



Mike Svobodny captures World Cup III Title.

The **WORLD CUP** is the greatest test of skill! according to Hal Heinrich. It is also the ultimate backgammon endurance test with the best 3-of-5 11 point matches to determine the victor for each round. There is only one round per day, but it could take over 12 hours to determine a winner. Thirty-nine of the strongest started on Monday but only two survivors would play for the title and the top prizes; \$45,000 to the winner and \$22,500 to the loser. And who was standing after 6 days but 2 world champions; Mike Svobodny and Hal Heinrich. The finals started at noon with closed circuit TV for spectators. At dinner break, they had both won a match and were tied 7-7 in the third. Mike won 4 straight points to take the 3rd match backing Hal into a corner. After more then two hours Hal forced a final match by winning the fourth match 11-10. In the final match, Mike jumped ahead 9-4 but at 1 AM Hal was back in the match although down 10-9. A room full of spectators still remained to witness the match to the bitter end. In the next game, Hal opened with 2-1 and played 13-11, 6-5. Mike answered with 5-1 and moved 24-18. Hal doubled! The director turned commentator, Kent Goulding, remarked "If we are in Texas, it must be El Paso". Mike passed. So after 7 days of marathon backgammon, the difference between the coveted title and second place, which in time no one remembers, was one game. The game developed into a duece game for Hal. Mike had one checker to bring home, which Hal hit. But Mike rolled a killer 6-1 from the bar to hit Hal's blot on his 7-point. Hal could not recover and at 1:45 AM the new champion was crowned.

Harvey's Bristol Suites Hotel was the perfect host hotel. Representing HBC were Wendy Kaplan, David Smith, Chuck Stimming and Larry Strommen with Chuck cashing in the Intermediate Division. HBC members on staff included Butch and Mary Ann Meese. Congrats to all the winners.

WORLD CUP (39)

- 1st... Mike Svobodny (NY)
- 2nd... Hal Heinrich (CAN)
- 3/4... Joe Sylvester (MI)
- 3/4... Nathan Jones (TX)
- C1st... Malcolm Davis (TX)
- C2nd... Billy Horan (NY)

Open Division (76)

- 1st... Ed O'Laughlin (VA)
- 2nd... Rafael Lopez de Lara (MEX)
- 3/4... Bill Barron (TX)
- 3/4... Sandy Lubetkin (TX)
- C1st... Erik Seidel (NY)
- C2nd... Gary Kay (IL)

Intermediate Division (47)

- 1st... Joe Harris (CA)
- 2nd... Ron Williamson (TX)
- 3rd... Dennis Cupp (OH)
- C1st... David Simpson (CO)
- C2nd... Hossein Zafarianian (TX)
- C3/4... Paul Albert (CA)
- C3/4... Chuck Stimming (IN)

Rifleman Shoot-Out (20)

- 1st... Malcolm Davis (TX)
- 2nd... Ami Tennenbaum (NJ)

Great Armadillo Chase (128)

- 1st... Al Hodis (NY)
- 2nd... Kent Goulding (MD)

Open Round-Up (16)

- 1st... Dan Cox (NY)
- 2nd... Howard Ring (IL)

Open Blitz (64)

- 1st... Tom Wheeler (TX)
- 1st... Jim Hickey (GA)

Texas Gold Rush #1 (32)

- 1st... David Ben-Zion (Israel)
- 2nd... Joe Russell (CA)
- 3/4... Christian Lestrade (Monaco)
- 3/4... Howard Markowitz (IL)

Texas Gold Rush #2 (16)

- 1st... Drew Giovanis (FL)
- 2nd... Howard Ring (IL)

Limited Round-Up (8)

- 1st... Jorge Tsao (Costa Rica)
- 2nd... Frank Van Beek (TXI)

Limited Blitz #1 (64)

- 1st... Hossein Zafarianian (TX)
- 1st... Bob Zavoral (IL)

Limited Blitz #2 (32)

- 1st... Jorge Tsao (Costa Rica)
- 1st... Bob Wright (FL)

Hoosier Pips: Joining HBC's winner's circle for the first time is Mike Marr, who placed second on August 13th...A documentary film for cinema and television, *Tumbling Dice*, about gaming as a universal age-old human phenomenon is being filmed in the USA during October and November. It may include some backgammon players...The Premier Issue of *Cigar Aficionado* features a 5 page story called High-Stakes Backgammon in Europe. It covers many aspects of the game and includes a picture of Antionette Williams (NY).

