

## STRAT-O-MATIC

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

## REVIEW

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VOL. 13, April, 1982  
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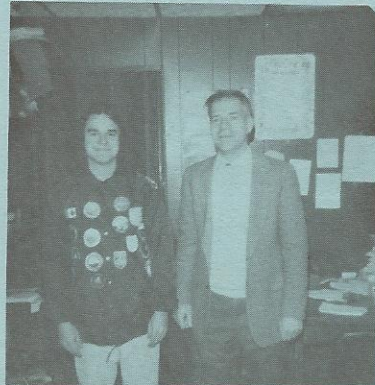
### Opening day at S-O-M

Opening day was again like a space launching when it came to new card time at Strat-O-Matic. Long lines formed outside of the game company at Glen Head, NY--lines that braved winter weather so that each of its 'links' could be among the first to purchase the new baseball cards. As the following pictures show, everyone is jubilant. John Lamberti





and Mike Arbassio (page 1, left picture), members of the International League of Modern Time Milkmen, a 10-manager face-to-face league operating out of Brooklyn, NY, were the first arrivals at S-O-M to purchase the new cards. At right (first page) is the gaming trio of John Joyce, Carol Casey and Joe DiMauro, Clinton, MA, all members of a face-to-face league that has been operating for seven years.



On this page, top picture, is S-O-M creator Harold Richman (he's at right). With him is Steve Schumacher of Houston, TX, the well-known creator of S-O-M stadiums. Steve flew in from Houston to purchase the cards (cost of trip: \$318).

Middle picture shows Larry Fryer ["Who should you draft in baseball?"], with Ken Reaser and Kevin Fisher, (commissioner of popular East Coast Baseball Association, a 12-man PBM league, is Fryer). Between 'em the three have 45 years of S-O-M experience. Yearbook put out by the ECBA is one of best in Strat-O-Dom.

At right is Robert Henry, gaming historian and card-collector supreme, who is now a lawyer in Penns Grove, NJ. Henry is also remembered as the originator of the S-O-M Baseball trivia quiz.

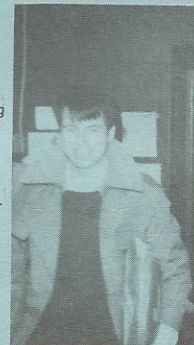
Happy gamers pictured at left (bottom) are Mike Hudek and Steve Heade, sports writers for the New Philadelphia Times. In their ninth year of rolling S-O-M dice, the duo is part of a 10-team draft league that plays face-to-face.

They reside in Canton, OH, and made nine-hour car trip to be on the scene for "opening day."

THE DAY, in case you were less fortunate and not able to be at S-O-M, was Wednesday, Jan. 27, although pickup orders began a day earlier.

More pictures of "opening day" at Strat-O-Matic are found on the back page.

Included on the back page is a picture of three managers in a league in which the ages vary from 23 to 43.





## Which past season do you want?

Hold up on your pen, pencil or hitting the keys on the trusty typewriter - Strat-O-Matic hasn't ruled out the 1930 season as far as the next possibility for printing another baseball season out of the past.

True, the Review indicated last month that the 1930 season - because the baseball was "doctored" in the National League and hitting averages unrealistically high.- had previously been ruled out by S-O-M creator Harold Richman.

That season's still far from his personal choice, but S-O-M's major-dono has relented and will accept the preference of the gaming public. And ditto for the 1961 season; first opposed because some of the teams from that year were printed as Old-Timer sets. It's also a candidate for Past Season card set Part II.

Regardless of what season you vote for, however, S-O-M wants to know as quickly as possible what your preference is. A great deal of research went into the preparation of the 1956 set, especially obtaining statistical data for the advanced-version of the game, and the game company wants to get started immediately.

Be sure to send your choice to the Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078. We will compile the results and then quickly send them on to S-O-M.

Marking back to the poll that was conducted by the Review, the order of past seasons wanted was as follows: 1. 1930; 2. 1961; 3. 1956; 4. 1959; 5. 1927; 6. 1950; 7. 1948; 8. 1949. But remember, also that the 1950's was the decade most wanted.

Choose your season...and make it quick, please.

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## One card correction needed

One card correction is needed for the 1982 baseball set. It's a minor one, however, and most gamers probably haven't even caught it.

It's on Joe Rudi's card for the Boston Red Sox. On the basic side, No. 2 column, number 11, the reading is simply "Flyball [lf] 8." It should read the same, except for the addition of "plus injury."

