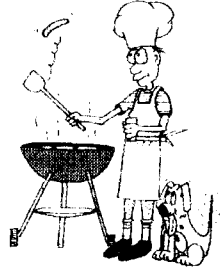


August 1994



June Contest Results

The contest entailed picking the best play from the conditions that follow. After your opponent rolls 4-3 for the opening roll and plays 24-20, 13-10 you roll 4-1. Pick the best move from the 4 plays below:

- a) 13-9, 24-23 b) 13-9, 6-5x
c) 24-20, 6-5x d) 6-5x-1x.

Editors note: Mr Jim Curtis has been entertaining us for years with his letters. When we presented the contest in the June 1994 newsletter, he entered with another letter which we reprint here with permission.

I have spent many hours studying the position set out in the June newsletter and the four (4) plays identified therein. After much consternation, I believe item (c) 24-20, 6-5x is the proper play.

Obviously hitting two (2) checkers (d) was my first inclination. Although this leaves the least shots, it seems to do very little for my game.

The non-hit play (a) has the advantage of duplicating fours all over the board. However, it does very little to promote my game and probably allows my opponent to do something good on one side of the board or the other. I see no advantage to allowing the opponent to have full use of his roll. I would appreciate a list of all contestants that make this selection. I will have a private chouette for them at my house.

Schizophrenics would probably choose the ambivalent offense/defense move in selection (b). Although slightly safer than my choice, it does make 3-6 good for the opponent and still leaves 2 and perhaps 3 of my checkers on my opponents one-point when I am hit.

My play opens me up to some disastrous rolls by my opponent, 5-1, 5-3, double 1's, 3's, 4's and 5's. If I don't respond well to those eight (8) rolls, I will drop (maybe). On the other hand, nine (9) rolls, all 6's, except 5-6, do not help my opponent and actually put him at a distinct disadvantage. I do not even consider 5-6 particularly harmful. Actually, if I'm not hit, I would probably be inclined to double and take my gammon when the fool accepts. Of the seventeen (17) rolls not previously mentioned, I have the advantage of fighting for one or both of the five points, which are probably the most important open points.

Actually all the above logic is merely rationalization. I looked at which play was going to produce the most action, and then tried to figure how I was going to justify it. I'm sure one realizes this is how I play the game, so please don't let my secret out.

Hope all goes well.

Yours truly, *Jim Curtis*

Contest Results: Jim was one of two players with the correct answer, but Lady Luck was not on his side: Ellis Bray won the random draw and the \$20. Thanks to those who entered.

42nd Indiana Open - July 1994

Eighty plus players including 15 Hoosiers took part in the 1994 version of the **Indiana Open**. Over half the participating Hoosiers cashed; two players, Bill Gheen and Brian Nelson, cashed twice. Next year, we will be back on Labor Day weekend. Thanks for your support.

Championship Division (38)

1st..... Steve McCormick (MO)

2nd..... Tak Morioka (IL)

3rd..... Jon Stephens (OH)

Con 1st..... Ami Tennenbaum (NJ)

Advanced Division (32)

1st..... Durb Oldham (KY)

2nd..... Kevin Muench (IL)

Con 1st..... **Bill Gheen (Indy)**

Con 2nd..... **Richard Heinz (IN)**

Intermediate Division (14)

1st..... Marilyn Faller (PA)

2nd..... **Sean Garber (Indy)**

Con 1st..... **Brian Nelson (Indy)**

Con 2nd..... **Jan Gurvitz (Indy)**

Novice Division (4)

1st..... **Lara Simsic (IN)**

Masters Jackpot (15)

1st..... Harry Cohn (IL)

2nd..... Abbas Zaltash (PA)

Amateur Jackpot #1 (16)

1st..... **Chuck Stimming (Indy)**

2nd..... **Bill Gheen (Indy)**

2nd..... Andy Palumbo (NY)

Amateur Jackpot #2 (8)

1st..... Randall Witt (TN)

Doubles (8)

1st..... Neil Kazaross (IL) &

Larry Strommen (Indy)

Beaver Bonanza (32)

1st..... Jeff Acienco (NY)

2nd..... Al Faller (PA)

Open MicroBlitz (32) 1st Mike Darooge (MI)

Limited MicroBlitz (16) 1st **Brian Nelson (Indy)**

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

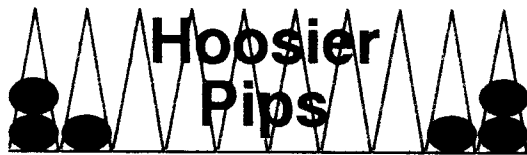
Subscription rate: \$10/year (Canada \$12 and overseas \$14). Let us know if your address changes.

