

STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW

Devoted exclusively to the Strat-O-Matic Game fan. The Review is printed with the consent of the Strat-O-Matic Game Company

* VOL. 21, MARCH, 1991 *
*

Kreuz TBA's World Champion

Longtime dream fulfilled, he'll retire from tourney gaming

For the second time in the last three years, John Kreuz has won the World Tournament, the officially sanctioned world championship of Strat-O-Matic Baseball.

The 'World,' Strat-O baseball's most prestigious event, was held the weekend of Jan. 16-20 at the Radisson Suite Hotel in Glenview, IL, just outside of Chicago, near O'Hare Airport.

Kreuz became the first person ever to win two S-O-M world championships and along the way also won the Tournament of Champions for the third consecutive year.

"The T of C," said Kreuz, "is without a doubt the most difficult tournament of the year."

Only 12 players met the stringent qualification requirements of playing in at least four tournaments and winning at least one of them.

Ten of the 12 attended, with Kreuz's 20-7 record besting Stan Suderman of Buena Park, CA, by one game.

"The T of C was the toughest draft of the year," continued Kreuz, "because everyone knew

what they were doing. I drafted second and got, much to my surprise, Kevin Mitchell, who anchored a batting order that included: Daniels, Alomar, Bonilla, Mitchell, Sierra, Buhner, O'Brien and Jeltz.

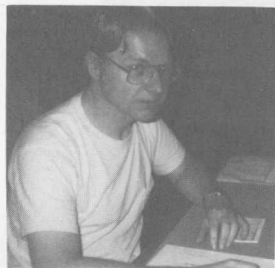
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1986 WORLD CHAMP BILL MEINHARDT
SHOWN WITH '91 KING JOHN KREUZ

"In a pitchers' park, O'Brien batted sixth and Walton seventh. In retrospect I have to say getting Mitchell was the single most important factor in winning the title. He dented the opposition's many pitching choices."

On Friday, Jan. 18, the rest of the field arrived for the draft that evening. At the end of Saturday's play, six managers had advanced to Sunday's final round, including Kreuz, who had again won his group with a tournament-best 15-3 record.



Stan Suderman

"Winning both my T of C group and the world's group gave me the option of taking either team into Sunday's 20-game final round," said Kreuz. "Although my World's first round pick Barry Larkin was a fine player, nobody in the '90 tournaments was as dominating as Mitchell. So I took my T of C team into Sunday."

Hitting 10 homers on Sunday, Mitchell was the difference as Kreuz wrapped up the title with a 13-7 record. His 48-17 record and .738 winning percentage over the entire five days were both records.

Stan Suderman was Kreuz's closest pursuer, finishing second in the T of C, second overall (40-25, .615) and second in the World with an 11-2 mark. Said Kreuz: "Stan and I had many memorable games this year. He is certainly the early favorite to win next year's Worlds because he is the best hitters-park manager in the country and never has a bad tournament."

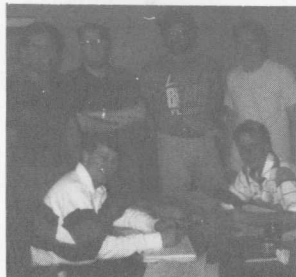
Rounding out the finalists were 3. Hank "5 Homers" Smith, Torrance, CA; 4. Craig Schneider, Metairie, LA; 5. Dave Johnson, Naperville, IL; 6. Rick Kuchma, Hamilton, Ontario.

Kreuz also announced that "winning the World again, decisively, is the high point in my S-O-M career and I'm going to keep a promise I made to my family and friends: I'm retiring as tournament player; however, I'm definitely not fading away."

"I'll be able to devote all my Strat-O efforts into making the tournaments grow and to continue to advise S-O-M on rules development."

Most of the rules you will be seeing in '91 have already been play-tested in the tournaments, including the new balk/wild pitch/passed ball rule and modifications to the cutoff rule."

Beginning next month Kreuz will be contributing a monthly column to the Review dealing with the TBA and playing tips.



Final six of World Tournament, from left (standing), Hank Smith, Kreuz, Rick Kuchma, Stan Suderman; (front), Craig Schneider, Dave Johnson

INDICATE SIZE OF DISK!

The Strat-O-Matic Game Company reminds gamers ordering the new Version II Computer Baseball disk to be sure and indicate which size is needed: 5 1/4 or 3 1/2.

Review celebrates 20th birthday

March, 1971 was birth date of S-O-M newsletter

It's birthday time for the Strat-O-Matic Review!

Twenty years ago, March, 1971, the birth pangs of the Review were first heard. Now, 240 issues and approximately 4,730 pages later, the Review is still trying to give its readers a hot line to the Strat-O-Matic Game Company and the thousands of S-O-M gamers world-wide.

That first edition of the Review was only 16 pages and it contained nary an ad for formation of a play-by-league. The Review quickly became a 24-page publication...and it wasn't long before the first league-forming ads saw print.

Of the original threesome that founded the Review, only Del Newell, a sports writer in Kalamazoo, MI, is still with the publication. Del's brother, Warren, a middle school band director at nearby Otsego, MI, and his wife Karen joined up in the late 1970s and have handled the subscription and mailing ends of the Review ever since.

Del handles all the editorial work. All the pages he's processed, or developed stories for, would probably be longer than the novels "War and Peace" and "Gone With the Wind" combined.

The Review has tried to keep a lid on costs, both its own and to readers and advertisers. That hasn't been easy. Check printing costs sometime and you will understand what we're saying.

Putting out the Review has always been a hobby -- a sometimes time-consuming one, particularly at deadline time -- and a labor of love. A profit is made, albeit a small one. Both Warren and Del have full-time jobs and both have/are raising families.

Twenty more years?

