

1996 monte-carlo world championship

## NAHMAD EDGES VAHAB IN DOUBLE MATCH POINT WORLD FINAL

by Harald Johanni

David Nahmad didn't have to travel far for this year's Backgammon World Championship. The 49-year-old Lebanese-born art dealer who lives in host city Monte Carlo has won the 21st edition of the most prestigious event in the world. The tournament, staged once again at Loews Monte Carlo Hotel (8-14 July), garnered world-wide participation in excess of 350 players.



World Backgammon Champ David Nahmad with son Joseph. [Photo by Harald Johanni]

The 49-year-old Nahmad, who has played backgammon since he was 6 years old, slithered through a tough field of players including: Jim Colen, Dennis Carlston, Inoue from Japan, Chris Ternel, Yannis Tomazos and Manfred Hollender before facing Israeli Shlomo Vahab in the finals. Five of his seven victories were at double match point including the 25-point finals annotated below:

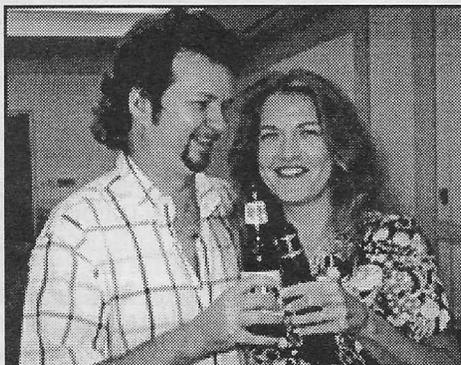
- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Shlomo Vahab-24    | David Nahmad-24 |
| 1. 62: 24/18 13/11 | 64: 24/14*      |
| 2. 32: B/22 13/11* | 31: B/21        |

[Continued on page 5]

michigan summer championships

## CULPEPPER HANGS ON UNDERDOG MACLEAN FALLS ONE MATCH SHORT

Over 200 players came to The Novi Hilton Hotel in Novi Michigan to celebrate the 4th of July and the biggest American backgammon tournament of the Summer. The biggest celebrator was Dennis Culpepper who was crowned



Dennis Culpepper and Linda MacLean toast their upcoming finals match.

Michigan Summer Champion.

It was no walk in the park for the man from Chesterfield, Virginia. A two-time Eastern Open victor in the late 1980s, Culpepper faced Linda MacLean. Playing in her first Open backgammon tournament outside of her home state (Massachusetts), Linda was a big underdog when the two met in the Main Flight undefeated bracket. But that didn't stop the spunky MacLean, who used to work as a model. She took Dennis to double match-point and was bearing in for the victory when she was forced to leave a shot. Dennis hit to turn the game around and send Linda to the 2nd Chance bracket.

But Linda stayed tough, defeating Jim Pascoe, then Tak Morioka to earn another shot at Culpepper. But she would have to win two 13-point matches in a row to take the title.

The first match went right down to the wire with Linda rallying from a 10-8 deficit to win 13-10. But misfortune (and perhaps lack of sleep) finally caught up with her. Dennis easily won the rubber

[Continued on page 5]

## BACKGAMMON: YIPPIE!



Here's current Rochester BG Club director Renée Rosenbloom playing in the finals of a late 1970s Thousand Islands Club tournament in Alexandria Bay, NY. Recognize the event director (in the hat)? It's Abbie Hoffman who, using the alias "Barry Freed," was in hiding from the FBI. Hoffman, who gained notoriety at the 1968 Democratic National Convention as one of the "Chicago 7," eventually gave himself (and backgammon) up.

# CHICAGO POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

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## LETTERS

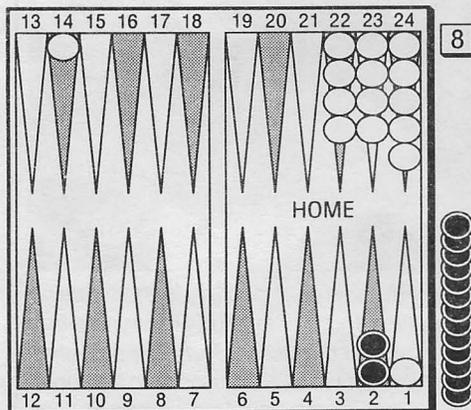
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## EVEN SICKER

It was fun reading about my worst loss in Duane Jensen's front page story last month ("Running Off The Ace Point"), but he had the position wrong. The loss was even sicker! As Black, this is the position I lost:

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



[Continued on page 3]

coming attractions

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



by Carol Joy Cole  
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\* Denotes new or revised listing