Hoosier Backgammon Club's Newsletter for active HBC members and subscribers.

Subscription rate: \$10/year (Canada \$12 and overseas \$14). Let us know if your address changes.

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

National Labor Day Backgammon Tournament

Ninety-seven hopefuls gathered in Indianapolis Labor Day weekend for a little backgammon. The tournament started off with the Master and Amateur Jackpots. Doug Roberts seized the Master's trophy over John O'Hagan. Randell Witt captured the top spot in the Amateur Jackpot in a close match by defeating Steve Hast 11-10. The swiss movement format was used for the top three divisions and provided a lot of play with all matches meaningful.

In the Championship Division, Abbas Zaltash was undefeated in the swiss portion and awaited a challenger in the Finals. Four other players survived with 6-2 records and played-off to join Abbas in the Finals. It turned out to be Jeff Acierno. Jeff and Abbas had met in rounds 2 and 8. Abbas won the first two but Jeff won when it counted most.

Hossein Zafarianian won the Advanced Division over Michigan Summer Intermediate Champion, Judy Field.

The surprise of the tournament was the size of the Intermediate group. This tournament marks the second time 4 divisions have been offered; the 40th Indiana Open being the first. The true Intermediates enjoyed the chance to compete in a fair and equitable event. Don Garner Jr and Sr returned to backgammon after 8 years. Don Jr finished first over Larry Venaska, while Don Sr grabbed third place.

HBC members made a **great** showing in this tournament. They are shown in **bold type**.

A free event was added to the schedule only weeks before the tournament. The Appreciation Event was a free event for all main tournament entrants to play for HBC Event Certificates and stuffed racoons *Rocky* and *Ricky*. The finals were not played but David Smith and Ben Elliott split the prizes. David received \$50 HBC Event Certificate and a small stuffed racoon while Ben Elliott won a \$25 HBC Event Certificate and a large hand puppet racoon. This will become an annual event with better scheduling. Congrats to all the winners and thanks for all the positive comments and feedback. See you all next year!

Trivial Question: Including all events at this tournament, how many total matches were played? Answer on Page 6.

Championship (31)

- 1st...Jeff Acierno (NY)
- 2nd...Abbas Zaltash (PA)
- C1st...John Brussel (IL)
- C2nd...Ami Tennenbaum (NJ)

Masters Jackpot (16)

- 1st...Doug Roberts (NY)
- 2nd...John O'Hagan (IN)

Doubles (16)

- 1st...Jan Carlstrom/Abbas Zaltash (PA)
- 2nd...Wendy Kaplan/Woody Woodworth (IN)

Open Fast Break (32)

- 1st...Ami Tennenbaum (NJ)
- 2nd...Jeff Acierno (NY)

Advanced Division (41)

- 1st...Hossein Zafarianian (TX)
- 2nd...Judy Field (MI)
- C1st...Larry Whittenburg (IL)
- C2nd...George Barr (FL)
- C3/4...**Jeff Baker (IN)**
- C3/4...**Gabe Stiasny (IN)**

Appreciation Event (97): David Smith (IN) (split with) Ben Elliott (NC)

Advanced MicroBlitz (32): Ed King (OH) (split with) Hossein Zafarianian (TX)

Open MicroBlitz (16): Bill Gheen (IN)

Masters Jackot #2: Dean Muench (IL)

Limited MicroBlitz #1 (16): Holly Stowe (IN)

Limited MicroBlitz #2 (8): Irving Achtenberg (MO)

Advanced Fast Break #1 (64)

- 1st...Lois Davenport (MI)
- 2nd...Carl Severino (IL)

Advanced Fast Break #2 (32)

- 1st...**Larry Stommen (IN)**
- 2nd...Alice Gerard (FL)

1992 HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB Gammon Point Standings as of August 31 st.

HBC Player of the Month for August is **Jim Curtis** with 138 gammon points.

