

DEAL ME IN

Nominate Your Candidate For The Ten Best Bets In The Casino



Mark Pilarski

Dear Mark: A column of yours in the past mentioned some of the best bets in the casino. One such bet was the six or eight in craps. Although I have never played the game of craps before, it seems like fun and would be interested giving it a try, especially since some of the group I go gambling with weekly do play it. How do I go about making that bet without looking like a beginner?

Jayne M.

Yes, Jayne, craps can be richly enjoyable entertainment, and based on your wanting to stick with one of the best bets the game offers, that being Placing either the six or eight, let's make you look like an expert amongst your gambling associates.

Placing the six or eight, or grabbing a Pass line bet for those so inclined, are really the only wagers you want to make on a crap table. They have a casino edge of 1.5% or lower. Most players who belly up to the crap table are greener than the felt on the table, but by exploiting only the best bet(s) the game offers, you join the less than one percent of players who truly understand dice.

You could ask your friendly dealer how to Place the six or eight, but all you really have to do is walk up to the table, set down \$6 (\$12 if you're betting both numbers) on the layout and state your preference: "Six (or eight) for six dollars," then cheer on the six or eight to appear before the seven, and you're off to the races. You'll get paid \$7 if the six or eight hits, but you'll lose, if the seven appears.

Craps 101 isn't over yet, Jayne. We'll revisit in the future another best bet in the casino, the Pass Line wager, then move you into odds after that, all of which nudges you ever closer to your Winners University diploma.

Dear Mark: I've noticed that certain machines I play on pay out jackpots often, while others never seem to pay. Why is that?

Molly F.

Regrettably, Molly, your letter didn't mention the specific machines you play, so all I can give you is a generalized answer.

Yes, Molly, you are observing correctly; certain machines do seem to pay more jackpots than others. That's because some machines are designed to pay less frequent, though larger hits, (in gambles they're called low hit frequency machines), while others are specifically designed to pay numerous, but relatively smaller hits. Appropriately those would be high hit frequency machines.

There's also the possibility of skewed observation. Might you be selectively eyeballing your favorite machine(s) more than the others, making you more aware of what happens on them, and possibly missing the jackpots on the other slots? If you observe long enough, you might find that those other machines pay off just as often.

When all's said and done, Molly, because some players like lots of small hits, while others prefer fewer, larger hits, what your research will eventually identify as normal, is that casinos have machines at many different hit frequencies, some even side-by-side.

Gambling Wisdom of the Week: "Ever since I bought those two huge Doyle Brunson Super System books, I've become a much stronger player. Each morning before breakfast, I put one in each hand and do curls with them."

VP Pappy

Got a question about gambling? Write to: Deal Me In, P.O. Box 1234, Traverse City, Michigan 49685 -email: pilarski@markpilarski.com ¥ To order Mark Pilarski's Hooked on Winning audio cassettes-laminated win cards package (\$12.95 plus \$2 S&H) call 1-800-WINNERS.

OBITUARIES

Michael Belonga

Michael J. Belonga, 58, of St. Ignace, died unexpectedly early Saturday morning, June 27, 2009, at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital after collapsing in a parking lot Friday evening.

Mr. Belonga was born June 25, 1951, in St. Ignace to Phillip B. and Esther (nee Becker) Belonga. He was graduated from high school and finished a year of college and had worked at several restaurants in St. Ignace as a cook. He also worked for a plastics factory in Petoskey the past six years.

He was a member of St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church.

Mr. Belonga is survived by a daughter, Stacie Belonga of Traverse City; a son, Justin Belonga of East Jordan; a grand-

daughter, Makenna Rae; five sisters and their families, Nedra Hough of St Ignace, Phillis and Don King of Colon, Patty Martin of St. Ignace, Janice and Alan Werkheiser of St. Ignace, Judy and John Winandy of Cedarville, and a brother and his family, Dale and Delina of St. Ignace and Rexton.

Mr. Belonga was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Ronald "Tuffy" in 1990 and Billy in 1947.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial mass will be scheduled later at St. Ignatius Loyola Church. Burial will be in St. Ignatius Cemetery.

Dodson Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Lyle Krause

Lyle W. Krause, 85, of St. Ignace, died Thursday June 25, 2009, at Mackinac Straits Hospital Long Term Care following a lingering illness.

Mr. Krause was born in St. Ignace March 1, 1924, to Paul and Thelma (nee McGregor) Krause.

The family owned the OK Hotel since 1900 and apartments for more than 25 years. His father was a barber in the hotel and his mother ran the family business many years with the help of Lyle Krause.

He spent four years in the Merchant Marines during World War II.

Mr. Krause is survived by two brothers and their families, Ernest

and MaryLou of St. Ignace and Bert and Sally of Fresno, California, and St. Ignace; a sister and her family, Carolyn and Jim McGlone of Lafayette, Indiana, and St. Ignace; a special friend, Helen Laakso of St. Ignace, and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Florence Sims, June 2, 2009, and by three brothers Ed, Dick, and Jim.

Cremation has taken place.

A graveside service for family and friends will be held at Lakeside Cemetery at a later date.

Dodson Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Law Enforcement Plan Extra Patrols During July 4 Holiday

Police in Mackinac, Chippewa, Delta, Marquette, and Menominee counties are participating in a drunk driving crackdown through Sunday, July 5.

The effort of nearly 300 law enforcement agencies began July 26.

These extra patrols are funded by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning through federal traffic safety dollars.

"Whether you've had way too many or just one too many, it's not worth the risk," said Michael Prince, agency director. "There is no justification for driving drunk and Michigan law enforcement won't be accepting any excuses. Get caught driving drunk, and you'll be going to jail."