### NATIONAL

*American Backgammon Tour events underlined.*

Aug 10*	Midtown "Sweet 16" Invitational, Midtown Club, New York, NY	212/935-9800
Aug 11	Summer Cool Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL	312/252-7755
Aug 11-18	World Cup V and U.S. Open, Harvey's Hotel Addison, Dallas, TX	301/299-8265
Aug 18	CIBC Summer Sizzler, Sly Fox Pub, Lacon, IL	309/686-6662
Aug 18	Backgammon By The Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	510/838-7789
Aug 21*	RSCARDS Summer 1996 Computer Modem Tournament, GEnie	800/638-9636
Aug 22	Special Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Aug 25*	Northern Ohio Monthly Tournament, Aroma Coffee & Tea, Akron, OH	330/966-2811
<u>Aug 30-Sep 2</u>	<u>44th Indiana Open, Radisson Hotel, Indianapolis, IN</u>	<u>317/255-8902</u>
Aug 31	Beverly Hills Monthly Tournament, Clarine's, Beverly Hills, CA	310/273-1632
Sep 1*	Games Grid Online Tournament, via computer modem	lainer@cwconnect.ca
Sep 7	Midtown "Sweet 16" Invitational, Midtown Club, New York, NY	212/935-9800
Sep 7	CBOB First Saturday Monthly Tournament, Clubroom, Chicago, IL	312/922-0404
Sep 15	Backgammon By The Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	510/838-7789
<u>Sep 20-22</u>	<u>Minnesota State Champs, Minneapolis Athletic Club, Minneapolis, MN</u>	<u>612/378-1536</u>
<u>Sep 27-29</u>	<u>Towpath Inn Tournament, Towpath Inn, Turin, NY</u>	<u>716/442-8221</u>
Sep 28	Beverly Hills Monthly Tournament, Clarine's, Beverly Hills, CA	310/273-1632
Sep 29	Bar Point Sunday Tournament, Braxton Seafood Grill, Oak Brook, IL	312/583-6464
Sep 29*	Austin Bimonthly Tournament, Bombay Bicycle Club, Austin TX	512/261-8518
Oct 1*	FIBS 1996 Fall Tournament, via computer modem	davide@sco.com
Oct 1*	Games Grid Online Tournament, via computer modem	lainer@cwconnect.ca
<u>Oct 3-6</u>	<u>Illinois State Champs &amp; America Cup, Holiday Inn, Rolling Meadows, IL</u>	<u>847/945-7801</u>
Oct 5*	Midtown "Sweet 16" Invitational, Midtown Club, New York, NY	212/935-9800
Oct 5*	CBOB First Saturday Monthly Tournament, Clubroom, Chicago, IL	312/922-0404
<u>Oct 11-13</u>	<u>Nation's Capital Championships, Promenade, Bethesda, MD</u>	<u>301/530-0604</u>
Oct 16*	RSCJIDS 1996 Fall Computer Modem Tournament, GEnie	301/294-2212
<u>Oct 18-20</u>	<u>Big Apple Series, NY/NJ location to be announced</u>	<u>201/833-2915</u>
Oct 20*	Backgammon By The Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	510/838-7789
<u>Oct 25-27</u>	<u>Backgammon in the Berkshires, Oak &amp; Spruce Center, South Lee, MA</u>	<u>603/863-4711</u>
<u>Oct 25-27</u>	<u>Autumn Gran Prix, Embassy Suites Hotel, San Diego, CA</u>	<u>619/294-2007</u>
Nov 6-10	Las Vegas Open, Riviera Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV	702/893-6025
Nov 19*	BPC 14th Annual Fall Trophy Tourney, Golden Flame, Chicago, IL	312/583-6464
<u>Nov 29-Dec 1</u>	<u>2nd Thanksgiving Tournament, Best Western Hotel, Akron, OH</u>	<u>216/966-2811</u>
<u>Dec 6-8</u>	<u>37th Gammon Assoc. Invitational, Holiday Inn, Woodland Hills, CA</u>	<u>818/901-0464</u>

### OUTSIDE USA

Aug 15-18	Palace Summer Champs, Badrutt's Palace Hotel, St. Moritz, Switzerland	4161-2710137
Aug 16-18	Franken Ganz Open II, Hotel Schwarzer Adler, Uttenreuth, Germany	49911-6699678
Aug 17-18	S.A.C. Trophy Tournament, George Hotel, Solihull, England	441522-546993
Aug 19*	Special Hong Kong Tournament, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong	852-8461923
Aug 22-25	Rio de Janeiro Tournament, Miramar Palace Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	5521-2676033
Aug 24-25*	Berlincup, Berlin-Pavillon & Havelcup, Café Belmont, Berlin, Germany	49521-64314
Aug 30-Sep 1	Bass British Festival, Watermill Hotel, Hemel Hempstead, UK	44161-945 3741
Aug 31-Sep 1*	De Jydske Mesterkaber 1996, Bridgelokalerne, Århus, Denmark	4586-134963
Sep 2	Hong Kong Club Monthly Tourney, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong	852-8461923
Sep 6-8	6th Mitteleuropa Tournament, Casinò Park, Nova Gorica, Slovenia	392-40074658
Sep 7-8	DM Doubles, Selskabslokalerne, Copenhagen, Denmark	4539-400607
Sep 14-18	Balkan International Open Tournament, Duni Black Sea Resort, Bulgaria	359-2723612
Sep 28-29*	2nd Tournament of the City of Bologna, Hotel Zola, Bologna, Italy	3951-374349
Sep 28-29	Sjælland Open 1996, Roskilde Backgammon Club, Roskilde, Denmark	4542-366112
Sep 29-Oct 4	3rd German Open, Hotel am Kaiserbrunnen, Brakel, Germany	49521-64314
Oct 4-6	Asian Championships, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong	852-8461923
Oct 5-6	Sandy Osborne Memorial Tournament, George Hotel, Solihull, England	441522-546993
Oct 12-13	Abne Fyns Mesterkaber, Fyns Backgammon Union, Odense, Denmark	4565-911995
Oct 19-20*	4th Irish Open, Wynn's Hotel, Dublin, Ireland	3531-6689332
Oct 25-27	Two Nations Cup, Watermill Hotel, Hemel Hempstead, UK	44161-9453741
Oct 25-28	Rio de Janeiro Internat'l Tournament, Hotel Intercontinental, Rio, Brazil	5521-2676033
Oct 30-Nov 3*	Grand Prix de Suisse, Hotel Splendide Royale, Lugano, Switzerland	4179-3374425
Oct 31-Nov 3*	First São Paulo Open, Club Homs, São Paulo, Brazil	5521-2676033
Nov 2-4	2nd Japan Open, Nakano Sun Plaza, Tokyo, Japan	813-33733814
Nov 7-10*	NRW Championships, Holiday Inn, Düsseldorf/Kaarst, Germany	49215-1501359
Nov 16-17*	Townharbour TT Trophy Tournament, George Hotel, Solihull, England	441522-546993
Nov 23-24*	DM 96 og DM u.21, Østerbro, Denmark	4549-400607
Dec 6-8*	CB Software British Open, Watermill Hotel, Hemel Hempstead, UK	44161-9453741
Dec 12-15*	Rio de Janeiro Tournament, Miramar Palace Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	5521-2676033

# LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

I will never forget this loss.—*Fred Kalantari, Edina, MN*

## NO JAKE

I was disappointed not to see something by Jake Jacobs in the June CHICAGO POINT. He is so, so funny!—*Ray Foglerlund, Taft, CA*

*Jake and Walter Trice are putting the finishing touches on their upcoming book, Can a Fish Taste Twice as Good? Look for a new article by Jake in the September POINT.*—*Ed.*

## REPORT FULL CONTEST RESULTS

When you run a contest like the Golden Rectangle, I think you publish the names of all the correct solvers. Two reasons: (1) doing so would let those who didn't win the

random draw know that their entries were received and correctly scored; and (2) which players and analysts are able to solve such a problem is interesting information in itself.

Also, there was a typo in your printed solution. (0-2-5-3-0) should have been (0-2-5-0-8).—*Walter Trice, Holden, MA*

*Thanks for the suggestion, Walter. The correct solvers were: Danny Kleinman (random draw winner), Tom Keith, Saul Meir, Alice Kay, Gary Kay, and Walter Trice.*—*Ed.*



## AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 1996

Compiled through 4 Aug. 1996 after 9 tournaments

(Next up: Indianapolis National Labor Day Tournament)



Dennis Culpepper	31.00	Blake Sorem	7.60	Doug Roberts	3.85	Dan Loughren	2.15
Dave Cardwell	26.70	Steve Petersen	7.60	Mike Ungerleider	3.82	Larry Deckel	1.88
John O'Hagan	23.03	Al Jones	7.50	Ray Gronck	3.82	Ed King	1.63
Jake Jacobs	22.88	Jolie Rubin	7.23	Gus Contos	3.79	Lee Pflugrad	1.61
David Jaffe	22.68	Mike Reklaitis	7.20	Odis Chenault	3.79	Gary Fries	1.57
Bruce Brown	18.00	Austin Healy	6.44	Jerry Ungar	3.43	Wally Wolf	1.57
Art Benjamin	16.50	Tim Mabee	6.40	Frank Dickerson	3.33	Jill Ferdinand	1.56
Linda MacLean	15.50	Kevin Muench	5.86	Georgina Flanagan	3.32	Kandice Kane	1.50
Tak Morioka	15.22	Elijah Miller	5.70	Jonathan Bennetts	3.25	Ora Friedman	1.50
Ernest Ho	15.21	Francois Margot	5.67	Paul Friedman	3.20	George Foster	1.38
Marc Ingenoso	13.30	Reza Nowbar	5.67	Pete Ryder	3.15	Adam Tyson	1.33
Bruce Pollack	12.93	Ray Glaeser	5.67	Ray Baker	3.15	Bruce Ballance	1.19
Howard Levine	12.88	Ali Haddad	5.61	Ron Weiner	2.89	Harold Roberson	1.19
Kent Goulding	11.53	Judy Collins	5.58	Jeff Kaiserman	2.84	Wanda delaBarre	1.04
Rob Maier	11.44	Bob Koca	5.38	Ray Bills	2.84	Kim Starbuck	1.04
Harry Cohn	11.34	James Rosten	5.20	Alkis Pappas	2.78	Greg Bradfield	1.00
Abdi Zaltash	11.34	Dean Adamian	4.80	George Photias	2.76	Peaches Stewart	0.96
Wally Watson	11.34	Jack Kissane	4.44	John Brooks	2.75	Gary Gardner	0.94
Carl Adamec	10.96	Bob Bishop	4.44	Bob Lumbra	2.56	Walt Swan	0.94
Bill Talmadge	10.80	Hersel Namdar	4.16	Ed Johnson	2.56	Bruce Russell	0.93
Kit Woolsey	10.40	Jim Mieske	4.16	Russ Hoser	2.40	Boris Mindich	0.70
David Wells	9.67	Clarine	4.13	Keith Jackson	2.38	Al Goyburu	0.67
Janice Newman	8.52	Ron Bruns	4.12	Reggie Porter	2.36	Kwong Chan	0.60
Greg Lilley	8.35	Jim Pascoe	4.00	Jeff Acierno	2.16	Al Mason	0.52
Mario Sequeira	8.25	Drew Giovanis	3.87				

## CALLING ALL AUTHORS

As a semiprofessional BG player and head of the board of directors of one of the largest and most active clubs in Germany (BC Bardancer), I get many requests for Backgammon publications and literature in German language. Do you know any authors who might be interested in having their publications translated into German? Many of today's books would be a valuable addition to the German reader's library. At the same time, the author would receive additional deserved profit from his work.—*Marc Anders, Fuerth, Germany, Phone/Fax: 49911-7419555, e-mail: 101741.2002@compuserve.com*

## PLAYING TO AN INCORRECT MATCH LENGTH

I must strongly disagree with two of the ruling's in "Shades of Gray Ruling Contest 3" (Issues 88 & 89). Both cases involved a

[Continued on page 4]



## CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 1996 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED THRU 31 JUL.

