

CHICAGO POINT

NUMBER 69

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

JUNE 1994

3rd tournament of the Americas

'SENK' REPEATS IN COSTA RICA

Germany's Schiesser Wins Open

At this year's 3rd Tournament of the Americas (27 April-1 May in San José, Costa Rica), you couldn't have scripted a more exciting El Cariari finals. The 1992 champ Mike Svobodny vs. the 1993 victor Mike Senkiewicz. Pure backgammon.

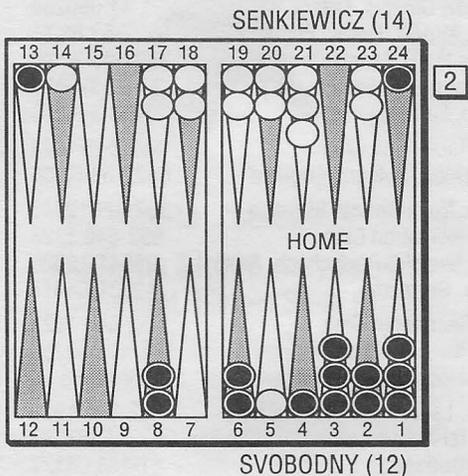
Bill Davis directed the event at the beautiful Cariari Hotel along with Carol Joy Cole and Peter Kalba. Dru Heggen (Midwest Championships) and Ana Segreda (Costa Rican BG Assn.) assisted. Attendance totaled 100 from across the globe.

The 15-point finals was masterfully played according to closed circuit analysts Kent Goulding and Neil Kazaross. No surprise. Yamin Yamin's 1994 "Giant 32" ranked the two competitors 2nd and 5th in the world.

Although Senk was ahead much of the match, the \$15,000 first place prize money was still up for grabs in game 20. Here Svobo was faced with an extremely pressure-packed checker play:

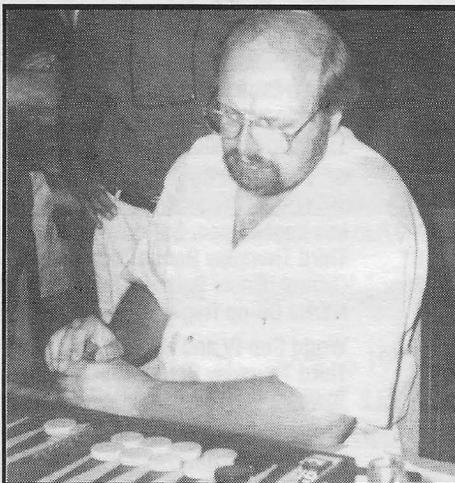
El Cariari 15-point finals. Mike Senkiewicz (White) leads Mike Svobodny (Black) 14 to 12. **BLACK TO PLAY 2-1.**

[Position recorded by Antonio Ortega.]



Should Svobo play 8/5*? What about 6/4, 6/5*? After a few minutes, he decided

upon 24/22, 3/2. Senkiewicz then rolled 3-1, playing 21/22*, 14/17. Svobodny next tossed a 6-1 and Senk rolled 3-2, completing his prime. He eventually rolled it home to win the match.

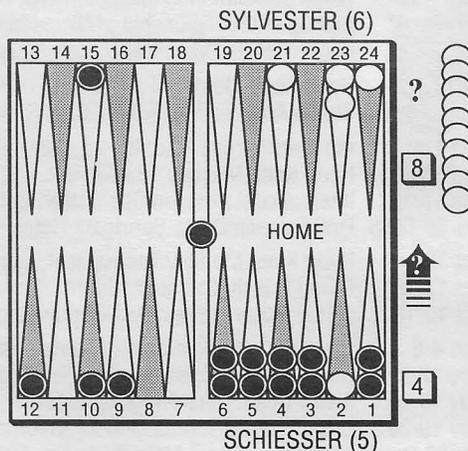


Mike Senkiewicz successfully defends his title in the El Cariari tournament.

IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS, Joe Sylvester (Michigan) and Gerd Schiesser (Germany) survived a very tough 59-player field. Their 17-point match-up saw Sylvester jump off the a quick 6-1 lead. But it was the beginning of the end when Joe lost a doubled 'G' in game 4 and then faced this pesky 8-cube:

Championship 17-point finals. Joe Sylvester (White) leads Gerd Schiesser (Black), 6 to 5. **CUBE ACTIONS?**

[Position recorded by Antonio Ortega.]



[Continued on page 8]

ouzo 12 greek championship

HORAN CONQUERS ATHENS

Defeats Robertie In All USA Finals

Bill Robertie personally invited me to attend this event in February. I usually attend the World Series of Poker at this time. So you see, he has only himself to blame!" So quipped a happy Billy Horan after defeating Robertie 25-15 to win the 1st Ouzo 12 Greek Backgammon Championship.

The 11-15 May event was staged at the beautiful Hotel Grande Bretagne in Athens. Hercules & Bridget of Culcreuch (Isle of Man) and Anthony Maltezos (Greek Backgammon Players Club) co-directed with great help from Donald & Jean Hatt (IOM). 173 players representing 21 countries were in attendance, awed by the wondrous history of Greece.



Billy Horan (right) shares a happy moment with Heidi Poole following his big win over Bill Robertie in the Greek Championship.

95 of the very best players in the world began championship play on Thursday, 12 May. That number was reduced to a 31 and auctioned off by Chicago's Peter Kalba on Friday. Total auction receipts: \$9,175.

The Sunday finals was a classic match-up between quite possibly backgammon's foremost theoretician (Robertie) and one of the top action players in the world (Horan).

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LETTERS

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

EXPERT BACKGAMMON'S COPY PROTECTION

If Tom Weaver wants to copy protect *Expert Backgammon*, why doesn't he use the system Hal Heinrich employs for MATCHQIZ. You have to insert the master diskette prior to play. As far as I know, there are no complaints about MATCHQIZ copy protection.

Regarding the caption to the Greek challenge match photo on page 1 (Apr./May 1994 CHICAGO POINT): Wow! 1000 Drachmas = \$20,000. I'd like to get that rate today. Seriously, there must have been an error on somebody's calculator.—*Jim Caray, Athens, Greece*

You're right, Jim. The rate in 1972 was about 30 Drachmas to the dollar.—Ed.

As one of the authors of *Expert Backgammon PRO v2.1*, I want to inform the backgammon public that the copy-protection used on my program is supplied by Star-Byte in Pennsylvania—an industry-wide

[Continued on page 3]

coming attractions

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BACKGAMMON						
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

by Carol Joy Cole
313/232-9731

* Denotes new or revised listing

NATIONAL

American Backgammon Tour events underlined.