Motorists face severe penalties for driving drunk. Those convicted of a first drunk driving offense face up to 93 days in jail, up to a

\$500 fine, up to 360 hours of community service, six points on a driver's license, and up to 180 days' license suspension.

In addition, convicted drunk drivers will be subject to a \$1,000 fee for two consecutive years, for a total of \$2,000 in additional costs. Anyone who refuses a breath test the first time is given an automatic one-year driver's license suspension.

Last year, 14 motorists died in Michigan over the July 4 holiday, with five of those deaths involving alcohol and three of those motorists being unbuckled.

In 2008, there were 317 alcohol-related traffic deaths, a decrease of 8.2% from 2007. Although the number of alcohol and/or drug-related traffic deaths declined last year, crashes involving alcohol are eight times more likely to be fatal.

MACKINAC ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL Bids Wanted

Bids are being accepted for vinyl siding and repairs to the school's storage building. Bids are due by 3 p.m. Friday, July 17, 2009. Work is to be completed by Friday, August 28, 2009. Call 906-847-3376 for details. Mail bids to Dr. Roger S. Schrock, Supt., MIPS, P.O. Box 340, Mackinac Island, MI 49757.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS St. Ignace, Michigan Wastewater System Improvements Contract: 11929.00002 MDEQ SRF #5292-01 Division C - Portage Ave.

Sealed Bids will be received by the City of St. Ignace at the office of the City Clerk up to 2:00 p.m., prevailing time on July 22nd 2009, and then publicly opened and read aloud, for the construction of Contract 11929.00002.

The work consists of the following general work items along with related appurtenances and restoration work:

Construction of approximately 5,000 feet of 8" sanitary gravity sewer on Portage Avenue, Central Hill, First Street and Truckey Avenue.

The Drawings and Project Manual under which the work is to be done are on file and may be examined at the St. Ignace City Hall, 296 North State Street, St. Ignace, MI 49781 (OWNER); at the Construction Association of Michigan in Bloomfield Hills; Reed Construction Data in Norcross, GA, F.W. Dodge in Lansing, MI, at Contractors Exchange in Milwaukee, WI, and at the Builder's Exchanges in Escanaba, Marquette, Menominee, Grand Rapids, Traverse City, Sault Ste. Marie and Iron Mountain, Michigan, and Green Bay, and Appleton, Wisconsin; and at the office of the Engineer, Wilcox Professional Services, LLC, 3500 Ludington Street, Suite 310, Escanaba, Michigan 49829.

Bidding Documents may be obtained after **June 22nd, 2009** from the ENGINEER (Wilcox Professional Services, LLC) by purchase for the non-refundable price of **\$85 plus \$20 UPS ground shipping (\$105 total)**. Priority Overnight UPS shipping is an additional **\$40 (\$125 total)**.

Please direct request for documents via fax to Engineer at (906) 789-0100. Send payment to Wilcox Professional Services, LLC at 3500 Ludington Street, Suite 310, Escanaba, Michigan 49829, (906) 789-7800, fax (906) 789-0100. The purchaser must supply the telephone and facsimile numbers along with street address of the individual or firm to whom addenda (if any) can be directed. There will be no refunds or return of Bidding Documents.

Bid security in the form of a certified check, bank check, or a Bid Bond for a sum not less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the Bid will be required with each Bid. The right is reserved by OWNER to accept any Bid, to reject any Bid, and to waive irregularities in Bids.

The project will be financed with assistance from the State of Michigan Revolving Funds using federal assistance authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The funding requirements applicable to this project are detailed in Section 00670. Wage Rates (ARRA Section 1606) are applicable to this contract. ARRA requires compliance with the Davis Bacon Act and adherence to the current U.S. Department of Labor Wage Decision. Attention is called to the fact that not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Contract Documents must be paid on this project. Buy American (ARRA Section 1605) requires that all iron, steel and manufactured goods used for the construction of this contract be produced in the United States.

No Bids may be withdrawn after the above date and time for receiving Bids for a period of ninety (90) days.

Renee Vonderwerth St. Ignace City Clerk

MDOT Suspends Majority of Road Work Over Holiday Weekend

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is removing more than 65% of lane restrictions on state routes this weekend to accommodate July 4 holiday traffic. Beginning at 3 p.m. Thursday, July 2, and continuing until 6 a.m. Monday, July 6, 111 out of 164 projects statewide will be free of lane restrictions.

Following is a list of the work zones in the Upper Peninsula that will remain active, or have some lane restrictions, during the weekend:

- US-2 Cut River Bridge, Mackinac County, will remain closed with traffic detoured on Cut River

Road and Prater Boulevard.

- M-64 in Ontonagon County will have temporary signals at the Townline Creek and Floodwater River bridges.

- US-2 in Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, will have lane reductions and a traffic shift.

- US-41/Shelden Avenue in downtown Houghton and US-41 through the Michigan Technological University campus, Houghton County, will be closed to through-traffic. Northbound US-41 traffic will be detoured to Montezuma Avenue. Southbound US-41 traffic will be detoured on M-26, Sharon Avenue, and MacInnes Drive.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The LMAS District Health Department will be conducting a Public Hearing on August 20, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a proposed amendment to the Superior Environmental Health Code to include commercial sewage systems discharging less than 1000 gallons per day and a proposed new Technical Guidance Manual for the design of alternative sewage systems. The hearing will be held in the basement of the LMAS District Health Department Luce County Office, 14150 Hamilton Lake Road, Newberry, MI. After July 5, 2009 copies of the proposed changes, in draft format, can be obtained by stopping by any of our four district offices or can be printed off our website at www.lmasdhd.org under the news portion on the left-hand side of our homepage.

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