Neil Kazaross	16.36	John Demian	4.88	Marty Tatosian	2.40	Don Jayhan	0.84
Reggie Porter	14.00	Mary Franks	4.88	David Rubin	2.16	Sarg Serges	0.80
Richard Lloyd	13.84	Arline Levy	4.64	Jerry Brooks	2.00	Elaine Kehm	0.80
Herb Roman	12.80	Jeff Kane	4.40	Dean Muench	1.88	Fred Gehlhoff	0.72
Tim Mabee	12.04	Bobbie Shifrin	4.40	Tak Morioka	1.76	David Flinn	0.64
Jake Jacobs	10.08	Stu Katz	4.36	Henry Gray	1.60	Ralph Levy	0.60
Paul Friedman	9.44	Paul Klein	4.32	Marcy Sloan	1.52	Marv Arnol	0.60
Peter Kalba	8.92	Tim Serges	4.08	Nora Luna	1.44	Peaches Stewart	0.56
Andy Krenitz	8.88	Bill Keefe	3.92	Harold Seif	1.28	Roz Ferris	0.56
Harry Cohn	8.44	Alice Kay	3.92	Russell Harris	1.28	Jolie Rubin	0.46
Ken Bond	7.52	Wendy Kaplan	3.92	Ernest Ho	1.12	Richard Stawowy	0.44
Paul Franks	6.80	Bob Koca	3.84	Wally Wolf	0.96	Tom Fahland	0.40
Joann Feinstein	6.20	Leslie Lockett	3.80	Darryl Purpose	0.88	Bruce Pollack	0.32
Ed Buerger	5.84	Phil Simborg	3.44	Jon Vietor	0.88	Elaine Andrews	0.24
Phyllis Smolinski	5.42	Georgina Flanagan	3.36	Mark King	0.88	Scott Richardson	0.20
Norma Shyer	5.40	Frankie Farjood	2.80	V.W. Zimmnicki	0.88	Travis Kane	0.20
Gary Kay	5.36	Amy Valerio	2.60	Steve Klesker	0.88	Scott Kaplan	0.16
Bill Davis	4.92	John Stryker	2.56				

REGGIE PORTER's 3.36 July point total earned him Player of the Month honors and vaulted him into 2nd place in the standings. Stu Katz (2.60) and Jake Jacobs (2.56) were runners-up.

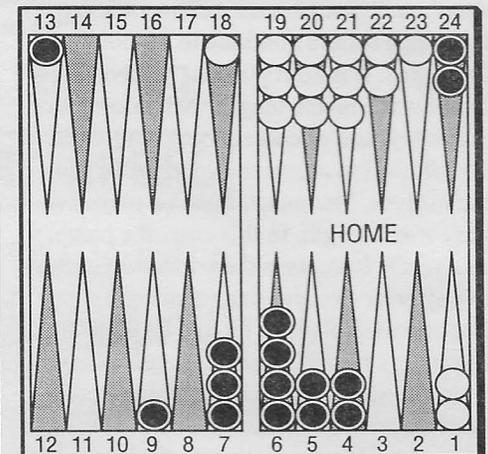
your move

## PROBLEM #227

to be analyzed by Harry Cohn

Tournament double match point.

BLACK TO PLAY 6-3.



# DEAR MISS LONELYBLOTS



© 1996 by Danny Kleinman

## ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR

**D**ear Miss Lonelyblots: While visiting Savannah this summer, I dropped in at Savvy's to play in a backgammon tournament. Drawing Lamebrain Lothario as my first opponent was almost like getting a bye. With far more interesting matches nearby, Charlie Champion, who had drawn a bye, sat down beside Lothario to watch ours.

Lothario was pleasant enough for the first two games, but when I jumped out to a 4-1 lead in the match, his manner changed. He began to make sexually suggestive remarks that I won't repeat here. I didn't know if he was trying to distract me or was genuinely interested. I was definitely not interested in him, so I said, "Please, Lothario, let's just play the game without further conversation."

Lothario took umbrage . . . and another bad cube. He continued his lewd chatter. When I rolled a good number, he asked, "Are you as hot as your dice?" On rolling double-4s, he said, "How do you like those k-----s!" referring to a prominent part of my female anatomy.

Soon I faced a difficult move, and made what I thought was my best play. Instead of rolling, Lothario turned to the kibitzer and said, "Charlie me boy, you wouldn't have played it that way, would you?"

"No," said Charlie. "The expert play here is . . ."

"That's enough!" I cried. "Director!" Mogul Moe, the proprietor, approached. "What's the problem, boys?"

"I was just asking Charlie about a move that was already played. Hotlips over here objects," said Lothario.

"A move already made?" asked Moe. "I see nothing wrong with that. Hotlips, . . ."

"It's Laura," I interrupted.

"Laura, Flora, whatever, we play a friendly game down here in Savannah. If you can't stand a little innocent talk, stay out of the kitchen."

I had no choice but to suffer through the rest of the match with Lothario leering at me, making innuendos about my sex life, and encouraging Charlie to cast aspersions on the quality of my play. Even that, however, couldn't overcome Lothario's lack of skill. When I won the match, he grumbled, "You lucky c--t," using a vulgar word for another part of the female anatomy.

Miss Lonelyblots, I'm sure you've faced this kind of abusive behavior. How do you handle it, and how should I handle it in the future?—Laura Houlihan

Dear Laura: It's good to be fifty and no longer looked upon as "hot stuff" by men like Lamebrain Lothario. (If only they knew!) I take it you still have some years to go before you can escape their unwanted rude remarks.

As a tomboy growing up, I rough-housed with the boys. As a woman, I know

their mentality. Having a thick skin, I'd let men's crudities roll off harmlessly. Sometimes, I realized, the poor inarticulate souls knew no other way to compliment a woman. Once in a foolish while, I wish some man would call me "Babe" again.

