

DEAL ME IN

Thomas D. 1 - Mark P. 0

Dear Mark: In your answer to Jason S. about Don't Pass players being allowed to take down bets, you state correctly that a Don't Pass bettor has 3 ways of winning on the come out, but incorrectly show the winning numbers to be 2, 3, 12. As you know, 12's are neutral for a Don't Pass bettor on the come out, contributing to the house edge. Please correct this for your readers.

Thomas D.

House rules and tangling with technology, Thomas, caused me to forget to insert the words, "or draw" for either - depending on the casino - the number two or 12.

House rule # 17 (no, not the casino's, but my own household's) is that a circle of 20-mile radius with center at my home marks the point of no return. So, when 40 miles out on a trip to Chicago, I suddenly remembered I had forgotten my laptop, I was forced to do that week's column on the 2x3 inch screen of an iPhone.

Yeah, I know, it's a piss poor excuse, but, Thomas, I do appreciate your calling me out on the oversight. I should have stated that the Don't Pass wager is opposite in that it loses if the come-out roll is 7 or 11 and wins if the come-out roll is 2 or 3. A 12 "draws" (in some casinos a 12 will win and a 2 will draw); but either way, a player "draws" and cannot lose if a 12 is rolled.

On the layout, for those inclined to check out the Don't Pass wager which has a measly house edge of 1.402%, you will note the words Don't Come or Don't Pass "BAR," along with the appropriate dice symbol of two or 12. This means "Standoff" which ensures that the casino maintains their slight casino advantage.

Dear Mark: I saw an unusual turn of events at the Motor City Casino (Detroit) last night. A gent was playing the single line poker video game, \$1 to \$5 play, and hit four deuces. The "Call Attendant" prompt came up. While waiting, he moved to



Mark Pilarski

the next machine and hit four Aces. "Call Attendant" came up. He moved to the next machine and hit four deuces. He had three machines with the "Call Attendant" lined up. Not sure how much he made, but I don't think I have ever seen anything like that. Pretty cool. Thought you would have an interest.

Tom K.

It's kind of fun. Tom, when the impossible happens, and yet, anything is possible no matter how long the odds are. Using proper basic strategy, you should hit four deuces approximately once every 5,000 hands. But three? That's more than cool.

Try the improbable odds of hitting three consecutive \$4000 royal flushes on three separate machines. This event happened on Sep 5, 1993, at Scolari's Food and Drug on Lakeside Court in Reno. The Nevada Gaming Control Board closed the machines for an inspection, but found no evidence of tampering. Oh, and the odds of hitting three royals in a row are 32.8 trillion to one.

Not as long odds, but as a pit boss I witnessed on a double-zero roulette table the number 25 coming up four consecutive times. No biggie, what's 2,085,136 to one?

Gambling Wisdom of the Week: "I have no control when I'm betting on a game. I'm like a prisoner trapped in front of the TV."

~Stu Unger, One OF A Kind

Got a question about gambling? Write to: Deal Me In, P.O. Box 1234, Traverse City, Michigan 49685 -e-mail: 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.

Gilbert Matchinske

Gilbert Albert Matchinske, 78, of Engadine, passed away Friday morning, December 4, 2009, at his home. He was ill with lung cancer for many years.

Born May 27, 1931, in Chicago, he was the son of Charles and Anna (nee Fillman) Matchinski.

Mr. Matchinske was an eight-year veteran of the United States Navy, serving during the Korean War until his honorable discharge in 1959. He was employed as a truck driver for several years until his retirement. He loved to travel and was a member of VFW Post 8372 in Engadine.

He married Rose Matchinske Collins in August 1950. He later married Doreen Patzer.

He is survived by his children and their families, Janice and Richard Winnick of Ann Arbor and Pamela and Gary Laning of Schoolcraft; a daughter-in-law, Jeanne Matchinske of Charleston, North Carolina; six grandchildren and their families, Dawn Matchinske, Amie and Jeffrey Branch, Deanna and Jeremy Loebeck,

Christopher and Cary Hatch, Bradley and Sarah Laning, Ethan Laning; six great-grandchildren, Michael Matchinske, Elizabeth Branch, Alyson Loebeck, Vern Loebeck, Maddison Laning, and Cole Loebeck; a brother, Robert, of Engadine; a sister-in-law, Elizabeth Matchinske of Engadine; a brother-in-law, Ronald Belka of Florida, and a special friend, Rose Biber.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Matchinske was preceded in death by his wife, Doreen; a son, Lester, and three brothers, Alfred, Lester, and Melvin.

Services will be Saturday, December 12, at 1 p.m. at Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry with Pastor Arthur Bode of Bethlehem Lutheran Church officiating. Burial with military honors will take place in the spring at Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Doreen Patzer Scholarship Fund in care of the Tahquamenon Area Credit Union, N6747 M-117, Engadine, Michigan 49827.

Raymond Cruickshank

Raymond James Cruickshank, 85, of Cedarville, died Saturday, December 5, 2009, at Mackinac Straits Hospital Long Term Care in St. Ignace.

He was born October 7, 1924, on Lime Island, to William Wesley Cruickshank and Frances Louise (nee Cheer) Cruickshank.

Mr. Cruickshank was one year old when his parents moved off the island to a farm in Stalwart. He attended Tripp School in Stalwart and then Pickford Schools.

He worked on the farm and in the woods until he enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1944. In the Navy, he assisted in hauling supplies for the construction of B-29 runways. He was stationed on the Island of Tinian in the Pacific. Following the war, he returned home and worked in construction for a time until he began working at the Cedarville limestone quarry May 30, 1953.

