

michigan summer championships

A 'HARRY' VICTORY

**Cohn Hangs On To Defeat
Newcomer Homer Hector**

Todd Doucet Wins Intermediate

Although Chicago's Harry Cohn has been in Kent Goulding's Top 100 since 1992, this is the first year he's been auctioned off as an individual at the Michigan Summer Championships. Director Carol Joy Cole must have known something. Cohn's victory in the biggest North American Open event of the year (87 players) earned him over \$5,000 and vaulted him into the lead of the 1995 American Backgammon Tour.

More than 200 players attended the pre-4th of July Flint Area Backgammon Club bash (30 June-3 July), including 186 in the main events. Once again, the popular Novi Hilton Hotel was the venue.

Cohn had very few easy matches en route to the finals of the double elimination event. Trailing 9-6 in his 13-point first round match against Howard Markowitz, Harry narrowly escaped a match-ending doubled gammon to go down 11-6. Seven points later, Markowitz fell 13-11.

In the round-of-8, Cohn trailed Malcolm Davis 12-6 only to win 13-12. And against Paul Weaver in the semifinals, Harry was behind 8-2 before rallying for a 13-10 victory. Harry went on to edge Toni Wuersch (MA) and win the undefeated sheet.

The Atlanta Assassin

While Harry was tiptoeing through the minefields on his half of the drawsheet, a man by the name of Homer Hector was wreaking havoc with world class players in his bracket. Although he has played backgammon in Atlanta for 10 years, this was Homer's first regional event. It certainly won't be his last.

Hector combined good fortune and steady composure to compile a 9-1 record: enough to win the second chance sheet and earn a seat across from Harry Cohn in the finals. His incredible run included big wins over Malcolm Davis, Jeff Acierno, Frank Talbot, and the legendary Paul Magriel.

The Finals

To claim the first place glass dolphin trophy, Homer Hector would have to defeat Harry Cohn in back-to-back 15-point matches. Assuming equal competition, the true odds would be 3-to-1. In reality, oddsmakers put Hector's chances at no better than 6-to-1.

The players traded early games for a 3-

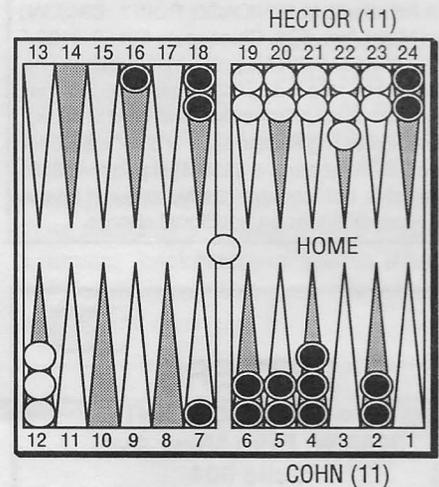
all tie. Hector then won a doubled gammon to make the score 7-3. But Cohn fought back to even things at 7-all.

At 11-all in game 17, the following key checker play for Cohn arose:

15-point Michigan finals. Harry Cohn (Black) and Homer Hector (White) are tied at 11-all. **BLACK TO PLAY 6-3.**



Harry Cohn extends a hand to Homer Hector upon winning the Michigan Summer Championships.



[Continued on page 5]

DON'T RAIN ON MY BLOCKADE



Our Swedish Backgammon Federation friend Ulf Ring submits this picture depicting New York backgammon players' intense desire to remain "in action," even under adverse weather conditions. Personally, we think the current game is a wash. Δ

CHICAGO POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Bill Davis

3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 504
Chicago, IL 60659-3128
Telephone: 312/583-6464
FAX: 312/583-3264

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Harold Branch (KY) Duane Jensen (MN)
Carol Joy Cole (MI) Neil Kazaross (IL)
Jerry Godsey (Hong Kong) Danny Kleinman (CA)
Jake Jacobs (IL) Kit Woolsey (CA)

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LETTERS

c/o CHICAGO POINT
3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.
Suite 504
Chicago, IL 60659-3128

STOPPOTS—A REPLY TO DANNY

Danny Kleinman is one of the persons, if not the person, that I respect the most in the backgammon community, especially when it comes to ethical questions and matters regarding tournament procedures. But even an individual like Danny is bound to make incorrect judgements every now and then.

In last month's "Ask Danny" column, Danny answers questions raised about StopPots, and in my humble opinion, he makes a few errors in his arguments regarding the pros and cons of Chris Ternel's popular invention.

Danny agrees that StopPots offer more flexibility than normal mini-jackpots, and everyone who has seen both would not hesitate to second that observation.

Then Danny speculates that StopPots might be impractical for the organizers. That might be the case. They do give the organizers some extra work. The question is: how much trouble should you go through as an organizer to please your

[Continued on page 3]

coming attractions

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



by Carol Joy Cole
810/232-9731

* Denotes new or revised listing

NATIONAL

American Backgammon Tour events underlined.