Like most women, however, you are more delicate. There's no reason for you to have to endure such behavior, not in the workplace and not at a backgammon tournament. At your first objection, your opponent should stop. At his next lewd remark, a director should warn him, "Three strikes and you're out" . . . of the match and the tournament.

Charlie Champion was out of line. Kibitzers' comments about prior moves require the consent of both players, and should be stopped by the director if they prolong a slow match. They should address questions only about a player's own moves, not an opponent's (lest they impair the opponent's concentration or morale), and even then, only if no similar position may recur.

Were backgammon governed by a public association, you would have recourse. So long as a man like Mogul Moe runs a private club, however, all you can do is stay away from his tournaments . . . and spread the word.—Miss Lonelyblots Δ

*Do you have a backgammon-related question for Miss Lonelyblots involving people problems, game etiquette or the play itself? Write: Dear Miss Lonelyblots, c/o CHICAGO POINT, 3940 W. Bryn Mawr Ave. 504; Chicago, IL 60659-3155.*

## LETTERS...

[Continued from page 3]

match incorrectly being played to 11-points when in fact, it was posted as 7-points in length. Danny Kleinman rules that whether the players or a kibitzer discover the error, the match should continue to 11-points. I disagree. It is both players' responsibility to know the match length. Misinformation is careless and of course, both players are not allowed to adjust the "playto" to suit themselves. The match must be played to the correct length. In this case, the player to first reach 7-points is the winner regardless of any prior (incorrect) agreements. For offended players, let that be their beginner's lesson for the next tournament. Many scoring errors can be eliminated if both players share one scorecard. The card is placed sideways so that both players can

see it. This method has been working great for us.—Ulf Ring, Chairman, Swedish Backgammon Federation

Many tournament directors concur with your thoughts, Ulf. In fact, Director Carol Joy Cole had this written warning on the Calcutta sheet of her Michigan Summer Championships:

"ALWAYS check the point length of the match you are about to play. If a match is played too long, the first player to reach the required length will be declared the winner. If a match is played too short, it must be resumed to the required length if possible."

We think Ms. Cole's warning helps to clarify a difficult ruling situation and should be added to the U.S. Tournament Rules & Procedures. What do you players think?—Ed. Δ

## BG VANITY

Send a photo of your vanity backgammon license plate to BG Vanity; CHICAGO POINT; 3940 W. Bryn Mawr 504; Chicago, IL 60659-3155



Dick Nelson—Northlake, Illinois

## NAHMAD WINS...

[Continued from page 1]

B/22 8/7\* actively fights for equalizing the game and is better than the passive B/21.

3. 52: 18/11                      33: 6/3\*(2) 8/5(2)



The Finals begin: Shlomo Vahab (left) vs. David Nahmad. [Photo by Harald Johann]

4. 53: --                              54: 13/9 13/8

5. 41: B/24 13/9

This play strips the midpoint, offers no improvement, and wins almost 5% less games than the better variants. The two plausible plays are either fighting for an advanced anchor (B/21, 24/23) or hitting Nahmad off the 4-pt. (B/24 8/4\*). Hitting yields more options and is slightly better here. The rule of thumb, "When in doubt, hit," applies here.

5.                                      44: 24/16\* 8/4(2)

6. 41: B/24 8/4\*                      43: B/21\* 13/10

A powerful and flexible play by Nahmad! When your opponent is on the ropes, try to knock him out. Don't play chicken when you own the stronger position.

7. 51: B/24 8/3

11/6 maintains the more valuable 8-point and is preferred.

7.                                      32: 10/7 9/7

8. 32: 11/9\* 6/3

Too loose! 6/3 6/4\* is more stable and creative.

8.                                      64; B/15

B/21 13/7 gives Vahab less active and tactical chances.

9. 53: 13/10\* 9/4\*                      54: B/21\* B/20

10. 53: --                              32: 21/16

Good play by Nahmad. Tiptoe through the tulips home. Vahab has no timing for his ace-point game.

11. 22: B/23 11/9\*/5\*

Making the 11- and 4-point give Vahab good structure for a counter attack and is much preferred.

11.                                      44: B/21 B/17\* 6/2\*

12. 11: B/23\*(2)                      54: B/21 13/8

Good play. In a stable position, 13/8 tries either to make the 6-prime, or kill Vahab's timing if he hits with a 6.

13. 42: 13/9 10/8\*                      42: B/21 13/11

14. 53: 8/5 6/1                      51: 11/5

It's still correct to leave the 8-blot.

15. 21: 24/23 9/7                      53: 21/13

16. 44: 7/3 6/2(2) 5/1                      31: 13/10 5/4

17. 66: 23/17\* 23/5                      43: B/21 10/7

18. 22: 17/9

The checker is more flexible on the 11-point. Play the last 2 as 3/1.

18.                                      52: 7/2\* 4/2

Primed. David Nahmad was able to bring the game home from here without incident to win the 1996 World Backgammon Championship.

NAHMAD, WHO HAS PLAYED many of the world's top players at New York's Coterie Club, said he won the World Championship for his son Joseph, who already knows how to play backgammon. We'll see if Joe follows in his father's footsteps.—Harald Johann

[Editor's note: The complete report of the Monte Carlo World Championships will be available in the next issue of Harald Johann's Backgammon Magazin (Printed in German with English translations).

Price for 4-issue set: \$45 (60 DM) surface, or \$85 (120 DM) airmail. To order, send cash or postal money order (add \$15 for personal check) to: Edith Johann; Emil-Norde-Str. 26; Nürnberg, Germany.]