Jun 12	Bar Point Club Sunday Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL	312/252-7755
Jun 12	NEBC Year-End Tourney, Sheraton Commander Hotel, Cambridge, MA	617/643-8154
Jun 16	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Jun 17-19*	POSTPONED—32nd Gammon Associates Invitational, Burbank, CA	818/901-0464
Jun 26	NY/NJ Co-op Regional Tournament, Ramada Inn, Woodbury, NY	718/341-3779
Jun 28-29	2nd Annual Bossanova Championship, Mortuk Yacht, St. Clair Shores, MI	810/232-9731
Jun 30	Special Thursday Warm-up Tournament, Novi Hilton, Novi, MI	810/232-9731
Jul 1-4	<u>Michigan Summer Championships, Novi Hilton, Novi, MI</u>	<u>810/232-9731</u>
Jul 2*	Mensa Annual Gathering BG Tourney, Hyatt Regency, Cambridge, MA	603/881-1172
Jul 16	College Park Summer Open, Promenade, Bethesda, MD	301/530-0603
Jul 20*	RSCARDS Summer Computer Modern Tournament, GENIE	810/348-0580
Jul 21	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Jul 24*	Austin BG Assn Sunday Tournament, Bombay Bicycle Club, Austin, TX	512/280-5945
Jul 29-31	<u>42nd Indiana Open, Radisson Plaza Suites Hotel, Indianapolis, IN</u>	<u>317/845-8435</u>
Jul 29-31	<u>Thousand Islands Tournament, Pine Tree Point, Alexandria Bay, NY</u>	<u>716/442-8221</u>
Aug 7	BPC Summer Cool Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL	312/252-7755
Aug 8-14	<u>16th Green Mountain Festival of Backgammon, Stratton Mountain Inn, VT</u>	<u>305/527-4033</u>
Aug 14-17	Las Vegas Open, Stardust Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV	702/893-6025
Aug 18*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Aug 28	Central Illinois Summer Sizzler, Sly Fox Pub, Lacon, IL	309/673-7622
Aug 28	NY/NJ Co-op Regional Tournament, Ramada Inn, Woodbury, NY	718/341-3779
Sep 5-11	World Cup IV and U.S. Open, Harvey's Addison Hotel, Addison, TX	301/299-8264
Sep 15*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Sep 30-Oct 2	<u>Towpath Inn Tournament, Towpath Inn, Turin, NY</u>	<u>716/442-8221</u>
Oct 2*	Bar Point Club Sunday Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL	312/252-7755
Oct 5-9*	<u>4th Illinois Champs/America Cup, Indiana Lakes Resort, Bloomington, IL</u>	<u>708/945-7801</u>
Oct 7-9	<u>Nation's Capital Fall Championships, Promenade, Bethesda, MD</u>	<u>301/530-0603</u>
Oct 19*	RSCARDS Fall Computer Modern Tournament, GENIE	810/348-0580
Oct 23*	NY/NJ Co-op Regional Tournament, Ramada Inn, Woodbury, NY	718/341-3779
Oct 28-30*	<u>Backgammon in the Berkshires, Oak & Spruce Center, South Lee, MA</u>	<u>603/863-4711</u>
Nov 11-13	<u>NY/NJ BG CO-OP Big Apple Series, Oritani Hotel, Hackensack, NJ</u>	<u>201/833-2915</u>
Nov 15*	BPC 12th Annual Fall Trophy Tourney, Golden Flame, Chicago, IL	312/338-6380
Nov 20*	College Park Club Jackpot Tournament, Promenade, Bethesda, MD	301/530-0603
Nov 20*	16th Annual Flint Area Club Championships, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Dec 4*	Bar Point Club Sunday Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL	312/252-7755
Dec 18*	NY/NJ Co-op Regional Tournament, Ramada Inn, Woodbury, NY	718/341-3779

OUTSIDE USA

Jun 25-26*	Monte-Carlo Cup 94, Hovedtribune Restaurant, Charlottenlund, Denmark	4539-40 06 07
Jun 30-Jul 3*	European Championship, Grand Casino, Beaulieu-sur-Mer, France	392-48019343
Jul 4	Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club	852-846 1923
Jul 7-10	Riviera's Cup Championship, Hotel Martinez, Cannes, France	331-41 050259
Jul 9-10	Hilton Trophy, Hilton Hotel, East Midlands Airport, Derby, England	0522-53 68 36
Jul 11-17	World Backgammon Championship, Loews Hotel, Monte Carlo, Monaco	3392-16 20 00
Jul 18-19*	2nd Open Championship of Nice, Lido Plage, Nice, France	33-93 879436
Jul 22-24*	Hanko Casino Open, Hanko Casino, Hanko, Finland	358-0 676258
Aug 1	Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club	852-846 1923
Aug 27-28*	Studio Anne Carlton Trophy Cup, George Hotel, Solihull, England	0522-53 68 36
Sep 1-4	4th Mitteleuropa Tournament, Casino Park Nova Gorica, Slovenia	392-48019343
Sep 5*	Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club	852-846 1923
Sep 15-18*	International Austrian Open, Hotel Schloß Seefeld, Pörtlach, Austria	08341-12825
Sep 29-Oct 3	First German Open, Sportpark Hotel, Halle, Germany	49521-64314
Oct 3*	Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club	852-846 1923
Oct 13-16*	Grand Prix du Casino de Biarritz, Biarritz Hotel du Palais, France	331-41 050259
Oct 15-16	Sandy Osborne Memorial Trophy, George Hotel, Solihull, England	0522-53 68 36
Nov 4-6	Hong Kong Backgammon Championships, Ladies Recreation Club	852-846 1923
Nov 17-20*	Second Israeli Open, Moriah Plaza Hotel, Tel-Aviv, Israel	Eitan Fax: 972-3 5467087
Nov 18-20*	Swiss Open, Hotel Nova Park, Zürich, Switzerland	41-1381 3177
Nov 19-20*	BIBA Ranking Tournament #4, George Hotel, Solihull, England	0522-53 68 36
Nov 30-Dec 4*	1st Kenyan Open, Malindi, Kenya, Africa	Eitan Fax: 972-3 5467087
Dec 5*	Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club	852-846 1923

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

standard for copy protection. Loading EXBG onto your hard disk should not cause any problems with the operating system, or other programs already installed on your computer.

Your statement regarding the speed of running EXBG off the original diskette is not entirely true. Although it does take longer to boot up from the program diskette, once it is loaded into the system, the access speed should be equal to that of an

EXBG copy installed on the hard drive.

Players with other questions regarding EXBG PRO v2.1 or any other version should call me at: 214/692-1234.—Tom Wheeler, Expert Backgammon, Dallas, TX

Carol Joy Cole's "Backgammon à la Carte" carries the complete line of Expert Backgammon computer programs or both IBM and Macintosh. To order, call 810/232-9731.—Ed.

CHANGE BACKGAMMON

Although I am only speaking from a novice/low intermediate perspective, one thing has

become fairly clear to me in my observation of championship backgammon play. When skill levels of the players are at least reasonably close, the dice quickly roar to the front as the primary factor in determining the tournament winner.

As a "gaming" individual, it occurs to me that just plain "dumb luck" is more of a factor in backgammon than in any of my other gaming interests and pursuits. This bothers me because I dearly love backgammon and want to see it grow and prosper.

One of the side events at the 1992 Midwest Championships was "Nackgammon," perhaps created by Nack Ballard. I didn't get the chance to attend that tournament and watch Nackgammon in action, but the concept intrigues me. Both players start with a 1-2 backgame by taking one checker from their midpoint and 6-point. To me, this just seems to cry out, "a lot more mental effort and little less luck."

Through the years, we have seen many adjustments in the world of sports (e.g. the shot clock in basketball, designated hitter in baseball, 2-point conversions in football). How about some sort of adjustment to the age old game of backgammon?

The doubling cube drastically changed our game in the 30s. What about Nackgammon for the 90s? I certainly would be interested in knowing what the top players have to say about this issue.—Bruce Russell, Madison, WI

FUN IN GREECE

I have just returned from the Ouzo 12 Greek International tournament where I

[Continued on page 4]



AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 1994

Compiled through 30 May 1994 after 6 tournaments
(Coming 1-4 July: Michigan Summer Championships)



Neil Kazaross	39.69	Roy Springer	6.69	David Rubin	3.72	Tony Pow	1.67
Arnold Zousmer	26.50	Odis Chenault	6.56	Jerry Hays	3.59	Tim Kirby	1.63
Abbas Zaltash	22.88	Kent Goulding	6.40	Mariano Rocca	3.59	Mark Damish	1.38
Kit Woolsey	20.16	John Rather	6.30	Bruce King	3.58	Taylor Sage	1.38
David Williams	17.31	J.A. Miller	6.29	Paul Klein	3.36	Irving Achtenberg	1.18
Lincoln Bedell	14.96	Ray Bills	5.60	Frank Dickerson	3.20	Nicole Masarani	0.90
Art Benjamin	13.25	Kurt Schurecht	5.26	Lou Florio	2.75	Bob Neumann	0.89
John Stryker	11.56	Mary Franks	5.20	Joann Feinstein	2.40	Chris Larsen	0.83
Mary Ann Meese	11.44	Nack Ballard	4.80	Carol Falk	2.09	Bret Handson	0.81
Rick Bieniak	10.07	John Brussel	4.78	Ali Rebatchi	2.08	Paul Mangone	0.81
Judy Field	9.61	Richie Adams	4.78	Marc Gray	2.08	Jerry Wlosinski	0.77
Paul DiBiase	9.61	Howard Ring	4.33	Julie Crandall	2.05	Kelly Danton	0.77
Marty Storer	7.83	Leteris Moskos	4.19	Lois Richards	1.91	Kristine Andrysiak	0.45
Peter Zacks	7.25	Bob Holyon	4.16	Walter Trice	1.88	Sandra Konechy	0.45
Richard Armbruster	7.25	Doug Mayfield	4.16	Ami Tennenbaum	1.88	Cecilia Pedroza	0.45
Todd Doucet	7.21	Carl Adamec	3.76	Ken Truman	1.88		

Red hot Neil Kazaross (IL) has jumped off to a 13-point ABT lead with his runner-up finish at the Chicago Open. However, San Diego Gran Prix champ Arnold Zousmer (CA), Abbas Zaltash (PA), Chicago Open winner Kit Woolsey (CA), and others are definitely in the hunt. With at least 10 ABT events remaining, anything can happen.



CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 1994 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED
THRU 31 MAY

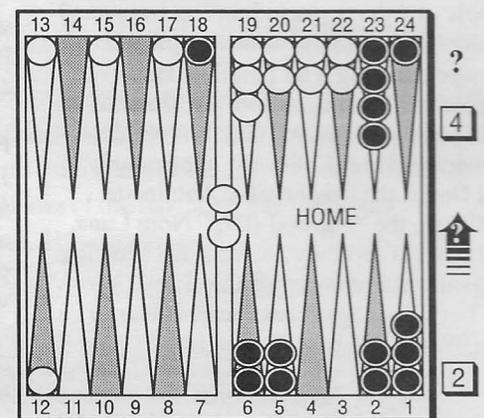
Neil Kazaross	15.08	Ralph Levy	4.48	Betsy Miller	1.76	Mike Kaczmarek	0.64
Jake Jacobs	12.44	Joann Feinstein	4.16	Jeff Kane	1.60	Rob Silvay	0.64
Tak Morioka	10.76	Peter Kalba	4.16	Andy Krenitz	1.52	Mary Vitale	0.60
David Rubin	9.52	Jolie Rubin	3.68	Bill Keefe	1.52	Kevin Muench	0.56
Allen Zimmerman	9.44	Ken Bond	3.52	Amy Trudeau	1.32	Marty Tatosian	0.56
Paul Franks	8.40	Phyllis Smolinski	3.44	Don Desmond	1.20	David Rockwell	0.48
Herb Roman	7.76	Marcy Sloan	3.44	Dave Cramer	1.12	Earl Risch	0.48
Tim Mabee	7.76	Dan Braden	2.96	Roland Dieter	0.96	V.W. Zimmnicki	0.48
Sarg Serges	6.16	Alex Itkin	2.96	Don Jayhan	0.96	Tom Walthes	0.48
Leslie Lockett	5.92	John Brussel	2.88	Frankie Farjood	0.88	Brigid O'Meara	0.44
Stu Katz	5.92	Paul Klein	2.84	Paul Weaver	0.88	Tom Shields	0.40
Mary Franks	5.64	Georgina Flanagan	2.80	Bobbie Shifrin	0.88	Tim Serges	0.32
Bob Zavoral	5.12	Arline Levy	2.56	Glen Garber	0.80	Yamin Yamin	0.32
Norma Shyer	4.88	Richard Stawowy	2.28	Alice Kay	0.72	Barbara Levinson	0.28
Phil Simborg	4.64	Gary Kay	1.92	Peggy Fleming	0.72	John Meyers	0.28
Paul Friedman	4.56	Ed Buerger	1.76	Igor Sheyn	0.64	Mike Siegel	0.24
Bill Davis	4.52	John Stryker	1.76	Jill Ferdinand	0.64		

TIM MABEE cashed in four out of five May tournaments including a big win 3 May to earn monthly honors. Ken Bond (3.20) and Neil Kazaross (2.96) had fine monthly totals as well.

your move

PROBLEM #204

1994 Tournament of the Americas. 13-point Championship match. Mike Senkiewicz (Black) leads Stu Hosen (White) 3 to 1. CUBE ACTION(S)?



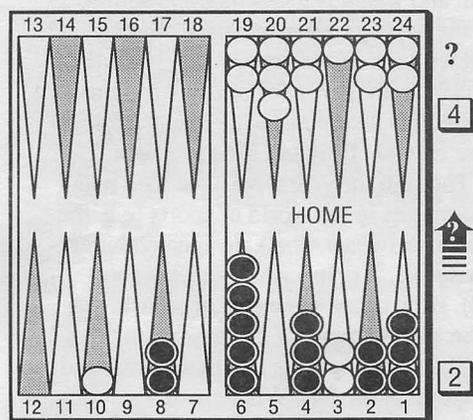
ASK
DANNY

© 1994 by Danny Kleinman

TUNING YOUR REDOUBLES TO
THE MATCH SCORE

Dear Danny: I've been getting a lot of heat at my backgammon club about the following position:

Match to 7 points. Black leads White 4-2. **CUBE ACTION(S)?**



Playing the Black pieces, I doubled. White, the superior player, took and at his first opportunity, flipped the cube back to 8. He eventually hit a shot and won the match.

Afterwards, the spectators gave me a lot of heat for my redouble. The typical comment was, "Why didn't you clear your 8-point first and then double?"

Considering the score, perhaps I was too aggressive. I'm just not sure. Your

opinions would be appreciated.—Down On My Game

DEAR DOWN: Your redouble would be right on the money in *money* play. You appear to be almost a 3-to-1 favorite in the game. Though you expect your opponent to take, you dare not wait until you've cleared your 8-point before redoubling, for you'll clearly lose your market.

In a match, much depends on the score. In money play, you offer even-money odds when you turn the cube. An unsuccessful redouble costs you the same 2 extra points you gain from a successful redouble. But leading 4-2 in a 7-point match, and anticipating your opponent's automatic redouble to 8, you risk an extra 3 points to gain an extra 1.

Actually, even 3-to-1 understates the odds you offer by redoubling. These odds should be expressed in terms of increments in match-winning chances, not extra points. As you may verify by consulting a chart in Bill Robertie's excellent *Genud vs. Dwek*, at 6-2 Crawford you have 85% match chances, so your redouble, if successful, gains 15%. If unsuccessful, it costs 50%, for instead of being tied 4-4, you lose the match. This means that before you can even think seriously of redoubling, you should be at least 50-to-15 to win the game: that's more than 3-to-1. Because you appear to be *less* than a 50-to-15 favorite, it would be wrong to redouble in this position even if the alternative were never to redouble at all.

Let's compare redoubling now with waiting until you clear your 8-point. Obviously, if your opponent will still take, then you're better off waiting. So let's suppose

he'll pass the later redouble. Further, let's make some assumptions favoring an immediate redouble. Let's suppose, beyond all reasonable optimism, that you *exceed* the minimum criterion of being at least a 50-to-15 (77%) favorite by a clear margin: assume that your cubeless probability of winning is 80%. Let's also suppose, again beyond all reasonable optimism, that you'll lose your market by a wide margin if you wait: assume that your cubeless probability of winning after clearing your 8-point is 90%. Then your chances of clearing your 8-point without getting hit are 80%/90%, making you an 8-to-1 favorite to win the game if you keep the cube, for you'll be able to cash. (Yes, I've oversimplified by ignoring the games you win *after* leaving a blot and getting hit while trying to clear your 8-point.)

Your match chances if you keep the cube are therefore $[(\frac{8}{9})85\% + (\frac{1}{9})50\%] = 81\%+$. This is more than the 80% match chance we assumed you have if you redouble.

More realistic estimates might make you a 3-to-1 favorite, cubeless, in the current position and a 7-to-1 favorite, cubeless, after clearing your 8-point. In that case, your match-winning chances if you keep the cube would be $[(\frac{7}{8})85\% + (\frac{1}{8})50\%] = 80\%$. This suggests that your premature redouble figured to cost you the match, on the average, about 5% of the time . . . a huge error.—Yours, Danny Δ

Questions for Danny Kleinman should be addressed to: Ask Danny, c/o CHICAGO POINT, 2726 W. Lunt Avenue, Chicago, IL 60645-3039.

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 3]

spent an incredible week with incredible people. I cannot thank enough, the friendly people of Athens (including Jim Caray and Andreas Kourouklis) or the people who did the work making it all possible. However, singled out for special note are: the warm and friendly Wally and Gayle Wolf, the uproarious Peter Kalba, the gentlemanly Bill Davis, the irrepressible Antoinette Williams, the "bee-ood-ifoof" Nora Luna, and last, but certainly not least, the stunning, elegant and irreplaceable Carol Joy Cole.

