

CRIBBAGE

WORLD

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AMERICAN CRIBBAGE CONGRESS

Central Region Doubleheader Draws Huge Crowds **Alex Pogorzelski Tops 474 In Green Bay** **DeLynn Colvert Cops Title In St. Paul**

Green Bay, WI, Feb. 27: Local Alex Pogorzelski zipped to the championship at the annual MGM Classic...topping a huge crowd of 474 peggers in the process. With the win came a nifty bundle of 379 MRP's, a huge grandfather clock, and \$2,000.

Jack Frost, another local player, came close and finished 2nd, and also garnered a bundle of MRPs...but, alas, no clock. Henry Weits, Madison, WI, finished 3rd, followed by Bill Philleo, Milwaukee, WI, in 4th.

Life Master Joe Bernard, Libertyville, IL, scored an excellent 40 GP's in topping the field in the qualifying round, and with a 33-64 finish, scored some 150 MRP's to wing into 2nd place nationally in the 1994 MRP race, standing at 1,070. Only Syl Lulinski, LaGrange Park, IL, has scored more (1,171).

210 peggers played the Consolation event, and Darrel Alix, Hortonville, WI, took home the prize (and, in addition, another trophy clock). Geraldine Kuehl, Muskego, WI, took 2nd, followed by professor Russell Adams, Minneapolis, and Jim Bird, Milwaukee, in 3rd and 4th.

Green Bay is a hot-bed for doubles action, and once again a whopping 286 teams played Friday night...and that is some 572 players!! Shawn and Robert Beaster, Kingford, WI, came out on top in this huge field. And, on Saturday night, another huge doubles match saw John Hiland,

West Allis, WI, team with Jim Slaby, Milwaukee to win this event.

Friday's High Roller winner was Patrick Barrett, GR Commissioner from Wisconsin Rapids, and the Saturday singles winner was Smokey Cornwell, Westfield, WI. The Last Chance event was won by *Cribbage World* editor DeLynn Colvert, Missoula, MT.

Tournament directors Tom Gallagher, Bob Miller, and Jerry Lemke, with a fine staff, handled the huge crowd in fine style, and all hands were right on schedule!

St. Paul, MN, March 6: The Annual Capital City Classic continues to grow in popularity, and this 1994 edition set an attendance record with some 176 peggers, easily topping last year's mark of 158. Ron Hamilton, Joan Rein, and crew are gearing up for this year's Grand National XIII, that will be played in the same location this September, and if this event is any indication, GNXIII will be well run (and perhaps will set an attendance record).

DeLynn Colvert, a Life Master (One Star) from Missoula, MT, took in this Central Region doubleheader and snapped a prolonged slump with a win...helped immensely by match-winning 20-point hands (and cribs) on 4th street. But the hot hand in this three-day tournament was held by Master Bob

Continued on page 3.

How Much Luck, How Much Skill?

by Russell Adams

Cribbage players debate and differ as to how much good cards and ability determine winning. Some claim cribbage is all luck ("You gotta get the cards"), while others say it's a highly-skilled game. (Few would deny that chess and probably bridge is more skillful). Many state that winning is 85% luck and hence 15% skill. (This statement is really meaningless). A charm of the game is that a novice can beat an expert in a single game, or even a short series of three to seven games. The answer depends entirely upon the length of the match, as to the luck-skill proportion.

If two players are of equal ability, they will by definition break even, or almost so, in a long series of 100 or more games. But this begs the question and bears upon random variation. A match of Player A winning 52 games and Player B winning 48 is well within the range of sampling "error" and therefore inconclusive; that is, Player A may not come out on top in a longer series of, say, 300 games. To put it another way, if Player A beats B 60% of

the time in a long-long run, it is unlikely (about one chance in ten) that Player B will win four or more of seven games.

It would be interesting to watch and record a match of 100 games between two Life Masters (Colvert-Michaelis, or Toll-Kooistra); I would predict a near, but not exact, equality. We do not have a ready measure of skill, other than Master Points. Perhaps more refined would be a percentage of possible points earned, considering the number of tournaments entered; there again sample size (n=number of tournaments and players in them) must be substantial.

