



Howard Markowitz wins Reno Masters

Howard Markowitz joins a select group of Masters winners....Nack Ballard 1986, Kent Goulding 1987 and Kit Woolsey 1988. Howard commented before the finals that all matches were close. Howard's first match against Mike Corbett was a match of streaks. The next match against Sandy Lubetkin was the come-back of the tournament. Howard was down 4 to 17 in a 19 pointer and fought back to win. In the semifinal against Kit Woolsey, Howard never trailed but the score was always within 4 points. In the finals against Ed O'Laughlin, the 3-hour match started slow, taking 30 minutes to complete the first two games. After two hours, Howard had a lead of 16 to 7 before Ed staged a come back. Three games later, the score was tied 16 to 16. Later, Ed grabbed the lead 21-20 for the first time with a doubled gammon but Howard tied the score quickly the next game. With the score tied at 21, Ed opened with 4-3 moving 24-20, 13-10 and Howard answered with double 5's making the 3 and 1 points hitting. Ed danced with 63. Howard commented it was too good to double so he went for the blitz. Two moves later, Howard had a 5-point home board. Ed did capture the two-point but Howard never left a blot and was able to get his needed cubeless gammon to win the match, the Master's trophy and the top prize.

1989 U. S. Open -- Reno		
Masters (16)	1st Howard Markowitz	2nd Ed O'Laughlin
Open Division (92)	Intermediate (100)	Novice (34)
1st Craig Chellstorp	1st Dennis Rutkowski	1st Alan Nakamura
2nd Jay Kurzet	2nd Doug Hitchman	2nd Seymour Rosenberg
3/4 Bob Glass	3/4 Bill Phipps	3/4 Marjorie Gibbs
3/4 Scott McKenzie	3/4 Pork Chop	3/4 Linda Breckenridge
5/8 Frank Frigo	5/8 Robert Lumbr	C1st Gary Quilla
5/8 Doug Huch	5/8 Ira Hoffberg	C2nd Ken Schey
5/8 Dean Muench	5/8 Alice Kay	
5/8 Nick Maffeo	5/8 Al Senter	Amateur Shoot Out
C1st Jack Kissane	C1st Sam Smith	1st Pork Chop
C2nd Howard Markowitz	C2nd Ray Fogelund	2nd Bill Phipps
C3/4 Nack Ballard	C3/4 Rob Mathes	3/4 John Gdowk
C3/4 Michael Maxakuli	C3/4 Farhad Gharmani	3/4 Ray Fogelund
Open Jackpot (32)	Doubles (64)	Last Hope
1st Diane Haley	1st Kati Pratt & Jim Allen	Open (32)
2nd Mike Mooney	2nd Trish Hegland & Pete Tividar	1st Kit Woolsey
	3/4 Alice Kay & Joel Harwood	2nd Emil Mortuk
	3/4 Diane Blomberg & Fred Kalantari	Intermediate (64)
Intermediate Jackpot (64)		1st Joe Harris
1st Tom Leslie	Team Event (4) - Nack Ballard,	2nd Rita Oliver
2nd Peter Panagotacos	Kent Goulding & Joe Sylvester	Novice (4)
3/4 John Gdowk	MEGAblitz (512)- Farhad Gharmani	1st Veronica Mooney
3/4 Robert Lumbr		



National Club Team Challenge

This event is to be held at the **National Labor Day Backgammon Tournament** in Indianapolis and is the first of it's kind to center on the grass root players of clubs from all over the country. Look for the club team challenge to become an annual event. The information on this event was sent to the directors of known clubs in May. Each club entering is to submit a team of 3 players plus 2 alternates. The entry fee is \$225/team with a \$75 optional side pool. Each club was given the flexibility of choosing the 3 players from their club and deciding if the club should pick-up a portion of the entry fee. The event is limited to 32 teams and is scheduled to start Friday evening at the same time as the double events. A special format has been developed for this event which guarantees each player 3 matches. The match length will be 9-points for the first two stages and 11-points for the finals. The deadline for entries is August 1st. A list of entries will be in the August newsletter. Side Note: In a letter to the *Chicago Point* newsletter, Rick Barabino has guaranteed a win in this event by The New England Backgammon Club. Sorry Rick, we cannot send the trophies to you at this time; your team has to show up and go through the motions to receive it with a lot of other teams attempting to claim this honor.

