carol and Amy are necessary to start an operation, the Club's success shows that a loosely-structured, informal organization can satisfy the yearnings of an area's backgammon populace. Hopefully, the Flint Backgammon Club will continue to grow and be able to maintain its flexible structure – and enthusiasm!



BRUCE DENISON and CAROL COLE

FLINT BACKGAMMON CLUB
1st Anniversary Tournament
1979 Winners:

1. Bruce Denison
2. Tom Giampetroni
3-4. Basil Farah
3-4. Donna Stewart
5-6. Gary Gangnath *
5-6. Don Stephens

** (Gary Gangnath is a staff auditor and one of the top three players in Flint. He won the Intermediate Division in the Bluegrass Regional Tournament this year and was the auctioneer for the Flint Calcutta.)*

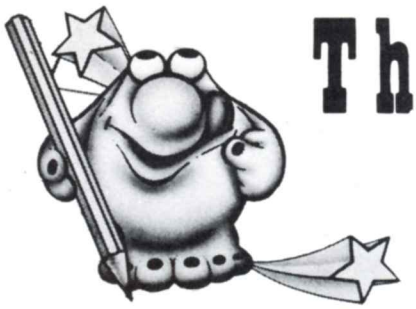
REPORT ON THE
3rd ANNUAL BLUEGRASS REGIONAL BACKGAMMON TOURNAMENT

Sponsored by Louisville, Ky. Backgammon Club
by Larry Strasberg

We are happy to report that the 3rd Annual Bluegrass Regional Tournament was an outstanding affair which was thoroughly enjoyed by all participants, winners and losers alike! We believe that we have just finished the finest and most successful tournament ever held in mid-America, if conversations of the participants is to be believed.

Championship Division Winners:
1. Allen Hodis, New York City
2. Don Feigenbaum, Huntington, West Virginia
3. Dr. James Yezbick, Plantation, Florida
3. Arthur Dickman, Miami, Florida

We had over 100 players participating in various events, with a record number of 58 players in the championship event. Players were here from 11 states, including a large contingent from Chicago and Michigan. We are looking forward to having all of you back next year along with many new faces.

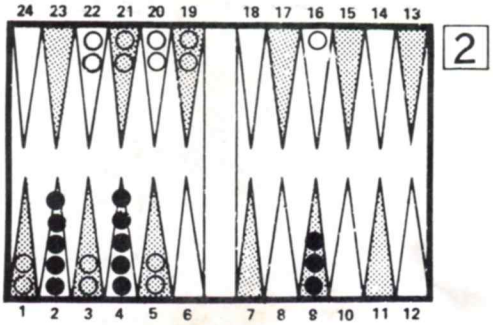


The Alan Martin Quiz

Backgammon is many things to the people who play it. It's a pastime and a diversion. It's social and it's competitive. It's a game of luck and wagering, skill and winning. And for some, regrettably, backgammon has become a war and a hustle.

For me, backgammon is primarily a SPORT. My opponents are not "enemies" but RIVALS. At the same time, they are my playing COMPANIONS. I'm not here to teach them or victimize them or humiliate them. I come to a chouette or a tournament as knights of old to a joust. I will do my best to "Martinize" my opponents, of course, but I recognize they are entitled to a fair share of the luck, to win some of the time, and to enjoy the game – win or lose.

Bearing this in mind, you may now take the Alan Martin Quiz. In each of the problems that follow, you are "Black" and your opponent is "White". In each case, we shall suppose there is money at stake, either because you are playing in a chouette for so much a point, or because winning will advance you to the next round of a tournament.

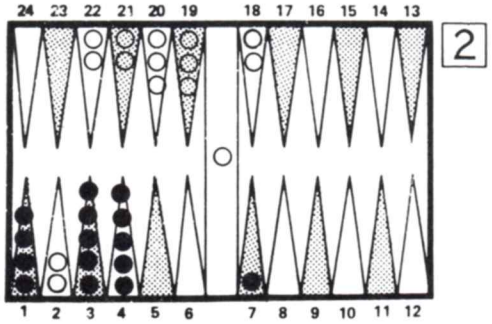


PROBLEM No. 1

You are in the Box, and two Crew members have taken your double earlier. You roll 3-1 in this position:

DO YOU . . .

a) Play 9-6, 9-8 and throw your dice against the wall?
b) Cry "Why does this always happen to ME?" while slamming your checkers as you play 9-6, 9-8?
c) Play 9-6, 9-8 quickly and silently?
d) Stand up from the table in surrender without playing your numbers?