Statistically, a sample of less than 30 (games) is quite small and unstable; 30-100 games is fairly stable (significant); and over 200 games large enough to claim a confident result to virtually eliminate luck. Still, no mathematician would claim that there would be NO variation in outcome for even a long series of games between equal-ability players. Thank God! **Maybe there is some luck in cribbage?**



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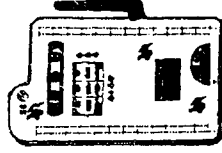
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Central Region Doubleheader

(continued from page 1)

Julian, Milwaukee, as he not only scored a 2nd place finish in the Main Event (after qualifying 4th), but also won the All-Events crown, scoring a whopping 62 GP's in the 40-game match. He has been on a "roll" lately, and with this fine performance, moves into 4th place nationally, standing at 963 MRP's for this cribbage year.

Tom Beucier, Farabault, MN, finished a strong 3rd, losing a heartbreaker to Julian in the final-four match. Charles Mokres, St. Paul, MN, also lost a heartbreaking final-four match, when a 20-point crib was turned against him on 4th street in the final game. He finished 4th.

Dianne Loch, Appleton, WI, was smoking in the qualifying round to take honors with an excellent 38 17 +325.

118 peggers played the Consolation and Ed May, a pegger from Des Moines came away the winner, edging Babe O'Gorman, Bannon Falls, MN in the final match. Shawn Andrusko, Minneapolis, took 3rd, followed by Life Master Jim McManus, the Milwaukee King of Cribbage, in 4th. However, Bob Julian, another Milwaukee player, may lay claim as to who is the "King" after his fine showing recently.

In the satellite events, Nicky Kniech, Brown Deer, WI, took the Friday Early Bird (17 8 +117), and Gerry White, Bondurant, IA, won the Saturday Night game with a grand slam 18 9 +116.

Director Ron Hamilton, with a fine staff, continues to hold excellent tournaments, attested by the record crowd that attended.

Richard Frost Collects Jokers

Richard Frost, W2171 Hwy 21, Berlin, WI 54923, collects jokers as a hobby. ACC members, let's see how many we can mail Richard in the next month. Perhaps we can inundate him, and he will start a new hobby (like \$20 gold pieces...that would be "safe"!)

Vignettes From Green Bay

Joan Rein scored TWO 28 hands at the MGM Classic, Hot cards? Nope. She scored only 13 GP's!

Jesse Jarrell began the High Roller event with a large skunk win! High card? Nope...he lost the next 8 games!

One player, upon seeing his opponent scoring a 16-point hand, with a J-J-Q-K and 5 starter card was overheard saying "Boy, am I glad to see those face cards there...I threw you a K-Q!" His opponent chuckled "You know, I'm kinda glad to see 'em there, too!"

"You Can Win More" Grass Roots Awards

The instructional letter for the **Grass Roots National Tournament** failed to mention the following awards:

Grand Slam: \$25 (1st 9 or last 9 games)
28-Hand: \$25
29-Hand: \$100

Director Gene Mikulsky sez: "Remember, you can't win if you don't play!"

Good luck!

CRIBBAGE WORLD

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Deadline for copy: 15th of month before next month's issue. Checks payable to American Cribbage Congress

Master Pegger Takes Oregon Championship **Frank Lake Tops 190 In Prineville** **Irma Symons Cops Consolation**

Frank Lake, LaPine, OR recently earned his Master rating...and continues to prove his mettle on the boards by taking the 190-pegger 14th Annual Oregon Championship in Prineville February 20.

His toughest hurdle was getting by the Moritzky clan, as Eva won 2nd, and spouse Jack took 3rd. This Mabton, WA, duo, fared quite well, indeed. Jerry Hearsom, Cove, OR, took home the 4th place prize.

The hot hand in the qualifying round saw Glen Hefner, Creswell, OR, post a nifty 36 (17) +194.

120 peggers stayed for the Consolation event, and Irma Symons, Redmond, OR, nipped Donna Hassett, Roseburg, OR, for the title. Fred Kimball, the pegging wheat rancher from Walla Walla, WA, nailed 3rd, followed by Don Olson, Milwaukie, OR in 4th.

