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### CARD GAME HITS BIG TIME

Mason resident Dwight Porter has launched a new card game called LoYo! that the Chicago Tribune hailed as one of the 10 coolest new board games of 2009. **Story, B2**

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## Success in the cards for Mason man's game



Photos by Ernest Coleman/The Enquirer

**Dwight Porter** (from left) plays LoYo! with his wife, Marla, and daughters Asia, 8, and Alexis, 12, at their Mason home. The game, which Dwight Porter invented, got a good review from the Chicago Tribune.

### LoYo! taking off after making newspaper's top 10 list

By **Carrie Whitaker**  
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Dwight Porter "had to be peeled off the ceiling" of his Mason home after he received a phone call from the Chicago Tribune informing him that his new game, LoYo!, had been chosen as one of the 10 coolest new board games on the market.

The "quick-playing game combines the best of poker, Concentration and Uno," said the Tribune's "gadget adviser," Eric Gwinn.

Porter began futzing around with the pet project in the early '90s, and finally launched LoYo! at the Chicago Toy and Game Fair in November.

"I couldn't believe the notoriety I got two weeks later," Porter said, about the attention he's received since the Tribune shout-out.

And just this week, he got a call from a company about working out a licensing deal. He declined to name the company.

"That's the ultimate level you want to get to ... it allows me to receive royalties and they do the distribution," Porter said.

Porter and his wife, Marla, are board and card game lovers. When he was younger, Porter would pack his apartment full of friends on the weekends to play games ranging from Monopoly to the rummy card game Tonk.

Now, game night is a family affair with his wife and two children, Porter said.

LoYo! is a game of strategy, memorization, risk and luck, played with a deck of cards, score sheets and a die. There are three versions of the game played with the same deck.

Right now, the game can be purchased on Amazon.com and at the game's Web site, [www.loyogame.com](http://www.loyogame.com). The introductory price is \$12.99.

"A 7-year-old can beat an adult," Porter said. "No one was at an advantage in the game, you do need that skill set to improve your odds of winning. And I like the variability of the game - you can play for an hour, or 15 minutes."

Bloggers ate up the review by the Chicago Tribune, and Porter is starting to get orders from all over the country, he said.



**Dwight Porter** says he's been in contact with a company about licensing the card game he invented, LoYo! For now, it's available at [www.loyogame.com](http://www.loyogame.com).



**LoYo!**, a game of strategy, memorization, risk and luck, is played with cards, score sheets and a die.