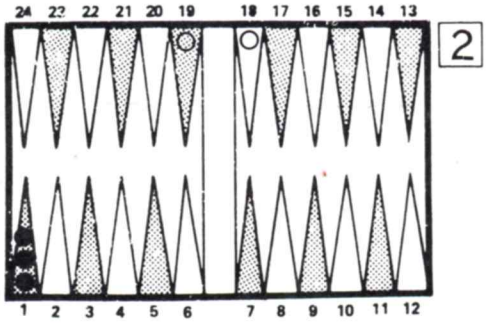


PROBLEM No. 2

You are the Captain, and the Box owns the cube at 2. Despite your silent prayers to the Backgammon God, the Box rolls 6-5 from the Bar in this position:

DO YOU . . .

a) Say nothing?
b) Complain to your fellow Crew members, "Why does HE always hit his combination shots?"
c) Snatch the Box's dice and your own and hurl them through the baffle-box to take your Dice Change immediately?
d) Congratulate the Box, saying, "Nice shake!"?



PROBLEM No. 3

You are tied 1-1 in a match to 9 points. Your opponent owns the cube at 4 when you reach this exciting bear-off, and rolls 4-2:

Your opponent plays his 4 quickly, moving 18-22, then studies the 2 for a while. He slides 22-24, looks at the resulting position briefly, then restores his checker from the 24 point back to the 22 point and quickly plays 19-22, finally picking up his dice. You notice he has stolen a pip.

DO YOU . . .

a) Cry, "Stop, pip thief!" and slide one of his checkers back from the 22 point to 21 point?
b) Restore one of his checkers to the 19 point, saying, "You have a 2 to play," hoping silently he will change his mind and play inferior 22-24 which he started to take?
c) Inform your opponent, "You rolled 4-2, not 4-3 as you played. Please take your move legally!"?
d) Let the poor soul steal that one miserable pip and say nothing?

SOLUTION No. 1

a) 0 points. You may aim poorly and hit an innocent kibitzer with your dice instead of the wall.
b) 0 points. Slamming your checkers will annoy the other players, and besides, it DOESN'T always happen to YOU; sometimes your opponents roll horrible numbers too.
c) 10 points. Your move is forced though unpleasant, and you have no excuse for stewing over it.
d) Knave! Take 5 points OFF your score for this attempt at "gamesmanship". You know you'd be happy to be doubled out of this game. But the Crew is TOO GOOD to double. You figure to get gammoned; or if not, then doubled out later at the convenience of the Crew.

SOLUTION No. 2

a) 10 points. It's almost always right to say nothing.
b) 0 points. It's unpleasant for the Box to listen to complaints about the dice. Afterall, didn't the 2-6 YOU rolled just two turns ago keep him from returning the cube and put him in jeopardy of being gammoned?
c) Technically, a rule violation: take 2 points off your score. You must let your opponent complete his turn before taking your Dice Change. And even then, you may not just snatch the dice, but should ASK for a Dice Change. What if you've forgotten that

(continued)

THE ALAN MARTIN QUIZ

(continued)

you've already used it up?

d) 2 points. Your congratulations are in keeping with the genial spirit you wish to maintain in your chouette. But the Box is fallible, and may not have noticed that he can hit your blot. It is not for you to educate him here and now.