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

1994 HOOSIER BACKGAMMON CLUB Gammon Point Standings.
HBC Player of the Month for July is Butch Meese with 174 gammon points.

1) Chuck Stimming.....1422	John Brussel..... 200	Dave Cardwell..... 84	Wendy Kaplan..... 30
2) Butch Meese.....1174	Bill Julian..... 195	Dr. Bob Hill..... 84	Donna Susens.....20
3) Don Woods.....900	Kevin McLeaster.....192	Scott Richardson..... 77	Gino Agresti.....20
4) Ellis Bray.....782	Mick Dobratz..... 167	Lara Simsic.....72	J.A. Miller.....20
5) Larry Strommen.....636	Brian Nelson.....160	Ed Pavilonis.....70	John O'Hagan..... 20
6) Jim Curtis.....615	Richard Heinz.....145	Rick Bieniak.....70	Jeff Baker..... 20
7) Jan Gurvitz.....464	Jon Stephens.....140	Craig Hampton.....68	Marta Hilworth..... 16
8) Cyrus Mobed.....432	Sean Garber.....140	Stu Sherman.....60	Bob Cassell..... 10
9) Woody Woodworth.....430	Al Faller.....128	Gabe Stiasny.....60	Jamie Curtis..... 10
10) Mary Ann Meese.....400	Jon Viotor.....120	Lance Jenkins.....60	Krystal Shaffer.....10
Neil Ezell.....392	Chuck Bower.....118	Steve Periman.....50	Angie Jones.....10
Alan Haas.....282	Marilyn Faller.....110	Andy Palumbo.....42	Peg Simsic..... 10
Bill Gheen.....209	Rick Reahard.....90	Frank Scott.....32	
Dragan Stevanovic.....207	Bill Hodes.....88	Jill Ferdinand.....30	

July 7th	July 14th	July 21st	July 28th
1st <i>Bill Julian</i>	<i>Butch Meese</i>	<i>Don Woods</i>	<i>John Brussel (IL)</i>
2nd <i>Chuck Strimming</i>	<i>Ellis Bray</i>	<i>Butch Meese</i>	<i>Al Faller (PA)</i>
2nd <i>Alan Haas</i>	<i>Jim Curtis</i>	<i>Brian Nelson</i>	<i>Larry Strommen</i>
2nd ---	---	---	<i>Dr. Bob Hill (NY)</i>



Congratulations to two happy couples: *Richard Heinz* and his bride, *Nancy* on their July 23rd wedding. When asked how married life was, *Richard* responded with a broad smile *the first week is GREAT*...Also to *Bill Gheen* and his bride *Kathy* on the their August 20th wedding...HBC welcomes new players *Bob Casselle*, *Dan Robertson* and *John Klotz*...If *Jim Curtis* is looking a bit older these day, there is a good reason. On August 29th he will celebrate the *BIG 5-0*. Happy Birthday, Jim!...Thanks to *Carol Joy Cole*, *Flint Area Backgammon Club* and *Greg Shoults* (OH) for their door prize contributions for the **42nd Indiana Open**...the **Louisville Backgammon Club** is planning another fall one-day tournament most likely in early November. Look for details in the next newsletter...*Kent Goulding* reports that this years **WORLD CUP** could be the biggest ever...If you plan to go to **WORLD CUP**, you will have friendly faces there. *Butch* and *Mary Ann* will be on the staff - see you there.

Get your **Backgammon**
 Fix on Your Time!

FreeTime
Knock-Out

Results: Advanced Division
Dragan Stevanovic over
Bill Hodes 11-7 in 13 games.

We are taking sign-ups for the
 next session. Deadline is August 28th.

Open Division...\$50
 Advanced Division...\$20
 Gammon Points for
 Player of the Year Awarded

Backgammon Tournament Schedule

Sep 5-11.... World Cup IV, Harvey's Addison Hotel, Dallas.....	(301) 299-8264
Oct 5-9..... 4th Illinois Championships/America Cup, Indian Lakes Resort, Bloomingdale, IL.....	(708) 945-7801
Thursdays... 7:00 PM at SPATS (842-3465) Castleton Square between J.C.Penneys & L.S.Ayres.....	845-8435