At the quarry, he met Dorothy Gustafson. They were married June 4, 1955, in Pickford. They resided in Cedarville, where their family grew up. Mr. Cruickshank retired from the quarry in 1986.

A quiet man, Mr. Cruickshank loved hunting, fishing, and spending time with his children and grandchildren, friends said. He was a Boy Scouts leader and a good story teller. After they retired, Mr. and Mrs. Cruickshank had a winter

place in Florida that they enjoyed for 15 years.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; two daughters, Marcie Mae Shiels of Alanson and Joyce Louise Cruickshank of Cedarville; and one son and his family, Bruce Raymond and Tammy Cruickshank of Cedarville. Also surviving are one grandson, Nickolas "Buddy-Lee" Shiels; and two granddaughters, Coryell Marie Cruickshank and Courtney Caro Cruickshank. He also is survived by his sister, Helen Portice of Pickford, and two sisters-in-law, Mary Cruickshank of Suttons Bay, formerly of Pickford, and Elizabeth Pomarius of Cedarville.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son in law, Mike Shiels; three brothers, William, Samuel, and Marshall Cruickshank; a sister, Elizabeth Pollard; a brother-in-law, Thomas Portice Jr., and his father- and mother-in-law, Leonard "Leo" and Mae Gustafson.

Services were Tuesday, December 8, at Reamer Galer Funeral Home in Pickford. Visitation was from noon to 2 p.m. with the service at 2 p.m. Jason McNally, Matt Jensen, and Brad Wilson conducted the service.

Burial will be in Cedar Cemetery in Cedarville in the spring.

Island State Park Commission Will Meet December 16

The Mackinac Island State Park Commission will meet Wednesday, December 16, at 1:30 p.m. in room 103 in the Kellogg Center on the Michigan State University campus in East Lansing.

The commission is expected to consider imposing a bicycle license fee on the Island's 12 commercial bicycle rental businesses. The fee, say commissioners, would help offset costs to maintain park trails, roads, and other facilities

and equipment used by cyclists.

A subcommittee established during the board's September meeting is expected to recommend the new fee. The committee also has been reviewing all of the park's fees and is expected to report its findings during the meeting. Commissioners appointed to the committee are Richard Manogian, Dennis Cawthorne, and Laurie Stupak.

St. Ignace City Council Minutes

Council Proceedings (Unofficial)

The regular meeting of the St. Ignace City Council was held on Monday, November 30, 2009 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Mayor Grondin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Wyse gave the invocation.

Present: Councilmembers Clapperton, Della-Moretta, Fullerton, Mayor Pro-Tem Gustafson, Councilmembers LaLonde, Wyse, Mayor Grondin.

Absent: None.

Staff Present: Eric Dodson, City Manager; Renee' Vonderwerth, City Clerk; Gene Elmer, Assessor/Treasurer; Les Therrian, Superintendent of Public Works; Deb Evashevski, DDA Director; Cindy Patten, Librarian.

1. 2010 BUDGET WORK SESSION:

City Manager Dodson presented a draft of the preliminary 2010 Budget to Council for their review and input.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Mayor Paul Grondin
Renee' Vonderwerth, City Clerk

DNR Citizen Advisory Council Set To Meet December 10

The Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizen Advisory Council for the Department of Natural Resources will meet Thursday, December 10, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Luce Mackinac Alger Schoolcraft District Health Department building at 14150 Hamilton Lake Road in Newberry.

Items to be discussed will include a forestry coalition update; deer management plan update; March two-week walleye season update; presentation on the upcoming merger of the DNR and Department of Environmental Quality; deer management assis-

tance permits, and the 2009 deer season.

The councils were formed to give Upper Peninsula citizens more input into DNR regional programs and activities. The councils, in both the eastern U.P. and western U.P., represent a variety of outdoor recreation interests and help the DNR identify ways to be more effective across the region.

Meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact DNR Upper Peninsula Field Deputy Stacy Welling at (906) 228-6561.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS City of St. Ignace

The City of St. Ignace is seeking a contractor to provide residential garbage pick-up within the city limits. The proposal should include the following:

1. Residential pick-up of three (3) cans weekly
2. Residential pick-up of one (1) can weekly
3. Recycling twice monthly
4. Bulk item pick-up annually
5. Availability of a transfer station - a minimum of two days/week
6. Free dumpsters during special events

Proposals are due no later than December 21, 2009 by 5:00 p.m.

Please send proposal to:
City of St. Ignace
c/o Eric Dodson, City Manager
396 North State Street
St. Ignace, MI 49781

Please contact Eric Dodson with any questions at (906) 643-9671.

EXHIBIT "A" NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING To Establish a Regular Election Date

Please take notice that pursuant to the provisions of the Consolidated Election Law, as amended, the Board of Education of Engadine Consolidated Schools, Mackinac County, State of Michigan, will conduct a public hearing on the establishment of a new regular election date pursuant to law.

The dates authorized by current law for school regular elections are:

- (a) The November general election date (even years).
- (b) The November general election date (odd years).
- (c) The November general election date in both odd and even years.
- (d) The May regular election date in both even and odd years.
- (e) The odd year May regular election date.

The Board will discuss and consider option (a) above for regular school election dates at the public hearing.

Establishment of a new regular election date will result in the term of office of current school board members being extended to fit the new election cycle.

The hearing will be held in the Home Economics Room in the district at 7 o'clock in the p.m. on the 16th day of December, 2009.

If the Board of Education fails to approve the tentative election date or any other date authorized by law, the regular election will continue to be held at the May general election annually, continuing with May 2010.

The Board of Education is authorized by law to adopt a resolution setting the regular election date immediately subsequent to the public hearing.

Secretary Board of Education

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