backgammon
Michael Kloian
of the American Backgammon Club

Early in a game, your opponent may get lucky enough to hit one of your strategically planted checkers. If so, do not fret.

Having three checkers in your opponent's home board often is advantageous, especially if your opponent has not closed any inner board points.

By holding the 4 or 5 point, you will definitely limit his movement in the outer board. By having a checker on the 1 point, he will be very reluctant to slot, on any of the open home board points.

Also, if he has been playing a running game, he will, no doubt, be way ahead in the "race." You will also have uninhibited freedom to fortify your home board points in preparation for a hit.

In the example, black doubled the cube before rolling a five-four, and white accepted.

With several options — but only one good move — how would you play black's five-four roll?

THE MOVE

With the unfortunate five-four roll, black has no choice but to leave a blot. By moving both checkers from white's 12 point to the 8 and 9 points, black is hoping white does not roll a combination 8 or a direct 4 (15 out of 36 or a 42 percent chance).

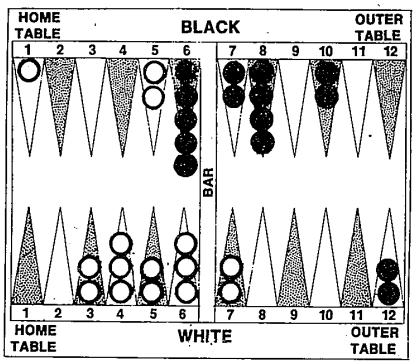
Black could not prevent leaving a blot. His position is not as strong as it may appear. Black has not closed any inner board points, and he has not been able to distribute any checkers off the 6 and 8 points.

Perhaps black should have waited one more roll before turning the cube.

In the event white hits the 9 point blot, white is sure to pass the doubling cube to black before the next roll, forcing black to retire early.

If white misses this blot, he may well have a chance or two very soon to hit another.

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



Open Forum plays Attic

With the 1980 Attic Theatre Performing Arts Festival, midnight theater is back at Detroit's Attic.

After the run of the festival, Open Forum, a Detroit improvisational theater group, will maintain its midnight spot, performing Fridays-Saturdays, May 31, June 6-7, 13-14 and 20-21.

For tickets to Open Forum's midnight madness contact the Attic Theatre, 525 E. Lafayette, phone 963-7789.

Natural Family debuts

Natural Family makes its debut June 9 at Dewey's in the Michigan Inn, Southfield. The group will appear through June 21. Natural Family is a four-piece band, with a female lead vocalist and a three-man backup. The group performs current Top 40 tunes for the dancing crowd. Showtime is 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Monday-Saturday.

second runs
Tom Panzenhagen

● WHOA

"My Friend Flicka," *2 p.m. Saturday at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, phone 832-2730, 25 cents.*

This 1943 Harold Schuster film has a lot to recommend it: colorful scenery, beautiful horses and a 15-year-old English import named Roddy McDowall.

Roddy plays a mixed-up, puberty-aged youth who lives with his folks on a horse ranch out west. His distinctly apple-pie American parents are the stern Preston Foster and the angelic, understanding Rita Johnson. Every lad should have a mom like her. But why son Roddy speaks with a foreign accent is never explained.

"Flicka" is primarily a family film; but Roddy's father espouses an Arian philosophy that is not to be overlooked. Dad breeds horses and he talks a lot about the superiority of pure bloods. Mixed bloods, he maintains, turn out loco.

Well, remember when the film was made and you can read a lot into that.

By the end of the film, though, mixed-blooded Flicka has befriended Roddy and saved Preston Foster's life, and all Hitlerian theories are overturned. America, once again, is safe for democracy and boys and their horses.

A presentation of the Detroit Youtheatre (so expect a lot of kids if you go), also starring Jeff Corey.

High rating goes to St. Dunstan's

(Continued from Page 1D)

Mrs. Fox said, "And sometimes we do a show that we really don't think we're capable of doing just to see if we can do it. Most of the time we discover we really could do it."

WHILE LOOKING for shows that will draw an audience, the guild must also take the stage's physical limitations into consideration. Sets cannot be moved in and out of the stage, and there is little wing space to store the sets.

"We're quite pleased with the shows we're planning for next season," Mrs. Fox said. "We're opening in the fall with 'Finishing Touches.' Next will come 'Luv' in February, 'Murder at the Vicarage' by Agatha Chrisitie in April and we'll close next June with 'Mack and Mabel.' It should be an excellent season."

This season, nearly half the seating capacity was pre-sold as season subscriptions.

"We have 225 seats a night available at our indoor theater and 500 seats in the Greek Theatre," Mrs. Wilson said. "We don't really want to sell more than half of our seating as subscriptions, because then we won't have many seats available for our patrons who come to see just certain shows, or for our members who are entitled to free admission to a performance of every show."

The guild not only presents additional performances of its shows each season to benefit worthy causes, but it also awards two scholarships to individuals attending the various Cranbrook institutions.