S-O-M has modified optional rules

Strat-O-Matic has revised and fine-tuned some of the Super-Advanced game playing options that were presented last year.

While most of the rules are clarified or remain the same, one major change has been made -- in the individual balks, wild pitches and passed balls option.

Here is how it will work:

INDIVIDUAL BALKS, WILD PITCHES AND PASSED BALLS

"These rules replace all prior versions of the balk, wild pitch and passed ball rules. The rules have been fully tested and can be considered official, but optional rules. You may use these rules with either a 20-sided die or with a split-deck. If you use a split-deck, then the rule is a two-step process. First you must select the split-card and then roll the die.

Each pitcher is rated individually for balks and wild pitches. Each catcher has a passed ball rating. In order to utilize these super-advanced ratings you should follow these rules:

Rolling Dice During Game

Whenever there is at least one runner on base you should use the following rule: When rolling the three dice to read the results off of the players cards (or when using the hit-and-run chart) you should roll a 20-sided along with the three dice. If a 3 to 20 is rolled, continue on the normal reading of the three dice (if a split reading occurs you MUST re-roll the 20-sided die). If a 1 or 2 is rolled, then the normal (continued on next page)

reading of the other dice is cancelled and a wild pitch, balk or passed ball may occur.

A roll of 1 on the 20-sided die indicates that a wild pitch may occur. Roll the 20-sided die again and refer to the pitcher's wild pitch rating. If the number rolled is less than or equal to the pitcher's wild-pitch rating, then a wild pitch occurs and all baserunners advance 1 base.

A roll of 2 on the 20-sided die indicates that either a balk or a passed ball may occur. Refer to the single white die and if it reads 1 to 3 a balk may occur. If it reads 4 to 6 a passed ball may occur. In either case roll the 20-sided die again and refer to the appropriate rating (the pitcher's balk rating or the catcher's passed ball rating). If the number rolled is less than or equal to the appropriate rating then a balk or passed ball has occurred and all base runners advance 1 base.

Note that if you get the initial roll of a 1 or 2 on the 20-sided die and a wild pitch, balk or passed ball does not occur, you must re-roll the 3 dice (not including the 20-sided die) and refer to the player cards in the normal manner. If a wild pitch, balk or passed ball occurs you must re-roll all 4 dice (or 3 dice if the bases are empty) and continue with the game.

Rolling Dice For Supplementary System

In the supplementary steal system when rolling for a lead you should roll a 20-sided die along with the 2 red dice. If a 3 to 20 is rolled on the 20-sided die then continue on with the normal supplementary steal procedure (if a steal attempt occurs, you must re-roll the 20-sided die). If a 1 or 2 is rolled then the pitcher has attempted a pickoff throw and the base runner dives back to the base.

A roll of 1 on the 20-sided die indicates the baserunner attempting the lead may be picked off. Refer to baserunner's second steal rating number in parenthesis and roll the 20-sided die again. If the number rolled is less than or equal to the second steal rating the baserunner dives back safely (the steal attempt is cancelled and the runner may not attempt to get the lead again while still on this base). If the number is greater than the second steal rating then this baserunner is picked off.

A roll of 2 on the 20-sided die indicates a possible balk. Roll the 20-sided die again and refer to the pitcher's balk rating. If the number rolled is less than or equal to the balk rating then a balk has occurred and all baserunners advance 1 base. If the number rolled is higher than the pitcher's balk rating then the baserunner dives back safely (the steal attempt is cancelled and the runner may not attempt to get the lead again while still on this base).

Fielding Chart Adjustments

When a reading of "P/P" or "P/F" is generated from the Symbols Chart you should use the following procedure to determine if a passed ball occurs:

* Refer to the pitcher's WP rating from the roster sheet. Select a split card and if the split card is less than or equal to the pitcher's WP rating then a passed ball has occurred. If the split card number is greater than the pitcher's WP rating then a passed ball has not occurred.

Optional Playing Tip For Use With 20-Sided Die

If you choose to use the individual balk, wild pitch and passed
(continued on page 23)

Deadline for entries: May 10

Review's MVP Contest begins...on time

The Review's annual Most Valuable Player Contest is out of the starting gate on time this year.

Unlike a year ago, when the Review, because of jam-packed ratings issues and advancing age (forgetfulness mainly), didn't have the MVP Contest ballot in until the June issue, the ballot is ready to go.

Before explaining the ground rules for sending in entries, let's mention again that Steve Feldheim of Brooklyn, NY, won last year's MVP Contest and will soon receive a set of the new Strat-O-Matic cards, compliments of the Review.

Feldheim, you will recall, was the only subscriber to pick both Rickey Henderson and Barry Bonds as MVPs. No tiebreaker was needed.

Now for this year's contest.

Again, you have to be a subscriber to the Review. And only one entry per subscriber is allowed. What you do is list your choices for MVPs in both American and National Leagues.

Also jot down your choices to win the four divisions and the percentages of the winners. This is one of the tiebreaker methods.

20TH MVP CONTEST

This will be the 20th MVP Contest sponsored by the Review and over the years 19 different gamers -- Terry Ringen of Beattie, KS, won it back-to-back years, 1977-78 -- have won a set of the new cards. In 1987 and 1976, two gamers won contest honors and each received a set of the cards.

Entry deadline this year will be May 10. All entries must be postmarked no later than May 10 to be considered. The only cost to subscribers is a stamp to mail off the ballot.

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER BALLOT

Most Valuable Player

American League _____

National League _____

Division Winners & Percentages:

American League East _____ % _____

American League West _____ % _____

National League East _____ % _____

National League West _____ % _____

Print Clearly:

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Send to: Strat-O-Matic Review
P.O. Box 27
Otsego, MI 49078

Edell completes list of baseball card corrections from '50-88 seasons

By STEVEN EDELL, Jerusalem, Israel

Editor's note: Steven Edell's letter, listing the corrections on the Strat-O-Matic Baseball cards, was sent to the Review six weeks before war broke out in the Persian Gulf.

