



backgammon

Michael Kioian
of the American Backgammon Club

For more information or questions concerning backgammon, contact the American Backgammon Club at 455-7798 or write to Box 599, Plymouth, MI 48170.

SAFE PLAY OR BOLD PLAY?

Ken W. of Canton writes:

During a recent game, this position came up. As black, I rolled a 2-1. White owns the doubling cube at the 2 level. I had only two options — a safe play by moving the 5 and 6 point to the 4 point, or a bold play by moving a checker from the 5 point to hit white on the 2 point.

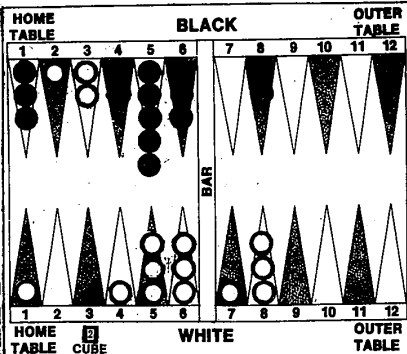
I chose to hit white since, if white hit me back, he would be very vulnerable to another hit in his home board. After missing the hit and staying on the bar for several rolls and losing the game, my opponent argued that my move was risky and unnecessary.

I would appreciate your views on this controversy.

Your opponent may have argued that your move was incorrect, but that's only because he didn't come in from the bar immediately and hit you. I like your move for this position because of white's weak home board and three loose blots in case you are hit.

You could have played safe. But that move is fruitless and unproductive since you would strip your only spare checker from the 6 point and allow white freedom on his next roll to cover his blots and build his home board. What black doesn't need is a tougher white home board if black, on his next roll, leaves a forced slot and gets hit.

Another reason why your move is the best play. White owns the doubling cube. White has the power to turn the cube to 4 if some unforeseen disaster strikes black later in the game.



wine
Richard Watson

The conventional image of Michigan wines is that of a large industry (third in the nation), centered on Paw Paw, producing such wine gems as Concord, Catawba, Delaware and Isabella wines. These native grapes, known collectively as labrusca, are characterized by a particular taste, a wild, feral one, the kind only a mother could love. The producers of this region — Bronte, St. Julian, Warner and Vendemmio — all contribute to this image by raising grapes principally of this type, serving a provincial market and somehow surviving in a world that increasingly knows better.

Happily, there is one dramatic exception to this group of southwestern Michigan wineries, Tabor Hill. Located

in Berrien County, winemaker Len Olsen has eschewed native grapes and has rather focused on hybrids and some viniferas and has been, for more than a decade, the superior wine man in that part of the state.

More oriented toward the Chicago market than Detroit, his wines are becoming increasingly available locally in select stores.

OLSEN'S CHIEF source for grapes is his own group of vineyards near the winery where Seyval, Vidal Blanc, Baco Noir and a few other hybrids grow along with small plots of Chardonnay and Riesling. He secures other grapes from Pennsylvania and from Washington State, ones he cannot successfully grow here in Michigan.

Second runs Tom Panzenhagen

• "My Brilliant Career" (1980), 7:30 and 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday at Cass City Cinema, Forest at Cass, phone 832-6309, \$2. Running time 101 minutes.

In the mold of "Breaker Morant" and "Gallipoli," this is another fine Australian film that manages to unite beautiful cinematography, splendid acting and direction, and a plausible, sophisticated script. Judy Davis, who portrays a young woman from the outback who aspires to a life a letters, has been compared to a young Katharine Hepburn. Suffice it to say she is brilliant.

Gilliam Armstrong (a woman) directs the true story based on a novel written in 1900 by a woman who wrote under the name Miles Franklin.

But "My Brilliant Career" is hardly a "woman's" film. It's a dreamer's film. It's a film of resolve, ambition, hope, humor, love and one woman's not-always-so-brilliant career. Gloria Steinem would like this picture, but so would Nancy Reagan. Rating: \$3.50.

• "Via Maria" (1966), 1:10 tonight on Ch. 7. Originally 119 minutes.

A generation of Bardot watchers haven't had a freckle to yelp at for far too long. But here's vintage B.B. along with Jeanne Moreau, in an awful, turn-of-the-century horse opera.

The story's bad, but the photography is good; director Louis Malle doesn't miss a single post. Rating: \$2.25.