In the satellite events, Bob Watkins had the hot hand, as he not only won the Time Passer, but he continued on with Eugene Wilkerson's

help and took home the Doubles title, too. Both players hail from Portland. Local Tommy Hill picked up all the marbles in the High Roller event. The Saturday Special was won by Sue Temple, Beaverton, OR...and last year's National Champion, Jesse Jarrell, came through in the "Cry Baby" last chance event. However, no MRP's there, as this Pittsburg, CA, King of Cribbage well knows in continuing his drive to repeat as "King of the Hill!"

Four 28-hands were scored...but the elusive "29" failed to show.

Joe Nelson (see story, this issue) passed the torch as director to Bob St. Yves, in this 14th annual event, and with play at the Senior Center, instead of the usual fairgrounds location proved no obstacle to Bob, as all events ran on schedule and with the expertise of an experienced director. Marvis Reynolds, as usual, had all events organized and well posted!

The Lions Sight and Hearing fund gained \$5.50 per player, as players nationwide continue their support of charities.

Third Annual Virginia Championship **Crowns Ed Horigan**

In spite of the icy conditions of the previous week, a field of 80 players from as far away as Canada and Florida converged on Richmond for the Third Annual Virginia Championship. 27 game points were needed to qualify in the Main Event, and Ed Horigan, Virginia Beach, VA, defeated Bernard Whitfield of Raleigh to earn the coveted Jefferson Cup, emblematic of the event championship.

The all-female Consolation final was won by Rhonda Swift, Kill Devil Hills, NC, who prevailed over Marion Castagna, Alexandria,

VA, in spite of failing to peg out after counting sufficient points for the win. Rhonda managed to make a pair on the subsequent deal to preserve her hard earned (and justified) victory.

The State Championship plaque was won by the host Richmond Cribbage Club in the always close competition with the Tidewater 29'ers and the Cameron Cribbers. Bob Gombatz and Ted Dick...two Raleigh peggers... took home Jefferson Cups for their win in the Friday doubles competition.

Southeastern Cribbage

Larry Phiffer Takes Virginia Beach Classic Bob Gombatz Scores in Orlando Open

Virginia Beach, VA, Feb. 20: Larry Phiffer, Raleigh, NC, bested Rick Bryant, Jarrettsville, MD in the 126-player 2nd Annual Virginia Beach Classic. Another Raleigh player... Ted Dick... took 3rd followed by Russ Perkins, Bear Creek, NC in 4th.

Master Bob Gombatz is zeroing in on his Grand Master rating with a top qualifying round score... and came back and qualified first in the Consolation (starting in the 1995 season, MRP's will be earned in the Consolation qualifying round... but, alas, not this year). Gombatz also won the Saturday Night Special.

Bill Whiting, Williamsburg, VA, won the 106-pegger Friday Rising Tide game, and Ford Jewer, a Master pegger from Wakefield, RI won the High Rollers (Sat.). Cliff Darfler, Porter Corners, NY, won the Last Chance event.

92 peggers stayed for the Consolation, and Al Kucera, W. Columbia, SC, nailed the title. Master Paul Woytovich earned 2nd... in his last cribbage match... as he tragically died of a heart attack the following week (see "In Memoriam," this issue). Phyllis Schmidt, newly crowned Life master from Williamstown, MA, picked up 3rd, and continues to rack up MRP's, standing at over 500 for this cribbage year. Terry Gosselin, Burlington, VT, took 4th.

Once again, Jack Howsare ran a first class tournament, and will re-schedule again next year on February 17-19, 1995.

Swift's Rise on Rising Tide

The Virginia Beach Classic has a Friday "Rising Tide" event... and Mandy Swift scored a 28-hand in **her first tournament**. Not to be outdone by a mere rookie, her mother **Rhonda Swift** plunked down a **29-hand** a few games later! Both players hail from Kill Devil Hills, NC. Eric Davis, Seven Lakes, NC, also scored a sanctioned 28-hand in the main Event.

