

1927 midwest backgammon championships

## KALANTARI 'RUBS OUT' THE COMPETITION

The 1920s Roar Again In Chicago

**F**red Kalantari of Edina, Minnesota massacred the masses in the Championship and Blitz tournaments to score a double victory at the 1927 Midwest Championships. The Roaring 20s throwback affair, staged at the Drake Oakbrook Hotel 21–23 March 1997, drew over 200 players from throughout the United States, Canada and even Europe.

Kalantari topped (among others) Bob Holyon and Doug Roberts prior to his finals pairing against Jon Stephens (Columbus, OH). Despite being a karate instructor, it was Stephens who got chopped. Trailing 4–2 after the fourth game, Kalantari rattled off 15 straight points to claim the “boot-legged” trophy (a \$150 engraved bottle of



1927 Midwest Backgammon Champion Fred Kalantari (left) with runner-up Jon Stephens at right.

fine wine) and over \$5,000 in prize money. Then he added icing to the cake by beating Lucky Nelson in the 128-player Blitz tournament. Nice weekend for the gentleman from the North.

Richard Del Furia took master player Nick Ballard to the limit in the \$125 Open tournament. In the end, Nick prevailed.

The Advanced division victor was Steve Klesker (Lake Zurich, IL). The “Comeback Kid” rallied from 10–5 Crawford deficit to defeat Judy Field (MI) in the

semifinals. Then it was Hunter Jones’ turn to lose the lead. In this nail-biter, Steve eked out a double match-point victory to gain the title. Not bad for someone with only about one year of tournament play under his belt.

In other events, John Bryant (IN) won the Limited tourney, Doubles winners were Gary Kay & Paul Klein (Open) and Ken Bruck & Greg Varbanov (Intermediate). Laila Azoulay of Denmark was tops in Nackgammon and Ed Zell (IL) rushed to victory (over Championship runner-up Jon Stephens) in the Speed-Gammon event.

### The Chicago Way

The tournament theme was played out to its fullest by the MBC staffers who dressed as gangsters and flappers from 1927 Chicago. About a dozen players joined in the dress-up including Greg “Toothpick” Tomlin and Wendy “Madkap” Kaplan.

At the Charity Calcutta Auction on Saturday morning (\$1500 was raised for the Anti-Cruelty Society), “Snake Eyes” Davis publicly chided “Toothpick” for gunning down seven Northside backgammon players on St. Valentine’s Day. He then summoned “Madkap” who escorted “Toothpick” to the front. There, in front of 175 witnesses, she blindfolded him, slammed him into a wall, and gunned him down with a ping pong ball submachine gun. Don’t mess with “Madkap.”

As usual, there were plenty of crazy side events including Pig Rolling (won by Neil Kazaross), Gammon Scramble (won by John Stryker), BG Toss Across (won by Kurt Schurecht) and BG Wheel of Fortune (won by Steve Mellen). This year’s puzzle: “This is the way Minnesota Fats used to double his chouette opponents [putting the doubling cubes in his coat pocket], but it’s also a scratch in pool.” Answer: “Cube all in the side pocket.”

The focal side event, Hitman Gammon,” gave players a free chance to win up to \$1,000. To qualify, players had to guess how far Amy “Frenchy” Valerio would shoot one ping pong ball from her air gun. The closest 16 guesses qualified for the Hitman Gammon

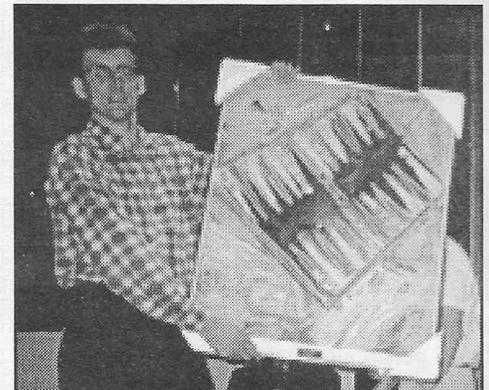
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9th nordic “wide” open

## WESTERLUND ROCKS THE FIELD IN DENMARK

The Nordic “Wide” Open. The best-attended tournament in the world. Held over the 28–31 March Easter weekend, it took two massive ballrooms at the SAS Radisson Scandinavia in Copenhagen, Denmark to handle the 500+ players in attendance.

107 international players in the Championship event. Names like Mike Svobodny, Paul Magriel, Malcolm Davis, Peter Jes Thomsen, Gustav Jacobsen and many others. And what two men were still standing for Monday’s finals? Sweden’s Tommy Westerlund and Thierry Manouck of France! Yet these relative unknowns displayed overall solid play considering the format: 2-out-of-3 matches to 11 points.



Tommy Westerlund displays the backgammon artwork he received as a trophy for winning the Nordic “Wide” Open.

The 34-year-old Westerlund had a tougher road to the finals than international chess master Thierry Manouck. Tommy’s semifinal match against Perry Gartner (US) lasted until 3:30 Monday morning. Tommy will never forget the double-2 that turned the last game around and vaulted him into the first major finals of his life with a chance to win over \$25,000.

### The Finals

Regardless of the finalists level of play, any

[Continued on page 6]

# CHICAGO POINT

A Prime Source of Backgammon Information

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## LETTERS



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## BIG MONEY TOURNAMENTS

At the last Las Vegas tournament, despite my repeated harassing to the officials, there was no \$10 and only one \$25 knockout. This I personally find appalling. One friend who had come from England and lost in the first round of every flight, was effectively priced out of the tournament. He was too polite to complain.

I think it's fairly obvious why this is happening—the rake. It would seem that more and more tournaments are being built around the great god money. These days, many of the so-called "successful" tournaments are predicated on the amount of money one can offer to a privileged few. In fact, these events are killing off people like myself. I have nothing against standard entry fees—only against the obscene amounts now being demanded in order to actually compete outside of the main tournament (e.g. \$1,000 "Limited" jackpots). I

[Continued on page 3]

coming attractions

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BACKGAMMON						
11	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

810/232-9731

E-mail: [cjc@flint.org](mailto:cjc@flint.org)