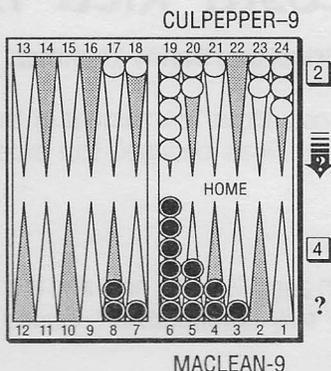
COMPLETE MONTE CARLO RESULTS. SEE PG. 7

## CULPEPPER WINS...

[Continued from page 1]

match 13-2 to claim the \$6200 first prize and take the lead in the 1996 American Backgammon Tour.

MacLean missed her best chance in the 13-pt. final match by passing the following cube:



By taking and recubing, Linda could have cut Dennis's lead to 9-8. But she dropped.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS (shown at right) including Howard Levine (Int.), Dan Loughren (Novice) and World Cup Qualifiers Jake Jacobs and Dean Muench. Congrats also to director Carol Joy Cole and staff for another great holiday weekend. We can't wait for next year! Δ

## 1997 MICHIGAN SUMMER CHAMPIONSHIPS

OPEN (85): 1-Dennis Culpepper (VA), 2- Linda MacLean (MA), 3-Tak Morioka (IL), 4/5-Jim Pascoe (CT) / David Wells (MA); 1C-Dave Cardwell (GA), 2C-AI Jones (Canada). INTERMEDIATE (71): 1-Howard Levine (MI), 2-Janice Newman (IN), 3-Jonathan Bennetts (Canada), 4/5-Ed King (OH) / Jolie Rubin (IL); 1C-Austin Healy (NY), 2C-Ali Haddad (PA). NOVICE (19): 1-Daniel Loughren (MI), 2-Wanda de la Barre (MA); 1C-Kim Starbuck (OH), 2C-AI Mason (MA). WORLD CUP QUALIFIER WINNERS (16 each): #1—Jake Jacobs (IL); #2-Dean Muench (IL). JACKPOTS: \$1,000 Firecracker (8): 1-Drew Giovanis (FL), 2-Fred Kalantari (MN). \$300 Firecracker (16): 1-Jon Vietor (CA), 2-Frank Talbot (MI). \$100 Firecracker (16): 1-Steve Maas (MN), 2-Denny Leatherman (PA). Earlybird Open (16): 1-Nora Luna (MA), 2-Elliott Winslow (CA). Earlybird Limited (16): 1/2-Mike Charison (MI) / Andy Krenitz (IL). SUMMER FREEZE-OUT (32): 1-Ray Glaeser (OH), 2-Mike Cyrkiel (IN). MICHIGAN BLITZ (128): 1-Tim Mabee (IL), 2-Jim Mieske (OH). QUICKIES: \$20 Detroit (64): 1-Jim Curtis (IN), 2-Jerry Kane (NJ). \$10 Detroit (64): 1-John Brooks (OK), 2-Mark Murray (IL). \$20 Overflow (32): 1-Joe Sylvester (MI), 2-Jim Curtis (IN). DOUBLES: Open (32): 1-Joann Feinstein (IL) & Howard Markowitz (NV), 2-Howard Berg (NY) & Jack Kissane (NY), 3/4-Gary Fritzsche (MI) & Wally Wolf (MI) / Nora Luna (MA) & Linda MacLean (MA). Limited (14): 1-Dan Loughren (MI) & Gary Marchenia (MI), 2-Dion Hogan (MI) & Dirk Hogan (MI). Overflow (16): 1-Jonathan Bennetts (Canada) & Jon Vietor (CA), 2-David Wells (MA) & Neil Young (FL). Δ



## ILLINOIS ACTION



Bill Davis  
312/583-6464  
Peter Kalba  
312/631-8350

Tuesday, 6:15 p.m. at Golden Flame, 6417 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago; 312/792-0424.

Sunday Bimonthly, 12:30 p.m. at Braxton Seafood Grill, 3 Oakbrook Center Mall, Oak Brook; 708/574-2155.

PUB CLUB: Tourn. Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Harpo's, 290 S. Schmale, Carol Stream. 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 (312/734-9430).

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL BG CLUB: Tourn. Monday, 6:15 p.m. at Ride The Nine, 503 N. Prospect, Bloomington. Lane O'Connor (309/454-1947)

SANGAMON VALLEY BG ASSN: Tourn. Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. at Brewhaus, 617 E. Washington, Springfield. Ben Zemaitis (217/483-4028).

WINNETKA BG CLUB: Tournaments Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. at 620 Lincoln, Winnetka. Trudie Stern (847/446-0537).

CENTRAL ILL. BG CLUB: Tourn. Thur., 6:30 p.m. at River Station, 212 Constitution Ave., Peoria. Linda Woods (309/686-6662).

PRIME BG CLUB: Tournaments Friday, 7:30 p.m. at Honest John's (Holiday Inn), 1000 Busse Road, Elk Grove Village. Joann Feinstein (847/674-0120).

CHICAGO BOARD OF BACKGAMMON: Daily except Sun., 12:00 to 9:00 p.m. Tourn. 1st Sat., 12:00 at 175 W. Jackson (Suite 1103), Chicago. Dean Muench (312/922-0404).

NORTH CLUB: Daily except Sunday, 1:00 p.m. at 4747 W. Peterson (Suite 2), Chicago. Greg Defotis (312/286-6719).

# WINNER'S CORNER



Apr.—Aug. 1996

•**Hong Kong Monthly** (Hong Kong; 3 Jun.)... OPEN: 1-Patrice Hattu, 2-Thomas Kong; 1C-John Simon, 2C-Marc Mostacci. CHAMPIONSHIP: 1-Cynthia Roberts, 2-Max Modesti; 1C-Franz Kockendahl, 2C-Richard Goss.