Kissimmee, FL, Feb. 27: After picking up some 82 MRP's in Virginia Beach a week earlier, Bob Gombatz, Raleigh, NC, continued his assault on the boards by winning the 4th Annual Greater Orlando Open (114 peggers), after qualifying 7th, adding another 142 MRP's to his illustrious career... and is only 30 MRP's short of Grand Master.

Ray St. Marie, Port Charlotte, NC, nailed 2nd, followed by Larry Phiffer, Raleigh, NC, in 3rd. Phiffer won the Virginia Beach Classic a week earlier and continued his "roll." Raleigh certainly appears to be the city to be from in the Southeast! At least, if you are a cribbage player! Lucille Simpson, the travelling pegger from Lewiston, NY, once again shows she can win from coast to coast, as she picked up a fine 4th place.

The hot hand in the qualifying round belonged to Phil Misisco, Punta Gorda, FL (and there was Lucille Simpson again... qualifying 5th!).

Ted Depizol, Winter Springs, FL, was in the winner's circle once again, as he nailed the 72-pegger Consolation. And he had to get by veteran Harry Stoops, the ex-Grand National director from Hiataleah, FL, in the final match. Thomas Azevedo, Spring Hill, FL, took 3rd, followed by Robert McAnelly, Port Charlotte, FL, in 4th.

Eastern Tournament Commissioner George Bickford picked the "hot" player for a partner for the Saturday night doubles (Bob Gombatz), and after losing their first game, rolled over the next eight opponents to cop the marbles!

Other "hot" players scoring 28-hands were Jackie Depizol, Winter Springs, FL, Sally Stokes, Ellenton, FL, and Martin LePalla, Engelwood, FL.

Paul Barnes, director, notified *Cribbage World* that this tournament will be re-scheduled again February 24-26, 1995. He also reported some \$114 was donated by the players for the Advisory Board for the Disabled.

17th Annual

Jim Hornbacher Takes Northwest Open Title

The longest running tournament in the Northwest is Rob Palmer's Northwest Open....and the 17th edition was won by Jim Hornbacher, a veteran pegger from Bothell, WA. Jim has been knocking on the door to the winner's circle for the past few months....and he finally cracked the barrier with this win.

Gale Kimball, a fine pegger from Walla Walla, WA, has also been knocking on the door....but fell one notch short in picking up a 2nd place. Two powerhouse peggers from Richland, WA....Willie Evans and Jim Hartung....slugged it out for 3rd and 4th. Evans came out on top this time around, in this never-ending competition!

Rod Schott, Richland, WA, took honors in the qualifying round with a nifty 36 GP's. Two 26-GP cards qualified as players continue to improve their game in the Northwest, and competition grows keener with each passing year.

Fred Larkin, Tacoma, WA, kept the Washington players in the limelight, as he took the 56-pegger Consolation. Denny Edwards, Hermiston, OR copped 2nd, followed by Ray Hanes, Walla Walla, WA, and DeLynn Colvert, Missoula, MT.

Ray Hanes was on a "mini-roll" as he also nailed the High Roller event. Forte and Garrigus won the Doubles, and Betty Johnson, Spokane, WA, took the Friday Time Passer. Willie Evans outlasted the field in the Saturday Night game.

Harry Kantas Claims Reno's ACC Open Is NOT The Largest Tournament

Harry Kantas mailed *Cribbage World* a copy of his professional Grass Roots Club 28 Newsletter....and he has the audacity to claim that the JPW/ACC Open in Reno this February was **NOT** the largest cribbage tournament ever played! He states that last year's Annual Grass Roots National Tournament attracted 1,160 participants....far more than Reno's 956 players. Hmmmm....what do you think peggers?

100% Cash Paybacks Mexican Riviera Cribbage Cruise (Mexican Open)

The cruise ship Jubilee (Carnival Cruise Line) departs from Los Angeles, Sunday, October 16, at 4 PM for a fun-filled 7-day adventure. Destination: Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, and Cabo San Lucas.

And this cruise comes complete with a sanctioned ACC Cribbage Tournament. Doris Denny, a travel agent and avid cribbage player has arranged for special rates for players, provided they sign up early.