SOLUTION No. 3

a) 0 points. You aren't allowed to take a legal 2 for your opponent.

b) You have larceny in your heart! Take 2 points off your score! You cannot require your opponent to correct only the number he has taken illegally, but must let him replay his entire move.

c) 5 points. You are trying to be a good sport. But here is no reason for you to act against your own interests to correct your opponent's illegal move. He will probably simply restore one checker from his 3-point to his 4-point. Either way, 17 numbers in 36 will bear off both his men next turn. But there is a slight chance he may find a superior play.

d) 10 points. The percentage action, and perfectly sporting! It's not just that your opponent's two men on his 3-point give him no better chances than with one man each on his 3-point and 4-point. You are afraid that if he is forced to play his move legally he may now see the best move: 7-5, 6-2, giving him 19 winning numbers next turn instead of 17.

SCORE EVALUATION

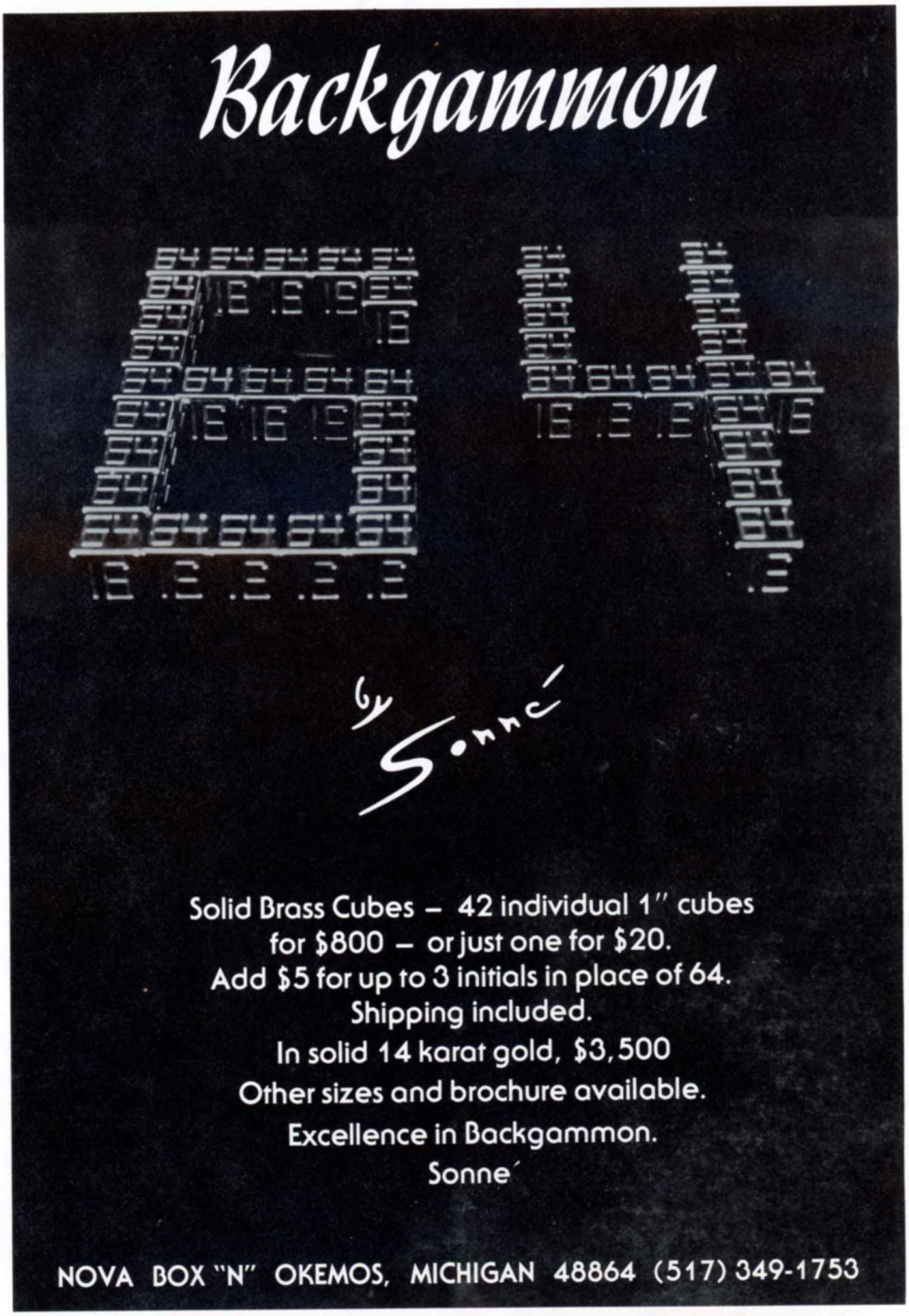
-9 to -1. You'd better stick to tournaments – nobody will want you in their chouettes. You're just too unpleasant to stand in a backgammon game. And, after a while, a tournament director may even bar you from tournaments, for other entrants may start to request "Please don't put me in the same bracket as HIM!"