\* Denotes new or revised listing

### NATIONAL

*American Backgammon Tour events underlined.*

Apr 17	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Apr 19	Springfield Series Grand Finale, Parkers Sports Bar, Springfield, IL	217/528-0117
Apr 20	Games People Play Bimonthly Tourney, Mr. Ricky's Note, Chicago, IL	312/734-9430
Apr 20	Backgammon by the Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	510/838-7789
Apr 22-27	4th Worldwide Twin Championships, Four Queens Hotel, Las Vegas, NV	702/893-6025
Apr 26*	Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Tony's Grill & Tap, Roswell, GA	770/333-1876
Apr 26*	Beverly Hills Monthly Tournament, Clarine's, Beverly Hills, CA	310/273-1632
May 6*	Milwaukee Bimonthly Backgammon, John Hawks Pub, Milwaukee, WI	414/463-2498
May 15*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
May 18*	New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA	508/829-3283
May 18*	Backgammon by the Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	510/838-7789
May 23-26	<u>18th Annual Chicago Open, Wyndham Hamilton Hotel, Itasca, IL</u>	<u>847/674-0120</u>
May 30*	Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Tony's Grill & Tap, Roswell, GA	770/333-1876
May 31*	Beverly Hills Monthly Tournament, Clarine's, Beverly Hills, CA	310/273-1632
Jun 6-8	<u>New York State Championship, New York Chess &amp; BG, New York, NY</u>	<u>800/520-1809</u>
Jun 8*	Bar Point Sunday Tournament, Anyway's Grill, Oakbrook Terrace, IL	773/252-7755
Jun 8*	New England Club Monthly, Sheraton-Commander, Cambridge, MA	508/829-3283
Jun 15*	Backgammon by the Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	510/838-7789
Jun 19*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Jun 20-22	<u>1997 Georgia Championships/Peach Cup, Holiday Inn Select, Atlanta, GA</u>	<u>770/333-1876</u>
Jun 28*	Beverly Hills Monthly Tournament, Clarine's, Beverly Hills, CA	310/273-1632
Jul 2*	Michigan Summer Warm-Up Tourney, Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi, MI	810/232-9731
Jul 3-6	<u>Michigan Summer Championships, Novi Hilton Hotel, Novi, MI</u>	<u>810/232-9731</u>
Jul 12-13	Nation's Capital Summer Open, Promenade, Bethesda, MD	301/530-0604
Jul 17*	Third Thursday Bonus Tournament, Ramada Inn, Flint, MI	810/232-9731
Jul 20*	Backgammon by the Bay, San Mateo Bridge Center, San Mateo, CA	510/838-7789
Jul 26*	Beverly Hills Monthly Tournament, Clarine's, Beverly Hills, CA	310/273-1632
Jul 27*	Atlanta Monthly Tournament, Tony's Grill & Tap, Roswell, GA	770/333-1876
Aug 1-3	Thousand Islands Tournament, Pine Tree Point, Alexandria Bay, NY	716/442-8221
Aug 8-10*	39th Gammon Associates Invitational, Holiday Inn, Woodland Hills, CA	818/901-0464
Aug 10*	Bar Point Sunday Tournament, Anyway's Grill, Oakbrook Terrace, IL	773/252-7755
Aug 29-Sep 1	<u>45th Indiana Open, Radisson Hotel, Indianapolis, IN</u>	<u>317/255-8902</u>
Sep 19-21	<u>2nd Minnesota State Championships, Location TBA, Minnesota</u>	<u>612/378-1536</u>
Sep 26-28	<u>Towpath Inn Tournament, Towpath Inn, Turin, NY</u>	<u>716/442-8221</u>
Oct 2-5	<u>Illinois State Champs &amp; America Cup, Holidome, Rolling Meadows, IL</u>	<u>847/945-7801</u>
Oct 10-12	<u>Nation's Capital Championships, Promenade, Bethesda, MD</u>	<u>301/530-0604</u>
Oct 31-Nov 2	<u>Northeast Regional: 4th New England Championships, South Lee, MA</u>	<u>603/863-4711</u>
Nov 3-8	Las Vegas Open, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, NV	702/893-6025
Dec 5-7	<u>40th Gammon Associates Invitational, Holiday Inn, Woodland Hills, CA</u>	<u>818/901-0464</u>
Dec 27-28	<u>Ace Point New York Holiday Tournament, Ace Point Club, New York, NY</u>	<u>212/753-0842</u>

### OUTSIDE USA

Apr 18-19	4th Hong Kong Invitational, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong	852-28461923
Apr 19-20	Italian Championship Big Ten Finals, Hotel Zola, Bologna, Italy	393-37583431
Apr 28-May 4	3rd EBN Internat'l Tournament, San Juan Los Terreros, Almeria, Spain	349-50133009
May 3-4	Italian Championship Torneo, Hotel Ritz, Rome, Italy	395-55273123
May 5*	Hong Kong Monthly Tourney, Ladies Recreation Club, Hong Kong	852-28461923
May 16-18	2nd Istrian Open, Hotel Parentium, Porec, Parenzo, Croatia	392-40073420
May 17-18	County Cups Trophy, Hilton Nat'l Hotel, East Midlands Airport, England	441522-546993
May 31-Jun 1	Italian Championship and Viva Las Vegas, Hotel Zola, Bologna, Italy	393-37583431
Jun 12-15	Swedish Open, Foggs Hotel, Stockholm, Sweden	468-6524009
Jun 19-22	9th "City of Venice" Tournament, Casino Municipale, Venice, Italy	3941-5211029
Jun 26-29	3rd Kaiserbrunnen Cup, Hotel am Kaiserbrunnen, Brakel, Germany	495-2164314
Jun 28-29	Hilton Trophy 1997, Hilton Nat'l Hotel, East Midlands Airport, England	441522-546993
Jul 7-13	Monte-Carlo World Championship, Loews Monte-Carlo Hotel, Monaco	305/527-4033
Jul 14-16	5th Nice Open, Lido Plage Restaurant, Nice, France	334-93879436
Aug 8-10	Franken Ganz Open 3, Hotel Schwarzer Adler, Nürnberg, Germany	49911-737514
Aug 13-17	5th Tournament of the Americas, Cariari Hotel, San José, Costa Rica	773/583-6464
Aug 14-17	Summer Championships, Badrutt's Palace Hotel, St. Moritz, Switzerland	4161-2710137
Aug 19-24*	1st Annual Mind Sports Olympiad, Royal Festival Hall, London, England	44171-4859146
Aug 23-24*	S.A.C. Trophy Tournament, Hilton Nat'l, East Midlands Airport, England	441522-546993
Sep 5-7*	7th Mitteleuropa Tournament, Casino Park, Nova Gorica, Slovenia	392-29409743
Oct 18-19*	Sandy Osborne Memorial Trophy, Hilton Nat'l, Milton Keynes, England	441522-546993
Oct 29-Nov 2*	Grand Prix de Lugano, Hotel Splendide Royal, Lugano, Switzerland	4179-3374425
Nov 22-23*	Townharbour TT Trophy, Hilton National Hotel, Milton Keynes, England	441522-546993

# LETTERS...

[Continued from page 2]

attend a tournament to enjoy myself, socialize and hopefully cover my expenses. It would be nice if a few more low stakes events were offered to keep players like myself amused.

There are many people such as myself who have voiced similar fears. Then in the January POINT, I read about the Norwegian student who effectively couldn't go to Istanbul because of the absurd sums of money being demanded. Knowing director Abraham Eitan as I do, there was no misunderstanding or bad phrasing in the invitation's requirement that "Participation in the Tournament will be allowed only if hotel room is reserved directly through the hotel at \$125 per night." That's absolute bulls—. The statement was not an inference, it was a flat prerequisite.

There alternatives to these money-driven tournaments. Consider Denmark, for example, where the exact opposite pertains. They have leagues all over the country and players frequently drive 50 to 100 miles to play matches where there is little or no money

involved, yet such is the enthusiasm that they are oversubscribed. I played on a team for three months in Copenhagen and the competition was fierce and highly enjoyable.

There must be a common ground where we the players who don't want high entry fees can ask for knockouts at a much lower level. Carol Joy Cole's Michigan Summer Championships is a good example of a well-attended tournament where there are non-stop low entry knockouts and us average players can be in action for as long as we please. That's why I go to tournaments: to play at my level, not to watch with bated breath as another superstar or wealthy player is presented with a check for \$50,000 plus gushing accolades reserved nowadays for the *dollar value* of the top prize.

