



# King of the board

## Are you game for the latest trivial pursuits?

ONCE THE packages are unraveled and the stockings unstuffed on Christmas morning, many Americans settle down to do some serious game playing.

Ever since the early 1800s when mass-market board games first became available in the United States, games have been stalwart entries on gift lists for all ages. In fact, best-selling games have served as mini-barometers of the preoccupations, interests and dreams of their times.

In 1843, children were hinting for the latest board game for Christmas — "The Mansion of Happiness" — where they navigated the shoals of sin while trying to lead an upright life. This Victorian theme of morality reappeared in the popular "Reward of Virtue" (1850) and "The Checkered Game of Life" (1860).

When the Morgans and Vanderbilts rose to power in the first decade of the 1900s, gamblers emulated their business success with "Wall Street." As the gleeful title, "I'm a Millionaire,"

suggests, Americans grew increasingly interested in money-making. And in the 1930s, they learned the pain of losing their real-world money in the Great Depression, while "Monopoly" fulfilled fantasies of going from rags to riches.

"GO TO THE HEAD of the Class," 1940s, reflected the American concern for public school education. With the 1950s and the advent of television, games based on popular shows had a heyday, like the question-and-answer "Howdy Doody Game."

As society takes a closer look at what's wrong, right and in-between, it makes sense that one of this year's most popular games is "A Question of Scruples." This adult game, from Milton Bradley, is full of questions about modern moral predicaments, some provocative, some humorous and all intriguing.

Playing "Scruples" can be surprisingly revealing, as contestants predict how opponents will respond to real-world dilemmas like this one: You buy

a scarf from a discount store as a gift for a friend who is label conscious. You have an empty box from a trendy store. Do you repackage the scarf in the box and give it to your friend? And when the players are challenged for bluffing, amusing conversation is sure to ensue.

POPULAR BOARD games are often the inspiration for spin-offs. Americans buried themselves in trivia a few years ago with the hit game "Trivial Pursuit." This year, they'll be able to use that knowledge when they play "Incognito," where players act out suggested charades and interpretation, then answer questions about the correct answer.

Another variation on the trivia craze is "Out of Context: A Game of Outrageous Quotes," with a total of 500 quotes from well-known politicians, entertainers, athletes and other celebrities, plus 900 "bluff" quotes. The object is to match the proper quote with the proper person. The bluff quotes are those said by other people, or the ones

the inventor, Brian Hersch, made up himself.

Still, some popular board games are takeoffs on popular TV programs, like "Dr. Ruth's Game of Good Sex" by Victory.

OTHERS HAVE gone video. Milton Bradley now offers its popular "Candyland" and "Chutes and Ladders" with an entertaining VCR tape, which brings the game characters to life for the preschoolers who play. And Parker Brothers' "Clue" is now available in video version.

What makes a board game of Christmas Past become a classic for Christmas Future? A game that finds its way under the tree year after year usually has broad-based appeal, can be played by a variety of age ranges, encourages social interaction and challenges skill while introducing an element of chance.

But most of all, a perennial favorite provides a good time for one and all.

*Seiko  
Fashion  
Collection*

FASHION FIRSTS  
MADE TO LAST

The click of color. The bold of red on black. The snap of yellow edged grey. The rich of saddle beige. The luxury of fine calf straps. For him. For her. For today.

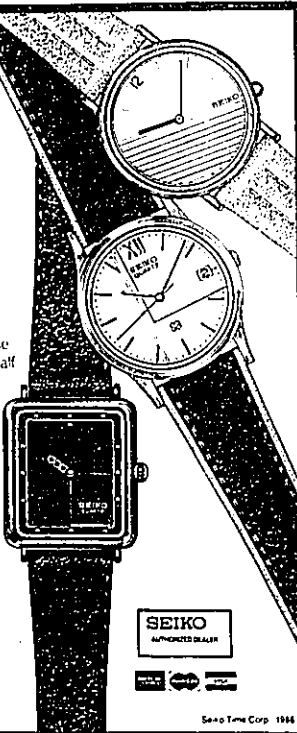
All sales can be exchanged or refunded.  
All offered at outstanding discount prices.

**WEINTRAUB  
JEWELERS**

"SUNSET STRIP"  
29536 Northwestern Highway  
Southfield, MI 48034

HOLIDAY HOURS  
Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., 10-7  
Thurs., 10-8; Sat., 10-6; Sun., 12-5

PHONE: 357-4000



SEIKO  
AUTHORIZED DEALER

Seiko Time Corp. 1986

GIVE THE GIFT OF SUN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



COMPLETE INDOOR  
TANNING SALON

Pre-Condition your  
skin for that special  
Holiday vacation

SCA Wolff® Sunbed Systems  
Original Hex® units

15 SUNBED  
OR HEX

reg. \$90  
**\$65**

7 SUNBED  
OR HEX

reg. \$45  
**\$35**

1 MONTH  
UNLIMITED USE  
(\$2 maint. fee)

reg. \$49.95  
**\$40**

3 MONTH  
UNLIMITED USE  
(\$2 maint. fee)

reg. \$109.95  
**\$79.95**

Be sure to stop in and  
browse through our  
complete line of designer  
swimwear and sunwear.

Locations throughout  
Michigan, including  
the Amway Grand Hotel  
and the Hyatt Regencies

NOW LOCATED  
IN SOUTHFIELD  
SOUTHFIELD PLAZA  
29946 Southfield  
(Next to Vic Tanny)

M-F 9-9,  
Sat. 9-6

All our facilities carry  
a complete line of suntan  
related products such as:  
suntan oils, beach products  
and Carrera sunglasses...

Great sunglasses to  
take on your  
sunny vacation.

559-2505