1) Chuck Stimming..... 1166	Jeff Baker.....270	Mike Marr..... 94	Dave Fey.....30
2) Don Woods..... 1004	Mick Dobratz.....262	Ralph Dietz.....90	Art Overbay.....30
3) Jim Curtis..... 940	Dave Cardwell.....252	Walter Trice.....87	Ellis Bray.....24
4) Ken Bruck..... 846	Jan Gurvitz.....245	Ed Koolish..... 70	Dick Nelson.....22
5) Gabe Stiasny..... 844	Wendy Kaplan..... 220	Bill Gheen..... 64	Kevin Garrison.....20
6) Holly Stowe..... 796	Peg Simsic..... 195	Bob Zavoral.....60	Jill F.-Brussel..... 20
7) Larry Strommen.....708	Gino Agresti..... 188	Bill Julian..... 50	David Smith.....20
8) Butch Meese..... 626	Larry Deckel..... 160	Joe Miller.....48	Rick Reahard.....20
9) Woody Woodworth.....592	Eric George..... 160	Randall Witt.....46	Cassie Curtis..... 15
10) Kevin McLeaster..... 558	Judy McHale..... 154	Jon Stephens.....40	June Werner..... 10
Mary Ann Meese..... 550	Don Desmond..... 140	Tom Helt..... 38	Donna Susens..... 10
Terry Kuchenbrod..... 396	Scott Richardson..... 138	Bill Hodes..... 36	Stan Gurvitz..... 10
Cyrus Mobed..... 375	John Brussel..... 138	Marge Lewandowski..... 34	Shimi Dadon..... 10
Stu Sherman..... 314	Frank Frigo..... 128	Greg Varbanov.....32	Stu Whitcomb..... 10
John O'Hagan..... 288	Dean Adamian..... 120	Dennis Schulte.....30	Lara Simsic..... 5
Brian Nelson.....283	Reggie Porter..... 112	Philip Degen.....30	

HBC Newsletter To Go To Bi-Monthly.

From time to time we all have to make decisions. We have made a decision to publish the HBC Newsletter bi-monthly. One factor that contributes to this decision is the cost of printing and postage. The other is the time required to put the newsletter together. An alternate choice would be to raise rates but does not help with the time needed to do a monthly publication. With more time to do each issue, plans are in the works to bring articles that are not available in any other backgammon publications.

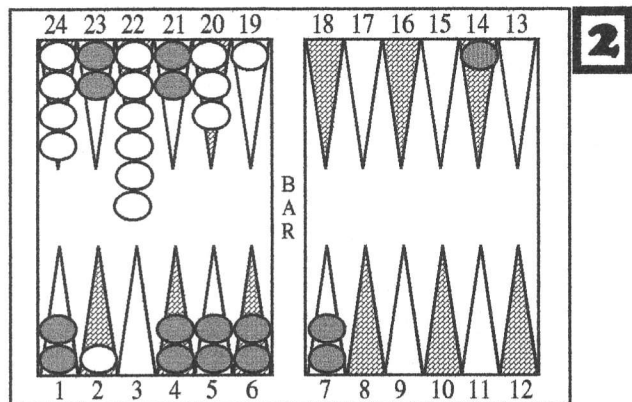
Next issue will feature a review of the new backgammon program, **Expert Backgammon Version 1.6**, for the PC.

The matches will continue in an expanded pace. This issue marks the end of the Ballard/Robertie match. The next match features Snellings and Russell from the 1992 Las Vegas Open.

A new column, **Board Talk**, will begin next issue (see below). Each issue an interesting backgammon position will be analyzed.

Board Talk

17 Point Match, Black-13 White-12
Black on Roll, Cube Decisions?



Answer in the Next Issue.



Granite State Backgammon Club
presents

**1st Halloween Costume Contest
&
11th Annual Granite State
Open Backgammon Championships
&
8th Annual New England Double
Backgammon Championships**

October 30-31 and November 1st, 1992
Information (603) 863-4711

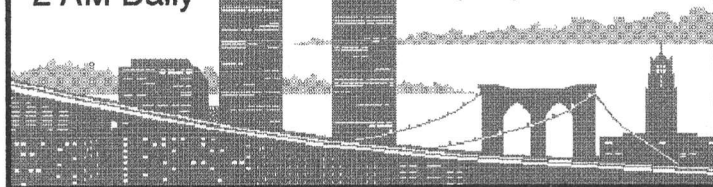
Sheraton Tara Wayfarer Inn
Bedford, New Hampshire
(603) 622-3766