In closing, I welcome the news that "The World-whatever it was called," organized by Las Vegas director Howard Markowitz has been canceled. Obviously the entry fee was prohibitive to the masses and with the scandalous rake, even if I were a wealthy man, I still wouldn't have entered.

I, like many others, play backgammon because I love the game, not in order to pay

the rent. I especially like tournaments and would be truly saddened to have to give them up because of being priced out of the game. It's my tournament, just as it's everyone else's who pays an entry fee. Some directors would do well to reflect on our needs and wishes instead of brusquely dismissing us as being a nuisance.

The game belongs to all the players—not just those with big money in their pockets. Maybe it's time backgammon took a close look at its quickstep with mammon.—  
*Jonathan Bennetts, Toronto, Canada*

Turkish World Cup tournament director Abraham Eitan's apology to the Norwegian student regarding his "misunderstanding" of the invitation's statement "Participation in the Tournament will be allowed only if a hotel room is reserved directly through the hotel at \$125 per night," is not only ridiculous but inadmissible as well. It means that if you were living at the Conrad Hotel, you would not be allowed to enter the tournament (because you hadn't booked through the hotel). But if you lived at another hotel, no problem!

The explicit demand requiring players to book through the hotel and not with a travel agent is easily explained. The hotel was charging \$125/night. Through a travel agent, you could have booked the same accommodations for \$100/night with breakfast included!

The March issue of *Essential Backgammon* contains an article about more strange practices at the Istanbul tournament. Non-

[Continued on page 4]

## AMERICAN BACKGAMMON TOUR ★ 1997

Compiled through 7 Apr. 1997 after 3 tournaments  
(Upcoming in April: So. Florida Spring. In May: Chicago Open)

Doug Mayfield	35.36	Ray Bills	5.60	Bill Phipps	3.59	Judy Field	2.08
Fred Kalantari	22.88	Allen Levien	5.28	John Bryant	3.30	Jason Mucklow	1.62
Jon Stephens	15.31	Abbas Zaltash	5.28	Jay Ward	3.20	Bruce Russell	1.50
Steve Klesker	11.44	Drew Giovanis	5.28	Reza Zaltash	2.82	Gary Marchenia	1.40
Harvey Huie	11.20	Hunter Jones	5.20	David Levine	2.64	Joe Davidson	1.40
Rich Catalano	10.56	Malcolm Davis	4.93	Nayan Shah	2.64	Randy Douthat	1.16
Mike Friedman	10.56	Terry Kayser	4.90	Ed King	2.46	Pete Townsend	1.06
Nack Ballard	10.45	Hal Heinrich	4.80	Gary Stern	2.46	Dave Hart	1.00
Steve Sax	9.82	Carlos Hamon	4.66	Paul Friedman	2.40	Sam Pottle	0.93
Elliot Bean	7.09	Frank Talbot	4.16	N. Laaly	2.34	Diane Cyrkiel	0.70
Garo Tchalabian	7.09	John Jennings	4.16	Paul Stokes	2.34	Bill Versaw	0.63
Andy Palumbo	6.40	Jim Muirhead	4.00	Marty Storer	2.11	Fran Miller	0.60
Richard Del Furia	5.70	Fred Badagnani	3.60	Janice Newman	2.08	Larry Hochman	0.60

## CHICAGO BAR POINT CLUB 1997 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

COMPILED THRU 31 MAR.

Herb Roman	8.00	Norma Shyer	3.28	Bobbie Shifrin	1.28	Barbara Levinson	0.56
Neil Kazaross	7.52	Stu Katz	3.12	Peter Kalba	1.20	Steve Klesker	0.56
Gary Kay	7.04	John Demian	3.12	Phyllis Smolinski	0.96	Todd Hengsteler	0.48
Alice Kay	5.96	Jake Jacobs	2.80	Fred Badagnani	0.88	Amy Valerio	0.44
Bill Keefe	5.76	Don Jayhan	2.72	Marty Tatosian	0.88	Jay Ward	0.28
Bill Davis	4.56	Tak Morioka	2.68	Phil Barrett	0.80	Sarg Serges	0.24
Tim Mabee	4.52	Richard Lloyd	2.56	Arline Levy	0.72	Roz Ferris	0.20
Joann Feinstein	3.84	Paul Friedman	2.48	John Brussel	0.68	Jolie Rubin	0.16
Leslie Lockett	3.60	Phil Simborg	1.92	V.W. Zimmnicki	0.64	Mark Murray	0.16
Harry Cohn	3.52	Paul Klein	1.92	Wendy Kaplan	0.64	Scott Richardson	0.12
Bob Koca	3.44	Roger Hickman	1.60	Roland Dieter	0.64	Reggie Porter	0.12
Paul Franks	3.32						

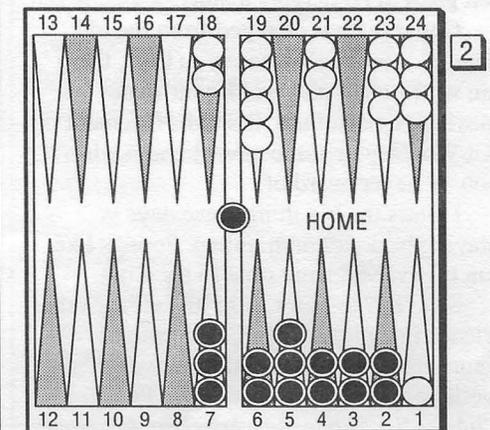
**HERB ROMAN** cashed in every March event to earn 4.48 points and vault into the BPC Player of the Year lead after ¼ year. Tim Mabee (3.72) and Bob Koca (3.44) were runners-up.

## your move

### PROBLEM #233

to be analyzed by Harry Cohn

Danish Open. Match to 9 points. Perry Gartner (White) leads Mike Svobodny (Black) 7 to 6. **BLACK TO PLAY 3-2.**



## LETTERS...

[Continued from page 3]

subscribers can get a sample issue by sending a self-addressed envelope and \$3 to—Dan Frank, Verlag; Vorsteigstr. 1; 70193 Stuttgart, Germany

### ANOTHER OPINION ON PROBLEM 230

Regarding Kit Woolsey's analysis of Problem 230, a rollout on JellyFish level 5 showed that Kit's rejected  $13/9(2) = 73.1\%$ .  $10/6(2)$  collected  $72.5\%$ . Kit's chosen move  $13/11(2)$ ,  $5/3^*/1$  is unnatural and earns only  $70.8\%$ . Space here prohibits my analysis, but for more explanation, e-mail me at: 100015.626@compuserve.com—Dan Frank, Stuttgart, Germany

### WHOSE RULES ARE USED?

I would like to know what associations or governing bodies set the backgammon tournament rules?