•**Swedish Open** (Stockholm, Sweden; 13-16 Jun.)... CHAMPIONSHIP: 1-Jokern Granstedt, 2-Stephan Törnros, 3/4-Fredrik Engel / Per Hildebrand; 1C-Thomas Rönn, 2C-Håkan Nilsson, 3/4-Ola Hamring / Lars Hammargren. INTERMEDIATE: 1-Claes Thornberg, 2-Bo Adler, 3/4-Dan Sandberg / Robert Ricciuti; 1C-Peter Carlsson, 2C-Peppe Kettunen, 3C/4C-Martin Alm / Branko Markovic. WARM-UP: 1-Ola Hamring, 2-Johan Aschan, 3/4-Dennis Claus / David Asplund. TEAM: 1-Aschan & Grundh & Carlsson. GOLF TOURNEY: 1-Bo Söderlind, 2-Håkan Eriksson, 3-Jan Dahlén.

•**Hong Kong Doubles Tourney** (Hong Kong; 3 Jun.)... OPEN (10): 1-Thomas Kong & Nancy Wong, 2-John Simon & Peter Wong; 1C/2C-Avry Ben-Zeev & Melody Rae / Ed Cartledge & Gregg Westrick.

•**Atlanta Backgammon Assoc. Monthly** (Atlanta, GA; 23 Jun.)... OPEN: 1-Dave Cardwell, 2-Larry Taylor. NOVICE: 1-Eric Goode.

•**2nd Backgammon Olympiad** (Venice, Italy; 25-30 Jun.)... MASTER (83): *Olympic Individual (65)* 1-Jerry Grandell (SWE), 2-Rainer Altmann (GER), 3/4-Dieter Siegfried (GER) / Yannis Tomazos (GRE); 1C-Michel Serrero (FRA), 2C-François Tardieu (FRA), 3C/4C-Eric Guedj (FRA) / Heiner Haussleiter (GER). *8th City of Venice (73)* 1-Naurice Djemal (PAN), 2-Evert Van Eijck (HOL), 3/4-Catherin Bladh-Risselin (SWE) / Christian Plenz (GER). *Last Chance* 1-Abraham Eitan (ISR), 2-Leo Fichtinger (SAFR). CHAMPION (68): *Olympic Individual (49)* 1-Bernhard Kaiser (GER), 2-Antonio Vanvakaris (GRE), 3/4-Alexnader Nitschke (GER) / Ralf Windisch (GER); 1C-Gunar Godhler (GER), 2C-Teppo Salo (FIN), 3C/4C-Michael Matzdorf (GER) / Elli Nache (USA). *8th City of Venice (60)* 1-Maurizio Maver (ITA), 2-Sandro Lazzarini (ITA), 3/4-Thomas Joh (USA) / Mattia Ballarin (ITA). *Last Chance* 1-Marc Steyvers (BEL), 2-Walter Jarc (CAN). INTERMEDIATE (81): *Olympic Individual (63)* 1-Konstantin Puchkov (RUS), 2-Thomas Gettwart (GER), 3/4-Marcello Bolognesi (ITA) / George Volejnik (SWTZ); 1C-Dami Plesec (SLO), 2C-Paola Penazzi (ITA), 3C/4C-Roberto Spadavecchia (ITA) / Dimitris Polychronis (GRE). *8th City of Venice (73)* 1-Mihai Raducanu (RUM), 2-Olivier Egger (SWIZ), 3/4-Marcello Brusegan (ITA) / Andrea Marfori (ITA). *Last Chance* 1-

Artschil Maglakelidze (GEOR), 2-Mizumi Makita (JPN). OLYMPIC TEAM (34): 1-"38" (BRAZ/USA) Armando Balbi & Alvaro Savio & Paul Magriel, 2-"Stella" (GER) Bernhard Kaiser & Gunnar Goehler & Michael Matzdorf. OLYMPIC CONSOLATION DOUBLES: 1-"Elena" (GER) Bernhard Kaiser & Gunnar Goehler, 2-"Décagoulés 1" (FRA/USA). OLYMPIC KICK-OFF (256): 1-Leonid Riskin (RUS), 2-Jerry Grandell (SWE) 3/4-Abraham Eitan (ISR) / Alan Steffen (USA). 1-POINT TOURNEY (512): 1-Matthais Körner (GER), 2-Maurice Djemal (PAN). SPEED-GAMMMON: 1-Xavier Braun (GER)... *Tourney organizer Dario de Toffoli reports a successful event. American Alan Steffen gave three seminars and provided commentary on the finals. More than 70 trophies were awarded.*

•**Hilton Trophy Tournament** (East Midlands, England; 29-30 Jun.)... OPEN (51): 1-Rick Janowski, 2-Mark Adkins, 3/4-Dale Taylor / Ann Maher; 1C-Richard Beagarie, 2C-Mike Waxman; 1LC-Robin Clay, 2LC-Roy Hollands. FRIDAY NIGHT KO (10): 1-John Broomfield, 2-Michael Crane. KAMIKAZE! (37): 1-Jim Johnson, 2-Rod Jones.

•**FIBS Spring Tournament** (Internet; Apr.—Jul.)... OPEN (113): 1-Hal Heinrich (CAN), 2-Rob Maier (WV), 3/4-Ed Zell (IL) / Larry Bosen (CA), 5/8-Robert Johanson (CAN) / Alex Perry (MA) / Gary Kay (IL) / Mark Zuroff (NJ); 1C-Masahito Yamamoto (JPN), 2C-Olivier Egger (SWTZ), 3C/4C-Mike Fujita (CA) / David Saab (AUSL). LIMITED (82): 1-Robert Bercu (CA), 2-Dan Salafsky (LA), 3/4-Rudy de Papp (CAN) / Pascal Paulsen

(SWTZ), 5/8-Petter Bengtsson (SWE) / Tom Fahland (IL) / Philip Stromer (CA) / Marco Negro (ITA); 1C-David Saab (AUSL), 2C-Martin Deschesnes (CAN), 3C/4C-Torben Nowicki (DEN) / Elizabeth Perry (IRE).