• "The Thing" (1951), 3:30 p.m. Sat.

| WHAT'S IT WORTH? | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| A ratings guide to the movies | |
| Bad | \$1 |
| Fair | \$2 |
| Good | \$3 |
| Excellent | \$4 |

urday on Ch. 50. Originally 87 minutes.

Howard Hawks produced this Christian Nyby film in which James "Matt Dillon" Arness is "The Thing." It's a better-than-average sci-fi flick about a creature that panics scientists in an Arctic outpost. Rating: \$2.60.

• "The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean" (1972), 11:45 p.m. Saturday on Ch. 7. Originally 120 minutes.

Oddly enough, we get the same kind of portrait of the fabled Roy Bean from Paul Newman that Walter Brennan gave us in a much different film, William Wyler's "The Westerner" (1940).

John Huston directs Newman and a great cast: Ava Gardner, Jacqueline Bisset, Anthony Perkins, Stacy Keach, Roddy McDowall, Tab Hunter and Victoria Principal. "Life and Times" is an uneven film — a bit more miss than hit. But Newman's always interesting to watch when he's playing a role (like Buffalo Bill in the 1975 Robert Altman film) that undercuts his macho image.

Rating: \$2.85.

Community choir plans auditions for new season

The Schoolcraft College Community Choir will hold auditions for the winter season at its first rehearsal Tuesday. Choir director Marilyn Jones suggests auditioners should meet at 7 p.m. in Room 310 of the Forum Building. Participants will be asked to sing with the choir during the regular rehearsal from 7:30-10 p.m.

This season's major work is Beethoven's Mass in C, Opus 86, which will be performed with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Ms. Jones on April 25.

The 60-member choir, designed for those with previous singing experience,

represents 17 metropolitan area communities and a wide range of ages and musical backgrounds. Rehearsals combine sight reading, voice training, music theory, practice of concert music and a social coffee break.

OFFERED THROUGH continuing education at the college, the choir is a credit-free class available at a \$25 semester fee regardless of residence. Participants may register at the third rehearsal.

Music will be available for purchase at their meeting.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ON THE TOWN

JR's

ROCK n' COUNTRY
JOIN THE CROWDS
AT JR'S
BANDSTAND

LEWIS PATRICK & Semi-Country

TUES. THRU SUN.
Dinner & Drinks
TUES. - ROCK NIGHT
Cheap Drinks
WED. Pitcher Night
THURS. Ladies Night
FRI. & SAT. Happy Hour

33201 PLYMOUTH RD. AT
FARMINGTON • LIVONIA
CALL 421-5460

LIVONIA

CHIN'S

FAMILY RESTAURANTS
CHINESE & AMERICAN FOOD
EXCELLENT FOOD SERVED IN A TROPICAL
ATMOSPHERE SPECIALIZING IN
CANTONESE COOKING

- Lunches • Dinners
- Cocktails • Carry-Outs

421-1627
(BETWEEN MIDDLEBELT & HUNTER RD.)

American Express, VISA, MasterCard Accepted

We have the best
breakfasts, lunches, and
dinners in town!

FISH FRY

ALL-U-CAN-EAT \$3.59
FRIDAY ONLY

DAILY BREAKFAST SPECIALS
\$1.09 to \$2.09

Open every day 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Affiliated with Club Restaurants, Inc.
33480 W. Seven Mile
(K-Mart Plaza)
Livonia 476-9215

the pasta kitchen

NO TIME TO COOK?
TRY OUR DELICIOUS
HOMEMADE PASTIES

A high quality meal
for a very low price
Open Daily 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.
538-7738 LIVONIA

27831 SEVEN MILE
between Middlebelt & Inkster

JOHNNY K'S

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL
NEW YORK STRIP STEAK
complete dinner \$7.50

Fish Fry Every Friday
ALL-U-CAN-EAT \$4.25

THURSDAY NIGHT
TALENT NIGHT
PRIZES

Mon.-Fri. 5:1-2 a.m.; Saturday 5 p.m.-2 a.m.
32826 W. FIVE MILE • LIVONIA 425-8530

NOW APPEARING
Dennis Rome
and Co.
Tuesday - Saturday

TUES. & SAT.
50's & 60's MUSIC
ALL NIGHT

EVERY WEDNESDAY
LADIES' DRINKS
1/2 PRICE
9 p.m. - 2 a.m.