A month after the new cards had been out, that was the lone change brought to the attention of S-O-M.

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## Strat-O-Matic spotlight

Elementary-school students at Fairbrook School in Beavercreek, OH (a suburb of Dayton) have graduated from the ABC's of learning to the "SOMs" of gaming.

With teacher and seven-year S-O-M veteran Timothy Turner the driving force behind the project, fifth and sixth-grade students engaged in a 10-game football season, including playoffs and Super Bowl, using the elementary version of the game.

"A total of 22 boys and 5 girls participated in the league," enthused teacher/gamer Turner, who reported the league met Tuesday afternoons after school. "We're in basketball now and will be playing baseball in the spring," adds Turner.

The face-to-face endeavor went over so well, in fact, that the local  
(continued on next page)

P.T.O. [Parent Teachers Organization] gave the gaming club a check for \$150 to purchase S-O-M Basketball and Baseball games. "This might be the first funded Strat-O-Matic project anywhere," quips Turner.

As far as the results of the football, the trio of David Ruble, Chris Bewley and Brannen Clark teamed up to guide Philadelphia to the championship, with their team edging David Yum and David Whitt-ridge's Cleveland Browns in the Super Bowl, 10-7.

Each coach of the Eagles received a trophy, compliments of Turner, for their efforts.

Below are the final standings and playoff results:

Eastern	W	L	T
Philadelphia	8	2	0
Cleveland	6	3	1
Cincinnati	6	4	0
Pittsburgh	3	6	1

Western	W	L	T
Dallas	8	2	0
Los Angeles	4	6	0
Houston	2	6	2
Oakland	1	9	0

Playoffs: Cleveland 21, Dallas 20  
Philadelphia 35, Los Angeles 14



CHAMPS OF FAIRBROOK ELEMENTARY  
[L-R] Chris Bewley, Brannen Clark,  
David Ruble fly high with Eagles.

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*Fernando Valenzuela is — surprise! — No. 1 pick*

## GKSML conducts National League draft

To the surprise of absolutely no one, the Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League (GKSML) was "bullish" about Fernando when it held its annual draft late in January.

Fernando, of course, is Valenzuela, Los Angeles' rookie pitching phenom. He was the first draft pick in the National League, and turned out to be one of 14 hurlers selected in the first two rounds (20 picks) of the 10-manager, face-to-face league that calls Kalamazoo, MI, home. Two of the managers are Review co-editors Warren and Del Newell, plus another is Del's 18-year-old son Todd.

Drafting for the league's 23rd full-season replay [the GKSML voted to play a 154-game season for at least the N.L.; with at-bats and innings-pitched totals projected] was again in reverse order from finish of the year before.

Pat Stemes, a teacher at Dowagiac High School, won the 'honor' of drafting first by losing 98 of 154 games the year before. He, of course, picked Valenzuela. The next choice belonged to Jeff Kik, a salesman, who was 64-90. He also selected a pitcher, with the choice being Bruce Berenyi, Cincinnati's promising flamethrower.

Other members of the league and the order of draft included: Jeff Green (67-87), Todd Newell (74-80), Gary Tien (75-79), Warren Newell (76-78), Bruce Mulder (80-74), Dale Holland (81-73), Del Newell (91-63) and John Gordon (106-48), who took over for N.L. regular-season and play-off winner John Madden. Madden moved to Wisconsin to teach at the college level, but threatened to return in time for the American League season.

Oh, one other thing before we get into the draft. The GKSML allows managers to protect 15 players from the previous season's roster and a total of 26 players are permitted, providing three catchers are on the

[continued on next page]



team. The pool of players available in the draft includes rookies, players cut and players traded from one league to another in real-life. The GKSMML by-laws do permit a manager who has lost a player by the latter route to use his No. 1 draft pick and select that player in the other league. Del Newell did just that when he took Lary Sorensen (traded from the A.L. to St. Louis in the N.L.). Only once can a manager exercise such an option, however, and then only in exchange for the No. 1 draft pick by that manager.