0 to 9. You'll be welcome at tournaments but in few chouettes and certainly not in any chouettes where you're good enough to beat the game. Even though I won't enjoy playing with you, however, I will let you into my chouette–but only because I think I'm good enough to take your money! Players not strong enough to "Martinize" you will still bar you.

10 to 19. You're up to the usual standard of sportsmanship in most backgammon clubs. But, I'd like to see this standard raised.

20 to 29. You're probably fun to play with, and you will be invited to join almost any chouette; unless it is dominated by a "hustler" seeking to monopolize his "pigeons" who may exclude you because you're too strong for the game.

30. Now you're so pleasant to have in the game that the hustlers won't be able to bar you on any convenient pretext. Even if you ARE Billy Eisenberg! But if you're Billy, on the other hand, you won't be trying to cut into weak chouettes. You'll probably derive your enjoyment from jousting with other first-rate players, as do I. ☆☆



REMINDER:



CHILDREN'S TOURNEY SOON

HOOSIER BACKGAMMON REPORT

by Ralph B. Roberts

26th ANNUAL INDIANA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP: All flights were full – Championship 64; Intermediate 32; Doubles 31. Biggest player pool ever and a $4,000+ auction. CONGRATULATIONS and THANKS to FRANK COOK as director, hatchetman, scorekeeper and paymaster; JACK BERNSTEIN for the auction; KIM BRAND for "Aristotle" the computer preview and computerizing the draw; RICK STANNARD for running the doubles and intermediate events and setting a new record for lengthy play (7:10 a.m.); ROSE and CHARLEY McCAULEY and MARIE ROBERTS for handling reservations and registrations; the IAC's KEN BROWN, TODD AUSTIN, BEA VAIL and EDIE LOUX and others for their help and co-operation.



BILL DAVIS

The Night The Pawn Shop Died

by Taffie Norris, (Dallas, Texas)

Such names as Tony Goble, Paul Magriel, Malcolm Davis, Mary Zita-James-Oswald Jacoby, Jim Howe, Jim Scott, even our own Backgammon Buddha. Louis Cantu, have passed through the doors and perhaps many of them will go down in history books as having "slept here" as so many of us have done on so many occasions there.

So many nights the bartenders have closed up the doors, locked up the liquor and given up on the die-hearts because there was that one last game to be played until at least 10 a.m. the next morning.

How many fortunes have been won and lost on paper there over the many years past? How many new friendships have been made over the final rolls of the dice? Not to mention, all the breakfasts shared at the local waffle shop because the last cube action still went under duress and much discussion and had to be replayed once again for a new pair of eyes and new opinions.

Oh, the stories those booths could have told—each burn hole would represent some startling action, an unnecessary slot that caused a mild cardiac and dropped cigarette. Each and every stain on the tables and carpets have special meanings to those of us who have pretended all these years that we didn't do it, but did in a "controlled" fit of poor sportsmanship.

But on May 15, 1979, the PAWN SHOP went into a coma, never to be revived. Those few who held on to the bitter end, were on hand to aid in the final burial about a week later when the doors were locked, booths removed, carpets pulled up and the embalming began. We shed our tears, moved our boards, and tried to smile bravely at those who we felt were hurting more than we were.