Ace Point Backgammon Club

Director: Michael Valentine

Open 3 PM
to
2 AM Daily

41 East 60th Street
New York, NY 10022
(212) 753-0842



BACKGAMMON Schedule

Oct 1-4.....	Illinois State Backgammon Championships, Hyatt Deerfield, Deerfield, IL.....	(708) 945-7801
Oc30-No1...	11th Annual Granite State Open Backgammon Championships, NH.....	(603) 863-4711
Nov20-22....	Backgammon Co-op Fall Championships, Rocking Horse Resort Ranch, NY.....	(201) 731-0996
Feb 19-21...	15th Annual Pittsburgh Charity Backgammon Tournament, Greentree Marriott, Pitts....	(412) 823-7500
Thursdays.....	7:00 PM at SPATS -Castleton Square between J.C.Penneys & L.S.Ayres.....	842-3465

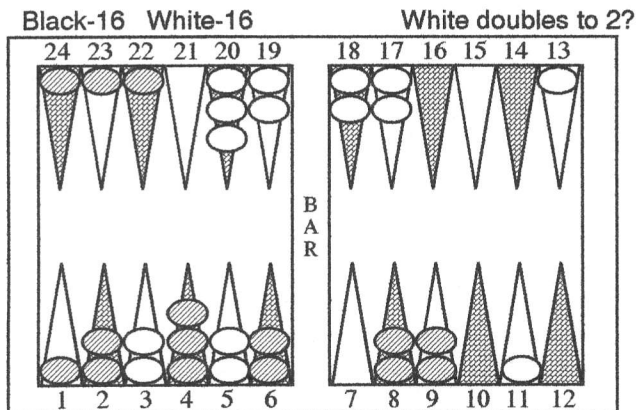
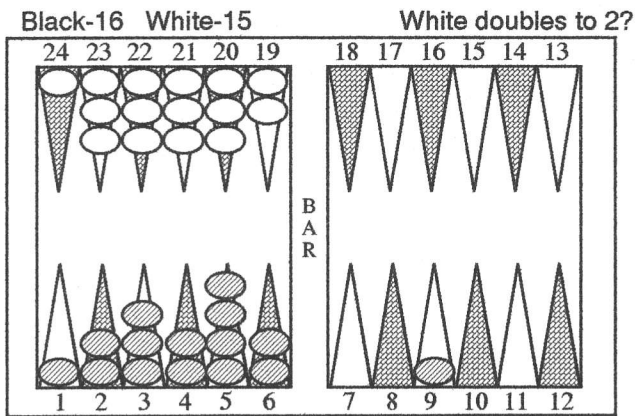
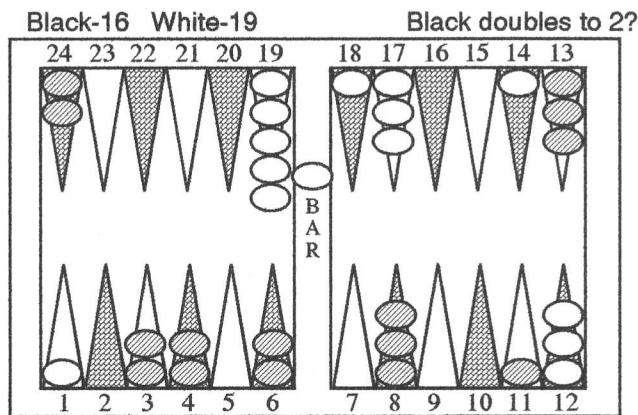
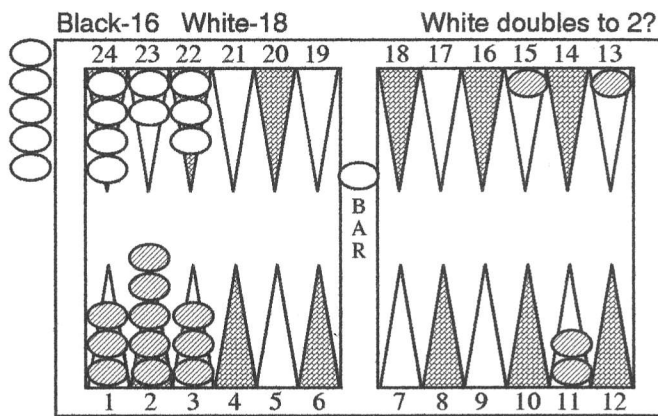
**Masters' Invitational
Nack Ballard vs Bill Robertie
21 Point Match**

The HBC Newsletter presents a 21-point match between **Nack Ballard** and **Bill Robertie** from the **Masters' Invitational, 4th Nevada State Championships, June 1987.**

Instructions: You will need a backgammon board to follow along. The board is numbered 1 to 24 based on the view of the player on roll. Each player will always be moving from a higher to lower point with only the point(s) moved to used. The home portion of the board is numbered 1 thru 6. Bearing off is noted as moving to the zero (0) point. To make it easier to follow, the larger number rolled is noted 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 5-2 with the 5-point made and the 2-point open.