| | | |
|---------------------|--|---------------------|
| Jul 15-16 | Summer Open Tournament, Promenade Cardroom, Bethesda, MD | 301/530-0604 |
| Jul 16 | Austin Sunday tournament, Bombay Bicycle Club, Austin, TX | 512/261-8518 |
| Jul 19 | RSCARDS Summer 1995 Computer Modern Tournament, GEnie | 800/638-9636 |
| Jul 20 | Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| Jul 23* | Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Three Dollar Cafe, Buckhead, GA | 404/441-2074 |
| <u>Jul 28-30</u> | <u>Thousand Islands Tournament, Pine Tree Point, Alexandria Bay, NY</u> | <u>716/442-8221</u> |
| Jul 30* | Greater New York Club Monthly Tournament, Ramada Inn, Woodbury, NY | 718/341-3779 |
| Aug 6 | Summer Cool Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL | 312/252-7755 |
| Aug 11-13 | 34th Gammon Associates Invitational, Holiday Inn, Woodland Hills, CA | 818/901-0464 |
| Aug 16-20 | Las Vegas Open, Riviera Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV | 702/893-6025 |
| Aug 17 | Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| Aug 20* | Greater New York Club Monthly Tournament, Ramada Inn, Woodbury, NY | 718/341-3779 |
| Aug 23-27 | Backgammon Vacation Tournament, Stratton Mt. Inn, VT | 305/527-4033 |
| Aug 27* | Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Three Dollar Cafe, Buckhead, GA | 404/441-2074 |
| <u>Sep 1-4</u> | <u>43rd Indiana Open, Ramada Inn East, Indianapolis, IN</u> | <u>317/845-8435</u> |
| Sep 10 | New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA | 617/643-8154 |
| Sep 17* | Greater New York Club Monthly Tournament, Ramada Inn, Woodbury, NY | 718/341-3779 |
| Sep 17* | Central Illinois Club Tournament, Sly Fox Pub, Lacon, IL | 309/686-6662 |
| Sep 21 | Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| <u>Sep 29-Oct 1</u> | <u>Towpath Inn Tournament, Towpath Inn, Turin, NY</u> | <u>716/442-8221</u> |
| <u>Oct 6-8</u> | <u>Nation's Capital Fall Championships, Promenade, Bethesda, MD</u> | <u>301/530-0603</u> |
| Oct 8 | Bar Point Club Sunday Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL | 312/252-7755 |
| <u>Oct 11-15</u> | <u>5th Illinois Champs/America Cup, Sheraton North Shore, Northbrook, IL</u> | <u>708/945-7801</u> |
| Oct 15 | New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA | 617/643-8154 |
| Oct 18 | RSCARDS Fall 1995 Computer Modern Tournament, GEnie | 800/638-9636 |
| Oct 19* | Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| Oct 22* | Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Three Dollar Cafe, Buckhead, GA | 404/441-2074 |
| <u>Oct 27-29</u> | <u>Autumn Gran Prix, Embassy Suites Hotel, La Jolla, CA</u> | <u>619/294-2007</u> |
| Oct 29* | Greater New York Club Monthly Tournament, Ramada Inn, Woodbury, NY | 718/341-3779 |
| <u>Nov 3-5</u> | <u>35th Gammon Associates Invitational, Holiday Inn, Woodland Hills, CA</u> | <u>818/901-0464</u> |
| <u>Nov 3-5</u> | <u>Backgammon In The Berkshires, Oak & Spruce Center, South Lee, MA</u> | <u>603/863-4711</u> |
| <u>Nov 10-12</u> | <u>NY/NJ BG CO-OP Big Apple Series, Oritani Hotel, Hackensack, NJ</u> | <u>201/833-2915</u> |
| Nov 16* | Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| Nov 19 | New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA | 617/643-8154 |
| Nov 19 | Flint Area Club Championships, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI | 810/232-9731 |
| Nov 19* | Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Three Dollar Cafe, Buckhead, GA | 404/441-2074 |
| Nov 25* | Northern Ohio Tournament, Boulevard Sports Café, Cuyahoga Falls, OH | 216/966-2811 |
| Dec 3* | Bar Point Club Sunday Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL | 312/252-7755 |
| Dec 3* | Beltway Club Jackpot Tournament, Promenade Cardroom, Bethesda, MD | 301/530-0604 |
| Dec 17* | New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA | 617/643-8154 |
| Dec 17* | Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Three Dollar Cafe, Buckhead, GA | 404/441-2074 |
| Jan 19-22 | Backgammon On Board III, Miami to Key West cruise tourney on NCL | 312/252-7755 |
| Jan 27* | Hawthorne Backgammon Classic, Hawthorne Race Course, Cicero, IL | 312/583-6464 |
| <u>Feb 16-18*</u> | <u>18th Pittsburgh Championships, Greentree Marriott, Pittsburgh, PA</u> | <u>412/823-7500</u> |
| <u>Mar 22-24*</u> | <u>1996 Midwest Championships, The Drake Oakbrook, Oak Brook, IL</u> | <u>312/583-6464</u> |

OUTSIDE USA

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| Jul 10-16 | World Backgammon Championship, Loews Hotel, Monte Carlo, Monaco | 3392-162133 |
| Jul 17-18 | 3rd Open Championship of Nice, Lido Plage, Blve. des Anglais, Nice France | 3393-879436 |
| Jul 18-21* | NEW DATE: Riviera's Cup Championship, Hotel Martinez, Cannes, France | 33141-050259 |
| Aug. 4-6 | Franken ganz Open, Nürnberg, Germany | 49911-699678 |
| Aug 7 | Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong | 852-846 1923 |
| Aug 26-27 | Studio Anne Carlton Trophy Tournament #3, George Hotel, Solihull, Eng. | 44522-546993 |
| Sep 4 | Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong | 852-846 1923 |
| Sep 8-10 | 5th Mitteleuropa Tournament, Casino Park Nova Gorica, Slovenia | 392-4007 4658 |
| Sep 8-10 | 3rd Malmö Open, Savoy Hotel, Malmö, Sweden | 4640-300340 |
| Sep 8-10* | 4th Montreal Open, Le Gammon Chess & BG Club, Montreal, QB, Canada | 514/845-8370 |
| Oct 1-6 | 2nd German Open, Bielefeld, Germany | 49521-64314 |
| Oct 6-8 | Asian Championships, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong | 852-846 1923 |
| Oct 14-15 | Sandy Osborne Memorial Trophy, Hilton Hotel, East Midlands, England | 44522-546993 |
| Oct 14-15 | Åbne Fynsmesterskaber, Odense, Denmark | 4539-400607 |
| Nov 3-5 | 1st Japan Open, Nakano Sun Plaza Hotel, Tokyo, Japan | 813-3373 3814 |
| Nov 6 | Hong Kong Monthly Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong | 852-846 1923 |
| Nov 16-19 | International Tournament, Intermar Kurhotel Bad Segeberg, Germany | 4930-461 9624 |
| Nov 18-19 | Solihull Trophy Tournament #4, George Hotel, Solihull, England | 44522-546993 |



AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 1995

Compiled through 3 July 1995 after 8 tournaments
(Coming 28-30 July: Thousand Islands Tournament)



| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-------|--------------------|------|-----------------|------|----------------------|------|
| Harry Cohn | 29.00 | Jake Jacobs | 7.25 | John Jennings | 3.75 | Lee Pflugrad | 1.99 |
| Mike Colgan | 22.88 | Bruce Pollack | 6.47 | Alan Steffen | 3.75 | Cecilia Pedroza | 1.85 |
| Abbas Zaltash | 22.80 | Joe Sylvester | 6.40 | Wally Watson | 3.75 | Elijah Miller | 1.77 |
| Walter Trice | 21.69 | Wally Wolf | 6.16 | Bill Davis | 3.63 | Wayne King | 1.60 |
| Joe Russell | 21.01 | Richard Armbruster | 6.12 | Frank Talbot | 3.63 | Austin Healy | 1.56 |
| Odus Chenault | 20.83 | Herb Gurland | 5.78 | Mike Friedman | 3.63 | Janice Newman | 1.56 |
| David Rubin | 19.91 | Mike Pettigrew | 5.75 | Jeff Kane | 3.51 | Takis Sakkalis | 1.56 |
| Dave Williams | 18.90 | Martin Lee | 5.60 | Frank Dickerson | 3.32 | Jim Roston | 1.54 |
| Doug Roberts | 18.52 | Bob Green | 5.58 | Bill Rudd | 3.20 | Paul Paris | 1.54 |
| Homer Hector | 14.50 | Judy Brown | 5.58 | Mike Rezaei | 3.06 | Priscilla Sullivan | 1.41 |
| Paul Magriel | 14.50 | Milad Doueihi | 5.20 | Pete Ryder | 2.79 | Beverly Banowitz | 1.41 |
| Maurice Barie | 14.24 | Ed Johnson | 5.00 | Troy Longman | 2.79 | Mary Kuchenbrod | 1.23 |
| Jim Muirhead | 13.25 | Jim Forbes | 4.95 | Airan Friedman | 2.76 | Al Mason | 1.17 |
| Todd Doucet | 12.31 | Pat Gibson | 4.94 | Jolie Rubin | 2.60 | Gayle Wolf | 1.15 |
| Gene Entel | 11.73 | Dorn Bishop | 4.56 | Jerry Smith | 2.60 | Edward Heiman | 1.14 |
| Nora Luna | 11.44 | Bob Koca | 4.50 | Ed Buerger | 2.40 | Johnnie Roberts | 1.06 |
| Arnold Zousmer | 10.40 | William Counts | 4.50 | Bob Lumbrá | 2.35 | Fred Bement | 1.02 |
| Hal Heinrich | 9.45 | Kit Woolsey | 4.50 | Art Benjamin | 2.26 | Gary Tong | 0.92 |
| Clarine | 9.03 | Joe Freedman | 4.49 | David DeVries | 2.14 | Jessica Brandlin | 0.86 |
| Ray Fogerlund | 9.03 | John Smulders | 4.38 | Glenn Swanson | 2.14 | Harold Roberson | 0.80 |
| Blake Sorem | 9.00 | Dean Muench | 4.16 | Lou Florio | 2.13 | Keith Hvamsted | 0.80 |
| Dean Adamian | 9.00 | Howard Ring | 4.16 | Patti Beadles | 2.08 | Mark Damish | 0.78 |
| Peter Kalba | 7.77 | Randy Douthat | 4.12 | Steve Baksic | 2.08 | Bernadine Shelbourne | 0.68 |
| Jack Takala | 7.50 | Paul Symington | 3.90 | James Kasarjian | 2.00 | Lourdes Tarrago | 0.29 |
| Toni Wuersch | 7.25 | | | | | | |