The NEW PAWN SHOP is no more. It is sad to see memories go down the lane, but all good things change or grow. As did the Pawn Shop. It has had the fortune of being reincarnated as Dallas's first country disco, DIAMOND JIM'S. There were a lot of people on hand to applaud this new venture and if the past few weeks are any test, they will have a success of it. For those of us who have all but gotten married to the Pawn Shop, we are glad to see the place happy again, but it will never be the same.

In all fairness to the group of players in Dallas, we are now very happy in a new place – RECIPES– which serves an excellent meal and really spoils the players. It is located on 6940 Greenville Ave., and welcomes players at any time. So, please feel free to come by if you are in town. ★★

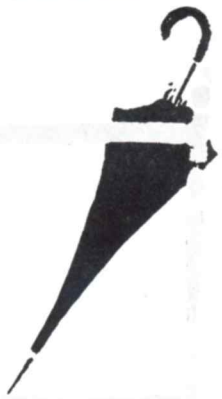
26th Annual Indiana Open

RESULTS and Prize Fund
Open Champion: Don Desmon (Chicago), Finalist: Bill Davis (Chicago), Semi-Finalist: Steve Aronson (St. Louis) and Mike Giordano (Detroit), Quarter-Finalist: Ralph Roberts (Indianapolis), Elliott Winslow (St. Louis), Paul Strasberg (Louisville), and Chuck Stimming (Indianapolis).



DAN DESMOND

FALL TOURNAMENTS



DATE	TOURNAMENT	LOCATION	DIRECTOR
Sept. 1-3	4th Annual Labor Day Tournament	Louisville, Kentucky	Larry Strasberg
Sept. 1-4	2nd Annual Calif. State Bar Tournament	Los Angeles, CA	Sid Jackson
Sept. 8-9	Rennaissance Backgammon Tournament for the Barclay Cooke Cup	Mpls/St. Paul, MN	Lee Silverstein
Sept. 14-16	Baja Backgammon	Tijuana, Mexico	Nicolas Sanchez-Osorio
Sept. 15	Pipmaster's Open	Portland, OR	R.S. Kolemaine
Sept. 28 - Oct. 8	Oby's Caribbean Backgammon Cruise	Caribbean	Prince Obolensky
Oct. 12-14	Caribbean Cup	Cancun, Mexico	Nicolas Sanchez-Osorio
Oct. 12-14	Black and White Classic	Chicago, Illinois	
Oct. 13-27	Sheinwold Backgammon Cruise	L.A. to San Juan	Prince Obolensky
Oct. 19-21	Black and White Caracas Classic	Caracus, Venezuela	
Oct. 23	Omaha Invitational	Omaha, Nebraska	Carolyn Caniglia
Nov. 2-3	Merti Crystal Cup	Venice, Italy	Robert Perry
Nov. 3-4	Winter Backgammon Carnival	Chicago, Illinois	
Nov. 12-13	NEBC Benefit, Children's Hospital	Boston, Massachusettes	Francesca Parkinson
Nov. 19-22	Copa Old Parr	Mexico City, Mexico	Nicolas Sanchez-Osorio
Nov. 28-Dec. 2	American Backgammon Championships	Las Vegas, Nevada	Henry Wattson

'Gambling Times' Backgammon Index

The Eisenberg Flair, Roger Dionne; 7/77, p. 54.
Do You Take or Do You Pass, Terence Reese; 8/77, p. 60
The Other Side of the Checkerboard, Danny Kleinman; 8/78, p. 22.
Women Gamesters, Susan Silver; 8/78, p. 24.
The King of Backgammon: Paul Magriel, Susan Silver; 8/78, p. 26.
The Basic Rules of Backgammon; 9/78, p. 45.
End Positions in Backgammon I (The Mathematics of Gambling), Edward O. Thorp; 9/78, p. 46.
End Positions in Backgammon II (The Mathematics of Gambling), Edward O. Thorp; 10/78, p. 44.
End Positions in Backgammon III (The Mathematics of Gambling), Edward O. Thorp; 11/78, p. 28.



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Reprinted Forum

MYRTLE AND HARRY

♀ I would like to tell your readers about Mark, the special man in my life. Sure, we have our ups and downs, but through hell and high water, we remain lovers, friends and two of the happiest people in the world.