Let's do it again next year!—Martin Lee, West Yorkshire, England

We'll trade our "gentlemanly" for one "uproarious" and two "irreplaceables."—Ed.

SWEET HOME CHICAGO

Las Vegas is great . . . the only things I miss are the great tournaments in Chicago and the Bar Point Club. The weekly one here in Vegas closed a few months ago.

To keep in touch with Chicago and the world, here's my check for 12 issues of the POINT. See you when you get to Vegas.—Dick McCall, Las Vegas, NV

FROM A DOG'S PERSPECTIVE

Just wanted to let you know what a great time I had at the Backgammon Tournament of the Americas. Although I didn't get to play very much, all the *food* at the parties was dog-gone good, and the bathroom facilities were Spic-and-Spaniel. I also made a lot of new human friends that I'm looking forward to seeing again next year.—"Tica" Sands, North Miami, FL



Martha Reamy and Russell Sands found "Tica" an undernourished stray dog, near the Cariari Hotel during the recent Costa Rican tournament. They grew so attached to her that they decided to bring her back to the States where she is currently enjoying "a dog's life."—Ed. Δ

WOOLSEY BEATS ME TWICE IN CHICAGO

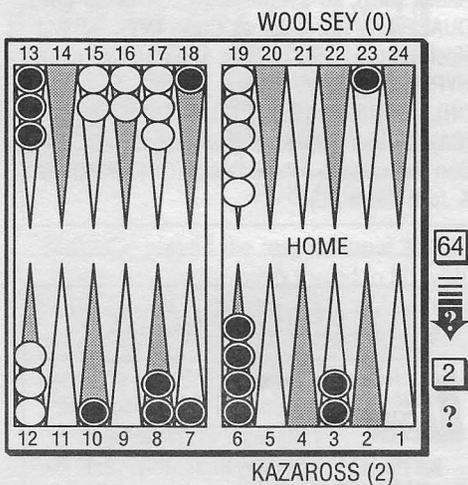
First person account by tourney runner-up Neil Kazaross

En route to my second place finish in the 15th Chicago Open, I had the pleasure of playing three 13-point matches against the eventual tournament winner Kit Woolsey of Kensington, CA.

This long-running Chicagoland event, held at the Sheraton Suites Hotel in Elk Grove Village, IL, had nearly 120 participants including 108 in the main events: a 20% increase over 1993. Howard Markowitz and Joann Feinstein directed the smooth-running affair, ably assisted by Ed Bauder and John Brussel.

Let's look at a few of my positions from the Championship event:

Undefeated bracket finals. 13-point match. Neil Kazaross (Black) leads Kit Woolsey (White), 2-0. White on roll. **CUBE ACTION(S)?**



Kit doubled me here with no points closed and only a 12-pip racing lead. We both feel that the double and my subsequent take are clear. This decision is supported by an *Expert Backgammon 2.1* rollout (with an equity of 0.410 on a 1-cube).

After my take, Kit rolled the number I feared most: 6-6. After having both of my blots blasted off the board [13/7*(2), 8/2*(2)], I entered them with 5-3. Now it was Kit to play a difficult 5-2.

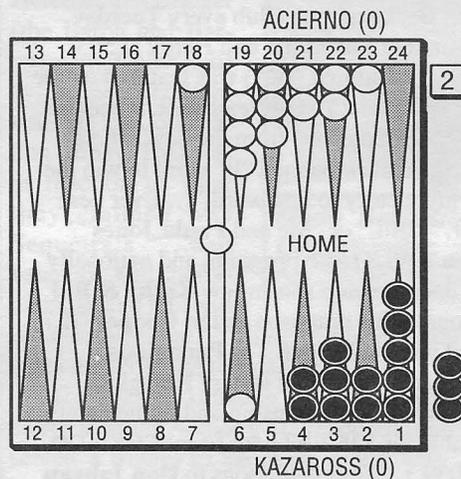
After some thought, he chose to continue the blitz with 10/5*/3*. I wasn't sure whether the solid 13/8, 6/4 was better. I did however prefer the double hit to 10/5*, 7/5 since I have so many return shots. *EXBG* handled the position quite well. The rollout results were close:

Play	Equity (1-cube)
10/5*/3*	+0.675
13/8, 6/4	+0.671
10/5*, 7/5	+0.652

Kit's aggressive play wouldn't be correct here without those two blots in my outer board. They give Kit counter chances when his blitz stalls after he's hit (as happened in the game). Thus I was gammoned here, but fought back to lead 8-7 only to lose 13-8 and be sent to the second chance bracket.

I would need two wins to gain a rematch against Kit. My first opponent was with Jeff "The Kid" Acierno (NY). In the first game of the 11-point match, I had a '1' to play:

Loser's bracket 11-point match. Neil Kazaross (Black) vs. Jeff Acierno (White). No score. White owns a 2-cube. **BLACK TO PLAY AN ACE.**



To the surprise of the kibitzers, I greedily bore off a checker even though it still left me in a six roll position! Jeff danced and I rolled double 4s exposing a blot. Jeff hit and won 2 points routinely.

Had I blundered and blown 4 or even 6 points? Why, oh why hadn't I played the obvious 3/2? In fact, I knew my play was correct. Let me explain.

Contrast the aggressive 1/Off to the "safe" 3/2. Following 1/Off, if White enters (20 rolls), Black's bearoff is 0.08 average rolls faster due to his chances of rolling a double which bears off three men and usually gains a roll towards the "G."

But the big swing for 1/Off occurs when White dances (16 rolls). Now average rolls like 5-2 allow Black to safely bear off one man and get to a five roll speed board. This is less often the case following the play of 3/2.

This swing occurs on 20 of Black's rolls (also, Black's 1-1 gains for him). Thus Black gains a roll toward the gammon about 1/4 of the time!

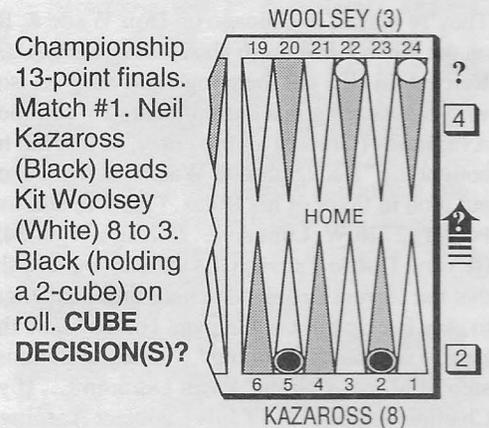
Black's downside requires an unlikely 4-legged parlay of: (1) White dancing, (2) Black blotting, (3) White hitting, and (4) White winning after the hit. (Estimated odds: about 1%.)

An *EXBG* rollout showed that my "piggy" play gained over 5% gammons at a cost of 1% more losses (adjusting for White's cube ownership). Since the gammon price is 1/2 at this score (just like money play), my move was clear. Note that my play is also clear even when White has a closed board.

Undaunted by my bad fortune, I rallied against Jeff to win 11-7.

Next, I had to face Chicago artist Paul Klein. Paul has only been playing tournament backgammon for two years which makes his earlier victories over Mike Senkiewicz (NY) and Dean Muench (IL) all the more impressive. Paul was also bashing me 7-3 when my dice turned to produce an 11-8 victory and a revenge shot at Kit in the Monday finals.

In this double elimination format, I would need to beat Kit two 13-point matches in a row to grab the first place trophy. In the first match, I was trailing 3-0 when I got hot and ran out the match 13-3. Along the way, a cute bearoff cube appeared:



Championship 13-point finals. Match #1. Neil Kazaross (Black) leads Kit Woolsey (White) 8 to 3. Black (holding a 2-cube) on roll. **CUBE DECISION(S)?**

What's the problem?, you might think. I'm way ahead, so why risk two extra points on a 19-to-17 shot? In fact, those two extra points are quite important because they get me to Crawford. By doubling (per Kit's own match equity table), I risk 11% to gain 10%. Thus I can redouble to 4 if I'm a 52.3% favorite. Here I'm a 52.8% favorite. Should I double?

After long mental calculations, I determined this to be a "Jacoby Paradox"-type position where I give up the chance of him rolling a losing 2-1 if I cube him and miss. I calculate that Black wins the match 78.5% if he doesn't redouble and 78.1% if he does recube. I didn't recube, rolled 6-4, and went on to win the match.