Cruise Rates:

\$639 per person (double occupancy), inside cabin
\$739 per person (double occupancy), outside cabin
Add \$92 per person Port Tax
The normal charge for this cruise is \$1,349 (inside), \$1,399 (outside), plus \$92 Port Tax

A deposit of \$200 is required to hold your space, and you may cancel up until August 1.

DeLynn Colvert will be the ACC's Tournament Director of this Mexican Open. Three events are scheduled, all with 100% cash paybacks....and Master Rating Points will be awarded for the Main Event and the Consolation. The winner will be proclaimed Champion of Mexico, and will be awarded a trophy commemorating the first ACC Mexican tournament.

The schedule:

Oct. 16, 4 PM: depart Los Angeles (Sunday)
Oct. 17, 10 AM: **Mexican Open** (at sea), \$40/10Q, 22 games, best 3 of 5 playoffs Oct. 18 8 AM (trophy) 9 games, best 2 of 3 playoffs (trophy)
Oct. 19: Puerto Vallarta, arrive 8 AM, depart 10 PM
Oct. 20: Mazatlan, arrive 9 AM, depart 6 PM
Oct. 21: Cabo San Lucas, arrive 7 AM, depart Noon*
Oct. 22, 2 PM: **LA Special** (at sea), 9 games, \$20
Oct. 23, 9 AM: Arrive Los Angeles (Sunday)
*Port call subject to tidal conditions

Sign up early as space is limited. Call Doris Denny, (404) 431-9301 (mornings and evenings) for information.

Synopsis **Board of Directors Meeting** **Reno, February 3, 1994**

President Scott Kooistra called meeting to order. All members present except Martha Fingleton and Lea Hombeck (both excused).

Minutes from Missoula meeting approved, after correcting "10" senior judges from each region should have been "8." Peer format judged not to have impact one way or the other, and was so noted.

Treasurer's report reviewed and approved. \$300 approved for President Emeritus Joe Wergin.

Cribbage in Schools discussed. Motion passed to file a personal suit against Karl Grube in small claims court to recover \$1,550, plus filing and service fees. Martha Fingleton offered to coordinate effort.

Ramos moved to continue Cribbage in Schools Program, with Executive Board reviewing spending. Approved.

McGibney moved to retract mandatory membership to play in ACC sanctioned events. Bickford seconded. Secret ballot: 23-4 to remove mandatory membership.

Ramos moved to revert back to original concept for GR to allow guests on limited basis. Carried.

Dickinson moved to remove mandatory ACC membership from GR play. Defeated.

Horigan moved to make BOD meetings non-smoking. Carried.

Griffin given floor regarding his version of the past election for the BOD. After some discussion, Fabian offered his resignation. Accepted, effective end of meeting. Wright reminded BOD that this was Constitutional issue. Griffin appointed to fill Fabian's seat on BOD.

Moment of silence for past members of BOD, Jim Arblaster and Nick Pond. Note of thanks offered to Sands for their hospitality.

Rein moved to continue TOC and JPW/ACC Open at Sands. Carried.

Bey moved to accept changes to the Bylaws. Changes made to Article IV, V, VI, and VIII. All approved. Changes made to reduce size of BOD and number of meetings. New Constitution/Bylaws dated 2/13/94.

Kooistra reported on Ethics Committee noting suspension of Russell Adams for 60 days. was now complete. Kooistra suggested up to 5 individuals, one

to be member of Executive Committee to chair it, one to be the chair of the Rules Committee, and perhaps the Tournament Commissioners.

Bey moved to start a James Arblaster scholarship fund. Proposal tabled.

Cribbadier General program kicks off this weekend with Proctor setting up display to sell cards. \$10 for a deck, \$15 for two decks, and \$25 for three, and you become a Cribbadier General. Ramos volunteered to work with Proctor to ensure ACC did not lose money if they didn't sell enough cards.

Barrett reported on Hall of Fame nominations. Nominations must be mailed by April 15. Barrett noted he needs list of all eligible voters from the ACC.

Shimp moved to grant a second one-time Peer Tournament for one tournament, not two. Carried.

Rein moved to award Master Points for qualifying round of sanctioned Consolation tournaments beginning August 1, 1994. Carried.