The attached list is in response to a reader's letter who asked for card corrections. This list is accurate up to the 1988 season.

Most of the corrections -- especially the "numbers missing on basic side" correction -- occurred on just a few of the cards that were sent out. All corrections mentioned in the Review are listed here anyway.

The date in parentheses next to the correction is the date of the Review that the correction appeared.

1950

- * Johnny Hopp, on roster sheet should have been listed finishing the season with New York Yankees. (8/87)
- * Mickey Haefner, on roster sheet should have been listed finishing season with Boston Braves (National League). (8/87)

1956

- * Jim Pyburn should have 2-11 SINGLLE on basic side, and not 2-11 Flyball Rf(x). (3/82)
- * Bill White's advanced positions and ratings should be: 1b-2 e18, Lf-4 (+2) e16, Rf-4 e16. (3/82)

1962

- * Pitcher's hitting rating in 1962-1963 was a "2." (11/83)
- * Tommy Aaron should be rated a '3' in left field. (10/81)
- * Frank Bolling is a 2b-2, stealing "D" and running 1-16. (2/83)
- * Billy O'Dell should have an (*) on the roster sheet. (11/83)

1963

- * Norm Siebern should be a 1b-3, Lf-4. (12/81)

1967

- * Bob Allison's card reading, at 3-12, is "walk." (4/81)

1969

- * Bobby Wine and John Bateman have numbers missing on the basic side. (4/85)
- * Bert Blyleven should have an (*) on the roster sheet. (4/85)
- * Ken Harrelson's fielding rating should be: Rf-4 (-1) e5, 1b-3 e10. (4/85)

1970

- * Johnny Bench should not have a rating at 2b, as the original card set lists. (9/87)

1971

- * Wilbur Wood needs just two games rest between starts. (12/86)

1972

- * George Hendrick, advanced side, should have power rating of 'N.' (12/81)
- * Wilbur Wood needs just two games rest between starts. (12/86)

(continued on next page)

1973

- * Wilbur Wood needs just two games rest between starts. (12/86)

1979

- * Dennis and Tippy Martinez's flip sides were reversed. (3/80)
- * Johnny LeMaster is ss-3 e34. Ignore 2b-4 e0 rating. (6/80)
- * Keith Hernandez' batting stance was cut off. He bats left. (7/80)
- * All pitchers from 1979 onwards are rated '2' (although have individual 'e' ratings) and the catcher's chart was changed so there would be no more gbC and passed ball (or wild pitch) situations, which allowed a runner to score from 2b on one play.

1980

- * Dan and Dave Ford's flip sides were reversed. (4/81)
- * Cliff Johnson's Cleveland card had, on flip side, his stats from Chicago Cubs, and Johnson's Cubs' card had on flip side his stats from Cleveland. (7/81)
- * Luis Pujols' "T" rating was 1-3. (12/83)

1981

- * Joe Rudi, basic side, 2-11, add "plus injury." (4/82)

1982

- * Wayne Krenchicki's fielding rating should be 2b-4 e20, not a '3.'
- * Dennis Walling, advanced side versus righties, 2-11 should be "gb (2b) B+." (10/83)

1984

- * Kirk Gibson, Ruppert Jones, Bruce Hurst and Al Nipper all had numbers missing on the basic side. (4/85)
- * Julio Solano has part of the 6-column, vs. right-handed batters, missing. (4/85)
- * Steve Henderson should be an "e16" and not an "e22." (4/85)
- * Dave Engle had numbers missing on the advanced side. (4/85)
- * Dennis Eckersley should have an (*) on the roster sheet. (4/85)

1985

- * Alfredo Griffin's card, basic side, should not have "plus injury" at 1-12. (6/86)
- * Gary Carter should have "---" under out stealing instead of "0." (3/86)
- * Terry Francona's supplementary stealing rating should be: * 5-5 2-6, 8 / 7 (15-7). In other words, he has an asterisk, stole 5 bases and was caught stealing 5 times. He gets a good lead on 2-6 and 8, but is pickd off on 7. His rating is (15-7). (3/86)

1986

- * Barry Bond's defensive rating was "Cf-2 (+1) e8." (4/87)

1987

- * Jose Lind should be a "2" at 2b and not a "4." (2/88)

Edell was also going over the cards for the last two years for other possible corrections. "There won't be too many corrections, however," says Edell, "as two years ago is when S-O-M changed over to printing the cards on a sheet, which cut down drastically on corrections."

USHL has coast-to-coast lineup

Fun, friendship form foundation of popular hockey league

It's called the United States Hockey League. But, judging by its coaching lineup, it could just as appropriately be called the Coast to Coast Hockey League.

The USHL has coaches from California to New York, to Florida and throughout the midwest.

The USHL also has energetic leadership, as personified by league founder and commissioner Paul Obermayer, a 31-year-old insurance and investment representative who calls Crystal Lake, IL, home.

"The USHL is like a family," says Obermayer. "When a member has a need, we do everything possible to help out. The league was founded on the principles of sportsmanship, fun and friendship."

Formed in 1989, the USHL is a 14-team play-by-mail league that plays an 80-game schedule, uses super-advanced rules and has coaches who come from all walks of life. There is even a waiting list of back-up coaches, according to Obermayer.

AGES RANGE FROM 26-38

Ages of the USHL's coaches range from 26 to 38 and occupations include a law professor, high school basketball coach, loan officer, attorney, air traffic controller, tax auditor...and about everything except a butcher, baker and candlestick maker.

Although the USHL uses super-advanced rules, it still tries to keep Strat-O-Matic Hockey "pure" by keeping outside rule additions to a minimum.