My last two examples may seem trivial,

[Continued on page 6]

AMALGAMATION

Question: Can you figure out why **Paul Magriel** (NY) wore a "Mighty Ducks" hat at the recent Tournament of the Americas? ... In previewing his seminar in Costa Rica, **Neil Kazaross** (IL) said, "...and then I'm going to talk about races." To which **Antoinette Williams** (NY) replied: "Keep race out of it." ... Get well wishes worked for **Jill Ferdinand** (IL) who has recovered nicely from major surgery in April... Condolences to **Arline Levy** (IL) on the passing of her mother 11 April... **Dave Cardwell** (414/682-1969) has a new location for Atlanta Backgammon Club Sunday monthly tournaments: CaffFeinds Roastery/Coffee Bar, 3095 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta... Visiting the Bar Point Club in April and May: **Wilhelm Rezac** (Bruck/Leitha, Germany), **Larry Keating** (NJ), **Greg Shore** (NY)... **John Brussel** reports that the May *Chicago Magazine* included an article about Cartier heralding the opening of it's newly renovated Chicago Michigan Avenue store with an exhibit of 80 elegant pieces including a leather and gold-tooled backgammon set... **Mike Fujita** (619/294-2007) announces a new location for Backgammon Club of San Diego tournaments: Sundays, 2:00 p.m. at Embassy Suites Hotel, and Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. at Papachino's... San Diego to Maui: **John Lear**... **Answer:** Magriel's nickname is "X-22" and a 2-2 roll is sometimes called "ducks." ... Best of luck to **Jim Smyth** (MI) who recently had a heart attack. A triple bypass is scheduled for June... Baseball legend **Mickey Mantle** is a backgammon player according to the 18 April Sports Illustrated cover story about his life... **Henry Moss** (OR) invites you to the Oregon Backgammon Club every Tuesday night, 7:30 p.m. at Lacey's in Lake Oswego, Oregon. For more info, call Henry at 503/636-6258... Last month, Scrabble and BG expert **Nack Ballard** (WA) was featured on the front page of the 12 May *USA Today*, and on page 17 of the 23 May *Newsweek*. It seems that a number of objectionable terms have recently been banished from the new official Scrabble dictionary. A lamenting Nack recalls using the now banned "F" word to win the nation's top scrabble tournament of 1977: "I owe my victory to that word." ... Ever hear the **President Clinton** song parodies "Whitewater," "Bill," or "Me and Paula Jones"? They're played in Chicago on **Don Wade & Roma's** WLS radio program, and nationally on the **Rush Limbaugh** show. **Sarg Serages'** (IL) daughter and son-in-law **Kathy & Bill Reichstein** (IL) put them together. Sarg is also proud of his grandson **Brian Cooper** (IL) who is appearing in a current Sears TV commercial with **A.J. Foyt**... Is **Panagiotis Avagianos** (Greece) a little crazy, or just hip to the latest European styles? Panagiotis bought the "Backgammon Watch" at the Ouzo 12 Greek Championship and immediately put it on in favor of his Rolex. (They're still available for \$25 + \$3 p&h from: CHICAGO POINT; 2726 W. Lunt Ave.; Chicago, IL 60645-3039)... Congratulations to **Don Jahyan** (IL) and **Dottie Tsitsos** (IL) who announced their engagement last month... It's evident that the current Brookstone mail order catalogue copywriters don't have a clue about how to play backgammon. On page 16, they note that their BG set includes "5 dice (1 for dubbing, 4 regular)." Dubbing?... Congratulations to New England BG Club '93-'94 "Monarch of Monday Night" **Evan Diamond**... If you're going to the Monte Carlo World Championships (11-17 July), contact **Antoinette Williams** (212/222-7177) who can save you a few bucks on your room. How does she do it? Volume, volume, volume... *das Backgammon Magazin* is now *Backgammon Magazin*. The 70 page German language quarterly publication features the most extensive report on international tournaments of any magazine in the world. And now each annotated match features short comments in English. The U.S. rate is \$50 in cash for overseas airmail or an 80 DM check drawn on a German bank. Mail to: **Harald Johanni**, Hochstr. 7, D-90429 Nürnberg, Germany. For more information, call Harald at 49-911/269567... Belated happy 70th birthday to **Wally Wolf** (MI). Wife **Gail** through his a grand party over Memorial Day weekend... At the Bar Point Club on 5 April, **Phyllis Smolinski** (IL) discovered a new technique to defeat red-hot **Neil Kazaross** (IL) in a 7-point match: Two natural gammons and a backgammon! Δ

WOOLSEY WINS...

[Continued from page 5]

but remember that successful tournament backgammon requires you to get the most out of every opportunity.

In the rubber match, I led Kit 8-3 when he went on a 10-1 tear to win the match and tournament 13-9. Hats off to a fine champion who also, with wife Sally, won the Doubles tournament.

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO to John Stryker (Northbrook, IL) who bested a very tough Intermediate field to win the first major tournament of his life. John compiled a 7-2 record and then won a playoff match to reach the final-4. His 13-12 victory over Kurt Schurecht (St. Charles, IL) was nip-and-tuck all the way. Complete results: Δ

15TH CHICAGO OPEN

CHAMPIONSHIP (48): 1-Kit Woolsey (CA), 2-Neil Kazaross (IL), 3-Paul Klein (IL); 1C-Rick Bieniak (FL), 2C-Howard Ring. **INTERMEDIATE (60):** 1-John Stryker (IL), 2-Kurt Schurecht (IL), 3/4-Carol Falk (MI) / David Rubin (IL); 1C-John Rather (MD), 2C-J.A. Miller (IL). **WORLD CUP QUALIFIER (16):** 1-James Colen (NY), 2-David Hochron (CA). **BLITZ (64):** 1-Jim Hickey (GA). **HYPER-BACKGAMMON®:** 1-John Smulders (IN). **DOUBLES (32):** 1-Kit & Salley Woolsey (CA), 2-John Stryker & Paul Franks (IL), 3/4-Don Desmond & John Bashian (OH) / Bill Davis & Jolie Rubin (IL).



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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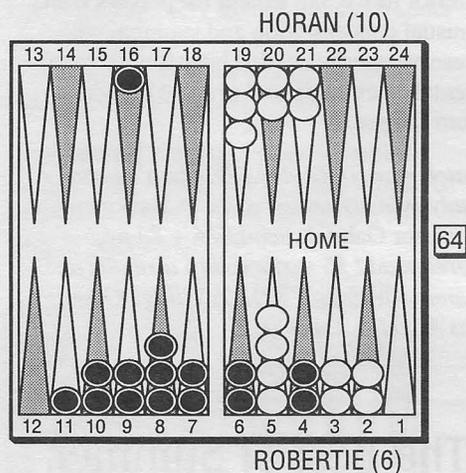
ATHENS...

[Continued from page 1]

Robertie won a doubled gammon to open the 25-point finals. With Billy leading 6-5, TV analyst Mike Senkiewicz commented, "Horan has turned up the gas. He's playing well and rolling well." (Unfortunately, Senk's fine commentary had to be discontinued midway through the battle because it was occasionally audible in the playing room.) The Horan heat continued. Trailing 10-5, Robertie took his first break.

Down 10-6, Bill Robertie showed us his stuff with a very imaginative move:

25-point Greek finals. Billy Horan (White) leads Bill Robertie (Black), 10 to 6. **BLACK TO PLAY 6-5.**



Robertie played the inspirational 16/11, 7/1. Horan was pretty much forced to hit with 5-3. Robertie hit back with a 5-3 of his own. Then Horan's game went south with 5-4. A few rolls later, Robertie won via the cube.

Robertie's victory in the 14th game of the match cut his deficit to 12-9. The *Inside Backgammon* author, who often takes breaks after winning a game, did so at this point.

He took his third and final break after turning around a Horan double to regain the lead at 15-14. But this break would later be judged "ill-timed" as he never scored another point. Horan won 25-15—his most prestigious victory since World Cup II in 1990.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Nikos Koidis of Metaxa for the thousands of dollars in sponsorship money his company provided to vault Greece into the world backgammon circuit. It worked.