We enjoy physical contact, and, I am constantly turned on by Mark. We wrestle a lot, which is good for releasing any built-up frustrations between us. Our favorite game is Strip Backgammon. Every time one of us gets knocked off the board, we have to take off a piece of clothing.

After about three games, we are both practically naked. Mark puts away the board, and then he sets up an alluring atmosphere consisting of candlelight and a mellow record album.



DUELING OAKS

Dueling Oaks is a strange name for a backgammon Club. Many would hasten to add that Milwaukee is a strange place for a backgammon club or that Merrill Schrager is a strange name for a backgammon director. But, you haven't heard anything yet!

Dueling Oaks is not only the home of backgammon in Milwaukee, but also headquarters for some of the finest fencers in the world. Fences? No. FENCERS! Steven Covey, renowned fencer, is the co-owner of the club and the instructor for the Fencing Club of Milwaukee. The Salle d'Armes is his domain while his partner, Donald McMasters operates the adjoining authentic medieval pub and backgammon room.

Wait! There's more. This unique entertainment complex is also frequented by the local chapter of the Society of Creative Anachronism. The society recreates the lifestyle between the years 650 and 1615, complete with musicians, artisans, fighters, kingdoms, shires, etc.

Enough, you say? How about quaffing, darts and disco dancing? How about an artist named Keith Ward, who created the unique accompanying graphics? Great! ☆☆

Next: Mark Tan

New entertainment columnist for *Las Vegas Backgammon Magazine* – MARK TAN, who is already the critic columnist for the *Hollywood Reporter, Vegas Visitor, Las Vegas Israelite* and a free-lance writer for numerous publications. Mark is also the author of the *All-Star Turnabout Quiz Book,* and will have a second book in collaboration with Joan Rivers entitled *I Remember Vegas,* which will be published later this year. Mark is from Philadelphia and has been in Las Vegas since 1966. Welcome, Mark.

Andrea Waller
PHOTOGRAPHS
735-2835

The Annual
California Open Backgammon Championships

Southern California has the largest concentration of backgammon players in the world. Nevertheless, there were only 88 players in the championship section. Need we say more? Winner: ARAM KOULEYAN



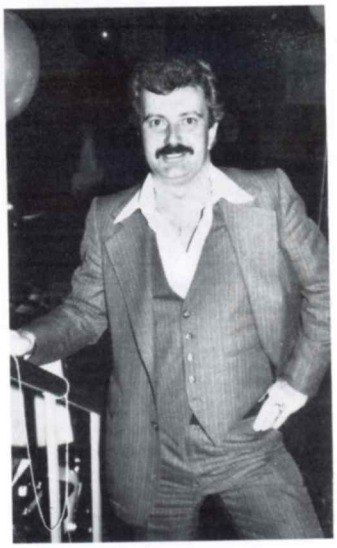
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JEANIE & ARNIE MOORE



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and LINDA KRUEGEL



ROY SPRINGER
and JAN BEAUCHAMP



MIKE VAN DUSEN



TOM WHEELER



MICHAEL MAXAKULI



TED BARR



ROGER DIONNE

World Series Of Poker

Here's a complete re-cap of World Series of Poker action held at Binion's Horseshoe Club during a 26-day schedule which led up to the $540,000 Hold'em finale.

Ace to Five Lowball
April 29-30
$1,000 + $25 Buy-In
37 Entries

First — Lakewood Louie, $22,200, Lakewood, CA, Retired Navy Man.

Second — J.W. Box, $11,100, Wewoka, OK, Dairy Queen Owner.

Third — Danny Azrialy, $3,700, N. Hollywood, CA, Furniture & Trucking from N. Hollywood to Israel.

Limit Draw Poker High
May 1-2
$2,000 + $25 Buy-In
19 Entries

First — Lakewood Louie, $22,800, Lakewood, CA, Retired Navy Man.

Scond — Jacqueline Mills, $11,400, Gardena, CA, First woman ever in final three.

Third — Chip Johnson, $3,800, Gardena, CA, Poker Pro.