Here's the top 20 draft selections by the GKSMML for the National League:

- |                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Fernando Valenzuela (Pat Stemas) | 11. Lee Smith (GT) - traded pick |
| 2. Bruce Bereny (Jeff Kik)          | 12. John Martin (JK)             |
| 3. Hubie Brooks (Jeff Green)        | 13. Ed Lynch (JG)                |
| 4. Tim Raines (Todd Newell)         | 14. Randy Martz (TN)             |
| 5. Tony Pena (Gary Tien)            | 15. Heity Cruz (GT)              |
| 6. Rick Mählér (Warren Newell)      | 16. Fred Breining (WN)           |
| 7. Chris Welsh (Bruce Mulder)       | 17. Bill Lee (BM)                |
| 8. Mike Scott (Dale Holland)        | 18. Larry McWilliams (DH)        |
| 9. Lary Sorensen (Del Newell)       | 19. Gaylord Perry (DN)           |
| 10. Juan Bonilla (John Gordon)      | 20. Joe Lefebvre (JGordon)       |

Note that Pat Stemas traded away his No. 2 pick (to Gary Tien) for pitcher Juan Eichelberger. That selection and those of Bill (Spaceman) Lee and veteran Gaylord Perry so early showed how thin the pitching ranks were in the N.L.

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## Questions & Answers

Editor's note: Questions regarding individual and team ratings will not be answered in most cases, unless a mistake has been made on the card. The game company cannot, for reasons of security, divulge its card-making formula, which would be necessary to answer some questions completely.

QUESTION: Is the maximum steal possibility 1-19 as it was under the old rules?

ANSWER: Yes, 1-19 is the maximum, even if the runner isn't held, has a good lead and the catcher has a poor throwing arm.

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QUESTION: If, using the new supplementary stealing ratings, a player has a second reading of zero. Is such a player eligible to steal second base with no lead, not being held and a plus arm behind the plate?

ANSWER: Yes, the runner can attempt a steal under such circumstances. But it seems unlikely a manager would give a +1, +2, or +3 a green light when the chance of success is so minuscule.

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QUESTION: Is it possible that a runner's chances for stealing home could be zero or less? And if so, what happens if he has to try and steal home (i.e., when a batter misses pitch on a squeeze attempt)?

ANSWER: Yes, to the first question. The answer to the second would be that the unfortunate runner is automatically out.

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QUESTION: In the new basketball game, may a team designate anyone to take a three-point shot, or must it be the player in control?

ANSWER: No, not anyone can shoot such a shot. But a player can be  
[continued on next page]

selected to shoot a three-point shot if eligible under a passing situation ["Open pos. shot, Pos. shot, Pass to any 1+ for pos. shot," etc.]

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QUESTION: If a shooter is designated for a three-point attempt ["Pass to any 1+ for pos. shot"], is an action deck card flipped over?

ANSWER: Yes, another card is drawn.

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QUESTION: I just purchased the S-O-M Pro Football game and would like to know how, on advanced defensive running plays, you can have 0 men in the end run and off-tackle zones or 1 man in line buck zone?

ANSWER: By using a "nickel" or five-man defensive secondary or four linebackers, a coach has to take out one of the down linemen. Thus the 0 men or 1 man listing on the defensive cards.

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## In this corner...the editors

### WAITING THE WORD

The Review planned on having a much larger section of Questions & Answers this month. But unfortunately the Review didn't get all the answers it was seeking for tough questions from the game company.

Strat-O-Matic did send along a gallery of pictures from "opening day" and promised the answers would follow. Hopefully, next month.

Also, the Review has asked S-O-M for an update as to what teams are still in stock. That list should be found in the May issue, too.

### DON'T FORGET GARY CONVENTION

If you're even remotely interested in conventions, and live in the general vicinity of the midwest, be sure to check out the Second Annual Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament being staged by Gary, IN, policeman James Sanders. Convention dates are June 5-6 and the site is the Community Share Club, 635 Clark Road in Gary.

Entry fee is \$7.50 and more information can be obtained by calling James Sanders at 1-219-938-6137. The Strat-O-Matic Game Company will provide trophies to the winners and runnersup in the four tournaments--elementary baseball, advanced baseball, super advanced football and super advanced hockey.

### SOMETHING NEW COMING IN 1982

Hush! Hush!

Keep it tucked inside your Strat-O-Matic Fanatic T-shirt--there will be a major addition to one of S-O-M's gaming products soon. It's not official, but testing is currently in progress. It's something many gamers have clamored for long and loud for years. And, like the new supplementary stealing ratings, it will be an optional addition; those gamers who want it can use it and those not interested can continue playing the game as before.