And our best wishes go to Hercules and Bridget, who have retired as tournament directors. From the Isle of Man to Spain to Greece, they have always staged very popular events and have many friends to show for their efforts. Complete results: Δ

editorial

DETERMINE TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS BY PUBLIC DRAW

At the recent Greek Backgammon Championship awards ceremony, Mario Sequeira of Portugal stepped beyond the bounds of civil conduct in the disruptive way he demanded that public draws become the standard at all major backgammon tournaments. Although he would not immediately admit to it, Sequeira (among others) was suspicious of the bye and highly favorable drawsheet placement American expert and tourney finalist Bill Robertie had received.

The outburst occurred following the refusal of directors Hercules and Bridget (the Baron and Baroness of Culcreuch) to present Sequeira with his 1st Consolation trophy. This was in reaction to what they claimed was Sequeira's "...bad behavior, bad sportsmanship and foul and abusive language..." directed towards Hercules earlier in the tournament.

The bizarre situation intensified when Greek director Anthony Maltezopoulos presented a trophy to Sequeira, along with a sealed envelope that had Mario's name on it. The envelope contained a note with a vulgar reference to Sequeira's mother along with the demand that he never attend another tournament. At the time, the Baron, Baroness, and Maltezopoulos denied any knowledge of the letter's contents. (According to what Hercules later learned, the letter was written by "...some top continental players, very incensed that I should be so insulted by such a player...") Still, it is inexcusable that such a document would be presented, acci-

dentally or otherwise, at an official tournament function.

All along, the Baron vehemently defended the fairness of his drawing, stating that it had been witnessed by among others, Dublin Backgammon Club director Brendan Burgess. We believe and trust that Hercules of Culcreuch conducted a totally fair and random draw. We also believe that it is a cheap shot to devalue another player's accomplishments just because he begins the tournament with a lucky draw. However, this incident points out the need for all backgammon directors to determine their tournament pairings by public draw.

One of the directors' long-standing complaints against public draws has been that they take

up a lot of extra time. Not so. European director Abraham Eitan utilizes a very efficient technique. All player names are written on labels. Eitan then simply conducts a public draw and sticks each label into the appropriate numerical slot on the drawsheet. With this system, it doesn't take more than five minutes to fill an entire 64-player grid.

For a number of years, Worldwide Backgammon Federation president Alberto da Pra had required WBF events to conduct public draws. To ensure the peace of mind of all backgammon participants, it's time for other major backgammon tournaments (including the Monte Carlo World Championship) to determine match pairings through totally random and public draws. Δ



Mario Sequeira disrupts the Greek Championship awards ceremony with his strident demands for public draws.

OUZO 12 GREEK CHAMPIONSHIPS

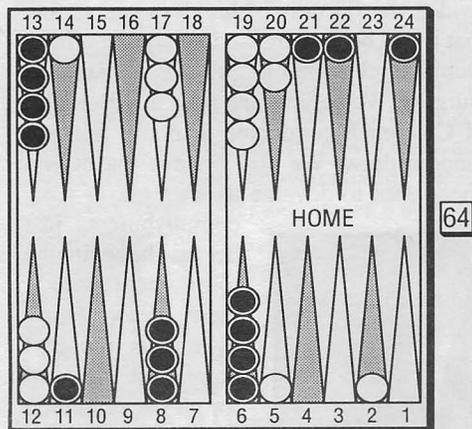
CHAMPIONSHIP (95): 1-Billy Horan (USA), 2-Bill Robertie (USA), 3/4-Alexis Avramidis (GRE) / Matthias Pauen (GER), 5/8-Paul Magriel (USA) / Petri Pietila (FIN) / Evert Van Eijck (HOL) / Dimitrios Zahopoulos (GRE); 1C-Mario Sequeira (POR), 2C-Ion Ressu (SWZ), 3C/4C-Nikon Panagackis (GRE) / Alan Steffen (USA); 1LC-Rageb Shadallah (USA), 2LC-Abraham Eitan (ISR). INTERMEDIATE (49): 1-Derek Matheson (UK), 2-Costas Costopoulos (GRE), 3/4-Todor Dimitrov (BUL) / Andreas Born (GER); 1C-Yannes Vallinos (USA), 2C-David McNair (SCT); 1LC-Alex Caraplis, 2LC-Klaus Feierstein (GER).

BEGINNER (29): 1-Andreas Bitsakos (GRE), 2-Takis Festas (GRE), 3/4-Ronel Steyn (RSA) / Morten Ladekarl (DEN); 1C-Rosalie Money (UK), 2C-Pantelis Skafidas (GRE); 1LC-Don O'Neal (UK), 2LC-Nora Luna (USA). \$1000 JACKPOT (16): 1-Frank Kirschner (GER). \$500 JACKPOTS (2) 1-Billy Horan (USA); 1-Paul Magriel (USA). VIKING KICKOFF (62): 1-Shimon Kagan (ISR), 2-Jürgen Herold (GER), 3/4-Gordon Cross (GER) / Wolfgang Griese (GER). TEAM EVENT (16): 1-"Rhein-Ruhr-Schäfchen" (Germany: Wolfgang Frank, Wolfgang Orselt, Holger Jantzen), 2-"Rataplan" (Greece: Antonios Dionysaton, Gus Noyanakis, Takis Festas).

PROBLEM #203 SOLVED

© 1994 by Danny Kleinman

Money game. **BLACK TO PLAY 6-4.**



White has all the advantages in this position. She has fewer men back, a lead in the race, the 5-point already made, and threats: to make the 5-anchor, to point on the 4- or 3-point, to hit more men, to build a 4-prime.

How should you, as Black, combat White's threats? Your 6-4, alas, lets you make neither your 5-point nor an advanced anchor in White's home board. But you can make a bold tempo play to keep White from beating you to these key points and maximize your own chances of making them in the near future. Hit twice, **11/5***, **6/2***.

Both hits are thematic, involving good general principles rather than specific calculations. The first hit, **11/5***, *destroys a valuable enemy slot*. The second hit, **6/2***, *protects your own slots*: on the 4- and 3-anchors as well as the 5-point. A return hit by White adds to your "builders" for these anchors. A miss by White, especially with a 6, lets you continue to build points or attack in your home board.

The "safe" alternatives simply leave you with a weak position.

- (a) **21/11** offers maximum safety but still leaves you behind in all departments and your two remaining back men vulnerable to attack or priming. The 11-point, separated from the 8-point by a double gap, is only moderately useful.
- (b) **24/18**, **22/18** lets White attack on the 4-point, send another man back, or anchor on your 5-point.
- (c) **13/7**, **11/7** lets White attack on the 4-

point or 3-point, make the bar-point, or anchor on your 5-point.

- (d) **8/2***, **6/2** makes the 2-point prematurely, enhances White's anchoring chances, and lets White hit back in your outer court.
- (e) **24/14*** sends another man back and almost catches up in the race, but increases White's builder supply for an advanced anchor while decreasing your own.
- (f) **11/5*** and any other 4 but **6/2*** gives White extra numbers to hit back on your 5-point.

I MUST ADMIT I used to attempt to be "scientific" and analytic about positions like this. Now I just "see" the important objectives and choose a play almost reflexively. Doing so may occasionally result in an inferior move, but except for players with unusual concentration and stamina, will preserve energy needed later for elaborate mental calculation and prevent blunders from fatigue. Δ

Catch more of Danny Kleinman's lucid analysis in his newest work: *A Backgammon Book for Gabriel*. Send \$24 + \$3 p&h (foreign add \$5 surface, \$15 airmail) to: Danny Kleinman; 5312 1/2 Village Green; Los Angeles, CA 90016.

'SENK' REPEATS...

[Continued from page 1]

Sylvester took. Schiesser rolled 5-5, hitting on the deuce point. He eventually closed his board to take a commanding 13-6 lead over Sylvester. From there, Gerd never looked back.



"Sylvester was lucky to get 6 points!" boasts Gerd Schiesser upon receiving his award. [Photo by Carol Joy Cole.]

At the awards ceremony, Schiesser was asked what it felt like to hold the great Joe

Sylvester to only six points. Schiesser replied without hesitating, "He was lucky to get six points." That's brazen.

CONGRATULATIONS ALSO GO TO El Cariari Limited winner Antonio Ortega (Costa Rica), Intermediate champ Richard Armbruster (CA) and Novice winner Jolie Rubin (IL). Jolie also won the Central American Pig-rolling championship on the strength of an incredible "double snouter."