By virtue of his big 87-player Michigan win, **HARRY COHN** is now in the same position Neil Kazaross was last year: leading both the ABT and Bar Point Club races. Remember that the top three ABT finishers are honored with beautifully laser-engraved trophies.



CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 1995 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED
THRU 30 JUNE

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------------------|------|------------------|------|------------------|------|
| Harry Cohn | 17.76 | Phil Simborg | 4.08 | Dean Muench | 1.92 | John Brussel | 0.76 |
| Neil Kazaross | 16.32 | Peter Kalba | 4.00 | Nan Feiber | 1.76 | René Wojtysiak | 0.76 |
| Tak Morioka | 11.60 | Reggie Porter | 3.94 | Stu Katz | 1.68 | John O'Hagan | 0.72 |
| Paul Franks | 9.28 | Georgina Flanagan | 3.76 | John Stryker | 1.60 | John Meyers | 0.64 |
| Herb Roman | 9.24 | Mary Franks | 3.52 | Elijah Miller | 1.52 | Ali Morovati | 0.64 |
| Richard Lloyd | 9.20 | Jolie Rubin | 3.48 | Mojie Shishineh | 1.52 | David Rockwell | 0.64 |
| Jake Jacobs | 8.84 | Phyllis Smolinski | 3.20 | Elaine Kehm | 1.48 | Jay Ward | 0.64 |
| John Demian | 8.20 | Amy Valerio | 3.12 | Leslie Lockett | 1.36 | Larry Strommen | 0.56 |
| Tim Mabee | 8.00 | Ed Buerger | 3.04 | Jon Hartman | 1.28 | Jerry Smith | 0.54 |
| Alice Kay | 6.66 | Paul Friedman | 2.82 | Roz Ferris | 1.20 | Barbara Levinson | 0.48 |
| Arline Levy | 6.56 | Yamin Yamin | 2.80 | Alex Itkin | 1.12 | Tom Fahland | 0.40 |
| Frankie Farjood | 6.44 | Ralph Levy | 2.80 | Jill Ferdinand | 1.00 | Monica Miller | 0.40 |
| Paul Klein | 6.24 | Sarg Serges | 2.80 | Marty Tatosian | 0.96 | Mark Murray | 0.34 |
| David Rubin | 6.00 | Don Jayhan | 2.72 | Andy Bittman | 0.96 | Mark Zoll | 0.32 |
| Bill Keefe | 5.84 | Bill Davis | 2.68 | Roland Dieter | 0.88 | Patrick Desmond | 0.32 |
| Gary Kay | 5.80 | Nora Luna | 2.56 | Wilcox Snellings | 0.88 | Willie Franklin | 0.32 |
| Joann Feinstein | 5.60 | Norma Shyer | 2.48 | Richard Stawowy | 0.88 | Arlynne Simon | 0.24 |
| Jeff Kane | 4.56 | Ken Bond | 2.40 | Gregg Westrick | 0.88 | Kurt Warning | 0.24 |
| Harold Seif | 4.48 | Alan Zimmerman | 2.16 | Earl Risch | 0.88 | Stan Kucharz | 0.18 |
| Bobbie Shifrin | 4.20 | Paul Ruterma | 2.08 | Jerry Brooks | 0.80 | Tim Carroll | 0.16 |

TAK MORIOKA and **RICHARD LLOYD** share June honors this month. Both players scored 3.84 master points. Third place finisher Neil Kazaross moved up on leader Harry Cohn with 2.96 points.

If you finish in the Top 20 for 1995 (bold-faced names on list), you'll be entered in a drawing for over \$300 worth of valuable merchandise. The higher you finish, the better your winning chances. Individual awards: 1st—Trophy + \$150, 2nd—\$100, 3rd—\$50. 1st through 20th—one ounce silver coin. 1st through 6th—Invitation to participate in the 1996 Illinois State Challenge Cup as a member of the Chicago Bar Point Club team.

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

customers.

In many ways, StopPots are easier to run than jackpots. With normal mini-jackpots, the organizers have a lot of work paging players who are not available (due to tournament matches, dinner breaks, etc.). This work does not disappear with StopPots, but it does make it easier for all parties in that when a player signs up, he gets the "next available" opponent.

Danny has doubts about how he would rule if a player could not be provided opponents at the stake (round) he signed up for. The answer involves simple contract law. The organizers do not guarantee that you will be provided opponents. They simply provide a venue for your desires. Naturally, the organizers reserve the right to pay out the amount corresponding to the round that you have qualified for at any given time.

At the Nordic "Wide" Open, we had both mini-jackpots and StopPots, so players could choose the format they favored. This choice resulted in an "extra option" for the players attending the tournament. Not surprisingly, the vast majority chose StopPots.