Also, whatever happened to face-to-face social games? I don't like playing BG on a computer or over the net. Never have, never will.—Joe Cira, Pasadena, CA

Three sets of rules have gained the most acceptance: The U.S. Tournament Rules and Procedures, the Worldwide Backgammon Federation Rules and the Monte Carlo Rules. For a copy of the U.S. Rules, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: CHICAGO POINT; 3940 W. Bryn Mawr 504; Chicago, IL 60659-3155. You can get an online copy of the WBF Rules at: <http://users.iol.it/dapra/wbfrules.htm>. We are unsure where to obtain a current copy of the Monte Carlo rules.—Ed.

### RETURN TO THE GAME

I've been out of backgammon for a number of years now. Very busy with software sales on the Internet and my full-time job. But recently I drove down to San Mateo and entered a "Backgammon By The Bay" tournament. I didn't win anything, but it felt great to be playing again.

One thing has changed from the old days . . . now everywhere you look, there are world-class players! If you're not playing Nick Ballard, it's Odis Chenault or Kit Woolsey or some new phenom who you've never heard of.

I guess the big thing these days is playing backgammon online. Sounds like fun if I ever find any time to try it out.

Say "Hi" to Peter, Jake and all my other friends in Chicago. Marg and I might return this summer to visit relatives. If so, we'll be sure to drop by the Bar Point Club.—Jim Gibbs, San Anselmo, CA Δ

## The American Backgammon Scene: A Blonde's Eye View

by Laila Leonhardt Azoulay



Denmark's Laila Leonhardt Azoulay was a columnist for the Danish GAMMON magazine for seven years. Currently, Laila ("lady" on FIBS) is a tour guide and systems operator for GamesGrid online backgammon. E-mail her at: [lady@pip.dknet.dk](mailto:lady@pip.dknet.dk)

For almost a decade, I have traveled through Europe playing in numerous backgammon tournaments. More and more, I would hear people speaking about the fabulous BG scene in the United States. As airlines went into a price war and tickets from Europe to the States dropped to as little as \$300, more and more players went across the puddle. I decided that November 1996 would be my turn!

The USA: land of the backgammon giants, authors and theoreticians; the cradle of the modern era backgammon boom as we know it.

Destination Las Vegas, Nevada. Wow! Very impressive. "Ain't got nothin' like this back home!" Howard Markowitz's Las Vegas Open at the Riviera Hotel, was a well coordinated and professionally run tournament. And the city was mind-blowing. This Scandinavian girl flew back to Denmark greatly impressed.

With a taste of BG in the U.S., and wanting to prove to myself that there is more to America than just Disneyworld and Hollywood, I decided to start out 1997 with a return flight to experience the U.S. backgammon scene for myself.

Where else to begin my adventure than New York City? Five clubs, open seven days a week. Plenty of action for any size wallet. Never a dull moment. I would like to thank Alan and Lourdes Steffen (Ace Point Club) and Louise Goldsmith and Russell (The Coterie) for making me feel welcome on the hectic island of Manhattan.

In February, I traveled 12 hours on a Greyhound bus in a snowstorm to play in the Pittsburgh Championships. Free pizza, hoagie sandwiches, coffee, soft drinks and lots of backgammon made the bus ride worth it. All together a good tourney, and I would surely go again. The biggest surprise though, was at the bus station in Pittsburgh where all of the seats in the waiting room were equipped with little TV's. Only in America!

For the last stop on my short tour of the U.S. backgammon scene, I attended the Midwest Championships (21–23 March) in a suburb of Chicago. To say "getting there is half the fun" would be putting it mildly.

I had to change planes in Columbus, Ohio, and after what seemed like a pretty rough landing and a very fast taxiing to the gate, the doors were opened abruptly and all passengers was asked to leave their hand luggage behind and exit the plane immediately. Not impressed with the authority of the flight attendant's announcement, people started opening the overhead bins and reaching for their bags anyway. Then panic broke out.

"Leave the plane now!" The emergency exit in the back was opened, and the smell of smoke from a small electrical fire permeated the front of the plane. "GO, GO, GO!" screamed one flight attendant, and out we went.

So there I was—confused, scared and without my hand luggage. Only 15 minutes to reach the connecting flight to Chicago. NO WAY was I gonna be stuck in Ohio. I went on my knees and was eventually able to convince an attendant to get my bag from the plane. I had to be on that flight to Chicago.

Arriving at Chicago's O'Hare Airport was another grand experience. I had ordered a ride in advance, and to my surprise a huge white stretch limo picked me up at the airport. That is U.S. style!! Babbling on about my hectic day, and the fact that I hadn't had a bite to eat, I asked the driver if room service would be available at the hotel. He politely answered "No, not at this hour, but I'll take you to McDonald's." ONLY IN AMERICA.

So here is this little blond Scandinavian girl, seated comfortably in the back of a huge stretch limo entering the drive-thru at McDonald's, and having the driver order her a Big Mac value meal. I love the USA.

Now for the most impressive part of my journey. The 1927 Midwest Backgammon Championships. I have participated in many tournaments in the last decade, but this one was the most amazing ever—a real treat. Pig-rolling, Gammon Scrabble, Toss-Across, and Hitman Gammon. A super-professional tournament committee dressed up as gangsters and flappers from 1927 Chicago. The best action at an auction ever. The atmosphere was intense and people seemed to be having the time of their life. I still have a big smile on my face when I recall this tournament.

What people; what backgammon action; what a country. I'll be back!!!

Just a blond gal from across the puddle.—Laila Δ

## 1927 MIDWEST CHAMPS...

*[Continued from page 1]*

tournament. The game was simple: you hit a man, you win: best 2-out-of-3 games. Still standing after four rounds was the winner, Georgina Flanagan (Skokie, IL).

Upon check-in each entrant was given his choice of a beaver or raccoon Beanie

Baby. Also memorable were the wine bottle trophies engraved with the 1927 MBC Emblem. Thanks to Jeff Henry of Jim Henry, Inc. for the incredible idea, perfect in keeping with our theme.

All in all, the 1927 Midwest Championships was a real bang-up affair—especially for the staff! See you next time at the 1998 Midwest Champs 19–22 March at the Radisson Lisle Hotel. Results and photos:

### 1927 MIDWEST BACKGAMMON CHAMPIONSHIPS

CHAMPIONSHIP-ABT (64): 1-Fred Kalantari (MN), 2-Jon Stephens (OH), 3/4.-John Jennings (IL) / Frank Talbot (MI); 1C-Harvey Huie (TX), 2C-Hal Heinrich (Canada); 1LC-Andy Palumbo (NY). \$125 OPEN-ABT (24): 1-Nack Ballard (CA), 2-Richard Del Furia (MN), 3-Fred Badagnani (MN). ADVANCED-ABT (64): 1-Steve Klesker (IL), 2-Hunter Jones (MD); 3/4-Judy Field (MI) / Janice Newman (IN); 1C-Ray Bills (WI), 2C-Paul Friedman (IL); 1LC-Jay Ward (IL). LIMITED-ABT (43): 1-John Bryant (IN), 2-Bruce Russell (WI), 3/4-Larry Hochman (MI) / Fran Miller (OH); 1C-Jason Mucklow, 2C-Diane Cyrkiel (IN), 1LC-Sam Pottle (WI). CHAMPIONSHIP DOUBLES (27): 1-Gary Kay & Paul Klein. INTERMEDIATE DOUBLES (16): 1-Ken Bruck & Greg Varbanov (IN), 2-A. John Ward (FL) & Jay Ward (IL). BLITZ (128): 1-Fred Kalantari (MN). NACKGAMMON (32): 1-Laila Azoulay (Denmark), 2-Elayne Feinstein (FL), 3/4-Gary Tong (MI) / Andy Palumbo (NY). SPEED-GAMMON (16): 1-Ed Zell (IL), 2-Jon Stephens (OH). HITMAN GAMMON: 1-Georgina Flanagan (IL), Pig-Rolling: 1-Neil Kazaross. GAMMON SCRAMBLE: 1-John Stryker (IL). BG TOSS-ACROSS; 1-Kurt Schurecht (IL). BG WHEEL OF FORTUNE: 1-Steve Mellen (MI).