Oh, the proposed change won't necessarily extend the playing time of this particular game. A few minutes, perhaps, but that's about all.

### 1956 SCHEDULES AVAILABLE

Richard Breest of 36 Arbour St., West Islip, NY (11795) has copies of the 1956 baseball schedule. And he's willing to send one along to any Review reader, free of charge. Just send him an SASE if interested.

The season was shorter in 1956 than it is now--154 games compared to 162 (or less if strike-shortened). With a 154-game schedule and eight teams in each league, a replay would be possible.



## Hurry! MVP Contest closes May 10

Time is precious, of course. And we're aware young and old gamers alike have a multitude of activities going on in their lives. But take time out, won't you, and do the following?

(1) Turn in your choice for what past season you would like to see Strat-O-Matic print in baseball.

(2) Fill out the entry blank below for the Review's Most Valuable Player Contest.

(3) And, if your subscription to the Review is about to or has already expired, be sure to renew it immediately.

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

As mentioned last month, the winner of last year's MVP Contest was Duane Tunink of Lansing, KS (Duane should have his cards, plus extras, and have started rollin' 'em long ago).

Now, you can be a winner, too. All you have to do is fill in the blank below as to who the MVPs will be. And also fill in the division winners and their percentages. The latter two will be used in case of a tie.

Please, only one entry per subscriber. And, to enter, you must be a subscriber. Entry deadline is again May 10 (entries must be post-marked no later than that date to be eligible).

MVP CONTEST ENTRY BLANK--1982

### MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

American League \_\_\_\_\_

National League \_\_\_\_\_

### Division winners and percentages

American League East \_\_\_\_\_

American League West \_\_\_\_\_

National League East \_\_\_\_\_

National League West \_\_\_\_\_

### Print Clearly

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Again, remember to send entries to the: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078. Do not send entries to the Strat-O-Matic Game Company.

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## The Review staff

Editors: Warren Newell (Otsego, MI), Del Newell (Kalamazoo, MI).

Production: Karen Newell.

Printing: Oliver & Tobias, (Kalamazoo, MI).

Mailing: The Review is printed and mailed monthly. The Review is mailed third-class from Otsego, MI. First-class mailing is available for an additional cost of 20¢ per month.

# Advertisements

Rates per issue will be as follows: First 30 words--60¢; 31-60 words--\$1.00; 61-100 words--\$1.50; 101-150 words--\$2.00; 150-200 words [maximum length for ad]--\$3.25. When sending in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR TRADE, LEAGUE FORMING, or CONTESTS. And name card sets by the year upon which they were based. Note that only advertisements for Strat-O-Matic products will be accepted and that merchandise competing with S-O-M products may not be offered for sale, nor may photo-copied cards. Ads, to be included in the next issue of the Review, must be in by the third of the previous month. Late ads will be held over for inclusion the following month.

## Wanted

WANTED: 1965 and 1966 Yankees in good condition, \$20 each. Will respond to all offers with SASE. Norm Farrington, 12 Elliott St., Hampton, NH 03842

WANTED: Some one help! I need the 1972 Minnesota Twins, with extras [24 players]. I will pay any reasonable price, or trade for, from my assortment of S-O-M Baseball 1965-1980. Please state condition. Send to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen St., Philadelphia, PA 19111 [215-745-5247]

WANTED: Baseball team sets, 1974 or older. Require good/excellent condition, extra players, no missing teams. Send asking price to: Gary Knight, 1152 Ingleside, Baton Rouge, LA 70806

WANTED: Very badly! Following pro football teams: 1971 Dallas; 1972-1973 Miami, 1974 Minnesota, 1968 New York Jets, 1969 Kansas City, 1973 Buffalo. Will pay any price. Contact me immediately. Thomas Cancro, 65 Glenn Ave., Norwood, NJ 07648

WANTED: Baseball, complete sets, first-year cards were issued through 1967. Extras if available. Will answer all reasonable offers. Michael Hines, 8901 Barlow Circle, Knoxville, TN 37923

WANTED: The 1978 Chicago Cubs w/o extras, complete baseball seasons with extras and complete football seasons for any year before 1978. Must be in good condition and all cards unmarked and undamaged. Seller pays postage. State your price; no bids here. Those wanting more than \$50 per year can contact someone else. For a quick, no-

hassle sale, send SASE, price and particulars. Also wish to meet avid gamers of any playing level living in the San Gabriel Valley. Write to: Ralph Llamas, 18725 E. Arrow Highway 34, Covina, CA 91723