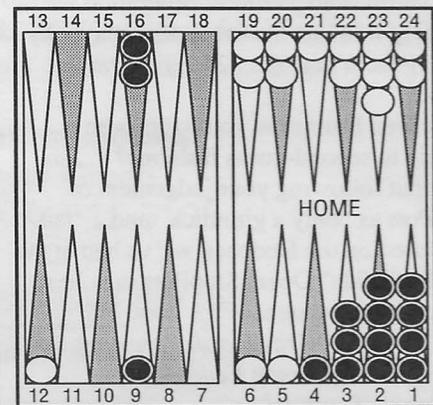
Personally, I do agree with Danny when he rates the importance of tournament matches much higher than the more-or-less "insignificant" jackpots. The chase for fame and glory—that's me. However, the "votes" of the players tell me that

[Continued on page 4]

your move

PROBLEM #215

1995 Michigan Summer Championships 13-point match. Paul Magriel (White) and Doug Mayfield (Black) are tied at 6-all. **BLACK TO PLAY 2-2.**



SHADES OF GRAY

A RULES AND RULINGS COLUMN

© 1995 by Danny Kleinman

SCORESHEET IS PART OF MATCH

Dear Danny: Recently I saw a player I respect keeping score for a match by writing not only the points obtained so far by each player, but also the points needed by each player. The scoresheet for a 7-point match between players Black and White might look like this:

| Black | 7 pts | White | |
|-------|-------|-------|----|
| 1 | -6 | 0 | -7 |
| 5 | -2 | 0 | -7 |
| 5 | -2 | 4 | -3 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
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| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

I thought this was a good idea, so I started doing it myself. Recently a player at

the local club, who is quite knowledgeable about backgammon rules, told me that he thought this was a violation, since one is not allowed to write down anything which would assist you. Another player at the club disagreed, saying that you can write the score in any format you like, including the needs x, needs y format, or for that matter, in binary or with Roman numerals. I think there are good arguments for both sides, but for the time being, I have stopped keeping score this way. What do you think?
—David Montgomery, Silver Spring, MD

DEAR DAVID: I agree with the first player at your club in objecting to writing the number of points needed for match victory on the scoresheet. Technically, it is a written aid, even if trivial. Using pencil and paper to tally or keep running pip counts would similarly violate the rules.

I believe there is a second, more significant reason for objecting, however. A scoresheet is not the private property of a player but a part of the match itself. An opponent has the right to examine and rely on it. Extraneous numbers may induce an error.

The rules presume (without explicitly requiring) that the score will be kept in the form of points already won using the common decimal notation: we need not

clutter up the rule book to say so.

I disagree vehemently with the second player at your club. If binary notation is permissible, then why not octal? When I run for Governor, conversion to octal will be a central plank in my platform, to be implemented by mandatory amputation of the finger Californians use so rudely to give the "bird" to their fellow mankind.

The value of octal notation may not be apparent in 7-point matches, but it becomes clearer in 15-point matches. Suppose that my opponent, taking the cube at 2, glances at my scoresheet and sees me leading, "13" to "11." Accordingly, he redoubles immediately. Of course, my "13" in octal means eleven, and his "11" means nine: hooray for "New Math!"

If my opponent is "numerate" in base-eight arithmetic, of course, I'll have to vary my tactics by keeping score in Hebrew. Hebrew, I'm told, is a truly wonderful language in which HE is SHE, WHO is HE, and ME is WHO. That'll confuse 'em even if octal notation does not.—Yours, Danny Δ

Have you ever been involved in a questionable ruling? Get Danny Kleinman's opinion. Write to: Shades of Gray; c/o CHICAGO POINT; 3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave.; Suite 504; Chicago, IL 60659-3128.

LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

Danny and I are not with the majority here. Tournament participants entered the StopPots in great numbers; but even more telling was the astonishing 200 players who came to the tournament for StopPots only.

Finally, it should be noted that Danny's article uses dollars when working out his example. At our tournament, we used Danish Crowns with an exchange rate of \$1 = 5.50 DKK. I make this point just so that nobody is under the impression that the Danish Backgammon Federation is "coining it in" on the low stakes player by forcing them in at the \$25 level straight away.

Indeed Danny, as you write, who is anyone to second-guess fashions? . . . so aptly put following your judgement of StopPots as "only a gimmick" and a "fad."

Based on the feedback we've had at the Nordic "Wide" Open, StopPots may be a natural improvement of the good old jackpot.—Erik Gravgaard, President, Danish Backgammon Federation, Birkerød, Denmark

Chris Ternel informs us that Niels Haarbo (programmer for the Shareware program "Bearoff Solver") has developed a computer program for the management of StopPots. The Beta version was successfully demonstrated at the recent Monte-Carlo Cup. Next year's Nordic "Wide" Open (5-8 April 1996) will use the program and Chris is certain that this will significantly reduce player waiting time.—Ed.

HENRY ENJOYS MATCHES

I'm still enjoying CHICAGO POINT. The game-ending moves of the match between Snellings and Sconyers (June 1995) were particularly interesting.—Henry Schwartz, Pompano Beach, FL

If it's recorded games you want, subscribe to the Hoosier Backgammon Club newsletter. Send \$12 for six issues (Canada \$14, Overseas \$16) to: Butch & Mary Ann Meese; 7620 Kilmer Lane; Indianapolis, IN 46256-1634—Ed.

A NEW QUESTION, AN OLD QUESTION

Can you suggest the best computer (portable, cheap, long battery life) to use with JellyFish?

Suppose I am flying to London and want to play backgammon for four of those eight boring hours. Which computer hardware (if any) will allow this without battery back-ups? What are the other players doing?

On an entirely different subject, will former Las Vegas Backgammon Club president Michael Maxakuli ever return my \$500 Life Membership fee to his now defunct club?—Jim Milner, San Francisco, CA

We're sure one of our computer-sharp readers will write in to answer your first question, Jim. However, don't hold your breath on recovering any Life Membership fees. Those investments are always "buyer beware."—Ed. Δ


Backgammon on Board III
Miami to Key West Cruise Tourney
19-22 January 1996
\$100 Deposit by 15 Sept.!
800/478-0433 (MC, Visa, AE)

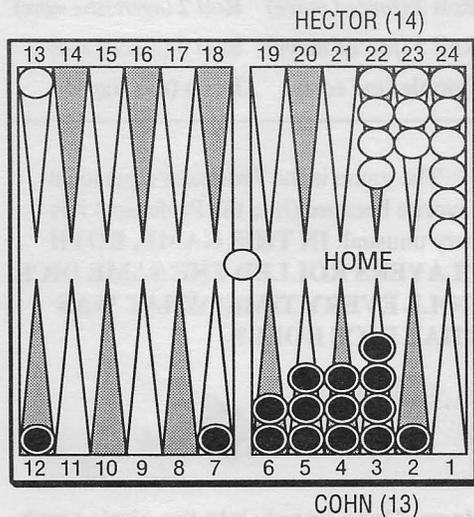
COHN WINS MICHIGAN...

[Continued from page 1]

Sensing that the time was right for escape, Harry player 24/18, 16/13. Homer responded with a 4-3, entering and hitting Harry on his 7-point. Hector eventually won an undoubted gammon to take a 13-11 lead.