HBC Hotline: Butch & Mary Ann Meese, 7620 Kilmer Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46256-1634 - (317) 845-8435.

HBC's newsletter subscription rate \$6.00/year (overseas \$10/year). Let us know if your address changes.

The National Labor Day Backgammon Tournament



featuring the **National Club Team Challenge**

September 1-4, 1989 at The Radisson Hotel in Indianapolis.

9-Match Format in 3 divisions. MicroBlitz in 3 levels. \$500 Masters Jackpot.

Information: HBC (317) 845-8435 or LBC (502) 458-5439



U. S. Backgammon Enterprises Announce World Cup II

The **WORLD CUP II** is scheduled for August 7-12, 1990 at the Sheraton-Commander Hotel, Boston. According to Kent Goulding, **World Cup II** is expected to be a full field of 64 players. The field will be filled in two ways: 1) 40 slots by players receiving direct invitations and 2) 24 slots will be reserved for the winners of regional qualifying tournaments. Qualifying tournaments will be held around the world during the period September, 1989 to June, 1990. Ask your local organizer for details of qualifying tournaments in your area.

HBC June Results	June 1st	June 8th	June 15th	June 22th	June 29th
1st	Woody Woodworth	Larry Strommen	Butch Meese	Chuck Stimming	Butch Meese
2nd	Howard Givel	Cyrus Mobed	Woody Woodworth	Woody Woodworth	Frank Scott
3rd	Cyrus Mobed	Brian Nelson	Ken Bruck	Frank Scott	Brian Nelson
Hoosier Quad		Butch Meese			

Hoosier Pips....Congrats to Brian Nelson and Frank Scott for making the TOP TEN for the first time....A memo was attached to an entry into the **National Labor Day Backgammon Tournament**: "Thanks for the idea of **NO TIME LIMIT** - Backgammon is not chess, leave the pressure at home"....If you're in the neighborhood, drop by *The Brass Rail, Virginia City, NV* for the best fresh fruit cobbler west of the Mississippi homemade by the Heffners of NNBA fame...Paul Magriel's book, *BACKGAMMON* is still in high demand. If you have one to sell, it is still selling at the new price. For those who cannot find a copy, check out used book stores or your public library....Thanks to Woody Woodworth for running Thursday night play, June 22nd, while the Meeses were in Reno.

1989 HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB Gammon Point Standings as of June 30th.						
1)	Butch Meese	10.84	Mike Norman	2.08	Cassidy Dobratz	0.18
2)	Chuck Stimming	10.82	Rick Reahard	2.04	Larry Lesniak	0.16
3)	Woody Woodworth	10.62	Marty Lindenmayer	2.04	Jim Mieske	0.16
4)	Mick Dobratz	8.23	Bob Goodlett	1.77	Larry Buckingham	0.16
5)	Larry Strommen	8.19	Don Burton	1.66	Amber Wiesler	0.16
6)	Howard Givel	7.64	Bill Gheen	1.40	Ron Becker	0.14
7)	Mary Ann Meese	6.53	Ralph Roberts	1.02	Bob Calhoun	0.14
8)	Cyrus Mobed	4.86	Gino Agresti	0.86	R. C. Robbins	0.12
9)	Frank Scott	4.77	Michael Shanas	0.80	Jay Nelson	0.10
10)	Brian Nelson	4.10	Ellis Bray	0.78	Dan Batts	0.10
	Ken Bruck	4.04	Bill Julian	0.76	John Ritzert	0.08
	David Smith	3.56	Wendy Kaplan	0.72	Mike Hellmer	0.08
	George Crawford	3.12	Catfish Bryan	0.62	John Leusing	0.08
	Glenn Theobald	3.02	Ron Black	0.48	Walter Trice	0.08
	Jeff Baker	2.88	Herb Roman	0.34	Scott Musser	0.06
	Jim Curtis	2.74	Ves Johnson	0.32	Bob Kemerly	0.02
	Kay Beck	2.56	Cassie Curtis	0.32	Bev Nelson	0.02
	Eric George	2.38	Don Trapp	0.32	Linc Bedell	0.02
	Jim Knauer	2.20	John Brussel	0.32	Tom Hendryx	0.02
	Kevin McLeaster	2.14	Donna Susens	0.24		
	Greg Varbinov	2.12	Jamie Curtis	0.24		

