

backgammon

Michael Klolan

of the American Backgammon Club

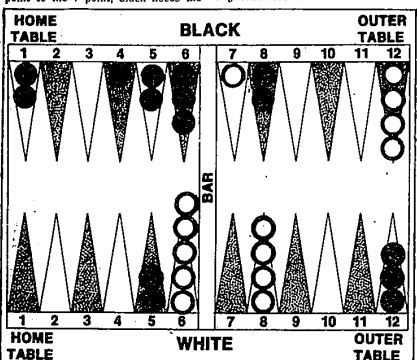
● MAKE IT HARD TO HIT

In the example, white has a 5/1 to play. What is your suggested move? Often times during a backgammon game you are forced to leave an open shot for your opponent, regardless of how you make your move.

The best possible advice for every situation is to leave the shot strategically so as to duplicate the number your opponent would need to hit and/or cover an open blot.

In other words, don't leave a shot where it will benefit him more than you. Leave the shot where it will benefit you the most in case you are not hit.

For instance, if white moved a checker from the black 7 point to the 12 point and a checker from the white 8 point to the 7 point, black needs the



Holiday parties slated at Hotel Pontchartrain

Two New Year's Eve party packages, plus a four-day Christmas luncheon buffet at Top of the Pontch, will be offered this year by the Chuck Muer restaurants in Hotel Pontchartrain.

Charley's Raw Bar will join with the hotel to sponsor a package which includes overnight room accommodations and dining and dancing in the Versailles ballroom. Top of the Pontch will offer a new Year's Eve dinner par-

WJR radio offers family Christmas

"From Our House To Yours, a WJR Family Christmas" has been scheduled by radio station WJR for this year's holiday programming, which will begin at 7:15 p.m. Christmas Eve.

The seasonal marathon will run continuously for 28 hours until 11 p.m. Christmas night.

This year, WJR's on-air personalities will host various segments of the production with featured performances by other members of the staff. This will include management, engineering, production and secretarial staffs.

There also will be special highlights with local and national celebrities including Goy. William Milliken, Sen. Donald Reigle, Shirley Eder, Roger Whitaker, Robert L. Greene, Sonny Elliott and others.

Bud Guest, Charley Park, Jack Harris and Jimmy Clark will be dropping by, and former employees Jennifer Moore, Matt Surrell, Don Haney and others will contribute to the holiday merriment.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE ON THE TOWN

Yule feast

Arbocoll Theatres will present a "Christmas Wassail Feast and Pageant" Thursday-Saturday in the Michigan League Ballroom in Ann Arbor. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

The "Wassail Feast and Pageant" will be an evening of Christmas food and entertainment with a medieval flavor. A buffet dinner will feature holiday foods including turkey with all the trimmings and flaming plum pudding.

Dinner entertainment will be provided by strolling carolers who will sing popular Christmas songs from days of old.

After dinner, three nativity plays from the Wakefield cycle of medieval religious dramas will be performed. "The Annunciation," "The Salutation of Elizabeth" and "The Second Shepherd's Play" are recognized by scholars as some of the finest works of literature to come from the middle ages.

The PLAYS will be directed by Russell B. Collins and will feature Julia Broxholm and Folkert Schmidt. These names are familiar to area audiences for their work with the Ann Arbor Summer Dinner Theater.

Christmas carolers will be master's degree graduates in vocal performance from the U-M School of Music.

Reservations include all taxes and gratuities. The traditional holiday beverage, wassail, also will be available. Call 1-665-0038 or write Arbocoll Theatres, 425 E. Washington, No. 207, Ann Arbor, 48104.

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NEW YEARS at **RAMADA INN**

NEW YEARS EVE #2
Enjoy the New Year's Eve festivities in the RAMADA 7:00 pm-2:00 am with the best of "VINTAGE"

NEW YEARS EVE #1
"Dance to the Ballroom"

NEW YEARS EVE #3
"Dance to the Ballroom"

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The Roman Terrace

Saturday Dec 20 12-3 pm

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Private Rooms • Also Available Mon-Sun

FOR INFORMATION 851-4094

CELEBRATE

New Years Eve At The Northfield Hilton

Choose one of our CELEBRATE plans for auld lang syne! For more information, call our Catering Manager at 879-2100.

Plan I Open bar • Cocktail hour • Hors D'oeuvres • Four-course prime rib champagne dinner • After dinner cordial • Dinner show • Dance music • Hats and favors • Overnight accommodations • Eye-opener buffet brunch • Swimming, saunas, ample parking, color televisions • All tips and taxes included • Late check out

\$185 per couple

Plan II Same as above without overnight accommodations and brunch buffet

\$125 per couple

Space is limited, so reserve early!

NORTHFIELD HILTON
5900 Crooks Rd. at 175
Troy, Michigan 48069
(313) 879-2100

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FINEST FULL COURSE DINNERS
Seafood • Beef • Fowl \$75

Roasted Salmon Steak
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Beef Burgundy • Fried Potatoes
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Stuffed Flounder • Lobster Thermidor • Braised Whitefish
Fried Shrimp • King Crab Legs
Prime Rib • N.Y. Sirloin
Bar B Que Ribs

On 6 Mile just West of Telegraph
535-4411

SUBURBAN DETROIT THEATRES.

All Shows Cont. Mat. Day
All Shows \$1.50 to 4 pm.
Shows 10:30-12:00

ABBEY 1
Across from Oakland Mall on 14 Mile at I-75
58-181
Sam Jones, Topol
Max Von Sydow
"FLASH GORDON" (PG)

ABBEY 2
Starts Fri. Cont. Mat. Day
"ANY WHICH WAY YOU CAN" (PG)

ABBEY 3
Richard Pryor & Gene Wilder
"STRIP CRAZY" (R)

ABBEY 4
Robin Williams, Sherry Duval
"POPEYE" (PG)

FAIRLANE 1
Ford vs. Telegraph
561-7200
Richard Pryor & Gene Wilder
"STRIP CRAZY" (R)

FAIRLANE 2
Starts Fri.
Marlon Brando
George C. Scott
"THE FORMULA" (R)

MAPLE 1
On W. Maple at Telegraph
Action to Bloomfield
855-9000
John Hurt as
"THE ELEPHANT MAN" (PG)

Robert DeNiro
"THE RAGING BULL" (R)

MAPLE 2
Robin Williams as
"POPEYE" (PG)

MAPLE 3
"ORDINARY PEOPLE" (R)

NORTHLAND 1
11 Hudson St. Northland Center
559-3366
Golden Hawn Chevy Chase
"SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES" (PG)

NORTHLAND 2
Starts Fri.
Marlon Brando
George C. Scott
"THE FORMULA" (R)

OLD ORCHARD 1
On Orchard Lake Road
North of 12 Mile 553-3210
Starts Fri.
Golden Hawn Chevy Chase
"SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES" (PG)

OLD ORCHARD 2
Marlon Brando
George C. Scott
"THE FORMULA" (R)

OLD ORCHARD 3
"PRIVATE BENJAMIN"

Starts 12/25
"FIRST FAMILY"

TERRACE 1
30400 Plymouth Road
New Center
537-1717
Sam Jones
Max Von Sydow, Topol
in "Flash Gordon"
"FLASH GORDON" (PG)

TERRACE 2
"EMPIRE STRIKES BACK" (PG)
Starts 12/18, R. DeNiro
"THE RAGING BULL"

TOWNE 1
Greenfield Rd. N. of 104
MI.
968-9700
Robin Williams as
"POPEYE" (PG)

TOWNE 2
Starts 12/25
"FIRST FAMILY"