

Theme days mark state fair's events

Because of a mechanical error, the dates of the fair's special days were incorrectly listed in a recent issue. Following is the correct information.

It will be one special day after another during the 11-day run of the 1981 Michigan State Fair, which opens Friday and continues through Labor Day, Sept. 7.

Each day of the fair has been given a theme, complete with an array of related contests, entertainment and other activities.

Sunday, for example, is Clown's Day at the state fairgrounds in Detroit. There will be competitions for the best clown costumes and clown acts, as well as Emmett Kellys vs. cash prizes and trophies. This is also one day where it pays to be a buffoon, since all Clown's Day contestants will be admitted free into the fair before 12:30 p.m. when wearing their costumes and make-up. (Advance registration is required to obtain a free gate pass.)

Beehive hairdos, Blythe, baby socks and high-heeled sneakers will reign supreme during the fair's Fabulous '50s Day on Saturday. The fair will turn back the hands of time with a '50s costume contest and a couples' dance competition.

A LINE-UP that includes free admission (until 3 p.m.), contests, free refreshments and entertainment is in store for fairgoers 62 and older on Senior Citizens Day, Monday.

The day's events include the crown-

ing of a Queen of Old Times Day, and the Leadership and Service. Senior Citizens Day contests will pay tribute to the oldest man and woman, balding head, prettiest hat, longest-married couple, individual with the most grandchildren, most recently married couple and golden anniversary couples.

On Queens Day, Wednesday, the 1981 Miss Michigan State Fair Queen will be picked from a group of beauty contest winners from around the state. Pageant prizes include a round-trip for two to Florida's Disney World.

Here's a rundown of the 1981 Michigan State Fair's special days:

Thursday	Opening Parade
Friday	Grand Opening Day
Saturday	Fabulous '50s Day
Sunday	Clown's Day
Monday	Senior Citizens Day
Tuesday	Agricultural Day
Wednesday	Queens Day
Sept. 3	Governor's Day
Sept. 4	Service Club Day
Sept. 5	Veterans Day
Sept. 6	International Day
Sept. 7	Labor Day

Admission to the nation's oldest state fair is \$4, with children 11 and younger admitted free when accompanied by an adult. The State Fairgrounds is on Eight Mile and Woodward.

The State Fair is administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

For additional information, call 368-1000.



backgammon

Michael Kioian
of the American Backgammon Club

AGGRESSIVE PLAY

In the example, white has a 4-1 to play. White has the doubling cube at the 2 level.

Without thinking, many players would move a checker from the 12 to the 8 point, or from the 8 to the 12 point and from the black 1 to the 2 point. These moves are totally safe yet very unproductive. Any safe move for this position cannot be correct.

Do you see the black checkers on the 4, 6, 7 and 8 points? On black's next roll, he is a favorite to hit white and capture the 3 point. If unsuccessful, black may roll a 4, capture the white 5 point and slot-hit white on the 3 point. Either way, black's intentions for his next roll are to attack white. White could soon be in serious trouble and perhaps lose a gammon. With the cube at a four-point loss in a tournament match is devastating.

Realizing this strategy, white should avoid the coming attack from black and use this 4-1 roll to the fullest advantage. White should attack black by moving from the 6 point, hitting black on the 5 point, and hitting black on the

1 point with the same checker. For this and similar positions, a "tempo play" can be very effective.

Although seemingly bizarre, the purpose of a tempo play is to steal your opponent's entire roll (or half a roll by hitting one checker), which will temporarily stop him from crushing you on his next roll. Black will be busy re-entering both checkers from the bar and, except for a perfect double, cannot harm white.

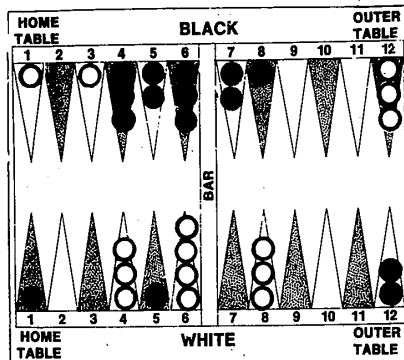
Of course, the only risk for these moves is being hit back. But if you are hit, the tempo play is worth risking as long as you have a chance to grab a forward anchor in your opponent's home board or reposition yourself.

Also, since white has the doubling cube, he can afford a gutsy play. In this position, the game could easily turn to favor white, if black stays on the bar for one roll. If white can cover his 1 point blot on the next roll and/or hit black's blot on the 8 point, white may be in position to redouble black to 4.

Remember, backgammon is made up of continuous calculated risks. Always playing the game "safe" really takes all the fun out of it!

Thursday, August 27, 1981

100% FISH



On Sept. 13, the American Backgammon Club will host a benefit backgammon tournament for the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan. First prize is \$1,000; there are 14 prizes in all. Entry fee is \$20.

In September and October, Kioian will be teaching backgammon at schools throughout Oakland and Wayne counties. For more information on the tournament or the classes, call the club at 459-5776.

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