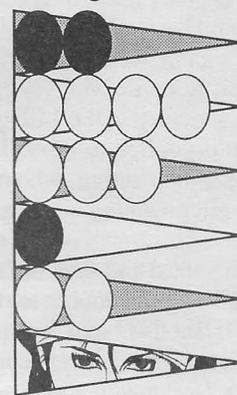
Intermediate champ Richard Armbruster is all smiles at the awards ceremony. [Photo by Gayle Wolfe.]

[Continued on page 10]

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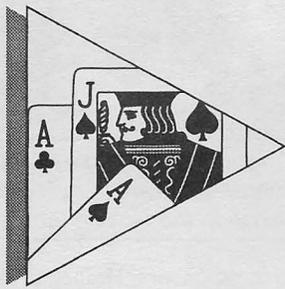
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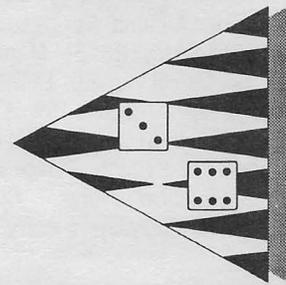
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WINNER'S CORNER



Mar.—May 1994

Hong Kong Monthly (Hong Kong; 7 Mar.)... OPEN: 1-Ernest Ho, 2-Thomas Kong; 1C-Horst Krauss, 2C-Greg Westrick. CHAMPIONSHIP: 1-Eanny Quant, 2-John Schneeberger. INTERMEDIATE (10): 1-David Mendes, 2-Farshid Gillardian.

Mayfair Tournament (New York, NY; 19 Mar.)... OPEN (16): 1-Bob Bieder (NY), 2-Ben Frimann (GER); 1C-Jeremy Bagai (PA)... Jay Columbo reports a successful kickoff to this inaugural bimonthly event.

1994 Argentine Championship (Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mondays in March)... CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Oded Minond, Normand Ades, Juan Rosa. JUNIOR WINNERS: Sol Manzione, José Luis Canavesi, Daniel Vernetti. BEGINNER WINNERS: Luis Navajas, Graciela Hoyos, Luis Navajas... March kicked off the new 1994 season in a new location: Regente Palace Hotel, Suipacha 964, Buenow Aires. Claudio Salamone reports over 200 players every Monday night.

6th Nordic Wide Open (Copenhagen, Denmark; 1-4 Apr.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (76): 1-Niels Fløjborg (DEN), 2-Rageb Shadallah (USA), 3/4-Matthias Pauen (GER) / Ray Tannen (GB); 1C-Harald Johanni (GER), 2C-Evert van Eijck (NL); 1LC-Rick Janowski (GB), 2LC-Carlo Facchetti (ITA). ADVANCED INTERMEDIATE (75): 1-Michael Weile (DEN), 2-Henrik Knudsen (DEN), 3/4-Flemming Jensen (DEN) / Thomas Jespersen (DEN); 1C-Ole Knudsen (DEN), 2C-Claus Berggren (DEN); 1LC-Raid El Mounzer (DEN), 2LC-Matti Karsikko (FIN). INTERMEDIATE (145): 1-Claes Dahlström (SWE), 2-Henrik Lamber (DEN), 3/4-Søren Bejder (DEN) / Peter Neubert (DEN); 1C-Jonas Rörbecker, 2C-Dean Larsen (DEN); 1LC-Vigdis Hoff (DEN), 2LC-Jan Schmittsdorf (GER). BEGINNER (94): 1-Tobias Christensen (DEN), 2-Steen Jørgensen (DEN), 3/4-Brian Hansen (DEN) / Flemming Nielsen (DEN); 1C-Ray Langenfeld (SWE), 2C-Lasse Nielsen (DEN); 1LC-Pierre Reinhardt (DEN), 2LC-Thomas Wilberg (DEN). SUPER JACKPOT #1 (8): 1-Ralf Jonas (GER). SUPER JACKPOT #2 (16): 1-Rageb Shadallah (USA), 2-Erik Gravgard (DEN). SUPER JACKPOT #3 (16): 1-Paul Magriel (USA), 2-Peter Jes Thomsen (DEN). SUPER JACKPOT #4 (8): 1-Benjamin Lund (DEN). TEAM EVENT (29): 1-“Allan Simonsen” (DEN)—Thomas Jensen & Mogens Knudsen & Henrik Veje, 2-“Pyramido” (DEN)—Kaspere Anderssen & Jens Ostermann & Enrik Sorel. INTER-NATION MATCHES: Sweden over Denmark, 4-1... A record attendance for the Danish BG Federation's 6th annual. Directors Chris Ternel and Erik Gravgard predict that the 1995 Danish Wide Open (14-17 April) will be Europe's largest international event.

5th Carlsberg Cup 1994 (Copenhagen, Denmark; 9 Apr.)... OPEN (5409): 1-Alan Herskind, 2-Brian Rosenberg, 3-Jeppe Juhl, 4-Søren Hanghøj; 1C-Mads Jensen, 2C-Kasper Andersen; 1LC-Thomas Fich Pedersen, 2LC-Jacob Marcussen... This Carlsberg Brewery-sponsored event, played at 269 cafés over five weeks, is the largest (of its type) in the world. The top three players received all-expense paid trips and entry fees into the Monte Carlo World Championship in July. Hats off to the Danish Backgammon Federation—the largest organized BG club in the world.

Bar Point Club Sunday Tournament (Oak Brook, IL; 10 Apr.)... OPEN (30): 1-Paul Franks, 2-Peter Kalba, 3/4-Paul Friedman / Jake Jacobs; 1C-Don Desmond, 2C-Allen Zimmerman. LIMITED (9): 1/2-Joann Feinstein / John Meyers (WI); 1C-Richard Stawowy.

Hong Kong Monthly (Hong Kong; 11 Apr.)... OPEN: 1-Manlam Wong, 2-Don Rae; 1C-Ernest Ho, 2C-Bai Ling. CHAMPIONSHIP: 1/2-Eric Yeung / Ronnie Nutzati. INTERMEDIATE (11): 1-Barry Clark, 2-Lesley Macfarlane.

College Park Spring Open (Bethesda, MD; 16 Apr.)... OPEN (30): 1-Bruce Hall, 2-Kent Goulding; 1C-Jan Carlstrom; 1LC-Joseph Freedman.

NEBC Sunday Monthly (Cambridge, MA; 17 Apr.)... EXPERT (25): 1-Ed Ahola, 2-Seth Towle, 3/4-David Wells / Garbis Zerdelian; 1C-John Mansey, 2C-Mike Nelson. A DIV. (17): 1-Michael Zehr, 2-Hon-Ming Eng, 3/4-Alex Perry / William Woods; 1C-Ray Mosher, 2C-Ernesto Adrienzen. B DIV. (13): 1-Zita Samuels, 2-Jim Sullivan; 1C-Nate Grove, 2C-Ari Meadow.

NY/NJ Co-op Regional (Woodbury, NY): CHAMPIONSHIP (9): 1-Dave Gustin, 2-Perry Gartner; 1C-Ami Tennenbaum. LIMITED (8): 1-David Posmantier, 2-Roni Zemsch; 1C-Harry Levy.

1994 Argentine Championship (Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mondays in April)... CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Enrique Nanni, Sergio Gelabert, Osvaldo Tundis, Jorge Stolkiner. JUNIOR WINNERS: Juan Carlos Kuperman, José Nowak, Ignacio Sagues, Sergio Satyr. BEGINNER WINNERS: Beatriz Fernandez, Valeria Szeinbein, Luis Navajas, Daniel Chirillo.

Rscards Spring 1993 Tournament: (GEnie computer service, Apr.-May)... OPEN (16): 1-Larry Bosen (CA), 2-Dan Shirley (CA), 3/4-Greg Tomlin (IL) / Mark Hudgik (MA).

NEBC Sunday Monthly (Cambridge, MA; 15 May)... EXPERT (20): 1-Mike Nelson, 2-David Wells, 3/4-Jay Giuttari / Doug Roberts; 1C-Garbis Zerdelian, 2C-Walter Trice. A DIV. (11): 1-John Leonard, 2-John Koulopoulos, 3/4-Alex Perry / Mark Damish; 1C-Ray Mosher, 2C-Dylan Small. B DIV. (8): 1-Larry Liebster, 2-Al Mason; 1C-Nate Grove, 2C-Zita Samuels.

