



Funny face

Birmingham resident Liz Bishop appears in the play "Delectable Creatures and Weird Fascinations" at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Attic Theatre in downtown Detroit. Ms. Bishop is a professional mime. The play, which is suitable for children, is produced by the Oakland University Mime Ensemble as part of the Attic's Performing Arts Festival. For reservations call 963-7789.



backgammon

Michael Kloian
of the American Backgammon Club

TRYING TO CONTAIN

White has managed to hit one of black's checkers in the bear-off after black removed two checkers. Black then got lucky and was able to get his checker off the bar and around white's four-point prime with one roll.

White now rolls a six.
What does white do?

The timid player sees an opportunity to make a safe point and runs up with both men to take black's 11 point. Absolutely useless!

White's only hope is to hit and contain black's lone checker, which this move doesn't come close to doing. Black could easily pass the 11 point on the next roll or stay back with a small roll and break off the two checkers from the 6 point, leaving white a single indirect shot.

Another idea might be for white to move the back checker from black's 5 point to black's 11 point for the six

move, and then play the two roll in his home field. This would leave two open blots waiting for black's lone checker, but they are too close to have any real containing value.

BEST OVERALL PLAY . . .

White should move the checker from black's 9 point all the way up to white's 8 point, using the full roll.

If black doesn't hit white's blot with a one on the next roll, he will probably be forced to run to the outer field and leave a direct shot for white's back checker.

If black does hit white with a one on the next roll, white will have two checkers in black's home field to further harass black's lone checker and also cause black some difficulty when clearing his own 6 point safely.

For more information and instructions, contact the American Backgammon Club at Box 599, Plymouth MI 48170, or call 459-5776.

Figure 1 consists of 12 diagrams arranged in a 2x6 grid. The top row is labeled 'BLACK' and the bottom row 'WHITE'. The left column is labeled 'HOME TABLE' and the right column 'OUTER TABLE'. Each diagram is numbered 1 to 6 in its respective row. The diagrams show the progression of a pattern from a single black circle to a complex checkerboard arrangement.

BLACK						WHITE					
HOME TABLE						OUTER TABLE					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
BAR											
HOME TABLE						OUTER TABLE					

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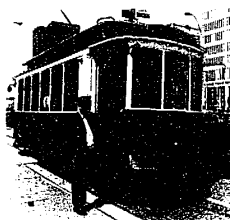
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