MBC staffer John "Greasy Thumb" Heggen watches Wendy "Madkap" Kaplan blindfold Greg "Toothpick" Tomlin prior to "rubbing him out" at the Calcutta Auction. [Photo by Gayle Wolf.]



1927 Midwest staffers. Left photo: Director Bill "Snake Eyes" Davis with Amy "Frenchy" Valerio. Right photo: Carol Joy "Cookie" Cole, Peter "The Hampster" Kalba, Dru "The Squealer" Heggen. [Photos by Gayle Wolf]



Advanced Champ Steve Klesker rolling to his first big victory.



Pig Mistress Dru Heggen with Pig-Rolling champ Neil Kazaross.



Nick Ballard (left), too late to enter the sold-out Championship event, defeated Richard Del Furia in the \$125 Open finals.



Dan Bryant watches his son John bring it home in the Limited tourney finals.

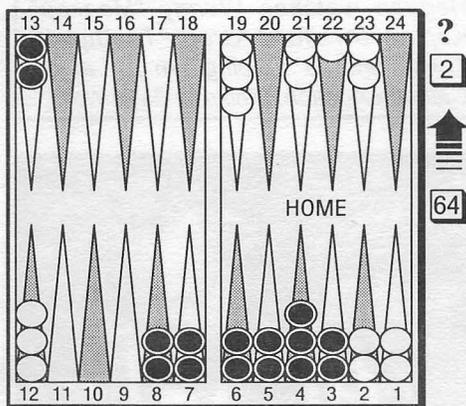
# NORDIC OPEN...

*(Continued from page 1)*

match covered on closed circuit TV with commentary by Paul Magriel *is always* entertaining. And it was.

Early in the Monday afternoon match, Magriel coined nicknames for the two competitors: the "Safe Swede" and the "Flamboyant Frenchman." Time and again, Westerlund would wait too long to double, and when he finally did double, it would often be judged a pass . . . but Thierry would take anyway! Maybe Westerlund wasn't so slow with the cube after all. Case in point from the first 11-point match:

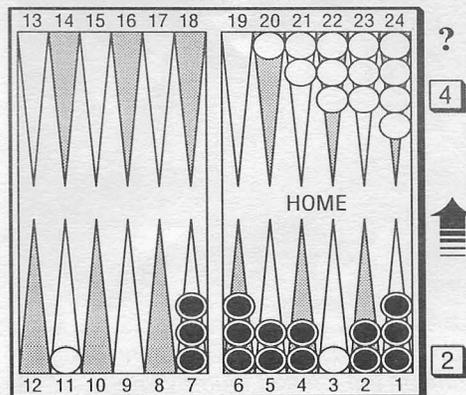
**Position 1.** 11-point finals. Westerlund (Black) leads Manouck (White) 6 to 4. Black doubles. **SHOULD WHITE TAKE?**



Magriel thought the timing on this backgame was too shaky to accept. Yet, Manouck made the "flamboyant" take and was actually able to salvage a very nice backgame following Westerlund's immediate double 5s. But although Thierry managed to get a double shot for the match, he missed and was gammoned to fall behind 10-4.

Later, with one match victory under his belt and leading 2-0 in Match 2, Tommy created action at the 4-level:

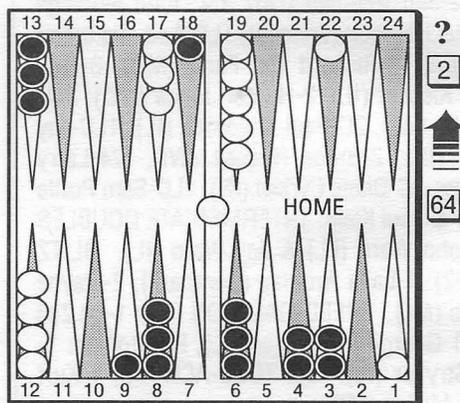
**Position 2.** 11-point finals. Westerlund (Black) leads Manouck (White) 2-0. Black redoubles. **SHOULD WHITE TAKE?**



Despite the closeness of the race (64-68 in favor of Tommy), this is a fine double. And considering Westerlund's 16 good numbers (Doubles plus 3-1, 4-1, 3-2, 4-2, 3-4), it looks like a very close choice.

Manouck quickly took and ran at his first opportunity. However, he still lost the race. With Westerlund now leading 6-0, another double was proffered to Manouck:

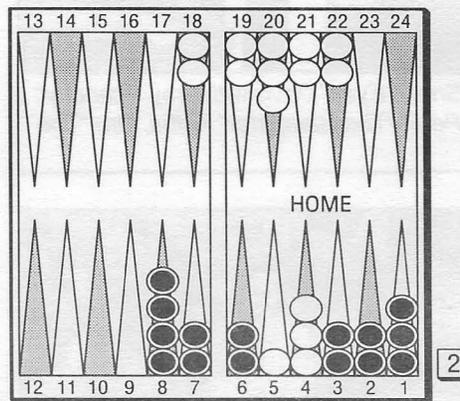
**Position 3.** 11-point finals. Westerlund (Black) leads Manouck (White) 6-0. Black doubles. **SHOULD WHITE TAKE?**



Both Magriel and Jellyfish said "Pass" to this one. However Thierry said "Take." After losing two more points and trailing 8-0, Manouck took a break. During the break, Magriel questioned him as to why he had taken the last two doubles. Manouck answered in English with a French accent: "Because I could not resist."

Although both players made many errors, they both made some good plays as well. Here's a tough one from late in Match 2:

**Position 4.** 11-point finals. Westerlund (Black) leads Manouck (White) 9-2. **WHITE TO PLAY A 6.**



Magriel judged this to be a difficult problem. Upon more study, he believed Manouck's eventual play, running 5/11, to be "technically correct."

In the end, Westerlund showed us that conservative play can prevail over flamboyancy. And of course it never hurts to

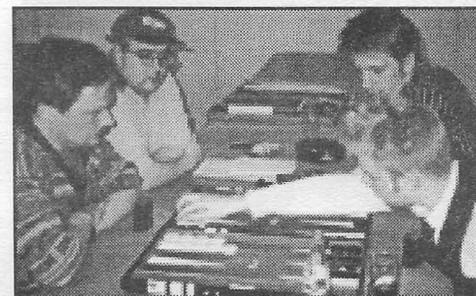
throw doubles—something that Tommy seemed to do at the most opportune moments throughout the match. In fact, he ended the tournament by tossing a fitting 6-6.