Mayfair Tournament (New York, NY; 21 May)... OPEN (12): 1-Stan Friedenberg, 2-Karen Davis; 1C-Dr. Bob Hill. Δ

'SENK' REPEATS...

(Continued from page 8)

The Tournament of the Américas is a very special event with complimentary fiestas, food and drink, music and dancing. There is also free Costa Rican coffee in the playing room and free Heineken beer served daily by a gorgeous model. Incredible.



Jolie Rubin (right) rolls a "double snouter" to defeat Zohreh Zafarianian in Pig-rolling. Jolie also won the Novice tourney.

Thanks to the sponsors: Heineken Beer, Continental Airlines, Café Rey and Costa Rican Temptations for their generosity in making this the good-time event that it has become over the past three years. And thanks also to the Costa Rican Backgammon Association (President Mario Madrigal, Antonio Ortega, Max Esquivel & Ana Laura, Milton Gonzalez, Mario Lizano, et. al.) for their successful production year after year. Complete results: Δ

3RD TOURNAMENT OF THE AMÉRICAS

OPEN (59): 1-Gerd Schiesser (GER), 2-Joe Sylvester (MI), 3/4-Nack Ballard (WA) / Bob Glass (CA); 1C-Toni Wuersch (MA), 2C-Tony Goble (NY); 1LC-Rageb Shadallah. INTERMEDIATE (23): 1-Richard Armbruster (CA), 2-Cordula Thiess (GER); 1C-Steve McCormick (MO), 2C-Andreas Born (GER); 1LC-David Rubin (IL). NOVICE (18): 1-Jolie Rubin (IL), 2-Narissa Ferrer (SPN); 1C-Yana Lindner (CR); 1LC-Ralf Sudbrak (GER). EL CARIARI (16): 1-Mike Senkiewicz (NY), 2-Mike Svobodny (CA), 3/4-Kent Goulding (MD). EL CARIARI LIMITED (16): 1-Antonio Ortega (CR), 2-Peter Ryder (OH), 3/4-Steve McCormick (MO) / Jon Viator (CA). DOUBLES (32 Teams): 1-Kimberly Lloyd & Emil Mortuk (MI), 2-Michele Colpo (PA) & Ray Fogerlund (CA), 3/4-Bill Barron & Marc Poe (TX) / Herb Meadow & Toni Wuersch (MA). BLITZ (104): 1-Tom Clark (NY). TENNIS DOUBLES (8 Teams) 1-Steve McCormick (MO) & Pete Ryder (OH), 2-Andreas Born & Harald Johanni (GER). GOLF TOURNEY: 1-Tina Kaplan (NY). PIG-ROLLING: 1-Jolie Rubin (IL), 2-Zohreh Zafarianian (TX). LIARS DICE: 1-Kent Goulding (MD).

Knight's Financial Roundtable, Inc.

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TOTAL RETURNS FOR PERIODS ENDING **MARCH 31, 1994**

	<u>Last 6 Months</u>	<u>Last 12 Months</u>	<u>Last 24 Months</u>	<u>Last 36 Months</u>
	-2% to 14%	11% to 49%	11% to 24%	24%
<i>Accounts Qualifying</i>	11	10	6	1

NOTES: 24 and 26 month results are *per annum*.

Excludes accounts under \$100,000, and clients with under a 25% International Objective.

Total returns were after *all* expenses, except our small annual management fee.

Clients can draw monthly income as requested.

The higher returns in the ranges were in accounts with a 100% International Objective.

The lower returns in the ranges were in accounts with a 25% International Objective.

COMPARISONS

Existing and prospective clients are encouraged to review returns from the Mutual Fund Industry. (Fund names on request.)

	<u>Last 6 Months</u>	<u>Last 12 Months</u>	<u>Last 24 Months</u>	<u>Last 36 Months</u>
<i>Five Largest International Funds:</i>	6% to 13%	23% to 32%	16% to 19%	11% to 15%
<i>Ten Largest Income Funds (The two largest of five subcategories.):</i>	-3% to 1%	0% to 8%	5% to 14%	7% to 19%

☞ SEC Required (Advisor's Curse): "Past performance is no guarantee as to future performance."

Total Assets Under Management: \$6 million

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4th illinois state backgammon championships & america cup

Indian Lakes Resort
Bloomington, Illinois
October 5-9, 1994

Room info: 708/529-0200 • Fax: 708/529-9271

Featuring \$1,500 entry fee America Cup, Masters tournament, Illinois State Champs, and much more.

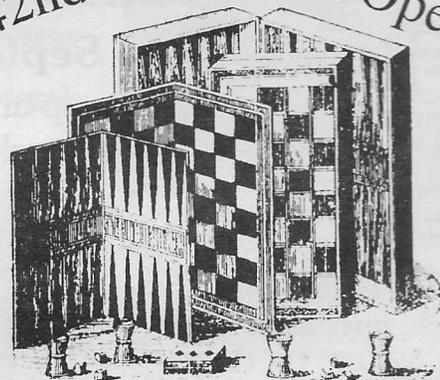
Coordinate your trip with the World Cup (Sept. 5-11) in Dallas, TX, and South America (Brazil & Argentina in mid-October)

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42nd INDIANA Open



Backgammon Tournament
July 29-31, 1994



Radisson Plaza/Suite Hotel • Indianapolis
Butch & Mary Ann Meese: (317) 845-8435

1994 European Backgammon Championship

Grand Casino de Jeux ❖ Beaulieu-sur-Mer (France)

30 June–3 July 1994

Expected Prize Money
OVER 500.000 FRENCH FRANCS

(Based on the last European Championship prize fund, all events included.)

Entry Fees

Master 5,000 f.f. / 97% return
 Championship 3,000 f.f. / 350 f.f. reg. fee
 Intermediate 1,000 f.f. / 150 f.f. reg. fee

WBF members receive a 50 f.f. reduction on the registration fee.

Hotel Accommodations

CARLTON ★★★★★. Single room 500 f.f. Double room 750–900 f.f. Breakfast 55 f.f. each. Tel.: 33-93011470, Fax: 33-93012962

BAHIA ★★★. Single room 630 f.f. Double room 730 f.f. Breakfast 55 f.f. each. Tel.: 33-93011470, Fax: 33-93012962



When reserving, please mention "Backgammon." Beaulieu-sur-Mer is one of the most famous places on the Cote d'Azur, and only 10 kilometers from Monte Carlo. For further information, please contact **MARCO FORNASIR; WBF-P.O. Box 47; CH-6850 Mendrisio; Switzerland.** Phone 39-2-48019343 • Fax 39-2-48195515

The Worldwide Backgammon Federation is proud to present the

4th Mitteleuropa Backgammon and Blackjack Tournament

Casino Park Nova Gorica

September 2–4, 1994

(Warm-up and 1st Super-Jackpot Sept. 1, Blackjack Tournament August 31)

30.000.000 Italian Lire
 expected prize money
(Based on 1991–93 prize funds)



Entry Fees

Championship .450.000 Lire (\$265)
 Intermediate 200.000 Lire (\$118)
 Beginner 70.000 Lire (\$42)
 Blackjack 20.000 Lire (\$118)

Registration Fees

1994 WBF members 30.000 Lire
 Non members 50.000 Lire
 Blackjack 30.000 Lire

Tournament Committee

To be announced at the tournament under the Presidency of
Alberto da Pra
President of the WBF

Director

Marco Fornasir
 Information: 39-2-48019343
 Fax: 39-2-48195515

Accommodations

Park Hotel ★★★★★. Delpinova 5 – Nova Gorica (Tel. 386-65-28225)

	Single	Double
New Park	84.000	60.000 pp
Old Park	56.000	52.000 pp

Fax the Park Hotel your reservations by August 21 at 386-65-26430, attention Rade Huljev. Mention "Backgammon."

The Park Hotel has agreed to offer two nights free of charge in the Hotel for players who stay one full week (arrival date August 29, departure date Sept. 5, 1994) . . . 100% return of the entry fees . . . Trophies to be awarded in all three divisions and the Blackjack tournament . . . Nova Gorica is in the country renowned for good food and wine. Air temperature in August is 25° C.