"Faulty as it may be," says Obermayer, "the USHL uses Strat-O-Matic's penalty system. Four forward lines and three defensive sets are the norm, with rosters of 30 players."

Okay, now let's take a look at the USHL coaches and their teams:

Paul Obermayer - 31, Crystal Lake, IL, insurance and investment representative...Crystal Lake Kodiaks...High-powered offense is his style...Offense features Pat LaFontaine, Pierre Turgeon, Joe Sakic and Stephane Richer.

Mike Henrion - 27, Florissant, MO, security guard...Florissant Fever...Features the "John Squad" -- John MacLean and Jon Casey.

Bob Sanks - 32, Harwood Heights, IL, loan officer...Chicago Loop...Rebuilding team around Jeremy Roenick.

George Murphy - 34, Fontana, CA, IRS tax auditor...Fontana Comets...Patrick Roy and Ed Belfour anchor a team known for solid defense.

Barry Shanks - 38, Riverside, IL, Law professor...Illinois Lancers...Kevin Dineen, Dale Hunter and Kevin Hatcher are heart of this team known for its bruising style.

Tom Lyne - 28, Cambridge, OH, high school basketball coach...Cambridge Trojans...Has balanced team, with lineup including Tomas Sandstron, Esa Tikkanen, Gary Leeman and Gerard Gallant.

Jeff Merklin - 30, Marysville, OH, attorney...Columbus Owls...Scott Young, Pat Verbeek and Stephan Lebeau are building blocks for a young team.

Anthony Cinque - 28, Glen Oaks, NY, sales...Glen Oaks Titans...Defending league champ...Roster features Wayne Gretzky, Al MacInnis and Darren Turcotte.

Dave Mulvaney - 32, Pittsburgh, PA, investment and trust banker...Daytona Vipers...Injuries plagued team, although it did have do-it-all performer Steve Yzerman.

Dan Mulvaney - 28, Bakerstown, PA, loan administrator...Bar Harbor Hawks...Had awesome No. 1 line of Dave Andreychuk, Joe Nieuwendyk and Cam Neely, plus goaltending duo of Mike Richter and John VanBiesbrouck.

(continued next page)

Don Buehler - 26, Pittsburgh, PA, accountant...Pittsburgh Pioneers ...Tries to draft Penguin players and has real-life "Option Line" of Kevin Stevens, John Cullen and Mark Recchi.

Frank Simonutti - 26, Anderson, SC, research chemist...New Jersey Avengers...Has best one-two scoring punch in league: Mario Lemieux and Brett Hull.

Tom Roscoe - 30, Bronx, NY, air traffic controller...New York Outlaws...Has Chicago connection of Steve Larmer, Dave Manson and ex-Hawk Denis Savard.

Tom Cotter - 28, Coconut Grove, FL, attorney...North Coast Navigators...Rich Tocchet, Mark Messier and Luc Robitaille are mainstays of a team built for speed.

USHL 1989-90 STANDINGS

West	Won	Lost	Ties	Pts.	Points
Florissant	42	27	11	95	Yzerman DA 168
Fontana	43	28	9	95	Lemieux NJ 163
Dullah	40	22	9	89	LaFontaine CL 116
Chicago	33	38	7	73	Gretzky GO 113
Seattle	31	36	6	68	Muller NJ 108
Crystal Lake	30	42	7	67	
Denver	22	47	5	49	
					Goals
					Lemieux NJ 99
					Yzerman DA 96
					Nieuwendyk BH 67
					Olczyk CL 61
					Granato CH 56
					Gagner FL 6
					SH Goals
					Lemieux NJ 36
					Graham FO 14
					Yzerman DA 11
					Olczyk CL 6
East	Won	Lost	Ties	Pts.	
Glen Oaks	42	23	8	92	
Daytona	41	34	4	86	
New Jersey	36	35	6	78	
Brooklyn	35	32	6	76	
Bar Harbor	29	33	16	74	
North Coast	32	28	6	70	
Pittsburgh	20	51	9	49	
					Assists
					Coffey PT 89
					Muller NJ 84
					Linseman FL 76
					Kurvers BH 75
					Wilson CH 74
					PP Goals
					Yzerman DA 33
					MacLean FL 20
					Nieuwendyk BH 19
					Lemieux NJ 17
					LaFontaine CL 17
Goaltending	W	L	T	GAA	Save%
Roy FO	26	26	5	2.52	.907
Takko DA	11	7	2	2.93	.899
Vernon DU	25	11	7	3.16	.889
Hayward NC	16	12	3	3.27	.888
V'Biesbrouck (BH)	21	19	12	3.33	.884
					Power Play
					Best - Florissant (101-283), 35.7%
					Worst - Fontana (41-243), 16.9%

Strat-O-Matic spotlight

A 'LOCKED UP' REPLAY

Most gamers, particularly those with jobs and family responsibilities, aren't able to pursue their favorite hobby as much as they would like.

Play-by-mail and league play in general are the most popular forms of gaming, with solitaire replays running far behind when it comes to Strat-O-Matic pursuits.

Time is not a problem, however, for Kevin Cavanaugh and Ron Caravalha, both of whom are incarcerated at Massachusetts Correctional Institution, a medium security prison in Norfolk, MA.

Cavanaugh, who says he's been playing S-O-M for over a year now, and Caravalha, who's been playing ever since he was an adolescent, played a World Series between two Mets' teams -- the 1969 Miracle Mets (continued on next page)

and the 1986 champs. Super-advanced features were used as much as possible.

An injury to Tommie Agee, causing him to miss part of game two and all of games three and four, may have been the difference in the outcome. The 1986 Mets, behind the hitting of MVP Wally Backman (.421, seven RBI and two game-winning RBI) and pitching of Ron Darling (2-0, 3.18 ERA) won in five games.