At the Awards Ceremony, Westerlund was right on target with his acceptance speech: "I would just like to thank my dice..."

Yes Westerlund was lucky. But we would like to add that everyone needs good luck to win a tournament. However, winners also need poise and nerves of steel to handle the intense pressure that goes with winning a major international event. Both competitors displayed these characteristics and deserve a lot of credit.

Congratulations to Director Chris Ternel and an outstanding Danish staff who made the Nordic "Wide" Open a most enjoyable tournament. Nordic results: Δ

**CHAMPIONSHIP (107):** 1-Tommy Westerlund (SWE), 2-Thierry Manouck (FRA), 3/4-Perry Gartner (US) / Michael Löfblad (SWE); 1C-Andreas Humke (GER), 2C-Marcus Ryndysbacher (SWIZ), 3C/4C-Peter Heitmüller (GER) / Peter Schneider (GER); 1LC-Michael Meyburg (GER), 2LC-Harald Johanni (GER). **ADVANCED (119):** 1-Hans Liby (NOR), 2-Karsten Schmidt, 3/4-Roger Porter (UK) / Alan Herskind; 1C-Kasper Anderson, 2C-Pawel Bielewicz (SWE), 3C/4C-Alistair Hogg (UK) / Danny Fogel; 1LC-Lars Klammer, 2LC-Rolf Anderson. **INTERMEDIATE (199):** 1-Rasmus G. Hansen, 2-Martin Reeh, 3/4-Mikkel Hartvig / Magnus Persson (SWE), 5/8-Fleming Pagh / Peter B. Larsen / Sune Skafte / Bjarne Tolstrup; 1C-Bjarne Bengaard, 2C-Karsten Bølge, 3C/4C-Thomas Fuglheim / Daniel Cronholm; 1LC-Michael Hansen, 2LC-Karsten Nielsen. **BEGINNER (64):** 1-Nicolas Rohrmann, 2-Simon Drejer, 3/4-Ingrid Øhlenschläger / Janek Mistowski; 1C-Lennart Straarup, 2C-Thomas Lund, 3C/4C-Anni Bech Nielsen / Peter Lyng; 1LC-Hanne Bengaard, 2LC-Lars B. Anderson. **CONSULTATION DOUBLES (70):** 1-Tony Hauboff & Ole Schnor, 2-Rasmus G. Hansen & Bjørn Fagerstrand. **TEAM EVENT (34 3-Player Teams):** 1-Venice (ITA), 2-Hustlers (DK). **FIBS TOURNEY (37):** 1-"stefan" Stefan Paliwoda (UK), 2-"gulris" (GER). **\$1000 JACKPOTS (8 players each):** #1-Armando Balbi (BRZ), #2-Jorgen Granstedt (SWE), #3-Kazuhiro Shino (UK). **DENMARK VS. SWEDEN:** 1-Denmark.



*Intermediate champion Rasmus Hansen (front right) and partner Bjørn Fagerstrand couldn't defeat eventual Doubles victors Ole Schnor (front left) & Tony Hauboff.*

**WINNER'S  
CIRCLE**



Feb.-Apr. 1997

•**Jarvis Trophy Tournament** (East Midlands, England; 15-16 Feb.)... OPEN (116): 1-Tim Wilkins, 2-Emmanuel Dei Bona, 3-Shaun Herd, 4-Jim Moore. TOP LADY: Monica Beckerson. BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME: Chris Curzon. FRIDAY NIGHT KO (28): 1/2-Tim Cross / Rick Janowski. DOUBLES (32): 1-Hit Squad, 2/3-Taylor Maid / Thelma & Louise.

•**Backgammon by the Bay Monthly** (San Mateo, CA; 16 Feb.)... OPEN (20): 1-Rawlin Pullen, 2-Jon Viotor, 3/4-Bill Kennedy / Richard McIntosh; 1C/2C-Daniel Murphy / Blake Sorem. INTERMEDIATE (12): 1-Mark King, 2-Roger Gabrielson; 1C-Michael Mitzenmacher, 2C-Marv Porten. BEGINNER (6): 1-Theo Edwards, 2-Sherry Cramer; 1C-Monika Kinsman.

•**Italian Championship #12** (Bologna, Italy; 22-23 Feb.)... MASTERS (18): 1-Paolo Michelini, 2-Nicola Pagano, 3/4-Roberto Catalano / Angelo Giannerini; 1C-Luciano Rubbi, 2C-Andrea Bolzoni. CHAMPIONSHIP (20): 1-Alfonso Sara, 2-Maurizio Maver, 3/4-Piero Fallo / Carlo Melzi; 1C-Andrea De Zandonati, 2C-Riccardo Romano. INTERMEDIATE (16): 1-Giorgio Tomba, 2-Antonietta Croce; 1C-Walter Demaria, 2C-Roberto Spadavecchia. VIVA LAS VEGAS: 1-Gordan Markotic (CRO). SUPER JACKPOT: 1/2-Pagano / Schartt. ONE POINT TOURNAMENT: 1/2-Walter Demaria / Alfredo Sperti.

•**Atlanta Backgammon Assoc. Monthly** (Atlanta, GA; 23 Feb.)... MASTERS: 1-Steve Herman (NC), 2-Bob Wilensky. OPEN: 1-John Brooks (OK), 2-Rick Calhoun. 1996 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS (16): 1-Samra Hadden, 2-Rick Calhoun, 3/4-Dave Cardwell / Larry Taylor.

•**Einladungsturnier-1st Warsteiner Cup** (Brakel, Germany; 27 Feb.-Mar. 2)... CHAMPIONSHIP: 1-Gordon Cross, 2-Peter Heitmüller; 1C-Mario Kühl; 1LC-Thomas Töpfer. INTERMEDIATE: 1-Paulus van Rooyen (NL), 2-Anja Ewers; 1C-Thomas Welge; 1LC-Georg Minicki. BEGINNER: 1-Torsten Maier, 2-Rogier van Gemert (NL). SUPER JACKPOT: 1-Uli Koch, 2-Leonid Riskin. GO KARTS: 1-Peter van Rooy (NL), 2-Andreas Märten. NINE-PINS: 1-Wolfgang Stroetges, 2-Gabi Stroetges.

•**Midtown "Sweet 16" Invitational** (New York, NY; 1 Mar.)... OPEN (16): 1-Jeff Acierno, 2-Karen Davis.

•**Springfield Series #5** (Springfield, IL; 1 Mar.)... OPEN (16): 1-Mark Kaye, 2-Cliff

Mayoh; 1C-Wally Kuester, 2C-Marjean Streitmatter; 1LC-John Jennings.

•**Springfield Series #6** (Springfield, IL; 1 Mar.)... OPEN (15): 1-Jim Zimmerman, 2-William Huchison; 1C-John Jennings, 2C-Mark Kaye; 1LC-Mike Flohr.

•**Northern Ohio Club Monthly** (Akron, OH; 2 Mar.)... OPEN (14): 1-Steve Hast (PA), 2/3-Mike Rezai / Joe Miller. NOVICE (3): 1-Fran Miller.

