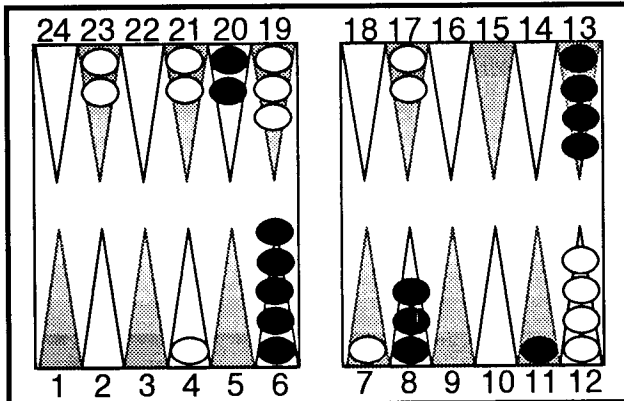


## DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE; DOUBLE YOUR EQUITY

by Chuck Bower



Black to play 3-1:

- in a money game,
- at DMP (Double Match Point),
- leading 6-5/7 Crawford and
- trailing 5-6/7 Crawford.

3-1 is a nice roll for Black. Three plays show promise. Building the 10-point is solid and leaves no shots. how can you argue with making the 5-point, giving Black **both** golden points! Finally, hitting twice throws White off balance, allowing Black the chance to grab a big early advantage and maybe some extra gammons.

13/10, 11/10 is the conservative play. One might expect that this play works best when gammons are worthless to Black but extra valuable to White, and that is the case. With a 6-5 lead playing the Crawford game, avoiding gammons is important. Snowie rollouts say that this move wins 45% and loses just over 8% gammons. 8/5, 6/5 can be categorized a **Tweener** in between move. It is more aggressive than simply grabbing an outside point, but it gives White lots of freedom and quite

a few shots. This move is certainly the purest--going for the best points and ignoring the tactical consideration of giving your opponent immediate problems. In the 70's, this play probably would have been the popular choice, but the robots (Jellyfish and Snowie) have taught us that purity has its limits. Snowie rollouts indicate that this move is inferior at every match score. Black wins only 44% with about 9% gammon wins and an equal number of gammon losses.

Playing 8/7x/4x is the bold play. White may never regain balance, allowing Black to luck into some gammons. Possibly surprising is that this move also wins the most games (47%) in addition to the most gammons (11%). Not only is this the best play trailing 5-6 Crawford (when gammons trade even with losses) but it's also best at money play point AND at double match point.

The careful reader will have noticed that Black is well behind in the race, meaning that safety at money play and most match scores is not the primary concern. The 20-point anchor allows Black to play aggressively. If things go poorly, gammons can probably be avoided and White will have a formidable hurdle to clear. After 8/7x/4x, only 12/36 rolls return hit, and if missed, the blot remains only with 6-6, 5-5, and 6-5 (half of which are pretty good rolls in their own rights).

**When in doubt, hit!** is an old, but valuable cliché. One can only imagine how powerful that makes a DOUBLE hit!

### Hoosier Pips

The internet has helped expose backgammon to people who did not know organized backgammon exists. **Paul Spens** found out about the **Indiana Open** the Friday of the tournament while playing on-line. Other new players include **Terry Bateman**, **Butch Bates**, **Linda Benneth** and **David Arnold** (Zionsville). Two players from Dayton, OH attended the last Sunday tournament after learning of the tournament from the **Hoosier Backgammon Club Home Page**. Welcome ALL!!!!

1999 Hoosier Backgammon Club Gammon Point Standings as of October 1999.  
 HBC Player of the Month for October was **Chuck Stimming** with 176 gammon points.

1) Butch Meese..... 1116	Gabe Stiasny..... 80	Michael O'Cain..... 20
2) Jim Curtis..... 1066	Fred Kalantari..... 80	Julia Boyle..... 20
3) Chuck Stimming..... 1048	Mogens Knudsen..... 80	Jim Roston..... 20
4) Don Woods..... 1006	Cathie Benneth..... 70	Carla Johnson..... 20
5) Sean Garber..... 972	David Smith..... 60	Paul Franks..... 20
6) Mary Ann Meese..... 830	Chuck Bower..... 60	Julian Haley..... 20
7) Larry Strommen..... 768	David Schwind..... 48	Rick Reahard..... 10
8) Dave Groner..... 652	Jon Vietor..... 40	Stan Gurvitz..... 10
9) Gino Agresti..... 534	Terry Haffner..... 40	Mike Pratt..... 10
10) Al Gomez..... 380	Paul Spens..... 40	Reggie Porter..... 10
Woody Woodworth..... 340	Luke Clippinger..... 30	Bob Neumann..... 10
Terry Bateman..... 130	Mary Franks..... 30	Andy Liebenthal..... 10
Peter Kalba..... 128	Randy Foster..... 30	John Henn..... 10
Alan Tavel..... 128	Joe Miller..... 30	Brian Nelson..... 10
Bill Julian..... 110	Jake Jacobs..... 30	Jack Kissane..... 10
John Brussel..... 100	John Peek..... 20	Bill Yancey..... 10
Jan Gurvitz..... 98	Roman Karbiak..... 20	Jon Sinder..... 10
Per Sorensen..... 90	Kevin Ward..... 20	

## HBC Sunday Tournament December 5 1999 Bench Warmers (Holiday Inn North)

Open Division.....\$25 (\$10 optional sidepool)  
 Limited Division.....\$10

Registration 12 Noon      Play begins at 1:00 PM  
 Double Gammon Points

Pre-register by phone: (317) 255-8902 or  
 email: meese@worldnet.att.net

	<u>October 7th</u>	<u>October 14th</u>	<u>October 21st</u>	<u>October 28th</u>
1st	Sean Garber	Butch Meese	Chuck Stimming	Jim Curtis
2nd	Mary Ann Meese	Chuck Stimming	Butch Meese	Chuck Stimming
2nd	Woody Woodworth	- - -	Don Woods	Don Woods

Nov 26-28..	<b>5th Thanksgiving Weekend</b> , Belden Village Holiday Inn, Canton, OH.....	(330)-966-2811
Dec 3-5.....	<b>44th Gammon Associates Invitational</b> , Los Angeles, CA.....	(818) 901-0464
Feb 18-20...	<b>22nd Pittsburgh Championship/ABT Awards</b> , Greentree Radisson, Pittsburgh, PA.....	(412) 823-7500
Mar 17-19...	<b>2000 Midwest Backgammon Championships</b> , Radisson Hotel, Lisle, IL.....	(773) 583-6464
May 26-29..	<b>21st Chicago Open</b> , Wyndham NW Chicago Hotel, Itasca, IL.....	(847) 674-0120
Jun30-Jul3.	<b>Michigan Summer Championships</b> , Novi Hilton, Novi, MI.....	(810) 232-9731

Thursdays..... 7:00 PM at **Bench Warmers (Holiday Inn North)** (871-5655) ..... 255-8902