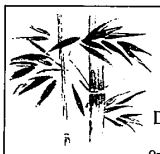
The Sheldon Noble Scholarship, named after the group's first president, is given to a student who will be attending either the art academy or Kingswood School, while the St. Dunstan's Guild Scholarship is given to a student wishing to attend the summer Cranbrook Theatre School.

CURRENTLY, the group is awaiting its 50th anniversary in 1982.

"We naturally want to excell in our art over the next few years and we want to continue providing our customers with the best possible entertainment," Ankeny said.

"An organization cannot exist by entertaining just itself, so we try to strike a balance between providing good box-office for our patrons while challenging ourselves with what we do."

For information regarding membership or tickets, the St. Dunstan's Guild can be reached at 644-0527.



MON JIN LAU
Distinctive Cuisine of All China
Exotic Cocktails
Open Mon-Thurs. 11-1, Fri. 11-2, Sat. 4-2, Sun. 1-12
E. Maple Rd. at Stephenson Hwy. ● Troy ● 689-2332

Observer & Eccentric
Classified Ads
make cents!
...let us help you with your selling.
644-1070 Oakland County
591-0900 Wayne County
852-3222 Rochester/Avon
MasterCharge VISA

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE
ON THE TOWN

Tuesday Night is Inflation Fighter Night
At The Shalea Inn
$6.91 per person
Featuring: Petit Frog Legs (All you can eat) served with: Cheese Crock and Crackers, Soup, Salad, French Fries, Roll and Butter
852-3410
3315 Auburn Road
Between Adams & Opdyke Rd.

Roma's Presents
The Big Band Dance Party
featuring Detroit's finest big bands!
16 pieces Strong
at Roma's of Bloomfield
EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT
$4 per person
9 PM-1 AM
General Public Invited
• cash bar available
• lite snacks available
2101 S. Telegraph Rd. N. of Sq. Lk. Rd. Bloomfield Hills
332-9237

Carrie Lee's
Since 1950
WHERE DINING IS AN EXPERIENCE
Chinese Gifts & Famous Cantonese Cuisine
(American Food also Available)
Curio Items from China
Visit our Main Dining Room, surrounded by Priceless Ivory & Beautiful Art Works
• Special detailed Attention given to CARRY-OUT SERVICE
• Private Rooms available for Parties • 644-7576
Hours: Mon-Thurs 11 am-10 pm
Sun & Holidays 12-10 pm
856 N. Woodward, near Oak St., Birmingham

SUPERCHARGED Soccer
Vancouver White Caps
vs.
DETROIT EXPRESS
Sat., May 31 - 7:30 PM
AT THE SILVERDOME
EXPRESS Yes!
Tickets available at the gate, $3.00 and up

Kingsley Inn
HOTEL
Would like the pleasure of hosting your next banquet or party. Call us today. Our experienced staff, headed by Mr. Frank and Mr. Petrides, will personally oversee all arrangements and details.
Woodward and Long Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills
644-1400 564-5144

The fresh flown Friday Fish Feast
All the lobster and other seafood delicacies you can eat. Friday evenings at the Haymarket.
Reservations required
$19.95, all ages.
Troy Hilton Inn
Maple Road at Stephenson Hwy.
Call (313) 583-9000.

EMBERS DELI & RESTAURANT
HOMEMADE FOOD IN A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE!
OVER ¼ lb. MEAT GOES INTO EVERY SANDWICH!
OPEN FOR BREAKFAST LUNCH & DINNER!
CORNER MAPLE & LAHSER • 645-1045

Sunday thru Saturday During Regular Dinner Hours
It's Time For
ALASKAN KING CRAB LEGS
$7.95
Includes: Drawn Butter, Salad, Choice of French Fries, Baked Potato or Rice Pilaf, and Our Fresh Oven Baked Bread served piping hot at your table.
VISIT BOTH CONVENIENT LOCATIONS
Murdock's CROOKS ROAD AT M-59 852-0550
14 MILE AT RYAN 939-1800

Mini-Vacations. Minutes Away.
Need to get away from it all? And SAVE GAS, jump into your car and drive to the Northfield Hilton for a super weekend fling at an un-super little price. Go ahead - spoil yourself. You deserve it.
UNWINDER
• Luxurious room
• Cocktail in Hurley's, our contemporary lounge with nightly entertainment and dancing on a stainless steel dance floor
• All-season indoor pool
• Saunas
• Leisurely breakfast in Wicker Works (or room service)
• Free parking
• $29.80 per person, double occupancy

HONEYMOONING
• Luxurious room
• Bottle of champagne
• Entertainment and dancing in Hurley's
• Indoor pool and saunas
• Leisurely breakfast in Wicker Works (or room service)
• Free parking
• $55 per couple
Tips and taxes are included! Call 879-2100 for color brochures on our Unwinder and Honeymooning packages.
NORTHFIELD HILTON
5500 Crooks Rd. at I-75
Troy, Michigan 48098
(313) 879-2100