Darryl Strawberry only batted .167 (3-18), but all three of his hits were home runs, one of which occurred in the 12th inning and won the opening game. Agee got to the plate 14 times and batted .500 for the '69 Mets.

Three of the games went extra innings and the only victory by the '69 Mets was in game four (5-4) when Ed Charles and Donn Clendenon homered in the bottom of the 10th to set up Jerry Grote's game-winning single in the 11th.

THE UGLY, THE GOOD AND THE BETTER

Ken Dixon isn't the kind of pitcher most gamers would ever think could hurl a no-hitter. He is the kind of pitcher, however, whom gamers feel could give up home runs in bunches.

Well, he did them both, plus struck out 17 batters in another game all in a solitaire/face-to-face replay of the 1986 season conducted by George and William Tempt of Lantana, FL.

Dixon, pitching for Baltimore against Minnesota, served up three consecutive home runs in the third inning. He gave up a fourth to Greg Gagne in the same inning and later was touched for a fifth by Roy Smalley. Dixon persevered, however, and won the game, 8-6.

In Dixon's next start, against Seattle in the Kingdome, Dixon mowed down 17 Mariners via strikeouts and won 1-0. And then, in his third start, Dixon pitched a no-hitter against Oakland, striking out three and walking two.

The no-hitter was helped by Oakland's park effects as the A's had five ballpark singles and two ballpark home run chances -- none of which came close to breaking up the no-hit bid.

SHORT SHAKES

Denny McLain pitched a no-hitter for Detroit in a 1968 game matching the Tigers and Chicago. McLain struck out eight and didn't walk a batter. His only problems came in the third inning when errors by Dick Tracewski and Don Wert put runners on the corners with only one out. McLain worked out of that jam and went on to a 3-0 victory. It was the first no-hitter in 18 years of gaming for Chuck Osmak, FPO San Francisco, CA... Taking Kevin Mitchell as the first pick in the Steel Valley S-O-M Association's draft was the best move that Dean Collins could have made. Mitchell was truly a man of steel, bashing 15 homers and driving in 42 runs, leading his team to a 31-11 record and victory in the playoffs. Nick Donato was runner-up for the fourth straight year in a four-team league that has managers from Munhall and West Homestead PA... While mentioning the Steel Valley Association, it should also be mentioned that Shawon Dunston didn't make an error in 42 games and Mookie Wilson, an outfielder turned pitcher, gave up a hit and walk in a 1 1/3 inning relief stint... The game company reports that sales of personalized cards have been good, but that some of the statistics used as the basis for the cards have bordered on all-world. One S-O-M employee has asked that the paper sluggers tone down their stats a little, so as not to 'blow up' the computer that's trying to print up a card for them.

How about '75 Reds as greatest?

Mantle mashes 64 homers in '61-to-present best-teams replay

The best baseball team since 1961?

How about the '61 Yankees, featuring the M & M power supply, Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle? Or what about all those great Oakland teams, such as in '72, '81 and as recently as '88?

Wrong. Wrong. Wrong and wrong.

Make it the 1975 Cincinnati Reds that won out in a marathon, 40-team, two-league replay conducted by Jeff Zwicker of Columbus, OH. It's a great teams replay using teams from 1961 to the present and it took over five years to complete.

The advanced version of the game was used and later S-O-M's computer game was used for statkeeping purposes.

"Living in Columbus, I must say, I am not a Cincinnati fan, nor a Cleveland fan. I tried very hard to be impartial during the replay," says Zwicker.

The teams were selected in 1985 and Zwicker left a few slots open for adding teams -- '88 Oakland -- later. "The minimum requirement of entrance to the replay was to have at least won a division," says Zwicker.

Zwicker also tried to limit teams to two per city, although he made an exception in the case of Oakland.

The replay was interesting from the standpoint of allowing Zwicker to play contemporary greats against greats of the past. Maris and Mantle, Hank Aaron, Willie Mays and Roberto Clemente were just a few of the oldies who came to life via a dice roll and competed against the Boggs, Bretts, Schmidts, Clemens and Rickey Hendersons of today.

MANTLE HAMMERS 64 HOMERS

It was Mantle, not Maris, that broke the 60-homer barrier in Zwicker's replay. Mantle led both leagues with 64 roundtrippers, while teammate Maris was second with 54.

All told, six players cracked 50 or more homers: Mantle (64), Maris (54), 1980 Mike Schmidt and '79 Willie Stargell (52 each) and '71 Stargell and '86 Dwight Evans of Boston (50 each).

Aaron, '69 vintage, had 49 home runs.

CALIFORNIA SURPRISES

When the monster replay was history, 1970 Baltimore and '82 California won American League division titles and the '84 Cubs and '75 Reds were victorious in the National.

In the playoffs, Cincinnati rolled over the Cubs, 4-0, and California surprised Baltimore, winning 9-8 in a wild seventh game to capture the A.L. series, 4-3.

Cincinnati also almost got ambushed by the Angels as the World Series went seven games. In the seventh and final game, Freddy Norman pitched a five-hit shutout as the Reds won a thriller, 1-0.

Reggie Jackson, who had the distinction of hitting 40 or more home runs for two different teams in the replay -- 41 with the '77 Yankees and 40 with '82 California -- delivered four homers in the World Series. Bobby Grich went 11 for 23 and batted .478 while Mike Witt had a 2-0 record and 1.80 ERA for the Angels.

Cincinnati was led by Norman (2-0, 1.64 ERA) and George Foster (.438 average and three homers). Ironically, Cincinnati won the first game, 13-9, as the two teams collected 33 hits...and it won the last, 1-0, as both teams totaled 11 hits.