WANTED: 1980 season baseball teams: Baltimore, Boston, Cleveland, Milwaukee, Kansas City, Seattle, NY Yankees. Good to excellent condition. Send price list to: Jim Criscione, 11042 McGirk, Elmonte, CA 91731 [213-443-9169]

WANTED: S-O-M fanatics in the St. Louis area. If you're interested in face-to-face play and swapping S-O-M tales, call Keith Walker at 314-532-5304. My address is 15436 Elk Ridge Lane, Chesterfield, MO 63017

WANTED: 1972 extras...1973 cards with extras...1975 cards with extras. 1977 - Dusty Baker; Royals with extras; Yankees [extras only]. 1978 Lee Stanton. 1980 Dent, Wilfong, Revering, Heath, Sundberg, Lowenstein, Reggie Jackson, Eddie Murray, Buddy Bell, Gorman Thomas, Garth Iorg, Dan/Dave Ford, John Johnson. Will pay money or negotiate for stealing charts [see For Sale ad]. Tony Auter, 3505 Mina Court, Louisville, KY 40220 [502-454-4410].

WANTED: Baseball team sets 1962 to 1979. Sets must be complete [containing all teams and with all extras] and be in excellent or mint condition. Send description and prices to: Richard Weiss, 1 E. Wacker Dr., Suite 2222, Chicago, IL 60601

WANTED: Very badly wanted are the following baseball teams: 1978 Montreal, Pittsburgh, Chicago Cubs, [continued]



Atlanta, Milwaukee; 1977 - all 26 teams; also either 1973 or 1974 Oakland. I will settle for the 1971 or 1975 A's, but the two other teams could be sold at a higher price. I'm willing to pay ridiculous, almost ludicrous prices, but the lowest bid will get the sale. Offers will be looked at up to the end of May. An offer must include all teams listed under that year (ex.--from 1978, Atlanta cannot be missing). There will be a substantial bonus to the bidder who can provide all the merchandise, including Oakland. Please state condition of cards and the number of players on each team, as these points will be essential factors in determining the final price. Send offers to: C. Legault, 2559 Croissant Holon, Lachine, Quebec H8S 4C7

WANTED: 1974, 1975 and 1976 baseball cards, complete with extra players. Contact: Mike Mayko, 390 Welch's Point Road, Milford, CT 06460

WANTED: 1978 Montreal Expos and Milwaukee Brewers. Also the additional players for 1979. Contact: Terry Bernstein, 7610 Apt. D South Florissant, Normandy, MO 63121. Price: \$8.

WANTED: 1966 Tartabull (Boston); 1969 complete with extras, excellent condition. Also willing to trade any teams offered in my for sale list. Dave Scheer, 86 Mill St., Spencerport, NY 14559 (716-352-9089)

WANTED: 1977-78 and 1978-79 season hockey schedules--please contact me as soon as possible. Darren Blankenship, 1321 Turret Road, Bel Air, MD 21014 (301-879-7818)

## For Sale

FOR SALE: S-Q-M Football teams: 1970 season (to be sold by teams or as whole set); 1975 New England. All are complete, mint condition. Send bids for teams or complete season. If you meet my price, I will sell immediately. Gary Traxler, 1444 Laurel Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104

FOR SALE: Baseball and football teams from 1967 to 1980. Send for listing of all teams and years available. Please send a stamp to insure immediate answer to your inquiry. Write to: Rookie Messick, P.O. Box 88, Marina, CA 93933

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1979 complete set (with extras); 1978 complete set (with extras); 1977 complete set (with extras); 1976 Padres, Reds, Dodgers, Angels, Rangers, Twins, Pirates, Mets, Royals, Yankees, Orioles, Cubs, Cardinals, Giants, Indians, Red Sox (no extras); 1975 Reds; 1974 A's; 1971 Cubs (only 14 players), A's, Pirates, Mets, Phillies, Expos, Orioles, Cardinals, Giants, Tigers; Hall-of-Fame A & B, all original 42 championship teams (except '36 Yankees). All cards have some writing on them, but all are in good condition. Winning bidder pays postage. Send bids along with SASE to: Scott Toman, 210 S. Yale Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60005