Schedule of BACKGAMMON Events (Information and entry forms available thru HBC)		
Jul 10-16	World Championships of Backgammon - Monte Carlo	(305) 527-4033
Jul 15-16	The 1989 Nation's Capital Summer Backgammon Tournament	(703) 620-3239
Jul 28-30	Michigan Summer Championship - Flint, MI	(313) 232-9731
Aug 07-13	Green Mountain Festival - Ascutney Mt Resort	(305) 527-4033
Sep 01-04	National Labor Day Backgammon Tournament - Indianapolis	HBC Hotline
Oct 04-08	Caesars Tahoe Backgammon Tournament	(702) 852-1221
Oct 27-29	7th New Hampshire Fall Classic	(603) 863-4711
Nov 17-19	Children's Hospital Benefit - Sheraton-Commander Hotel, Boston	(617) 547-4800
Jan 17-21, 1990	7th Nevada State - Peppermill Hotel, Reno	(702) 852-1221
Aug 07-12, 1990	WORLD CUP II - Sheraton-Commander Hotel, Boston	(301) 299-8264
THURSDAYS	7PM at Dooley O'Toole's - Backside of Castleton Sq on 86th St	849-7355

WORLD CUP Match

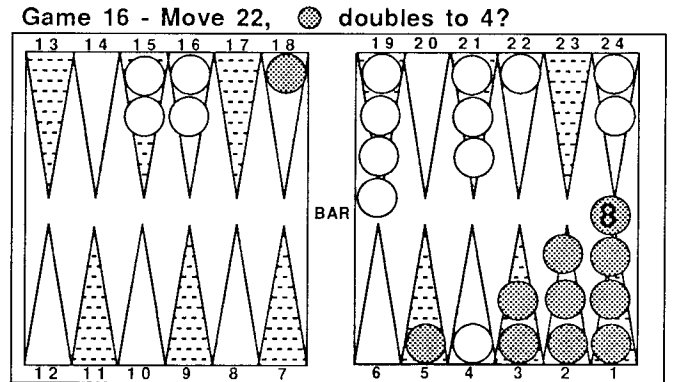
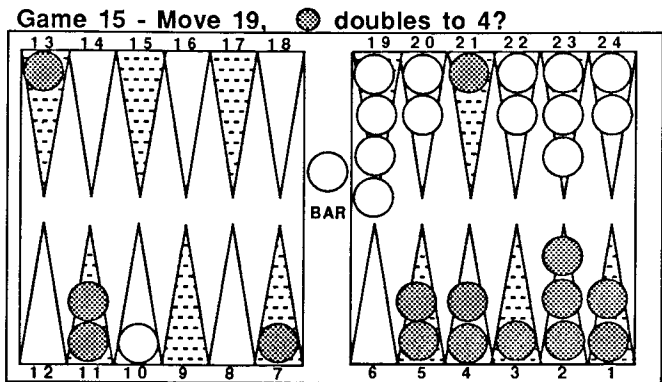
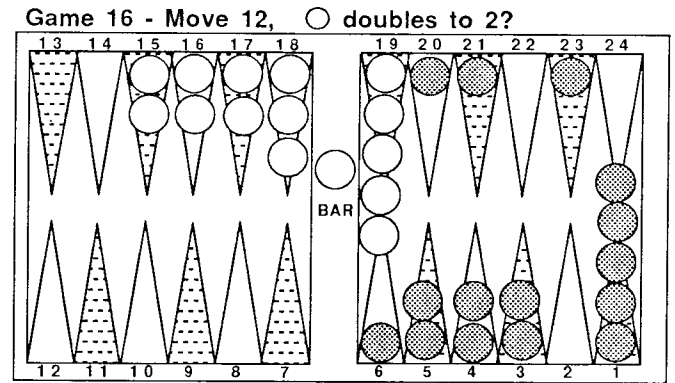
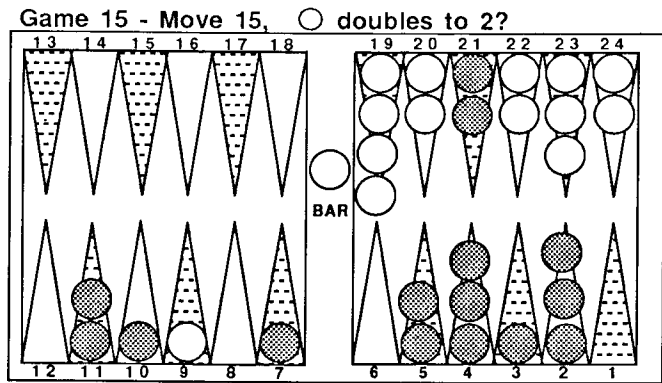
Joe Sylvester vs Alan Steffen