(continued on next page)

Here are a few of the many highlights in the Great Teams replay:

- * Frank Robinson led the N.L. in hitting (.347) and also batted .332 for the '70 Orioles. The .332 mark was fifth-best in the A.L.
- * Detroit teams had four pitchers win 20 or more games: 1984 - Jack Morris (24-12) and Dan Petry (22-16); 1968 - Denny McLain (29-13) and Mickey Lolich (24-12).
- * Roger Clemens was super for the '86 Red Sox, posting the second-best ERA of 2.40, leading the league in strikeouts (357) and winning 24 games.
- * Oakland's power company of Mark McGwire (43 homers) and Jose Canseco (42) couldn't help the '88 A's rise any higher than seventh in the A.L. standings. The '81 and '88 A's had 76-86 records.
- * Dennis Eckersley, known today as one of the premier late-inning relievers, compiled a 20-10 record as a starter for the '84 Cubs.
- * Steve Carlton, '80 Philadelphia, was the strikeout king, fanning 388. Carlton had a 24-12 record and 2.22 ERA, which was No. 2 in the N.L. behind '68 Bob Gibson's miniscule 1.86.
- * The team that won it all, the '75 Reds, didn't have awesome stats, but Foster and Johnny Bench each whacked 37 homers. Don Gullett was the ace of a so-so pitching staff (17-15, 3.51 ERA).
- * The 1962 San Francisco Giants had Juan Marichal (18-13, 2.98), Willie Mays (43 homers, .283) and Orlando Cepeda (36, .314), but only managed to finish tied for sixth place.

Here are the standings and league leaders:

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	Won-Lost	GB	West	Won-Lost	GB
Baltimore 1970	103	59	California 1982	90	72
Detroit 1984	101	61	Minnesota 1970	83	79
Detroit 1968	96	66	California 1986	82	80
NY Yankees 1961	92	70	Chicago 1983	79	83
Toronto 1985	83	79	Kansas City 1980	78	84
Boston 1975	82	80	Oakland 1981	76	86
NY Yankees 1977	80	82	Oakland 1988	76	86
Milwaukee 1982	77	85	Kansas City 1985	70	92
Boston 1986	70	92	Oakland 1972	67	95
Baltimore 1983	69	93	Minnesota 1987	65	97

Batting	Home Runs	Wins
Brett KC'80 .381	Mantle NY'61 64	McLain DET'68 29
Fisk BOS'75 .348	Maris NY'61 54	Palmer BAL'70 25
Boggs BOS'86 .346	D.Evans BOS'86 50	Lolich DET'68 24
Carew CAL'82 .333	Killebrew MIN'70 47	McNally BAL'70 24
F.Robinson BAL'70 .332	McGwire OAK'88 43	Clemens BOS'86 24
		Hoyt CHI'83 24

ERA	Strikeouts	H: Brett KC'80 250
McLain DET'68 2.29	Clemens BOS'86 357	RBI: McGwire OAK'88 112
Clemens BOS'86 2.40	McLain DET'68 320	SA: Hernandez DET'84 35
Hunter OAK'72 2.40	Guidry NY'77 288	
McCatty OAK'81 2.45	M.Witt CAL'86 286	
Berenguer DET'84 2.60	F.Bannister CHI'83 275	
Stafford NY'61 2.90		

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	Won-Lost	GB	West	Won-Lost	GB
Chicago 1984	87	75	Cincinnati 1975	95	67
NY Mets 1986	82	80	Cincinnati 1961	93	69
St. Louis 1968	82	80	Houston 1986	92	70
Pittsburgh 1971	81	81	Los Angeles 1974	88	74
Philadelphia 1980	78	84	Houston 1980	87	75

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St. Louis 1982	74	88	13	San Francisco 1962	85	77	10
Atlanta 1982	72	90	15	San Diego 1984	85	77	10
Montreal 1981	71	91	16	San Francisco 1987	80	82	15
NY Mets 1969	68	94	19	Los Angeles 1981	76	86	19
Pittsburgh 1979	68	94	19	Atlanta 1969	76	86	19

Batting		Home Runs		Wins	
F.Robinson CIN'61	.347	Schmidt PHI'80	52	Carlton PHI'80	24
Pinson CIN'61	.343	Stargell PIT'79	52	Gibson SL'68	24
Dykstra NY'86	.328	Stargell PIT'71	50	Messersmith LA'74	23
J.Cruz HOU'80	.327	Dawson MON'81	49	Koosman NY'69	22
Clemente PIT'71	.315	Aaron ATL'69	49	Scott HOU'86	21
		F.Robinson CIN'61	47	Purkey CIN'61	21

<u>ERA</u>					
Gibson SL'68	1.86	<u>Strikeouts</u>		<u>RBI:</u> Dawson MON'81	141
Carlton PHI'80	2.22	Carlton PHI'80	388	<u>H:</u> Clemente PIT'71	231
Marshall LA'74	2.23	Scott HOU'86	387	<u>SE:</u> Raines MON'81	112
Scott HOU'86	2.31	Sutcliffe CHI'84	336	<u>SA:</u> Gossage SD'84	41
Washburn SL'68	2.36	Gibson SL'68	328	<u>Giusti</u> PIT'71	34
Welch LA'81	2.41	Valenzuela LA'81	326	<u>SH:</u> Gibson SL'68	9

Playoffs: National - Cincinnati d. Chicago, 4-0, 12-4, 5-0, 4-2.
American - California d. Baltimore, 2-3, 5-1, 1-8, 6-4, 4-1, 2-4, 9-8.

World Series: Cincinnati d. California, 13-9, 4-7, 7-8, 12-4, 4-8, 5-4, 1-0.

Computer random number playing tip

By ROB GALLAMORE, Quesnel, B.C., Canada

In a recent issue of the Review someone asked about obtaining random numbers. I have written a program using GWBASIC that I use when playing Strat-O-Matic baseball and football, instead of all the dice rolls.

