**BIG TURKEY PLAYS**

Playing the 6 on Jake's 7 lead gives Jake a chance at a free run of three with a retaliatory 5. Playing a 9 on the 7 gives Jake no better than a trade of points if he scores with another 9 for a pair (your 6 follows for "31"). If Jake decides to form a run of three with an 8, your 6 follows for a run of four and a probable "go" and a profit of two points.

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Leading the lone 4 is a gross mistake. It covers only Jake's 2, 3, 5, 8 and 9. The correct lead is the 3. It covers the ace, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, jack, queen, and king.

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Oops! If Jake pairs the 8 lead you cannot recoup your two points. Lead the 7 and if Jake pairs it, your ace recovers the two points with a "15-2."

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Unless you are playing desperation defense, this is a big turkey play. You have let a possible 5-trap escape. By leading one of your 6's, you may pick up an easy "31 for 5" (6-5-5-4 pegging sequence). The 4 lead will probably draw a "10" card, and you come with a single "go" at best.
Again, the 9 lead is not backed by a retaliatory card. Play the 10 and the odds are you'll trade points. Your third card should then be the 9, not the jack (if Jake played a 5 on the 10 lead).

Leading a lone 9 to a lone 6 is a no-no. If Jake plays a 6 for "15-2" and you retaliate with your 5 for "21," the possibility exists of Jake having a third 6 for pairs royal. Lead the lone 6 to the lone 9.

Pairing Jake's queen instead of playing a 5 for "15-2" could cost you a bundle of peg points. If Jake has a 5 and paired your first 5, the chances are excellent for your scoring pairs royal and a following "31" with the 6.

Leading the 2 is a turkey play for two reasons. First, the play is not covered in the event Jake pairs it, and second, the 2 will not entice a 9 as readily as the 4. The 4 is the correct lead. The 4 is backed by the 7 if Jake pairs it. If Jake responds with the logical 9, your 2 scores a "15-2." However, if Jake is playing desperation defense (end-game pegging, etc.), the 2 is a good lead.