37 Point SemiFinal

During 1989, this match is being presented in this newsletter, 1 to 4 games each month and this month games 15 and 16 are presented. Along with the 34 games, all the doubling positions will be included. There are some both interesting and exciting games in this match between two of the best.

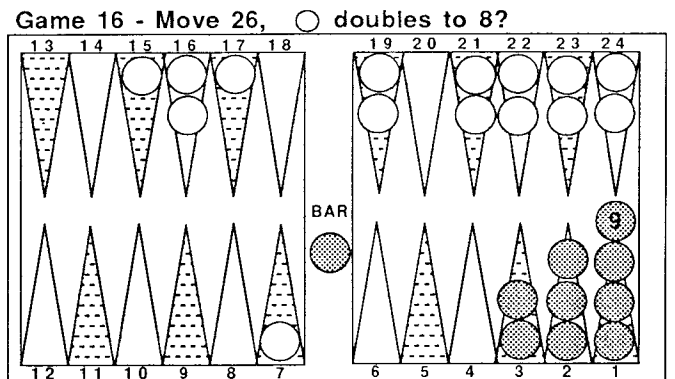
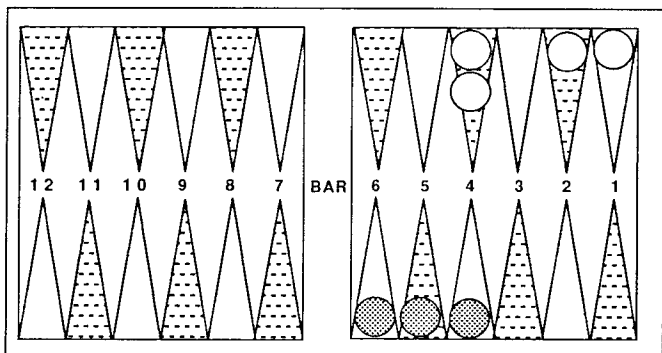
Instructions: You will need a backgammon board to follow along. The board is numbered 1 to 24 with all points numbered based on the view of the player on roll. The home portion of the board is numbered 1-6. Bearing off is denoted as moving to the 0 'zero' point. Each player will always be moving from a higher to lower point with only the point(s) moved to used. To make it easier to follow, the larger number rolled is denoted first. In some situations where the smaller number rolled is forced, it will be presented first. An example: being on the BAR with a roll of 52 with the 5-point made and the 2-point open.

Abbreviations used are CB - Closed Board, EF - Entry Failure, NP - No Play Possible, x - opponents piece was hit, 5² - superscribe denotes 2 or more pieces moving to the same point; this example has 2 pieces moving to the 5 point. In the doubling positions, Joe will be dark checkers and Alan the light and are shown from Joe Sylvester's side of the board. Study those first before going through the games.



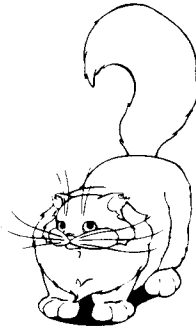
Proposition

This position is one of the many propositions that show up at tournaments. At Reno, players were asked what side is favored to bearoff first. Which side do you think? Answer on Page 4.



