



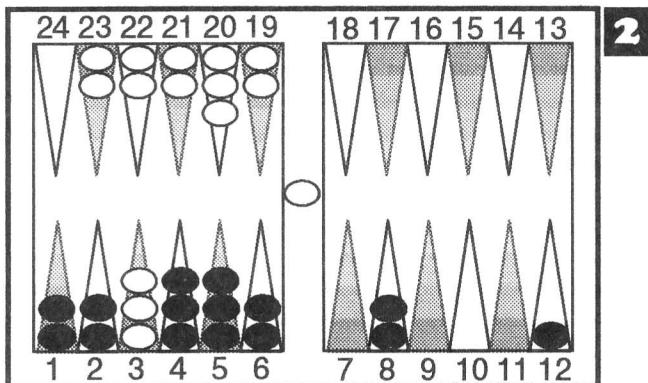
## The Night the Lights Went Out In Bombay

Last Thursday, October 10th, HBC players showed up to play at **Bombay Bicycle Club** only to find a note on the door: *Closed for remodeling, reopen in 6-8 weeks.* Although BBC had our telephone number, they did not call us.

Thanks to Larry Strommen, who was first to call us around 5:45pm. HBC played at the **Holiday Inn** in their bar years ago (**Le Club**) now called **Bench Warmers**. The manager welcomed us with open arms.

Starting immediately,  
we will be playing Thursdays at 7 PM at  
**Bench Warmers Bar**  
in the **Holiday Inn North**.

Money Game - Black to play 3-1?



Answer on Page 2...

1996 HBC Gammon Point Standings.  
**Player of the Month for September was  
Butch Meese** with 148 gammon points.  
A close second was **Jim Curtis** with 142 points.  
Points for the **44th Indiana Open** are included.

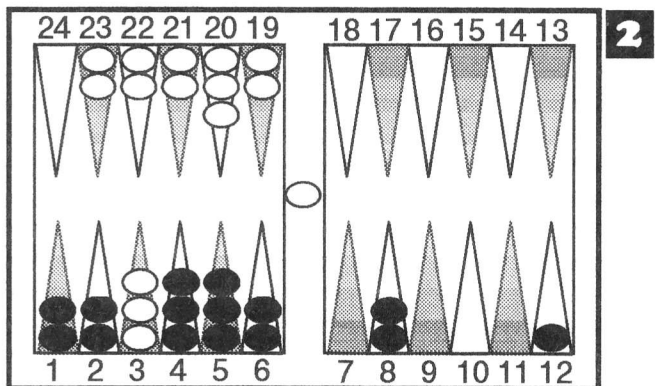
1)	Larry Strommen.....	1139
2)	Butch Meese.....	1124
3)	Sean Garber.....	1092
4)	Don Woods.....	1079
5)	Jim Curtis.....	1038
6)	Dave Groner.....	1002
7)	Chuck Stimming.....	790
8)	Jan Gurvitz.....	538
9)	Mary Ann Meese.....	528
10)	Paul Magriel.....	400
	Chuck Bower.....	378
	Gabe Stiasny.....	312
	Woody Woodworth.....	294
	Ellis Bray.....	288
	Kevin McLeaster.....	234
	Jim Painter.....	207
	Mary Franks.....	130
	Neil Ezell.....	124
	Jon Stephens.....	120
	Janice Newman.....	110
	Kevin Bastian.....	110
	Bill Gheen.....	109
	Alan Haas.....	108
	Jamie Curtis.....	90
	Paul Franks.....	64
	Jon Vietor.....	40
	Bill Julian.....	40
	Shimi Dadon.....	30
	Jeff Acierno.....	30
	Julie Overbeck.....	30
	Brian Nelson.....	20
	Keith Jackson.....	20
	Martha Ghio.....	20
	Oules Martene.....	20
	Artie Kamien.....	20
	Bob Cassell.....	20
	John Nelson.....	10
	Howard Shirey.....	10
	Stan Gurvitz.....	10
	Randall Witt.....	10

### Hoosier Pips

**Louisville Backgammon Club** is planning another fall tournament. Best guess on a date according to Quint McTyeire is the first weekend in November. He said he would send information when it becomes available. As of October 11, this information is all I have. If we do get more information, it will be available Thursday evening or you can call us if you are interested.

**Pay Me Now or Pay Me Later**  
by Chuck Bower

Money Game - Black to play 3-1?