To use: Execute the GWBASIC program and type in the instructions (below). Make sure you type them in exactly as shown. When done, save the program by using the "F4" key and run the program with the "F2" key.

After that when playing, execute the GWBASIC program and load the name of the program you gave it when saving, with the "F3" key.

1 Rem Use This Program For Stratomatic Baseball

```
7 Color 15, 12
10 Randomize Timer
20 Let R = INT(RND(1) * 6 + 1)    40 Print R; " This is the six-sided die"
30 Let C = INT(RND(1) * 6 + 1)    50 Print G; "  Twelve-sided die"
33 Let F = INT(RND(1) * 6 + 1)    55 Print
34 Let G = C + F                  57 Color 15, 1
35 Let D = INT(RND(1) * 20 + 1)    60 Print D; "  Twenty-sided die"
```

1 Rem Use This Program For Stratomatic Football

```
7 Color 15, 12
10 Randomize Timer
20 Let R = INT(RND(1) * 6 + 1)    35 Let D = INT(RND(1) * 6 + 1)
25 Let S = INT(RND(1) * 6 + 1)    40 Print R; " [Defense -Guessed Right
30 Let C = INT(RND(1) * 6 + 1)    or Wrong"
33 Let F = INT(RND(1) * 6 + 1)    45 Color 15, 1
34 Let G = C + F                  (continued on next page)
```

48 Print S; " Six-sided die"
50 Print G; " Twelve-sided die"
55 Print
57 Color 15, 8
60 Print D; "Black die-- 1,2,3 Blank-- 4,5 Defense--6, Penalty"

Strat-O-Matic league, replay scene

NATIONAL LEAGUE EAST REPLAY, 1969 - The Miracle Mets ran out of miracles in a solitaire replay by Mark Gast, Taft, CA. Instead of winning the N.L. East by eight games as in real life, the New York Mets finished a distant second to the Chicago Cubs...Advanced version of game was played, except for using basic defense. Gast also used an injury chart that was in the Review...Gast also followed the actual '69 schedule and lineups used that season. He does admit, because he's always wanted to manage the Cubs to see if he could improve them, to making up some of their lineups...The Cubs won their opener in extra innings, boding well for the future...Mets were hot at the start, winning first five games and 17 of 23. Cubs had season-high 10-game win streak in May...Lee May of Cincinnati hit three homers in a game and also hit into the first triple play experienced by Gast, against the Expos...Jim Wynn of Houston drew five walks in one game against the Expos...Montreal had two wild games with the Giants in June, losing 15-9 and pounding out a 16-12 win. A total of 15 homers were belted...Mets became vulnerable to southpaw pitching when Ron Swoboda and Donn Clendenon were hurt and during one stretch New York lost nine straight..Cubs moved into first in June. In real-life the Cubs were 50-28; in the replay they were 49-32...Jerry Koosman and Dick Selma had no-hitters spoiled in the ninth inning. Gast, incidentally, has never had a no-hitter...Pirates scored 11 runs against the Braves after two outs in the eighth inning. Willie Stargell's three-run homer triggered the uprising...In another game, against San Diego, Pittsburgh had three consecutive triples and totaled five for the contest...Tom Seaver's 26-inning scoreless streak in September couldn't save Mets from faltering at end of season...In the playoffs, Atlanta edged Chicago, 3-2. Aaron's two homers off Ferguson Jenkins gave Atlanta a 2-1 win in the fifth and deciding game. Phil Niekro got the victory, giving up only a home run to Ron Santo.

Standings	Won-Lost	GB	Home Runs	Wins
1. Chicago	99 63	-	Allen PHI 48	Seaver NY 20-8
2. NY Mets	88 74	11	Stargell PIT 43	Gibson SL 21-13
3. St. Louis	85 77	14	Hickman CHI 41	Holtzman CHI 20-14
4. Pittsburgh	84 78	15	Staub MON 37	Jenkins CHI 20-17
5. Montreal	67 95	32		Koosman NY 19-14
6. Philadelphia	65 96	33		

NORTH AMERICAN CORRESPONDENCE ASSOCIATION (NACBA) - Play-by-mail league that's now up to 20 teams. Had 14 managers for 1990 season, won by Scott Hapner's Findlay Cardinals, who defeated Al Telgenhof's Michigan Wheels in the championship series, 4-1...League season goes from April to October during which 162-game schedule is played. Annual draft and post-season awards. Super-advanced rules are used and players are limited to 110 percent of actual appearances...Kevin Mitchell of Findlay was MVP after hitting 65 home runs, driving in 179 runs and batting .309...John Smoltz (20-9, 2.83 ERA) of Michigan was the Pitcher of the
(continued on next page)

Year, edging Rob Dibble of Iowa City, who had 51 saves...Managerial lineup: Hapner (34, systems analyst), Findlay Cardinals; Telgenhof (26, attorney), Michigan Wheels; Bill Krolikowski (49, teacher), Vienna Virgins; Chad O'Kelly (23), Iowa City Colonels; Jerry Banko (36, U.S. Postal Service), Erie Sailors; Dennis Schimmel (34, sales), Minneapolis Millers; Jim Gramke (30, policeman), Cincinnati Coppers; Jeff Sauser (28, teacher and coach), Caro Thumbsuckers; Doug Campbell (27, elementary school teacher), Tennessee Thunderdogs; Sid Semroc (30, research engineer), Uniontown Bombers; Michael Schuhman (32, computer programmer), New York Tribe; and Reese Fesmire (34, mail handler), Erie Clippers.