Game 15

Joe Sylvester (19)		Alan Steffen (16)	
Roll	Played	Roll	Played
1)	--	---	63 18 10
2)	42	7x	63 22 18x
3)	43	21 ²	21 10 ^{F13}
4)	63	7x 3x	41 21 24
5)	32	4x ²	51 20 23
6)	31	5x ²	42 23 9
7)	53	16x ^{F24}	21 22x ^F Bar
8)	31	24 13	33 5 ² 3 ²
9)	65	13	55 18 ² 8 ²
10)	51	8 12	66 10 2 ²
11)	11	11 ² 4	51 5 ^{F10} 7
12)	61	2 ^{F8} 5	32 2 ^{F7}
13)	54	3 ^{F8} 4	21 16 1
14)	42	2 ²	44 2 ^{F10} 6 1
15)	63	7x 10	dbl to 2?
16)		take	62 17
17)	33	1 ² ^{F10,4}	42 12 15
18)	62	13x	42 EF
19)		dbl to 4?	pass



I LUV MY PERSIAN

Game 16

Joe Sylvester (21)		Alan Steffen (16)	
Roll	Played	Roll	Played
1)	52	8 11	63 7 10
2)	54	15x	21 23 7
3)	65	9 6	43 16x
4)	43	21 ²	65 13
5)	62	5	63 10 ²
6)	32	5 4	22 9 ²
7)	43	4 3	22 22x 7 ^{F13}
8)	52	23 3x	65 EF
9)	65	7 3	33 EF
10)	65	1 ²	31 EF
11)	21	11 20	41 EF
12)	55	1 ³ F11,6(2)	dbl to 2?
13)		take	54 EF
14)	65	14 1	43 EF
15)	22	21 8	52 23 1
16)	53	3 1	61 1 5
17)	31	1 20x	62 17 ^F Bar
18)	61	14 2x	43 21 14
19)	22	6	53 4x ²
20)	42	23 2	51 9 ^{F14} 6
21)	53	18 2	54 3 4
22)		dbl to 4?	take
23)	64	12 1	32 3 8
24)	32	7	21 18x
25)	64	EF	42 2 ²
26)	62	EF	dbl to 8?
27)		take	53 5 ²
28)	--	CB	32 6 16
29)	--	CB	21 6
30)	--	CB	21 4 5
31)	--	CB	64 6
32)	--	CB	21 2 5
33)	--	CB	43 2 3
34)	65	14	41 0 ²
35)	51	8	31 0 ²
36)	43	4 0	52 0 ²
37)	41	0 ²	53 0 ²
38)	53	0 ²	54 0 ²
39)	55	0 ⁴	44 game

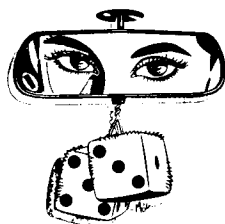
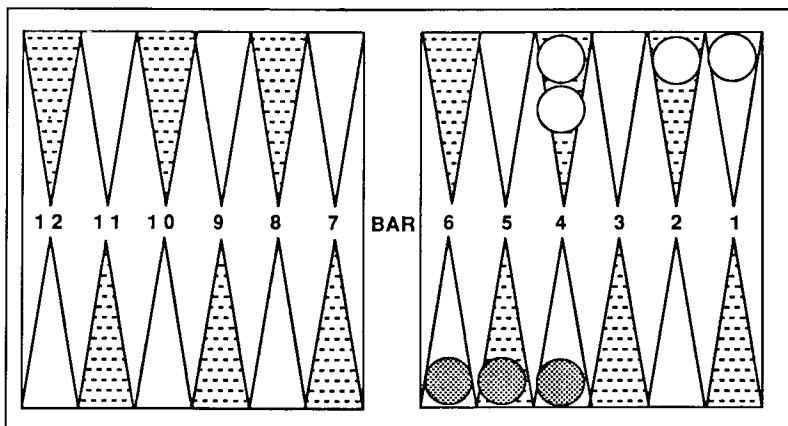
JS - 21

AS -24

Answer - Proposition

This position was run by a computer program which specializes in this kind of problem. It plays both sides at the same time with the same dice rolls. The program keeps track of how many rolls it takes to clear on each run. A run of 40,000 produced the following results:

Rolls to clear	Position 'O'	Position 'O'
1	2155	3245
2	17697	21641
3	18670	15071
4	1470	172
5	8	0
Average Rolls	2.487	2.298



1776
1989