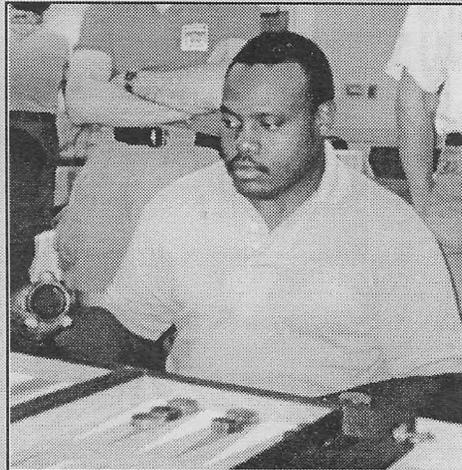
Afterwards, a number of players felt that because Cohn was not that pressed to escape, the consolidating 16/7 was best. Others felt that slotting the 3-point (12/3)

15-point Michigan finals. Harry Cohn (Black) trails Homer Hector (White) 14-13 Crawford. **BLACK ROLLS 6-6!**



'HOMERED' OUT OF THE PARK

Playing at the Michigan Summer Championships (his first regional event ever), Homer Hector knocked off a number of backgammon heavyweights. The "Homerized" casualty list appears at right.



Giant-Killer Homer Hector of Atlanta, GA

was the big play. There's no doubt that the choice is close, although Cohn still likes his play.

Homer eventually grabbed a 14-13 Crawford lead, but Harry appeared to be rolling an easy win home when the following position (shown at left) came about.

One play prior, Harry had known what a double 6 could do, but he had no reason-

R.I.P.

1995 Michigan Tourney
Victims of Homer Hector
(KG rating in parenthesis)

JEFF ACIERNO-(1612)

STU DUNKIN-(1530)

MALCOLM DAVIS-(1679)

BOB KOCA-(NR)

PAUL MAGRIEL-(1685)

EMIL MORTUK-(1545)

JOHN QUINN-(1690)

FRANK TALBOT-(1637)

TONI WUERSCH-(1404)

able way to avoid it. In one of his few rotten rolls of the weekend, Homer Hector missed the triple shot, tossing a 5-3 "brick."

A great victory for Harry Cohn who went on to win this game and the next one for his second Michigan Summer Championships title since 1991. And a great tournament for Homer Hector who described

[Continued on page 8]



43rd INDIANA Open Backgammon Tournament

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PUB CLUB: Tournaments Monday, 7:30 P.M. at Cricket's Pub & Grill, 602 W. North Ave., Glendale Hts. V. W. Zimmicki (708/924-8632).

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY: Tourn. Monday, 6:30 P.M. at Alexander's, 3101 E. 79th St., Chicago. J.A. Miller (312/768-5523).

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 Cummins Family Restaurant, 7929 N. Knoxville Ave., Peoria. Linda Woods (309/686-6662).

PRIME BG CLUB OF CHICAGO: Joann Feinstein is searching for a new location. Information: 708/674-0120.

NORTH CLUB: Daily side play except Sunday at 4747 W. Peterson (Bmt2), Chicago. Greg Defotis (312/286-6719).

Professor Parenthesis and the Mystery Roll

by Duane Jensen

I first met Professor Parenthesis on a city bus. I was the only passenger on the bus when the Professor, a tall, slender man stepped on, flashing his bus pass at the driver. He then proceeded to walk down the aisle and sit next to me in *my* seat. It's unnerving to have someone share your seat when the entire bus is empty. But as I was to find out, much of the Professor's behavior is unusual or contradictory.

The Professor is not a social animal, but it's easy to tell if he's taken a liking to you. He stands close to you when he speaks, positioning his face inches from yours as if he's spotted something in your eye that he's about to remove.

He always uses public transportation or rides his bike. He refuses to own a car because cars are "... the big polluters of the world." However, the Professor enjoys riding his bike behind buses because he likes the smell of the fumes.

He is a healthy and careful eater concentrating on fruits and vegetables. Yet he craves "The Vanilla Erection," his favorite dessert at Nikki's Restaurant. "The Vanilla Erection" is a warm white brownie with a scoop of vanilla ice cream and caramel sauce drizzled over it. This is topped off with a spire of whipped cream to give it some height.

Jokes are usually wasted on the Professor... he just doesn't *get* them. He does seem to have a sense of humor, though. The Campus Bar near the University of Minnesota uses an outdoor advertising sign with removable letters. The Professor likes to rearrange the letters to give a new message to passers-by. He took his cue from John Cleese whose show "Fawlty Towers" began with an opening shot of the hotel sign which sometimes displayed an anagram of Fawlty Towers such as Flowery Twats." Last month, Professor Parenthesis changed:

BEERS AND CABLE TV
AT THE CAMPUS!

to:

ESCAPE TV!
THE ALBERT CAMUS BAND

Perhaps Professor Parenthesis was trying to draw a more intellectual crowd to the Campus Bar.

The title "Professor Parenthesis" was bestowed on him because of his habit of making parenthetical remarks while speaking. His every thought is said aloud. The more private ones are muttered in a quiet monotone. It is a bit distracting for others, but you get accustomed to his peculiar habit. When a parenthetical remark slips



out, he usually turns his head to one side as an actor might while sharing an aside with the audience. You quickly learn to filter conversation from parenthetical babbling.

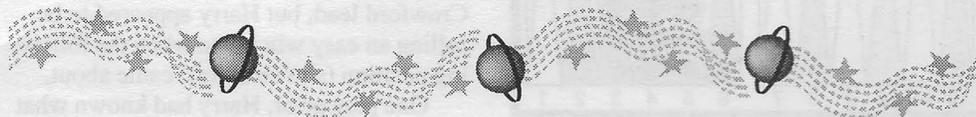
The Professor is eccentric in many ways. He does not play backgammon, labeling it "too competitive," but he loves to *watch* people play and has "recorded" many games and matches.

His method of recording matches is unique. Professor Parenthesis never records the dice rolls or the checker moves of the players. The only notation he makes is an occasional parenthetical remark about a dice roll or a checker play. Here is an example of his style of backgammon notation:

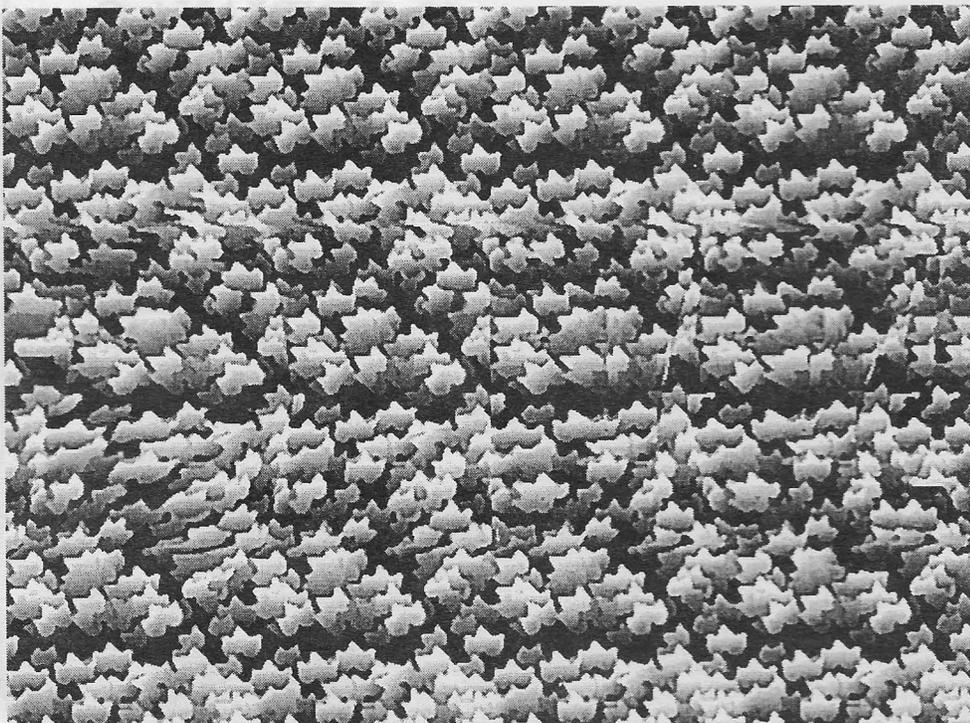
Recorded Game between Bob and Steve:

| <u>BOB</u> | <u>STEVE</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Roll 1 (<i>creative move</i>) | Roll 1 (<i>obvious move</i>) |
| Roll 2 (<i>forced move</i>) | Roll 2 (<i>aggressive move</i>) |
| Roll 3 (<i>forced move</i>) | Roll 3 (<i>forced move</i>) |
| Double (<i>too early</i>) | Drop (<i>too stupid</i>) |

The game is the Professor's personal favorite because (like the Professor) it is very unusual. **IN THIS GAME, BOTH PLAYERS ROLLED THE SAME DICE ROLL EVERY TIME! WHAT WAS THAT DICE ROLL?**



The dice roll is shown below in stereogram form. Gaze deeply into the photograph until the three dimensional dice appear. An explanation for the solution will be printed next month. [Editor's note: Duane Jensen is back!]



**WINNER'S
CORNER**



May-June 1995

1995 Argentine Championship (Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mondays in May)... CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Miguel Alesandro (2), Horacio Anitua (2), Leo Fernández Balague. JUNIOR WINNERS: Ariel Wainer, Eduardo Tapia (2), Nieves Macchiavelli, Veronica Dabul. BEGINNER WINNERS: Edmundo Gallo, Tatiana Kasan, Ana Maria Garayalde, Eli Agüero, Norma Bennun.

Atlanta Monthly (Atlanta, GA; 21 May)... MASTERS: 1-Samra Hadden, 2-Jim Hickey. OPEN: 1-James Sanders, 2-Ray Groncek.

County Cups Trophy Tournament #2 (Solihull, England; 27-28 May)... OPEN (100): 1-Derek Matheson, 2-Richard Wenban, 3-John Wright, 4-David Gallagher, 5-Julian Hayward, 6-Alan Beckerson, 7-Dale Taylor, 8-Mike Loughman. TOP LADY: Rosalie Johnson. BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME: Merrill Diplock. FRIDAY NIGHT KO: 1-Jeff Ellis, 2-Kate Hilton. DOUBLES (18): 1/2-Richard Beagarie & Graham Sievers / Dale Taylor & Sherry Yu.

1995 Argentine Championship (Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mondays in June)... CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Leo Fernández Balague, Gustavo Anapios, Fernando Iribarren, Juan Rosa. JUNIOR WINNERS: Verónica Dabul, Degardo Malcyk, Marta Scaba, Leandro Bou Abdo. BEGINNER WINNERS: Eugenia Safar, Marta Funes, Norma Bennun, Beatriz Amaya.

New England Club Playoffs (Cambridge, MA; 3-4 June)... EXPERT (7): 1-Alex Perry, 2-Evan Diamond. A DIV. (7): 1-Ming Lee, 2-Mark Damish. B DIV. (7): 1-Scott Gourley, 2-Al Mason.

Northern Ohio Monthly (Cuyahoga Falls, OH; 4 June)... OPEN (14): 1-Abbas Zaltash (PA), 2/3-Steve Hast (PA) / Joe Miller (OH).

Hong Kong Monthly (Hong Kong; 5 June)... OPEN: 1-Ernest Ho, 2-Gregg Westrick; 1C-Jonathan Barnes, 2C-Dinesh Mangharam. CHAMPIONSHIP: 1-Pearl Liu, 2-Olivia Lee; 1C-Lesley McFarlane, 2C-Harry Turner... *The Top-5 after this tournament were Jonathan Barnes, Andre Hoffman, Gregg Westrick, Marc Mostacci, and Ernest Ho.*

Bar Point Sunday (Oak Brook, IL; 11 June)... OPEN (21): 1/2-Harry Cohn / Paul Franks, 3/4-Bill Davis / Larry Strommen (IN); 1C-Ken Bond, 2C-Jeff Kane (WI). INTERMEDIATE (18): 1/2-Alice Kay / Jerry

Smith, 3/4-Jolie Rubin / Reggie Porter; 1C/2C-Jill Ferdinand / Paul Ruterman.

7th International City of Venice (Venice, Italy; 15-18 June)... MASTER (64): 1-Evert Van Eijck (HOL), 2-Garreth Bell (DEN), 3/4-Ingo Sporgies (GER) / Alberto Rusca (SWITZ); 1C-Guido Flamigni (ITA), 2C-Andreas Pournaras (GRE), 3C/4C-Giorgio Caldera (ITA) / Bertl Keil (GER); 1LC-Walter Busato (GER), 2LC-Xavier Braun (GER). ADVANCED (49): 1-Claus Weissbarth (GER), 2-Enrico Colangiulo (ITA), 3/4-Giuliano Riavez (ITA) / Michele Raducanu (RUM); 1C-Segfried Tonzer (GER), 2C-Mauro Cusmai (ITA), 3C/4C-Gunther Holzinger (GER) / Marco Negro (ITA); 1LC-Jonathan Bennetts (CAN), 2LC-Sergio Montefusco (ITA). INTERMEDIATE (55): 1-Luciano Rubbi (ITA), 2-Fabio Conserva (ITA), 3/4-Armin Fischer (GER) / Martin Jaeger (AUS); 1C-Massimo Crippa (ITA), 2C-Max Futino (ITA), 3C/4C-Maurizio Molinari (ITA) / Bruno Dal Rio (ITA); 1LC-Alberto da Pra, 2LC-Nicoletta Astori (ITA). 1-POINT TOURNAMENT (256): 1-Sandro Fiorentini (ITA), 2-Sandro Fiorentini (ITA), 3/4-David Bridges (GB) / Matthias Körner (GER). WARM-UP (100): 1-Paolo Michelini (ITA), 2-Matthias Körner (GER). SUPER-JACKPOT (8): 1-Bertl Keil (GER), 2-Gad Carmeli (ISR). SPEED GAMMON (24): 1-Alan Steffen (USA), 2-Zbigniew Szczerek (POL). VENE-