There is a phenomenon in backgammon quizzes (and quizzes in general) which goes something like: "Well, he wouldn't have asked me the question if the answer was obvious, so I better look deeper than the my first inclination." If this position came up in a one on one money game (or chouette), I wonder how many players would grab the checker on the 12-point and move it four pips and then snatch the dice without a second thought. You surely wouldn't have done that in the heat of the battle, would you?

So now that we ALL know 12/8 is wrong, what is the correct move? What are the candidates? I see two approaches: break the 8- point and give white four game winning shots, or play safe. This kind of problem falls under the popular heading (taken from a Fram Filter TV commercial) "*pay me now, or pay me later.*" Fifteen years ago, "*pay me now*" was a sign of insightful, expert play. In 1996, "*pay me later*" has been shown to be a prudent and profitable (if unimaginative) principle. Which is better here?

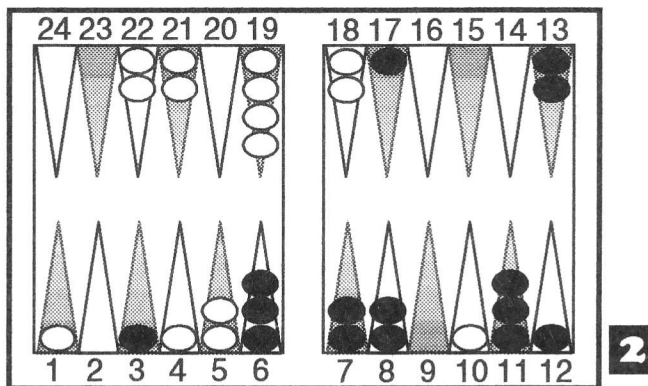
"*Pay me now*" starts with 8/5. How should you play the 1? 5/4 is the least flexible though it's not

obvious that it can be proven wrong for that reason alone. 8/7 leaves the same number of shots as not moving that checker, so no obvious choice yet. I think the real clue lies in asking yourself how you would play 6-6 next time. Leaving the checker on the 12-point will result in a direct shot, so it looks like 12/11 is best.

"*Pay me later*" means leaving both checkers on the 8-point. We already said 12/8 is wrong (look at your 6-5 and 6-6 next roll). 12/9 with the 3 leaves 4 shots, so you might as well play 8/5, 12/11. Looks like either 5/2 or 4/1 is your 3. Then you can either play 2/1 or 5/4 (leaving the identical position) OR 12/11. Again, take a look at 6-5 and 6-6 next time. 12/11 followed by 6-6 will leave a direct shot, regardless of whether white enters. If White enters and you roll 6-5, 13 of Whites 36 rolls send you to the bar and probably cost you the game.

We've narrowed the choices down to two: 8/5,12/11 or 5/1. Pay me now or pay me later? Time to ask Jellyfish which is better. Roll the drums! 8/5, 12/11 gives black a cubeless equity of +1.12, while 5/1 results in +1.05. (Standard deviation is 0.01 in equity units.) "*Pay me now*" wins by about 6%. You're so imaginative!

7 Point Match (post Crawford)  
Black-6 White-4 Black to play 6-2?



...Answer in the November newsletter...

	<u>September 5th</u>	<u>September 12th</u>	<u>September 19th</u>	<u>September 26th</u>
1st	Butch Meese	Dave Groner	Larry Strommen	Larry Strommen
2nd	Jim Painter	Butch Meese	Jim Curtis	Jim Curtis
2nd	Don Woods	Chuck Stimming	---	Dave Groner

Backgammon Tournament Schedule

Oct 25-27.....	<b>Big Apple Series</b> , Best Western Oritani Hotel, Hackensack, NJ.....	(201) 833-2915
Nov 1-3.....	<b>Backgammon in the Berkshires</b> , Oak & Spruce Center, South Lee, MA.....	(603) 863-4711
Nov 6-10.....	<b>Las Vegas Open Backgammon Tournament</b> , Riviera Hotel/Casino, Las Vegas.....	(702) 893-6025
Nv 29-Dc01..	<b>2nd Thanksgiving Tournament</b> , Best Western Hotel. Arkon, OH.....	(330) 966-2811
Dec 6-8.....	<b>37th Gammon Assoc. Holiday Invitational</b> , Holiday Inn, Woodland Hills, CA.....	(818) 901-0464
Thursdays.....	7:00 PM at <b>Holiday Inn North</b> (872-9790) 92nd & North Michigan Road .....	255-8902