Kooistra and Samet presented proposal to cap Master Points for tournaments exceeding 572 MRP's. Kooistra moved to cap top four places at 572 MRP's only, with balance of structure remaining same as before. Carried.

Bey reported 30,000 more scorecards available from Jim Angell. Phillip Morris donated scorecards, and they are available to tournament directors, upon request.

Monroe presented film from National Telephone (NTC) as a fund raiser with ACC members signing up. He moved to give promotion a chance, noting the ACC could withdraw at any time, if not to ACC's best interest. This program to be discussed in Cribbage World for all member's information. Carried.

Babcock moved to authorize Colvert to purchase FAX machine for the ACC to be used for *Cribbage World* in the future. Approved.

Bey reported he has applied for our trademark, made corrections to forms submitted, and is waiting for approval.

Horigan discussed GR problem regarding funding awards program. GR meeting at 4:15 Sat. to discuss problem.

Hamilton asked for \$1,000 advance for budgeted Grand National expense (GNXIII, St. Paul, Sept. '94). Advised to contact McGibney.

Shimp reported on Judges Program noting recertification will be necessary for judges soon. Miller has proposal regarding questions about the rules. Shimp advised Miller to pursue this.

Ramos moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Minutes recorded by Joan Rein.

How Did Life Master Mick Michaelis Get Hooked?

6-Time All-American Mick Michaelis is edging in on Life Master, One Star... 10,000 Master Rating Points! Only a scant 200 or so points short, Mick should reach this coveted plateau during this 1994 season.

How did Mick get hooked on cribbage? In his hometown of Marinette, WI, he lives within walking distance of the County Courthouse where he was the County Treasurer (before he retired last year). On one cold, windy, snowy day, he ducked into a liquor store to warm his bones...and he met Pete Danielson. Upon entering in a conversation, Pete asked if he played cribbage. Yes, indeed, as the County Courthouse had a lunch hour game on a regular basis.

To make a long story short, Pete urged Mick to play in a sanctioned tournament...and we now have an "almost" One Star player. **Cribbage fever...catch it!**

One Tough Quiz

What two Cribbage Hall of Famers worked for the same company?
Answer on page 10.

Alyssa Ward Tops Youth Tournament

Dan Zeisler, the peggin' school teacher from Sonora, CA, has a great youth program in his Bellevue School (Toulumne County, CA).

On Saturday, Feb. 26, 24 of his students played in their first ever youth cribbage tournament...a 6-game qualifying round match.

13-year old, **Jennifer Lawrence** nailed a six game grand slam (13 6 +120) to earn top qualifying honors. However, in the play-offs, another 13-year old player, **Alyssa Ward**, took the championship...and a \$50 gift certificate. 2nd place went to **Aaron Giacosa** (12 years old), followed by **Ed Martin** (16), and **Terah Poppino** (13).

Alyssa attributes her success to many, many games with her grandfather.

Contributing to this successful program was David Proctor (Cribbader General Program), Joe Wergin (5 books as prizes), Dearnl McCullough, and Joe Remlinger (members of GR 140) who helped administer the tournament.

Anyone interested in organizing a youth tournament may call Zeisler for assistance (209) 536-1549.

Grass Roots Program Region VI Grand Slams

Since November, 1993, the following players have scored Grand Slams (9 for 9) in Grass Roots Region VI:

Kathy Shafer	Richard Pigeon
John Hilland	Mike Munro
Karen Danielski	Jim Rice
William Capen	Barb Parenteau
Andrew Veith	Scott Henderson
Grace Cummings	

Richard Pigeon has scored a 23 GP card, and Kathy Shafer and Jim Rice have turned in 21 GP cards. *Cribbage World* thanks Region VI Statistician Patrick Barrett for this information.

In Memoriam

Doris M. Conner

West Allis, Wisconsin

Doris died unexpectedly of a cerebral hemorrhage in late January. A dedicated player, she will be sorely missed by her many friends.

Paul Woytovich

Hickory, North Carolina

Enroute to Orlando to play in the 4th Annual Orlando Open, Paul passed away from a heart attack. A Master pegger, and one of North Carolina's finest players, he will be sorely missed by his many friends nationwide, and especially from his Grass Roots club #20.