Standings, playoffs and leaders:

<u>Eastern</u>	<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Playoffs</u>		
Vienna	89	73	-	Findlay	104	58	-	*Michigan d.
Erie Sailors	73	89	16	Michigan	100	62	2	Minneapolis 2-1
Uniontown	73	89	16	Cincinnati	85	77	19	*Michigan d.
Erie Clippers	72	90	17	Clio	73	89	31	Iowa City, 3-0
New York	62	100	27	Caro	64	98	40	*Findlay d.
<u>Western</u>								Vienna, 3-2.
Iowa City	99	63	-	<u>Batting</u>				<u>Home Runs</u>
Minneapolis	87	75	12	Boggs VIE	.385			Mitchell FIND 65
Spokane	84	78	15	Puckett SPOK	.367			Strawberry NY 43
Tennessee	69	93	30	Gwynn FIND	.355			G.Davis FIND 40
				Franco NY	.345			B.Jackson MI 39
				W.Clark MI	.344			E.Davis VIE 37
<u>RBI</u>								
Mitchell FIND	179			<u>ERA</u>				<u>Wins</u>
Sierra MINN	153			B.Smith FIND	2.65			Browning CIN 21
E.Davis VIE	129			Smoltz MI	2.83			Blyleven CIN 20
W.Clark MI	120			P.Perez UNI	2.87			Milacki VIE 20
G.Davis FIND	118			Gubicza SPOK	3.01			Smoltz MI 20

H: Puckett SPOK	260	3B: Sierra MINN	14	CG: DeLeon MINN	13
R: Boggs VIE	130	D.White CLIO	14	SH: Darling MI	4
2B: Boggs VIE	61	SB: Butler FIND	59	SA: Dibble IC	51

CLEVELAND INDIANS 1989 REPLAY - Mark Turski didn't have any better luck with Cleveland using a computer keyboard as the Indians finished (70-92) three games behind their real-life performance...Turski, who calls Columbia Station, OH, home, used the manual computer version, plus the ballpark, clutch hitting and weather effects...Pitching was awful as Tom Candiotti (7-17, 3.47 compared to real-life 13-10, 3.10) and John Farrell (8-17, 4.35 compared to 9-14, 3.63) were disappointments...Bud Black had a great year, however, going from 12-11 and 3.36 in real-life to 19-13 and 3.09 in the replay. Black also tossed a perfect game against Detroit, in Tiger Stadium, late in the season...Joe Carter was the hitting star with 41 homers and 111 RBI, compared to 35 and 105 real-life numbers. Carter connected for 24 of his roundtrippers in the less-than-friendly confines of Cleveland Stadium (HR 1-6). Carter's .245 average was only two points off real-life (.243)...Jerry Browne, who hit .299 in real-life, had a .288 replay mark...Cory Snyder batted .206 (.215 real-life), with 19 homers (18) and struck out 125 times (134). He batted 10 more times in the replay...Minnesota (1-11) and Kansas City (3-9) gave the Indians the most trouble and Cleveland was the most successful against Detroit (10-3) and New York (10-3)...Cleveland's batting average was identical to the real-life mark of .245 an amazing stat considering the 5500-plus at-bats. The team pitching ERA was 3.77 in the replay, compared to 3.65.

Here's pictorial look at NAFA

Extravaganza is PBM football league's special attraction

The North America Football Association (NAFA) is another one of those Strat-O-Matic leagues that attempts to put a face on its coaching lineup.

Rather than be content to send instructions via the mail to faceless names, the NAFA holds an annual gaming bash entitled the Extravaganza. In the most recent Extravaganza, held at commissioner Mike Macher's home in Middlesex, NJ, 14 of the league's 24 coaches were on the scene.

An extra attraction was the staging of a Mini-Extravaganza prior to the main event. The Mini-Extravaganza featured eight teams and two days of gaming.

Highlight of the mini gathering was coach Tommy Manna's team driving 94 yards in the last minutes to score and pull out a 31-30 victory over Dave "North of the 49th" Holubec.

The Extravaganza lasted four days as gamers came into Middlesex by train, plane and automobile from Canada (three coaches); Salem, VA; West Medford, MA; Washington, DC; Rochester, NY, and other closer cities.

Bill Cowart was the big winner, losing nary a game in nine starts. Macher had to leave his 'stadium' while a game was in progress to help fight a fire, while another memorable game was when Brian Sampson's team pulled out a 13-10 win over Jeff Smith, despite Brian's field goal kicker missing six attempts.

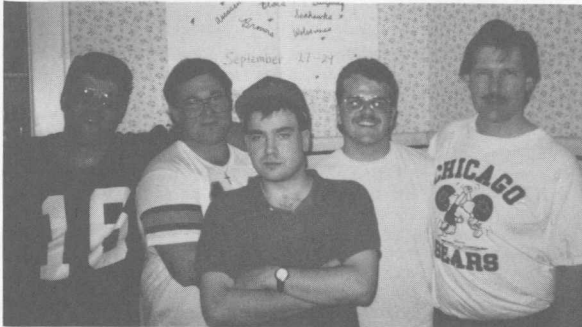
Another spotlight game of the many that were played was Manna's 27-25 victory over a then undefeated Eric Bessette team. Eric had a game-winning field goal negated by a penalty...and then misfired on a 2-10 chance to again claim the win.

Stephen Beardslee lost his first two games and then won five in a row.

Most memorable highlight of all was "the great time and friendships that are the basic purpose of the Extravaganza," says Macher.



Pictured, front row from left, Michael Ryan, Dan Hayes, Tommy Manna, Jeff Smith; second row, Stephen Beardslee, Mike Macher, Eric Bessette; third row, Sal Fiore, Bill Cowart; back row, Brian Sampson, Tony Iovacchini, Chip Graham, Alan Whitton.



Attending Mini Extravaganza were, from left, Sal Fiore, Tommy Manna, Larry Spencer, Jeff Smith, Dave Holubec.