Abbreviations used: Closed Board(CB), Entry Failure(EF), Misplay(MP), No Play Possible(NP), opponent's piece was hit (x), superscript(5²) denotes 2 or more pieces moving to a point; this example has 2 pieces moving to the 5 point.

In the doubling positions, Nack is the dark checkers and Bill the light. The positions are shown from Nack's side of the board; study them first before going through the games.



HBC Fall One-Day
Sunday - November 8, 1992
SPATS (842-3465) in Castleton

Final Registration: 11:00 AM Play Begins: Noon

Open Division \$70⁰⁰
Advanced Division \$25⁰⁰
Intermediate Division \$10⁰⁰

Format: Main-Progressive Consolation
 Double Gammon Points
 Open and Advanced Divisions results
 to *International Rating System.*

Pre-Register by phone (HBC 845-8435)
 and save the \$5⁰⁰ Late Fee.

Masters' Invitational
Nack Ballard vs Bill Robertie
 21 Point Match

Game 22

Nack Ballard - 16			Bill Robertie - 15		
	roll	played	roll	played	
1)	..	...	63	18	10
2)	54	15x	32	23	10x
3)	65	20 7x	63	22	18x
4)	61	24 7x	44	21	18x 5x
5)	51	20x 24	65	20	4
6)	31	5x ²	61	18	
7)	41	20 5	21	21	3
8)	52	8 22x	43	18	
9)	42	16 ^{F22}	42	4 ²	
10)	41	20 15	21	3	
11)	11	5 ² 13	65	7 ^{F18}	
12)	51	14	43	11x	
13)	64	EF	54	3 ^{F8}	7
14)	54	20 2	61	15	7
15)	62	2 3	21	15	
16)	41	4x-3	51	19	
17)	41	4 ²	22	13 ^{F19}	4
18)	41	8	32	2 ^{F7}	
19)	51	2	62	7	2
20)	43	13	32	2	
21)	55	15 ² 3	44	11 ²	9 ²
22)	61	6	52	4	5
23)	55	5 10 8	66	5 ²	3 1
24)	11	9 6 1			dbl to 2?
25)		pass			

Game 23

Nack Ballard - 16			Bill Robertie - 16		
	roll	played	roll	played	
1)	..	...	43	20	10
2)	54	15x	63	22	7
3)	21	5x-3x	53	20	22x
4)	63	22 18x	53	20	3x
5)	31	22x-21	52	20	4x
6)	31	21x	62	23	7x
7)	53	20 18x	65	14	
8)	62	14 11x	63	22	14x
9)	62	23 9	52	16x	

10)	32	23 11x	62	23	7x
11)	22	23 9x 4 ²	51	20	7
12)	31	12x-9	54	20 ²	
13)	54	8 9	61	13	
14)	42	9 21	62	14	4x
15)	33	22 20 ² 6	31	20	3x
16)	61	24 2	32	11 ²	
17)	32	6 22x	51	24	15
18)	54	15 2	53	10x-7	
19)	62	23 16	22	9x-5x ²	
20)	31	22 24	66	12 14 5	
21)	54	1 4		dbl to 2?	
22)		take	42	10 ²	
23)	65	11	52	5 8	
24)	54	2 ^{F11}	41	4 ²	
25)	41	4 ^{F8} 23	52	17x-15	
26)	44	EF	63	6	
27)	53	22 4	21	3x ^{F8}	
28)	31	22x ²	42	EF	
29)	31	1 22	31	22	4
30)	33	6 1 ³	53	15	17
31)	11	4 5 ²	63	16	19
32)	21	3 4	54	12 ²	
33)	22	2 ³ 1	43	15	9
34)	64	16x-12	52	20	13x
35)	62	23 16	52	2x ²	
36)	44	EF	52	3x	13
37)	55	EF	52	3	10
38)	52	EF	42	9x	8
39)	31	24 EF	52	1x ^{F8}	
40)	41	24x EF	62	17	
41)	63	EF	55	12 8 1x ²	
42)	66	19 ³ -13x	31	22	7
43)	64	13 15	41	18	6
44)	54	6	21	16	19x
45)	32	EF	42	10	
46)	53	EF	62	11	
47)	44	EF	22	6 5 ^{F9}	
48)	--	CB	21	4 ^{F7}	
49)	--	CB	22	3 ^{F11}	
50)	--	CB	31	0 4	
51)	--	CB	64	0 2	
52)	11	EF	44	0 ⁴	
53)	63	19 10	64	0 1	
54)	63	10 ^{F19}	41	0 ²	
55)	63	7 ²	52	0 ²	
56)	51	5 6	65	game	

