Richman game is still the best

The Baseball Today 1989 annual magazine, published last month, features a two-page story on the baseball board game Strat-omatic, which was created by Harold Richman, who is married to the former Sheila Mednitsky of Hazleton.

Sheila is a daughter of Mrs. Esther Mednitsky and the late Sam Mednitsky of Hazleton.

Richman and the game were the subject of a feature story published in the Standard-Speaker sometime ago.

Richman created the basics of the game 29 years ago, but he has stayed far ahead of the competition by fine-tuning it each year.

Virtually everything a baseball player or manager can do is covered in the game cards that

are used by the players.

Ballpark peculiarities, clutch hitting, detailed platoon factors for hitters and pitchers, fielding ratings and base-stealing ratings are all taken into consideration.

His most important fine-tuning occurred when he split every Strat-o-matic player card into two distinct cards, one for left-handed pitching foes and other for right-handers.

Richman also insists that each new enhancement be optional and no more cumbersome to use. In 1986, he added a computerized version of the game.

Richman and his staff are always thinking ahead and their changes have made the game one of the most popular of all board games in America.