TIAN BLITZ (64): 1-Alan Steffen (USA), 2-Walter Busato (ITA). TEAM EVENT (14): 1-The Champions (Israel, Germany), 2-Paganos (ITA). DOUBLES (16): 1-Alan Steffen & Emil Mortuk (USA), 2-Matthias Körner & Reiner Birkle (GER)... *Tourney organizer Dario De Toffoli reports that nearly 200 players from 17 countries participated. Besides the traditional Jackpots (over 80 were held), the tournament featured a beginner's "school" where it was possible to learn how to play backgammon from an expert, a team event, traditional doubles, Speed Gammon, and 1-point matches.*

First Kaiserbrunnen Cup (Bielefeld, Germany; 29 June-2 July)... CHAMPIONSHIP (53): 1-Gernot Blum, 2-Carsten Joh, 3/4-Ekrim Basdas / Harald Johanni; 1C-Kajetan Pfeuffer, 2C-Peter Heitmüller; 1LC-Igor Kaplanski. INTERMEDIATE (26): 1-Oliver Pott, 2-Holger Eng, 3/4-Alex Kotzoridis / Jürgen Orłowski; 1C-Marcel Vogt (SWITZ), 2C-Kevin McDonough (USA); 1LC-Rainhard Berkholtz. BEGINNER (19): 1-Andreas Humke, 2-Sigrid Mühlbauer, 3/4-Judith Hentschel / Anja Ewers; 1C-Mike Friedrich, 2-Herbert Kruse; 1LC-Uwe Slabke. BLITZ (50): 1-Daggi Pappas, 2-Frank Mogler, 3/4-Gordon Cross / Thomas Lumper. SUPER JACKPOT: 1-Matthias Körner, 2-Ralf Jonas. TENNIS: 1-Oliver Pott. MINI-GOLF: 1-Carsten Joh. ARCHERY: 1-Helmut Klug. Δ

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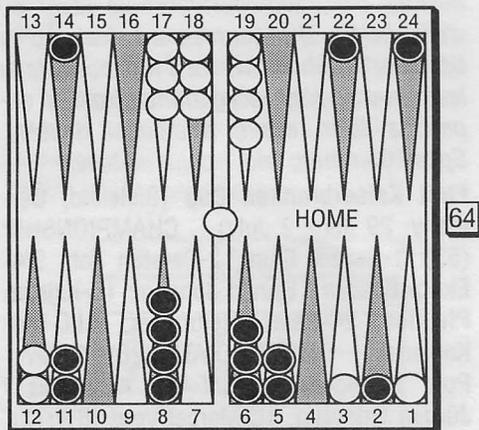
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PROBLEM #214 SOLVED

by Kit Woolsey

Match to 9 points. White leads Black 7 to 6. **BLACK TO PLAY 2-2.**



This problem should not exist. Black should definitely have turned the cube before this roll. This would be a very sound money double with a clear advantage and plenty of strong threats. At the given match score, with White unable to use the cube once she owns it and with gammons helping Black but not White, it is doubtful if White even has a take. Thus, I will examine this problem ignoring the cube position and just look at the merits of each play.

Black has three main approaches:

- (a) The pure play: 8/4(2)
- (b) The safe play: 22/20, 8/2
- (c) The blitzing play: 6/2, 5/3(2)*

There are variations on some of the themes (e.g., we might play 22/20, 8/4, 6/4), but the above three seem to be the best way to carry out each theme. Let's stick with them and try to choose a winner.

The pure play (a) gives Black a very solid position. The main drawback, of course, is the blot left dangling on the 2-point. This is quite serious. Not only does Black lose a lot of ground if the blot is hit, but if it is missed, he still has the difficult problem of cleaning it up next roll. Purity is nice, but it may be that this play gives White too many good rolls: 2s to hit, and 3s to make the advanced anchor.

The safe play (b) leaves White little to shoot at, and gives Black good distribution with which to follow through if White is unable to anchor. The big downside comes when White does anchor on Black's 3-point. Suddenly ownership of the 2-point almost becomes a liability, as these checkers are

basically out of play. Just like the pure play, this choice gives White some rolls which definitely put her back in the game.

The ugly blitzing play (c) might not even occur to some players. It leaves a very awkward structure with no builder on the 6-point, four checkers on the 8-point, and the valuable 5- and 4-points left open. However, it has two very important things going for it.

First, two of White's checkers are on the bar. It is impossible to overestimate how powerful this can be, especially against a three point board. 25% of the time, White will flunk, and Black will be in great position to distribute his builders and move in for the kill. 50% of the time White will only enter one checker, and Black will still have pretty much a free hand to continue the attack. Only the 25% of the time White enters both checkers will Black really wish he hadn't made this play.

Second, White is prevented from making an advanced anchor. This is extremely important. After either the pure play or the safe play, if White rolls a 3, she is in the game forever with a very solid

position. After the blitzing play, White will have to roll two good numbers to get the advanced anchor she badly needs.

Another hidden advantage of the blitzing play is that the checkers on the 11-point are suddenly activated as builders for an inner board point. As long as the 5-point is made, these checkers are somewhat out of play. However with the 5-point being a point Black is trying to make, these checkers are once again very important.

Putting it all together, it looks like the "ugly" blitzing play is the winner. The gains from sending the second checker to the bar and preventing White from making the advanced anchor appear to more than make up for the bad distribution and loss of the valuable 5-point.

THIS SORT OF SWITCHING PLAY is often missed at the table. It is very natural to think that once the 5-point is made, you will want to hold it forever, so the switch isn't even considered as a candidate. Be on the lookout for such plays at all times, especially when a blitz is a possible strategy. They are often big winners. Δ

COHN WINS MICHIGAN...

[Continued from page 5]

his weekend performance in one word: "Awesome."

CONGRATULATIONS to Intermediate champ Todd Doucet (PA) who held off the more experienced David Rubin to win his first major title. And a pat on the back to young Airan Friedman (Canada) for winning the novice title.



Intermediate champ Todd Doucet (right) accepts congratulations from runner-up David Rubin as director Carol Joy Cole looks on.

In other events, Malcolm Davis got revenge by defeating Harry Cohn in the \$500 Super Jackpot, Ed King (OH) won the Michigan Blitz, and the Ohio team of Joe Miller and Mike Rezai won the Doubles.