•**Hong Kong Monthly** (Hong Kong; 3 Mar.)... OPEN: 1-Gregg Westrick, 2-John Simon; 1C-Avry Ben-Zeeve, 2C-Peter Wong. CHAMPIONSHIP: 1-Harry Turner, 2-Charles Barguidjian; 1C-Cynthia Roberts, 2C-Olivia Lee.

•**Grand Prix de Lugano** (Lugano, Switzerland; 5-9 Mar.)... CHAMPIONSHIP (33): 1-Hendrik Muyers (GER), 2-Giorgio Falcomer (ITA), 3/4-Vittorio Balestrieri (SWIZ) / José Salema (POR); 1C-Vittorio Castro, 2C-Horst Weissig (GER); 1LC-Torsten Dreke (GER). INTERMEDIATE (27): 1-Navid Haghight (ITA), 2-André Nicoulin (SWIZ), 3/4-Rainer Witt (GER) / Marcel Liechti (SWIZ); 1C-George Volejnik (SWIZ), 2C-Richard Menger (FRA); 1LC-Marc Werner (GER). Ladies: Luisa Sequiera (POR). BEGINNER (9): 1-Alfredo Sperti (ITA), 2-Helge Keller (GER); 1C-Maria Croce (ITA); 1LC-Fabiano Ceresa (SWIZ). MÖET & CHANDON SUPERJACKPOT (16): 1-Matthias Körner (GER), 2-Vittorio Castro (ITA). RAYMOND WEIL DOUBLES (11): 1-R.R. (M. Körner & R. Reinhardt), 2-Terminators (R. Gatti & R. Witt). KURSAAL TEAM EVENT (11): 1-Mercenaires (F. Narboni, M. Sequiera, Y. Tomazos), 2-Die Sir (M. Körner, R. Reinhardt, R. Witt). FRANCO ROSSO (37): 1-Yannis Tomazos (GRE), 2-Nathalie Virag (SWIZ). SWAROVSKI (18): 1-Yannis Tomazos (GRE), 2-Rainer Witt (GER). HOTEL EDEN WARM-UP (31): 1-Mario Sequeira (POR), 2-Alberto Rusca (SWIZ).

•**NEBC Sunday Monthly** (Cambridge, MA; 16 Mar.)... EXPERT (18): 1-Evan Diamond, 2-Marty Storer, 3/4-Paul Sprogis / Mel Drapkin; 1C-Bill Robertie, 2C-James Pascoe. A DIV. (13): 1-Fred Ferguson, 2-Jim Williams, 3/4-Paul Chatalbash / Jim Sullivan.

•**Backgammon by the Bay Monthly** (San Mateo, CA; 16 Mar.)... OPEN (20): 1-Ron Karr, 2-Richard McIntosh, 3/4-Kevin Mansfield / Elliott Winslow; 1C-Odis Chanault, 2C-Paul Tenenbaum. INTERMEDIATE (18): 1-Duane Fuller, 2-Mark Emershaw; 1C-Rep Porter, 2C-Noah Novick. BEGINNER (6): 1-Claudia Imatt, 2-Bill Landry; 1C-Sherry Cramer.

•**Clarine's Beverly Hills Monthly** (Beverly Hills, CA; 29 Mar.)... OPEN (14): 1/2-Steve Sax / Art Benjamin.

•**Gammon Assoc. 38th Invitational—ABT** (Los Angeles, CA; 4-6 Apr.)... OPEN (32): 1-Doug Mayfield, 2-Eliot Bean; 1C-Garo Tchalabian, 2C-Bill Phipps (WA). ADVANCED (21): 1-Carlos Hamon, 2-N. Laaly; 1C-Paul Stokes, 2C-Randy Douthat. LIMITED (4): 1-Dave Hart. SUPER-XX (26): 1/2-Ray Fogerlund / Joe Russell, 3/4-Marianne Rosenblatt / Jon Viotor. DOUBLES (8): 1-Phil Simborg (IL) & Dan Simborg, 2-Norm Wiggins & Ron Coffin. 1-POINT BLITZ (96): 1-Ray Fogerlund.

•**Bar Point Sunday** (Oakbrook Terrace, IL; 6 Apr.)... OPEN (23): 1-Jake Jacobs, 2-Jerry Brooks, 3/4-Ken Bond / David Wells; 1C/2C-Bill Davis / Tim Helms (NB). INTERMEDIATE (16): 1/2-Ken Tyszko / Reggie Porter, 3/4-Jolie Rubin / Ed Buerger; 1C/2C-Nan Feiber / Todd Permut. Δ

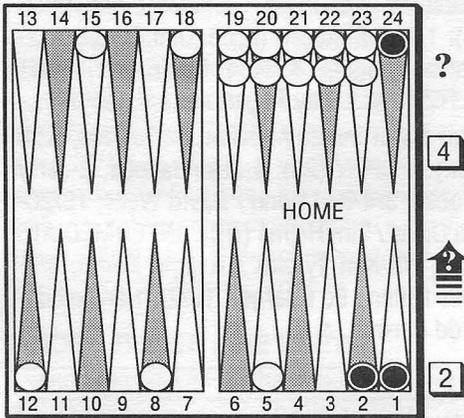
Simborg's  
**Laws of Backgammon #1**  
by Phil Simborg

- It's easy to tell when you have a great roll. The dice will be cocked.
- The secret of success is to always play worse players (and roll great).
- Anyone who isn't superstitious hasn't played much backgammon.
- For every cube action, there is an equal and opposite cube reaction (that will bite you in the ass later).
- There are three kinds of people in this world: those who know how to count pips and those who don't.
- Never give a cube you are afraid will be taken.
- Buying you opponent alcoholic drinks is the best investment you'll ever make.
- The shortest distance between two points is a drop.
- Happiness is a two hour box run.
- If you're not a compulsive/addictive personality, there's no point playing backgammon.
- No cube is too big if the stakes are too low.
- If you often risk the game to go for the gammon; more likely than not, you'll end up the salmon.
- When the match is over, everyone thinks they rolled worse.
- It's easy to make a great play. Just think of a really dumb play, and do the opposite.
- If you want someone to really hate you, right after you win a game, point out what they did wrong.
- If you want someone to really hate you, complain about your rolls right after you've won.

# PROBLEM #232 ANALYZED

by Kit Woolsey

Money game. Black on roll with 12 checkers borne off. **CUBE ACTION(S)?**



First of all, it is very clear that if redoubled, White has a take. White has excellent chances to pick up a second and even a third checker and become a substantial favorite. Thus, it is the double, not the take, that is in question.

Let's look at some of the possible scenarios:

1. *Black rolls an ace.* Black would certainly lose his market. But by how much? My offhand estimate was that a closed board vs. two on the ace point and one on the bar would win somewhere between 15% and 20% of the time. I had JellyFish roll it out with the other three checkers scattered in the outfield, and White's side won 15.4% of the time. Considering that JellyFish's technique is far from perfect here and that the recube potential wasn't taken into account, it looks like the real figure may be closer to 20%. Thus, while Black definitely will lose his market if he rolls an ace, the market loss isn't of the whopping variety.
2. *Black rolls a 6, and White doesn't hit back.* These are the big ones, particularly if Black rolls 6-1 or 6-6. We are talking possible gammon or backgammon here. The market loss potential is huge. However, this sequence only happens about 5/36 of the time.
3. *Black rolls a 6 (not 6-1 or 6-6) and White does hit back.* These can be very scary, depending in particular whether White hits with an ace or a deuce. For example, consider the sequence: Black rolls 6-4, White rolls 1-4, Black flunks. Now White is a clear favorite, and if she

has access to the cube, she would have a very efficient redouble which might or might not be a take. In these variations, turning the cube would be very costly.

