



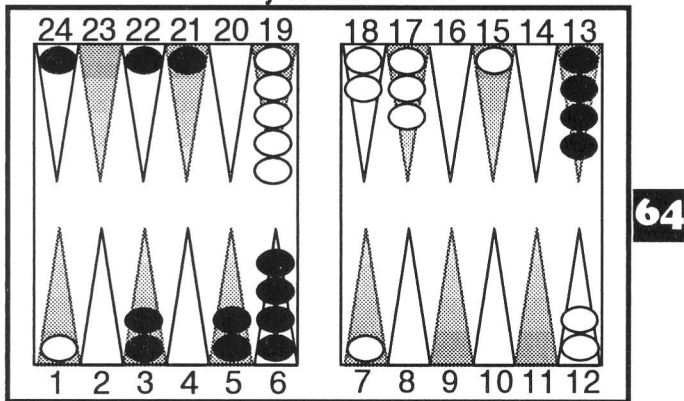
Hoosier
Backgammon
Club

October 2000

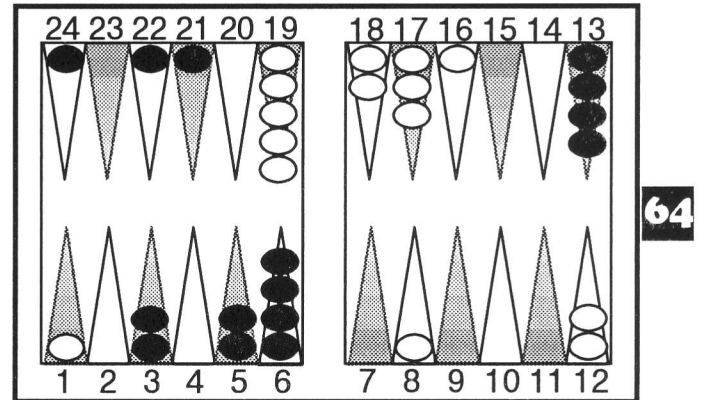


Eliminating The Bigger Threat

by Chuck Bower



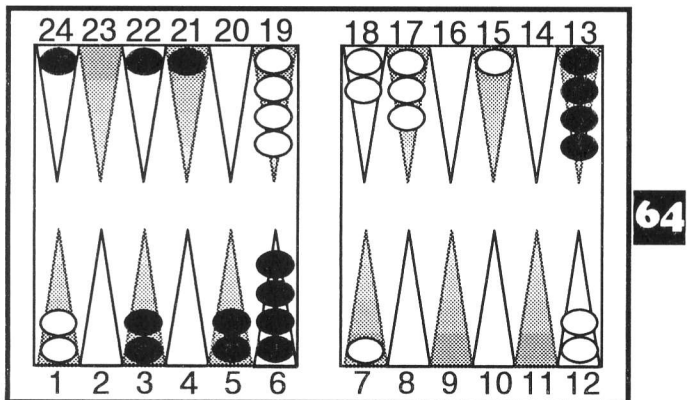
Money Game, Black to play 6-2?



Money Game, Black to play 5-2?

Many backgammon players have memorized **rules** which help them make a decision when two or more candidate plays are otherwise close. In the Position 1, Black has a choice of which checker to hit. One of my rules says it is best to send back the checker which costs the opponent most in the pipcount. This isn't just relevant to the race, but often takes away a homeside builder, preventing the opponent from building a better prime and/or home board. I followed my rule and played 21/15x, 13/11. Snowie rollouts say 13/7x/5 beats all other candidates by 0.05 cubeless equity units or more (60% vs. 59% total wins and 25% vs 22% gammon wins). **Why?**

Position 3 is the original (Position 1) except moving a White checker from the 18-point to the 17-point, moving another from the 10-point to the 9-point, and changing the roll to 5-2. Note that Black has a similar decision: which outfield to hit in. NOW Snowie's top five plays all include hitting on White's side of the board. 22/20, 13/8x comes in fifth best, although only 0.035 units of cubeless equity out of first. Now the picture has become clear. Black's plan in Position 1 and Position 2 is to keep White from making his/her 18-point. A closeout would be nice, but the first priority is to keep the opponent from making an advanced holding point in this case, Black's barpoint. The bigger threat is White establishing a good defense, so remove that possibility from the table!