•**1996 Argentine Championship** (Buenos Aires, Argentina; Mondays in Jul.)... CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Hugo Ergueta, Horacio Anitua. JUNIOR WINNERS: Domingo Risoleo, Carlos Begher, Carlos Carbonell, Atilio Veron. BEGINNER WINNERS: Carlos Arazi, Rubén Skidelsky, Jorge Tarasov.

•**Midtown "16" Invitational** (New York, NY; 13 Jul.)... OPEN (16): 1-Nora Luna, 2-Jim Roston.

•**Nation's Capital Summer Open** (Bethesda, MD; 13 Jul.)... OPEN (18): 1-Brad Paleg, 2-Mark Davis, 1C-Ali Haddad, 4-Dave Orandle, 5/6-Bob Faucon / Paul Riedel; 1LC-Barry Glitterman. JACKPOT (15): 1-Chen Fu-Yu, 2-Ali Haddad.

•**Milwaukee Sunday Bimonthly** (Milwaukee, WI; 13 Jul.)... OPEN (7): 1-Neil Kazaross, 2-Yamin Yamin; 1C-Jake Jacobs.

•**Backgammon by the Bay Monthly** (San Mateo, CA; 21 Jul.)... OPEN (14): 1-Kit Woolsey, 2-Tom Henson; 1C/2C-Phil Laak / Rawlin Pullen. INTERMEDIATE (14): 1-Ira Ofsink, 2-Robert Rosetti; 1C/2C-Hamish Birnie / Jan Andrew Bloxham. BEGINNER (8): 1-Ron Dumont, 2-Jim Mason; 1C-Bartev Vartanian, 2C-Clifford Levin.

•**CBOB First Sat. Monthly** (Chicago, IL; 3 Aug.)... OPEN (7): 1-Yamin Yamin, 2-Harry Cohn.

•**1000 Islands Tournament—ABT** (Alexandria Bay, NY; 2-4 Aug.)... OPEN (36): 1-Bruce Brown (NY), 2-Bill Talmadge (NY), 3-Mike Reklaitis (PA). NOVICE (6): 1-Ora Friedman (CAN). Δ

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# 6th Mitteleuropa Backgammon and Black-jack Tournament

## Casino Park - Nova Gorica (Slovenia)



**50 MILLION**  
Lire Guaranteed  
Combined Money

### Tournament Committee

To be announced at the tournament by **Alberto da Pra**  
President of WBF

### September 6-8, 1996

(Black-jack Tourney & Jackpots begin Sept. 2, 1996)

Supported by the Tourism Secretary of Slovenia

Valid for official title: **EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP 1996**

Part of the **1996 Italian Championship**

<http://homepage.interaccess.com/~chipoint/wbf.html>

### Tournament Director

**Marco Fornasir**  
Info: 39-2-40074658  
Fax: 39-2-40073420

### Entry Fees

Master (13-pt) ..... 700.000 Lire (\$450)  
Champion (11-pt) . 250.000 Lire (\$160)  
Intermediate (7-pt)... 100.000 Lire (\$65)  
Black-jack ..... 300.000 Lire (\$195)

### Registration Fees

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Backgammon registration cut-off: Sept. 6  
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24 at 386-65-22381, Attn: Reception  
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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. 2, departure date Sept. 9, 1996) . . . 100% return of the entry fees . . . Trophies to be awarded in all three divisions, Blackjack and Tennis tournament . . . Nova Gorica is in the country renowned for good food and wine. Air temperature in Sept. is 15 to 23° C.

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The Hong Kong Backgammon Club presents

# ASIAN BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIPS

4-6 October 1996

Ladies Recreation Club, 10 Old Peak Road, Hong Kong

Directed under the auspices of the Hong Kong Backgammon Club

Estimated First Prize (Including the Big Auction) Over US\$12,000

Total Tournament Prize Money Will Exceed US\$75,000

## Schedule of Events

### Friday, 4 October

5:00pm Registration opens. Entry fees: *Open* US\$330, *Championship* US\$130 (plus \$25 registration fee or \$50 for HKBC non-members). Includes Opening Buffet Dinner.

*Dragon Slayer*: US\$15 entry fee with 90% return. 1-point matches with reentries. Play will be throughout the tournament (70/30 prize split).

6:30pm Opening Buffet Dinner.

7:30pm *Championship* and *Open* Auctions.

9:30pm Public Draws for all divisions.

10:00pm Main Event 1st Round.

### Saturday, 5 October

1:00pm *Super* and *Mini-Super Jackpots*. US\$500 (11 pts.) and US\$250 (9 pts.). Continuous play throughout the tournament based on player availability. Prize

split will be 70/30 based on 8 entries and 55/25/10/10 based on 16 entries. 93.75% return.

*Jackpots* of US\$125 (9 pts.) and US\$65 (7 pts.). Draws of 8 with a 70/30 split. 90% return. Continuous play throughout the tournament.

2:00pm Main Event 2nd Round. Consolation starts.

6-7:30pm Dinner break.

7:30pm Play continues.

### Sunday, 6 October

11:30am *3-Player Team Event*. US\$150/team. 5-pt. matches. 90% return. Prize split 70/30.

2:00pm Semifinals.

Last Chance starts.

5:00pm Finals

9:00pm Prize Ceremony

## Contact the Following for Additional Information

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