Seven-Card Razz
May 3-4
$1,000 + $25 Buy-In
37 Entries

First — San Mastrogiannis, $22,200, Las Vegas.

Second — S. Said, $11,100, Iran, Real Estate Investor.

Third — Ralph Leavitt, $3,700, Las Vegas, Poker Pro.

Seven-Card High-Low Split
May 5-6
$1,000 + $25 Buy-In
34 Entries



First — Bones Berland, $20,400, Las Vegas.

Second — Puggy Pearson, $10,200, Las Vegas.

Third — Larry Flasher, $3,400, Chicago.

Preliminary Seven-Card High
May 7-8
$500 + $15 Buy-In
80 Entries

First — Bones Berland, $24,000, Las Vegas.

Second — Mike Schneiberg, $12,000, Las Vegas.

Third — Bobby Schwing, $4,000, Las Vegas.

Seven-Card High
World Championship
May 9-10
$5,000 + $50 Buy-In
16 Entries

First — Johnny Moss, $48,000, Odessa, TX, 1970, 1971 and 1974 World Champion.

Second — Pug Pearson, $24,000, Las Vegas, 1973 World Champion.

Third — Eric Drache, $8,000, Las Vegas, World Series of Poker Tournament Director Poker Player.

Deuce-to-Seven Lowball
World Championship
May 11-12
$10,000 + $50 Buy-In
15 Entries

First — Bobby Baldwin, $90,000, Tulsa, OK, 1978 World Champion.

Second — Cowboy Wolford, $45,000, Dallas, TX, Lives in Dallas and comes to Las Vegas every year for tournament.

Third — Vince Musso, $15,000, Las Vegas.

First Annual Mixed Doubles
Seven-Card High
World Championship
May 13-14
$600 + $15 Buy-In Per Couple
Entries (25 Couples)

First — Doyle Brunson & Starla Thompson, $9,000, Las Vegas.

Second — Wayne & Pat Eister, $4,500, Las Vegas.

Third — Marty Siegel & Rosemarie Pifer, $1,500, Las Vegas.

Women's Seven-Card High
World Championship
May 15-16
$400 + $15 Buy-In
53 Entries

First — Barbara Freer, $12,720, San Diego, CA, owns bar in San Diego.

Second — Pat Savoia, $6,360, Las Vegas, Deals at Caesars Palace.

Third — Natalie King, $2,120, Las Vegas, Deals at Desert Inn.

Non-Professional Hold'Em
(no limit) World Championship
May 17-18
$1500 + $25 Buy-In
Entries (85)

First — Perry Green, $76,500, Professional gambler from Anchorage, Alaska, Won Lowball (his specialty) tournament two years in a row.

Second — Jim Bechtel, $38,250, 27-year-old farmer from Coolidge, Arizona. This marks his all-time biggest win.

Third — Curtis "Iron Man" Skinner, $12,750, From Arlington, Texas, Called "Iron Man" because of his tough playing style and because he is in the jewelry business.

Preliminary Hold'Em (no limit)
May 19-20
$1,000, + $25 Buy-In
96 Entries

First — Dewey Tomko, $48,000, Ex-kindergarten teacher from Haines City, Fla.

Second — Duane Hammrich, $19,200, Anderson Village, Alaska.

Third — Burt Rice, $14,400, Houston, Texas.

Fourth — Sam Moon, $9,600, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Fifth — Rey Leggett, $4,800, Houston, Texas.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jeff Baker
Cullen Brueske
Frank Caruso
James Caspersen
Lloyd Esses
Geri Field
Bill Foster
Steve Glass
Frank Honeycutt
Dr. Lee Hren
Jim Hughes
Ed Hunt
Larry Kolody
Jeff Kratz
Gertrude Lanzner
David Levine
Bob Linebaugh
Robert Maceda
John Martin (Lifetime)
Simeon Mishaikoff
Diane Nolan
Viva Palmeiro
Carlene Peters
Joe Poole
Joe Premack
Darryl Purpus
Bernie Pygon
Jeffrey Raymond
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