Money Game, Black to play 6-2?



2000 Hoosier Backgammon Club

Gammon Point Standings as of September 2000.

The **Player of the Month for September** was

Dave Groner with 131 gammon points.

- 1) Butch Meese.....1007
- 2) Larry Strommen.....860
- 3) Gino Agresti.....719
- 4) Jim Curtis.....716
- 5) Dave Groner.....697
- 6) Mary Ann Meese.....597
- 7) Sean Garber.....444
- 8) Chuck Stimming.....441
- 9) Gabe Stiasny.....369
- 10) Al Gomez.....342
- Ron Black.....306
- Don Woods.....303
- Woody Woodworth.....275
- Terry Bateman.....267
- Jeremy Bagai.....100
- Butch Bates.....96
- Richard Larsen.....70
- John Jennings.....54
- David Smith.....45
- Philip Degen.....38
- Curtis Lucas.....38
- Luke Clippingier.....36
- Alan Haas.....36
- Jeff Flowers.....28
- Scott Day.....28
- Bob Zavoral.....26
- David Schwind.....26
- John Brussel.....24
- Bill Robertie.....20
- Jim Roston.....20
- Paul Horstman.....20
- Cathie Benneth.....20
- Jon Stephens.....18
- Greg Tomlin.....16
- Ross Ratzov.....16
- Jan Gurvitz.....10
- Lance Jenkins.....10
- Jake Jacobs.....10
- Mary Franks.....8
- Ray Fogerlund.....8
- Frank Hanley.....8
- Bill Julian.....8
- Betty Coppic.....8
- Austin Bennett.....8

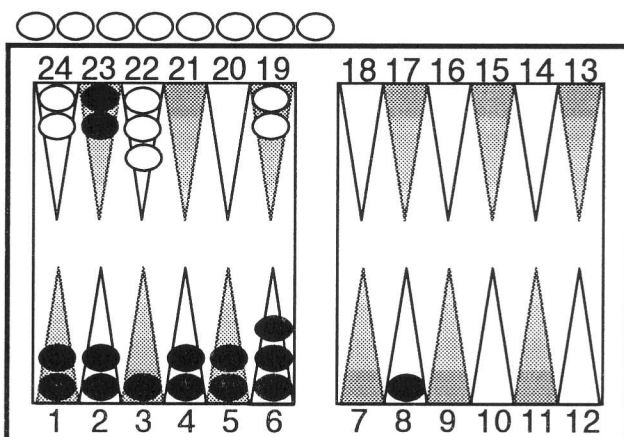
**The Last HBC Sunday
One-Day of the Millennium**

Sunday November 5th 2000
Wildcat Brewing Co.

Open \$20 (optional \$10 sidepool)
Limited \$8

Registration 12 Noon - 12:30 PM
12:30 PM Play begins.
Pre-register at 255-8902
or meese@worldnet.att.net

**October's Interesting Position
7-Point Match
White - 4 Black - 0
Black to Play 3-1?**



Snowie Evaluation

1.	3	8/7	6/3	-1.263
2.	3	23/20	8/7	-1.325 (-0.062)
3.	3	23/20	6/5	-1.348 (-0.085)
4.	2	8/4		-1.340 (-0.078)
5.	2	8/5	6/5	-1.360 (-0.098)

	<u>September 7th</u>	<u>September 14th</u>	<u>September 21st</u>	<u>September 28th</u>
1st	Butch Bates	Chuck Stimming	Gabe Stiasny	Jim Curtis
2nd	Butch Meese	Dave Groner	Larry Strommen	Mary Ann Meese
2nd	Dave Groner	Jim Curtis	Woody Woodworth	Terry Bateman

Nov 17-19..... **Minnesota State Championships**, Thunderbird Hotel, Bloomington, MN..... (612) 378-1536
 Nov 24-26..... **Ohio State Championships**, Akron Holiday Inn, Arkon, OH..... (330) 966-2811
 Nv29-Dc03.... **2000 Las Vegas Backgammon Tournament**, Harrah's, Las Vegas..... (702) 893-6025
 Thursdays..... 7:00 PM at **Wildcat Brewing Company** (872-3446) HBC 255-8902