Thursday, September 17, 1981

backgammon

Michael Kloian

• CLOSE THE GAP

12B(S)(F-5D)

Monty W. of Bloomfield writes:

Monty W. of Bloomfield writes: "In this position, my opponent, white, this position, my opponent, white, this a 2-3 and proceeds to bear off four checkers on the 2 point. "Of course, with me on the bar, I tried to explain the danger of leaving the double gap optint, they have quilte a few rolls: that leave a shot. Well, 13 effew rolls: that leave a shot. Well, while my opponent safely whished by the open 2-3 points, never leaving a shot." "would appreciate your opinion on the double (wo move so I can end an argument."

rgument.

• Naturally 1 agree with your logic. Voluntarily leaving a double gap in the home board while bearing off with your opponent on the bar is dangerous be-cause you have increased your odds of leaving a shot unnecessarily. Most often, a beginner would prefer to bear off checkers as opposed to im-proving the position of the home beard, hot realizing the full danger of the "Bear. On before the prevent leaving" a gap may be forced to prevent leaving a direct shot

a direct shot. In your situation, it would have been nice for your opponent to leave you a

shot or two on the 2-3 point and for you to hit to prove your point. Unfortunate-ly, since your opponent temporarily es-caped disaster, they may continue to make such plays until disaster befalls them

make such plays until disaster befalls them. However, you should feel gratified knowing you are correct, regardless of the resul. Although there are two sound plays for the double two roll, my suggested move would be to move all three checkers from the 5 point to the 3 point and move one checker from the 4 to the 2 point. Now the only gap white has to clear is the 5 point, with 6-1 and 5-1 (4 out of 36 chances) as the only bad rolls. White could move both 6 point check-

White could move both 6 point check-ers to the 4 point and bear off two checkers from the 2 point. But if black comes off the bar on the 3 point, white may soon leave a shot.

HOME TABLE OUTER BLACK TABLE 11 12 6 12 OUTER HOM WHITE TABLE

Closing the gap is by far the most effective play in a position where you are faced with several choices. In a game where a gammon is not certain, there is no reason to take unnecessary risks. TABLE Any questions or problems con-cerning backgammon can be sub-mitted to the American Backgam-mon Club at Box 599, Plymouth MI 48170 or by calling 459-5776.

Ramones bringing their fun to Nitro's

By Nick Charles special writer

special writer Sheena may be a headbanger and Sayr may be a punk rocker, but The Ramones are real rock and roll. Al-hough they're noits. The Ramones will bring their great they're doing. The Ramones will bring their great they're doing. The Ramones will bring their great they're doing. The sand's suffer of the second they the they the second the second the second these guys (even Johnny Rotten likes them, The New York based-band has been called the innovator of American Pank (ot new wave). The band's strong underground suc-mercial market. The new album, "Pleasant Dreams." (Sire Records), which was produced by 10cc's Graham Gouldman, contains 12 short and light basist Dee Dee.

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GOULDMAN ALSO co-wrote the 19cc hits "I'm Not In Love" and "The Things We Do for Love." He decided to lend his producing tal-ents to the Ramones and, by George, I think he's got himself a winner. The songs are still all Ramones which is the sing of a cord producer the does how songs are still all Ramones which is the sign of a good producer. He does, how-ever, sneak in a Baker-ish fade from Dee Dee's "You Didn't Mean Anything

the time, But then they don't please me." Next in the songwriting spotlight is Dee Dee, who is responsible for writing five of these little masterpieces.

"You Sound Like You're Sick" may not be the song you want to sing to your sweetheart but it has it's place in soci-ety (would you believe out of society?). Move over, Adam and the Ants. Dee be has his own dancable sound on the percussion-filled "All Quiet on the Eastern Front." Aided, of course, by the faithful lead guitar work of Johnny and the happy beat of Marky on drums.

Tom Panzenhagen

"Poppy" (1938), 12.25 tonight on Ch. 50, Originally 75 minutes. W.C. Fields was hardly over the hill when he made "Popp" (at 28 e47), but he was facing a transition. For the first ing habits had left him suffaing may easily be the second second second second would later. Iter to settle into such mature parts as "The Bank Dick." "Poppy" – a remake of "Sally of the Sardust' by cylical Fields or the older, adroitly cylical Fields most part. "Pields at his wort – for the most part. "Poppy" – a remake of "Sally of the Sardust' public sells wort – for the most part. "Poppy" – a remake of "Sally of the Sardust." Bit is talking dog to a naive buyer. The Stift's purchine is worth the price of admission. Roting: 32. "The Graduate" (197), 7 and 9

"The Graduate" (1967), 7 and 9 p.m. Friday in the Liberal Arts The-ater, Schoolcraft College, phone 591-6400, ext. 380, \$1.50. Running time

105 minutes. "If you want to send a message," Bing Crosby used to say, "call Western Union." For a long time, "message pic-tures" — films more concerned with tures" — films more concerned with content than style — were shunned by Hollywood. Only the Europeans.dared make movies that concerned them-selves with classism, disorientation and alienation. But that's not to say the Europeans

Players offer British comedy

The Birmingham Village Players Trevor (Steve Pew), and his wife Susan-will present Alan Ayckbourn's "Bed-nah (Priscilla Sommers); Nick (Jerry room Farce" at 8:30 pm. Sept. 25-26 McKeon) and Jan (Carol Burton); and and 7:30 pm. Sept. 27 at the playhouse, Malodim (Don Brown) and Kate (Sus Hunter and Chestnut south of Maple Beck). Susannah catches Trevor kissing ex-

Hunter and Chestnut south of Maple Beck). Road. The play is produced by Audrey wile Jan at Malcolm and Kate's party. Whota, directed by Gene Ewald and as-Sated by Helen Shalvoy. "Bedroom vo and Susannah are enumited. Farce' is a contemporary British com-redy focusing on one night in the lives of reservations call 644-2057. Tickets also four couples — Ernest (Bob Bowes) and Defia (do Ewald); their newlywed son, or to performances.

425-5520

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to Me" to "Come On Now." The album contains seven tunes by the gangly leader of the pack, Joey, A Cooper-like telling is created in the catchy "We Want the Airwaves (that's right, that's right)." And with this very commercial tune they may just get them. A Pink-Floyd-ian slip of an alarm leact before the Ramones style is evi-cient on the humorous 'It's Not My Place (in the 9 to 5 World)."

525-7640

WHAT'S IT WORTH? Fair



made better films, for many filmmak-ers (Goddard and Bergman, for exam-ple) often sacrificed form for the sake of the message. Excessive workman-ship destroyed the finished product. Director Mike Nichols prustypie an intere a message without slapping them mere a message without slapping them Ostansiby concerned with how a lege. "The Craduate" manages to say more about the distranchisement of youth during the 60s than films which purport to be solely about that subject. The key, however, is Nichols' ability to present his message and to wrap it in say and the a fance have a substantian and moving film package (with a fancy bow provided by Simon and Carlonkel, who wrote the film filting score). Murray Hamilton, William Daniels and Socar for best director. Rating: \$3.40.

Rating: \$3,40.