4. *Black does nothing.* It's anybody's ball game. In this position, White can and will go all out to get the second checker. If she doesn't roll a six, she will willingly break her board to hit loose and stop Black from using his ace to make the point. Anything is possible. However, it is clear that Black wishes he hadn't released the cube. Cube ownership in the ensuing scramble will be very important. If Black starts to break away, he can send over a very menacing double, and if he locks up the ace point, he has a reasonably efficient cube. On the other hand, if White is threatening to scoop up Black's checkers, she can send over a powerful cube.

*Bottom line:* Black does have market losers, and a few of them are big ones. However, the majority of his market losing sequences (namely when he rolls an ace) don't lose the market by too much. In the more common variations, releasing the cube is very costly. Both sides have the potential for very efficient cubes in this sort of position, so cube ownership is quite valuable. Black should hang onto the cube. Δ

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## AMALGAMATION

The next issue of CHICAGO POINT will go in the mail 2 June... The Midwest Championships will relocate in 1998 to the Radisson Lisle-Naperville (10 miles west of Oakbrook, Illinois). A 2-year deal at this beautiful property was signed with Radisson sales manager **Sheri Buschette** last month... If you went to this year's Pittsburgh Championships, no wonder you gained weight. Director **Steve Hast** reports the following consumption at his 14-16 Feb. extravaganza: 60+ gallons of coffee, 1320 cans of pop, 50 large pizzas, 80 feet of submarine sandwiches, 240 bagels, 336 donuts, 33 pounds of M&Ms and dozens of bags of chips, pretzels, etc... A number of organizations and individuals are announcing their resignation from the Worldwide Backgammon Federation including Norway, German, Japan, Denmark, Switzerland and parts of Italy. Thus far, no public reaction from WBF president **Alberto da Pra**... **Joann Feinstein**'s Prime Backgammon Club has disbanded play at the Holiday Inn in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. No plans for a new location are in the works... And effective at the end of June, Chicago's oldest backgammon/games club will shut its doors. **Greg Defotis** has announced the

closing of the North Club (4747 N. Peterson Avenue). For more info, or to play at the club before it closes, contact **Greg** at 773/286-6719... Congratulations to **David Wells** and **Sakura Sugawara** who are new Chicago residents and also newlyweds! They were married last month... Back from Jamaica with her hair in dreadlocks: **Leslie Lockett**... **Paul Magriel** is currently calling Paris, France his home base... **Oliver Benjamin Hemmerle** has published a Backgammon-Bibliography with over 200 entries. It will be available in German, France and English beginning in July 1997. Until 20 June, the price in Europe is 10 DM. All other countries, send \$10. Mail to: **Oliver Benjamin Hemmerle**; Postfach 120840; D-68059 Mannheim (Baden); Germany... Visiting the Bar Point Club in March: **Jon Viotor** (CA), **Tim Helms** (NB), and **Bob Koca** (PA) who next month will be going to Africa with the Peace Corps... **Mike Fujita** has resigned as director of the San Diego Club and is currently residing in Hawaii. the new SDBC director is **Timothy Jaxon** (619/457-2273; bgjaxon@aol.com). Tim tells us there will be an ABT Autumn Gran Prix later this year. Look for more information in the June POINT... Finally, in chouette play, remember that it's not whether you win or lose, but how you place the blame. Δ

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KG

Information: CJC at 810/232-9731  
e-mail: [cjc@flint.org](mailto:cjc@flint.org)

## BACKGAMMON TOURNAMENT of the Americas

August 13-17, 1997  
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\$7,000 Added Prize Money

Info: Bill Davis: 773/583-6464  
Carol Joy Cole: 810/232-9731  
Max Esquivel: [bgammon@sol.racsa.co.cr](mailto:bgammon@sol.racsa.co.cr)

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Info: **Joann Feinstein**  
847/674-0120

KG



## ILLINOIS ACTION



Bill Davis  
773/583-6464  
Peter Kalba  
773/252-7755

Tuesday, 6:15 P.M. at Golden Flame, 6417 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago; 773/792-0424.

Sunday Bimonthly, 12:00 NOON at Anyway's Chicago Grill & Bar, 5 E. Roosevelt Rd., Oakbrook Terrace; 630/932-9323.

PUB CLUB: Tourn. Monday, 7:30 P.M. at Harpo's, 290 S. Schmale, Carol Stream. V. W. Zimmnicki (630/924-8632).

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY: Tourn. Monday, 6:30 P.M. at Mr. Ricky's Note, 118 E. Cermak, Chicago. J.A. Miller (773/734-9430).

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL BG CLUB: Tourn. Monday, 6:30 P.M. at Ride The Nine, 503 N. Prospect, Bloomington. Gary Daniels (309/452-3034)

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

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

CENTRAL ILL. BG CLUB: Tourn. 1st Thur. mthly, 6:30 P.M. at River Station, 212 Constitution Ave., Peoria. Sue Will (309/699-6005).

NORTH CLUB: Daily except Sunday, 1:00 P.M. at 4747 W. Peterson (Suite 2), Chicago. Greg Defotis (773/286-6719).



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Master	750,000	80,000
(Quarter entry)	200,000	
Championship	250,000	50,000
Intermediate	70,000	30,000
Doubles	200,000	30,000
Team	300,000	50,000

\$1 = Lit. 1,700 (approx.)

### Prizes

- 100% of all entry fees will be returned
- Free pass to the Casino rooms
- Over 40 trophies to be awarded

### Conditions

- Tournament Director: DARIO DE TOFFOLI
- Assistant: Alfonso Sara
- Jackpot Man: Dario Zaccariotto
- Recognized by the WBF
- Precision Dice: available at the tournament
- A playing room will be open until 5:00 am

### INFORMATION: studiogiochi

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mobile 0336/359225  
e-mail: [dariodet@mbbox.vol.it](mailto:dariodet@mbbox.vol.it)

### Thursday, 19th June

16:00-20:00 Registration  
16:00 Jackpot Programme  
18:00 Quarter Entries  
22:00 Warm up  
23:00 Superjackpot

### Friday, 20th June

15:00-19:30 Registration  
16:00 Consultation Doubles  
22:00 Tournament begins

### Saturday, 21st June

15:00 Tournament continues  
15:30 Progressive Consolation  
18:00 WBF's supporters event (3-point)  
22:30 Superjackpot

### Sunday, 22nd June

13:00 Last Chance  
15:00 Finals  
17:00 Team Event  
20:00 Prize-giving  
21:00 Jackpots Program continues

### Moreover:

- Beginner / Intermediate Jackpots
- One-point tournament & Stoppots



**CASINO  
MUNICIPALE DI  
VENEZIA**



**DAL NEGRO**  
OFFICIAL SUPPLIER  
During the event, the new  
OLYMPIC BOARD will be shown.