An exciting tournament and another job well done by Ms. Cole and staff. Results:

OPEN (87): 1-Harry Cohn (IL), 2-Homer Hector (GA), 3-Toni Wuersch (MA), 4/5-Bill Davis (IL) / Frank Talbot (MI); **1C-Paul Magriel (NY), 2C-Jake Jacobs (IL), 3C/4C-Mike Friedman (Can) / Doug Roberts (MA).** **INTERMEDIATE (74):** 1-Todd Doucet (PA), 2-David Rubin (IL), 3-Mike Rezai (OH), 4/5-Austin Healy (NY) / Janice Newman (IN); **1C-Wally Wolf (MI), 2C-Randy Douthat (CA), 3C/4C-Richard Armbruster (CA) / Takis Sakkalis (Greece).** **NOVICE (25):** 1-Airan Friedman (Can), 2-Priscilla Sullivan (MI); **1C-Beverly Banowitz (MI), 2C-Bernadine Shelbourne (Can).** **\$500 SUPER JACKPOT (16):** 1-Malcolm Davis (TX), 2-Harry Cohn (IL). **FIRECRACKER JACKPOTS:** **\$1,000 (8):** 1/2-Joe Monro (MI) / Joe Russell (CA); **\$300 (16):** 1-David Wells (MA), 2-Joe Sylvester (MI); **\$100 (8):** 1-Dennis Rutkowski (CA), 2-Larry Liebster (NJ). **MICHIGAN BLITZ (128):** 1-Ed King (OH), 2-Rick Todd (MI). **BONUS BLITZ (32):** 1-Walter Trice (MA). **OPEN DOUBLES (32):** 1-Joe Miller (OH) & Mike Rezai (OH), 2-Richard Armbruster & Ray Fogerlund (CA), 3/4-Gary Fritzsche & John Quinn (MI) / Marta Hillworth (IN) & Emil Mortuk (MI). **LTD DOUBLES (16):** 1-Joan Hac (KY) & Greg Shoults (OH), 2-Ernie Denenfeld & Dick Nelson (MI). **OVERFLOW DOUBLES (8):** 1-Michel Merlitti & Carl Sellars (Can). **SUMMER FREEZEOUT (32):** 1-Jack Takala (MI), 2-Jim Wallace (Canada). **DETROIT QUICKIES: \$20 (64):** 1-Jeff Acierno (NY). **\$10 (64):** 1-Shuman Lee (MN). **\$10 OVERFLOW (32):** 1-Zohreh Zafarianian (TX). **EARLYBIRD JACKPOTS: \$50 (16):** 1-John Quinn (MI), 2-Peter Kalba (IL); **\$25 (16):** 1-Richard Armbruster (CA), 2-Kim Starbuck (OH).

AMALGAMATION

The Atlanta Backgammon Association has a new meeting location: The Three Dollar Cafe in Buckhead, GA. For more information, call **Dave Cardwell** at 404/266-8667 or e-mail: BGINGA@aol.com... **Jim Pappas** (IL) passed away 17 June after a long illness. His last Bar Point Club play date was 13 June. That evening, **David Rubin** (IL) asked him how he was feeling and Jim replied, "Terrible, I'm dying." Jim is survived by his wife **Betty** and son **Jim, Jr.**... Visiting the Bar Point Club in June: **Gregg Westrick** (Hong Kong), **Mark King** (CA), **Howard Markowitz** (NV), **Nora Luna** (MA) and **Bob Ebbeler** (CA)... Bar Point Club player **Marty Tatosian** (IL) loves to tell you about his new grandson **Daniel Oscar Nersasian** (NJ) born 17 June. Parents **Lucy & John** are quite happy, too!... Another new BPC grandfather: **George Barr** (IL). **Christopher Barr Monbey** was born to **Todd & Jeanne** 25 January.... The word is that artist **Tak Morioka's** (IL) backgammon boards are some of the finest crafted in the world. Just ask new owners **Maurice Barie**

(MI) and **Dave Williams** (CA). For more information, contact Tak at 312/465-0675 ... Do you know the whereabouts of a new, one-of-a-kind bright teal green backgammon board wrapped in ultra-suede? It disappeared from the backgammon boutique at the Michigan Summer Championships last month. If so, contact **Carol Joy Cole** (MI) at 810/232-9731. There is a reward... Two new books came across our desk last month: *Long Road To Gammon* (\$32) by **Danny Kleinman** (CA) 213/294-4551 and *DOUBLE... now?* (\$20) by **James Lortz** (ID) 208/756-6042. For more info, contact the authors... **Arnold Zousmer** (CA) informs us that the San Diego Backgammon Club is without weekly tournaments. Director **Mike Fujita** (CA) hopes to rectify the situation soon... The "Extra" television program had an exclusive interview with **Gaby Horowitz** (**O.J. Simpson** prosecutor **Marcia Clark's** ex-husband) on 10 July. Gaby was interviewed in Israel with his mother at his side. Confined to a wheel chair as a result of an accidental shooting a few years back, Horowitz answered questions with hand signals. He admitted to physically abusing Clark (earlier reported in the National Enquirer). He also claimed that he and

Clark had met O.J. a number of times when he was hustling backgammon in the 1970s. Clark has repeatedly denied both occurrences... **Bobbie Shifrin** (IL) staged a beautiful wedding for her youngest daughter **Susan Karen Shifrin** who married **Larry Hirsch** on 25 June at the Westin Hotel O'Hare. A number of area backgammon players attended including **Arline Levy**, **Joann Feinstein**, **Paul & Mary Franks**, **Bill Davis**, **Peter Kalba**, **Harry Cohn**, **Marcy Sloan**, **Andy Krenitz** and **Howard & Linda Ring**... **Lincoln Bedell** (NH) and **Ron Whitney** (NJ) have announced plans to combine their two fall events (Backgammon in the Berkshires and The Big Apple Series) into the Northeast Regional Championship. The individual who has the best results for the two events (using the ABT point system) will have his name engraved on a 6" stone doubling cube permanently on display at the Oak & Spruce in South Lee, MA. As an added bonus, there will be a drawing for nearly \$1000 in backgammon merchandise (including an \$850 backgammon board) to those attending... If there's such a thing as a summer "backgammon" movie, it has to be "**Pocahontas**." The picture is full of beavers and raccoons! Δ

June contest results

BENJAMIN'S ENTRY TOPS 100 OTHERS IN 'DOG'S LIFE' CONTEST

Art Benjamin's entry was the run-away winner among 100+ entries in last month's "It's A Dog's Life" caption contest. Of the 11 directors acting as judges, nine included Benjamin's caption in their top three picks. Art earns \$50 for his effort, shown below the photo at right.

Congratulations to the contest runner's-up:

Starry Knights (San Francisco, CA) "*Let me get this straight. If I don't let you win, I'm sleepin' in the dog house tonight.*"

CHICAGO POINT (Chicago, IL) "*Forget backgammon. Let's just play 'Bury the Bone.'*"

Sassan Kamali (West Hills, CA) "*How is it? You always shake a big pair.*"

Lucky Nelson (Arlington Hts., IL) "*Can I have my choice of cups?*"

Gerald Kane (Wilbraham, MA) "*I'll double early if you promise to beaver me.*"

Ken Ellenberger (Hawthorne, CA) "*Let's not let a back game keep us from my obedience training.*"

Thanks to our judges: Dean Adamian, Linc Bedell, Carol Joy Cole, Patrick Gibson, Drew Giovanis, Steve Hast, Peter Kalba, Steve Manning, Butch Meese, Mary Ann Meese, and Barry Steinberg. Δ



Would you believe my dice fell under the table again?

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September 8-10, 1995

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To be announced at the tournament
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The Park Hotel has agreed to offer two nights free of charge in the Hotel for players who stay one full week (arrival date Sept. 4, departure date Sept. 11, 1995) . . . 100% return of the entry fees . . . Trophies to be awarded in all three divisions and the Black-jack tournament . . . Nova Gorica is in the country renowned for good food and wine. Air temperature in August is 15 to 23° C.

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