

Cabaret concert features songs by Josh White Jr.

Folk singer Josh White Jr. will appear in concert at 8 p.m. Friday in the Academy of the Sacred Heart auditorium, 1250 Kensington, Bloomfield Hills.

The cabaret concert is sponsored by the Academy of the Sacred Heart administration to honor the school's faculty and staff. It will feature a coffee-house format.

Sharon Jacob, primary school mathematics and art teacher, is coordinating the evening.

Admission includes refreshments priced for adults and students, payable at the door.

THE SACRED Heart concert will be White's only Detroit-area appearance until he returns to the Raven Gallery in Southfield on May 21. White is on a national tour to New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Minneapolis and the Carolinas.

His current album, "Sing a Rainbow," was recorded live at the Raven Gallery by Mountain Railroad records. The Academy of the Sacred Heart — Michigan's oldest independent school — is a college preparatory day school for girls in pre-kindergarten through grade 12, with boys enrolled in the Primary Grades.

Operated by the Religious of the Sacred Heart, the academy educates 442 students of all faiths and socio-economic backgrounds from 35 Detroit area communities.



Academy of Sacred Heart students strum Josh White Jr.'s guitar during a visit to the school last December.

backgammon

Michael Kloian
of the American Backgammon Club

BE AGGRESSIVE!
At this stage in the game, white has rolled five-one. How would you play it? Let's examine white's position. The first consideration is the fact that white has three checkers back in his opponent's court, whereas black has only one checker back in white's home court.

White needs to be aggressive in order to throw off black's running game. White has added assurance for a bold play in the fact that his inner board is stronger. White also holds an advanced anchor — black's 4 point.

The proper play is for white to move one checker from black's 12 point down to white's 7 point. This play is known as slotting — willingly placing a blot on a key point in order to make that point later if it is not hit by the opponent on the next roll.

Why is the 7 point (also known as the bar point) so important? Since it is six "pips" away from black's one man back,

it is black's most likely point of escape. If black doesn't hit the 7 point and escape on the next roll, white has 23 out of 36 rolls to cover his blot (one checker) and seal black's blot behind a 4-point prime.

But what if black hits on the next roll? Relax; this game is not over.

White now has an extra checker to be used with the one already on black's 2 point to secure another point in black's home board for a strong back game. Black's only clean hit and escape roll would be six-five, moving the back runner through white's 7 point on to the 12 point. Any other roll hitting white's blot would leave black's checker exposed to several possible return shots. The moral of the story: Don't be afraid to play boldly when conditions warrant it — including leaving useful blots exposed.

The American Backgammon Club can be contacted by calling 459-5776.

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Josh White Jr. entertains primary school students at the academy in Bloomfield Hills.

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