FRANKIE'S PIZZA

27450 GRAND RIVER AT INKSTER

477-4411

WE DELIVER • FEED YOUR FAMILY AND SAVE! • WE DELIVER!

- MON. THRU WED. PICK UP - NO COUPONS
- MINI CHEESE 99¢ Reg. \$1.95
- 1/2 SUB \$1.39 Reg. \$1.90

RIB DINNER \$4.99 Reg. \$6.50
Includes Fries, Cole Slaw & Bread

THURSDAY SPECIALS

- SPAGHETTI DINNER \$1.55 Reg. \$2.95
- CHICKEN DINNER \$3.05 Reg. \$4.00

11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. 24 hours a day
Served 24 hours

JAMES

SPECIAL OF THE MONTH
ALASKAN KING
CRAB LEGS

\$5.95 Complete Dinner
REG. \$9.95

SUNDAY THROUGH THURSDAY - 4 PM - 5 PM

29703 W. SEVEN MILE
LIVONIA
477-9077

The Chalet

39305 Plymouth Rd.
Corner of Eckles
464-2272

Cocktails-Luncheons-
Dinners

Complete Dinner or
Sandwich
Served Anytime
and naturally,
Prime Rib, Steaks and
Seafood at
Moderate Prices

Super Specials
Served Monday thru Saturday \$5.95

Banquet Facilities Available

Cocktail Hour
Monday thru Friday
Two for One 4-7 p.m.
Dinner Customers Included

TO SERVE something for breakfast, slice French bread or rolls into 1/2 inch slices, dip in your favorite French toast mixture and saute. Serve with powdered sugar or syrup. Enjoy the results you get when you place an Observer & Eccentric Classified Ad to buy, sell or find something.

Breakfast Special

Super Specials Can't Be Beat
For You Early Morning Risers
Served Monday thru Friday
7 am to 11 am

| | |
|--|--|
| No. 1 1 Egg, 2 slices of toast or Biscuits with Juice and Coffee \$1.50 | No. 5 1 Egg, Whole Toast, Cottage Cheese, Fruit, Juice and Coffee \$1.95 |
| No. 2 2 Eggs, Toast or Biscuits and Coffee \$1.50 | No. 6 1 Egg, Ham, 2 slices of toast and Coffee \$1.95 |
| No. 3 1 Egg, Bacon or Sausage, 2 Biscuits or Toast, Juice and Coffee \$1.95 | No. 7 2 Egg Omelette with Sharp Cheddar Cheese and Bacon, Toast and Coffee \$1.95 |
| No. 4 1 Egg, Bacon or Sausage, 2 Pancakes and Coffee \$1.75 | No. 8 2 Egg Omelette with Mushrooms and Swiss Cheese, Coffee and Toast \$1.95 |

Now Serving
The Freshest, Homemade
HASH BROWNS
You've Ever Tasted.

Over 47 Types of Omelettes

Silverman's

HOME MADE Doughnuts

34410 Ford Rd.
Westland, Mich.
728-1303

10 Mile
& Meadowbrook
348-2885

Now Open
in Southfield
Corner of Plymouth Hwy.
and Southfield
(on the corner)
Mon.-Thurs.
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Fri. 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sat. 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun. 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

SAVE 50% AND GET LONGER WEEKENDS!

If you hurry, you still have a chance to save 50% on a standard installation of "it" Subscription Television. Call "it" today and enjoy extended viewing hours, a greater selection of weekend movies plus all the other great entertainment "it" delivers...at a fabulous 50% off standard installation rates! Have "it" now and see up to 80 great movies every month, daily matinees and entertainment specials. So...hurry and take advantage of this limited-time offer. You'll save 50% on "it" installation if you call today!

SAVE EVEN MORE

The 'Do-it-yourself' Entertainment Kit
All the equipment to install 'it' yourself!
ONLY \$12.95 + REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT
"it" Subscription Television Office, 15600 Providence, Suite 810
(West of Greenfield) Southfield, MI • 552-8552
Monday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

NO CABLE NEEDED

CALL TOLL-FREE

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY, CALL "IT" AND SAVE!

1-800-482-1450

Subscription Television

In Ann Arbor,
call (313) 973-7731
before 8 p.m.

Installation in some prime areas is slightly higher than standard rates, but you will still save 50% on installation costs if you order it before now.