backgammon Michael Kloian

WHEN TO PLAY SAFE

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Black rolls a two-four. There are many options, but which play would best suit the situation?

Hitting white's 9-point blot appears favorable — at first. But a closer look reveals this move if mittees would be forced to leave three the would be forced to leave three open blots (single checkers) — one on the bar point (7) and one each on white's 9 and 11 points. The chances of white staying on the bar are very slim. White could also hit black on the rebound (12 out of 36 combinations will do it).

White has the stronger home board. Black cannot hope to contain white. It black is hit and fails to re-enter, white will have little difficulty bitting the remaining blots.

TABLE

To avoid this situation, black decided to play safe by slotting checkers on black's 5 and 4 points from the 7 and 8 points.

Black's only chance of winning this game is by quickly strengthening his home board; within two rolls, black could easily close three new points in his home field. So timing seems to be in

If white has trouble clearing the bar point (7), black will have little difficulty containing a hit checker.

TABLE 11 12

Black's decision not to hit white was correct.

The American Backgammon Club can be contacted for more in-formation or instructions at Box 599, Plymouth 48170, or by calling 459-5776.

The Meadow Brook Music Festival's Sunday pops series opens June 29 with Neville Marriner conducting the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in Ravel's "Bolero," newly popularized in the movie "10."

conducting the Detroit symphony of Chrestra in Ravel's "Bolero," newly popularized in the move "10".

"Marriner, the festival's artistic director, continues the opening night program with a performance of Hertl's Bass Concert, with Detroit Symphony Chrestra principal bass Thoakievsky's "1812 Peter Nero, pianist and continued to a finale with beautiful to a final with a final

concerts

A laser-light show will accompany the suite from "Star Wars," muste from "Star Wars," muste from "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and "Star Trek," plus excerpts from Holsts "The Planets" and other muste with an outer space theme on Aug 10. Richard Hayman conducts the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Duo-pianists Ferrante

chestra.

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Planist Garrick Ohlsson of Faran Concerto No. 3 on Aug. 24 with mesoal Orchestra, as called the Concerto No. 1 on Aug. 24 with a defition to the Smally Minesoal Orchestra, as called the Concerto No. 1 on Aug. 1 on Au



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