	August 6th	August 13th	August 20th	August 27th
1st	Brian Nelson	Mary Ann Meese	Don Woods	Holly Stowe
2nd	Bill Gheen	Woody Woodworth	Kevin McLeaster	Jim Curtis
2nd	Jim Curtis	Mike Marr	Chuck Stimming	Jeff Baker

Game 24

Nack Ballard - 16		Bill Robertie - 18	
roll	played	roll	played
1)	..	...	62 18 11
2)	31	5 ²	52 11 ^{F18}
3)	64	18 9	33 7x ²
4)	11	24 7 ² 5	32 10 11
5)	11	4 ² 12	61 5 ²
6)	53	8 9	32 7 9
7)	53	16x	11 24 9x 23
8)	55	EF	42 4 ²
9)	41	24 9	62 17x 22
10)	51	24 8x	33 22 3 ²
11)	21	6 23	63 2x 5
12)	21	23x ²	32 23 4
13)	52	2x ^{F9}	44 EF
14)	42	2 7	62 EF
15)	41	5 23	61 24 16
16)	32	4 3x	43 22x 12
17)	44	EF	53 14
18)	41	24 2	11 11 ²
19)	31	3 ²	62 3 ^{F11}
20)	43	3 4	52 17
21)	53	1 NP	11 7
22)	33	2 ² 1 ²	65 6
23)	66	11 17 ²	53 2 ²
24)	64	11 13	21 1x ^{F3} 5
25)	65	EF	42 1 ^{F7}
26)	..	CB	64 1 0
27)	..	CB	53 1 3
28)	42	EF	55 0 ⁴
29)	64	21x-15	dbl to 2?
30)		pass	

Game 26

Nack Ballard - 17		Bill Robertie - 19	
roll	played	roll	played
1)	21	11 5	66 18 ² 7 ²
2)	54	15	22 14x 4 ²
3)	21	24 11x	62 23 7
4)	32	5 11	21 5 ²
5)	63	7x 10	42 21 ²
6)	51	10 23	51 2x
7)	54	EF	65 2 ^{F13}
8)	65	EF	31 18x 12
9)	33	22 ² 7x-4x	41 21x 24
10)	51	24 5	54 12
11)	54	3 7	32 9 22x
12)	61	24 16x	11 24 3x ² 23
13)	64	21 2x	42 23x 4x
14)	22	EF	51 18x 4
15)	21	24 EF	62 16 ^{F22} 5
16)	11	24 ² 9x	64 21 12
17)	43	9	63 12
18)	54	4 5	52 7 10
19)	44	2 ⁴	51 5 11
20)	43	1 ²	52 6 ²
21)	51	1 NP	53 2 4
22)	54	1 NP	31 3 5
23)	32	2 3	63 0 3
24)	31	1 NP	31 2 4
25)	65	18 19	65 0 ²
26)	11	15 ^{F19}	51 0 3
27)	32	12 16	62 0 2
28)	32	21 14	62 0 ²
29)	53	6	52 0 ²
30)	54	3	42 0 ²
31)	51	18	55 gammon

NB - 17

BR - 21
Match

Game 25

Nack Ballard - 16		Bill Robertie - 19	
roll	played	roll	played
1)	53	3 ²	64 14
2)	65	18 7	62 7x 11
3)	21	24 11x	31 21 ^{F Bar}
4)	11	4x ²	64 EF
5)		dbl to 2?	pass

Answer: Trivial Question

The total number of matches played in all events during the **1992 National Labor Day Backgammon Tournament** was 737.

Happy Halloween