FOR SALE: The 1956 and 1981 S-O-M Baseball Advanced Version Scouting Reports. Each report rates each batter against left- and right-handed pitching for the following: 1. Batting average, 2. total on-base percentage, 3. walks received, 4. home runs hit. Each report rates each pitcher against left- and right-handed batting for the following: 1. Batting average allowed, 2. total on-base percentage allowed, 3. walks allowed, 4. home runs allowed. Each report includes a free surprise bonus. To order, send \$5 (designate 1956 or 1981 season) to: David L. Smith, 11213 Fairfield Road W., Minnetonka, MN 55343

FOR SALE: Hundreds of baseball teams from 1968-1978. If you're looking for one team, one league, one season, or more, send a postcard asking for my list of available teams. Keith Walker, 15436 Elk Ridge Lane, Chesterfield, MO 63017

FOR SALE: S-O-M Football teams, 1968-1977. The teams will be sold individually, not as complete sets. Most teams are in good to excellent condition. If you meet my price, I will sell immediately. Lower bids will be decided by the end of the month. J.M. Bordelon, (continued)

5445 Braesvalley, #724, Houston, TX 77096 (phone: 713-721-5465)

FOR SALE: 1973, 1974 and 1975 pro football seasons. Will not break up sets. Also, 1973 baseball season and '72 Miami Dolphins. Sold to highest reasonable offer. Duane Denoll, 1113 W. Plum St. #8-107, Fort Collins, CO 80521

FOR SALE: Computer printout charts for new stealing rules for 1982 cards (based on 1981 season). Leaves nothing to compute. A stealing chart for each player. All situations considered--stealing of 2nd, 3rd or home; good or bad lead; held or not held; -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, +1, +2 catcher's arm. A rating for each situation. Good lead frequency numbers also listed. One quick and easy reference for stealing. 26 pages (1 page per team). \$3. Tony Auter, 3505 Mina Court, Louisville, KY 40220 [502-454-4410]

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1969 Reds, Cardinals, Astros, Phillies, Dodgers, Expos, \$15 or \$2.50 each; 1970 Twins, Senators, Pirates, Orioles, \$8 or \$2 each; 1971 Red Sox, White Sox, A's, Orioles, Tigers, \$7.50 or \$1.50 each; 1972 Expos, Cubs, Braves, Astros, \$4 or \$1 each; 1974 N.L., \$10, with extras; 1975 set, \$30, no extras; 1976, '77, '78, '79, '80 sets each \$10. Write to: John LaPre, 1502 Mendon Road, Woonsocket, RI 02895 or call: 401-769-0734.

FOR SALE: Attention S-O-M Hockey fanatics! My fool-proof computer-generated (Fortran) formula tells you which players to draft. Get the drop on your draft-league mates and pick the best. Players are grouped into regular forwards/defensemen, extra forwards/defensemen. Also overall-ranked 1-420. Takes into account: regular/power-play scoring percentage, defense, penetration, passing, intimidation vs. penalties. All reduced to one simple scientific rating. 1979-80, 1980-81 seasons available. \$3 each or both for \$5. Free intimidation success percentage chart with all orders. I pay shipping. Paul Siegel, 9593

Columbus Ave. South, Bloomington, MN 55420. Satisfaction guaranteed.

FOR SALE: S-O-M Baseball World Series teams - 1965 Los Angeles, Minnesota; 1967 Boston, St. Louis; \$1.50 each or all four teams for \$5. Good condition. Darren Blankenship, 1321 Turret Road, Bel Air, MD 21014 [301-879-7818]

FOR SALE: Unbreakable 20-sided dice. Forget split decks--20-sided dice are more random and easier to use. Available in a variety of colors: white, yellow, dark green, black, violet, red, royal blue, lime green, burnt orange. \$1.25, postpaid, same day service. Paul Wooden, 5971 East 25th Place, Tulsa, OK 74114

FOR SALE: 1980-81 S-O-M Hockey shooting report. This report tells the percent chance a player has of scoring a goal on all three types of shots. For your copy, send just \$1 and a postage stamp. Darren Blankenship, 1321 Turret Road, Bel Air, MD 21014 [301-879-7818]

FOR SALE: Super-advanced rules and charts for baseball provide rare plays and many simple, realistic innovations. Your \$5 refunded if not satisfied. Richard Robb, #1004-1395 Beach, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

FOR SALE: Complete set of 1979-80 basketball teams. Cards are in mint condition and will be sold only as a set. Chicago is missing one player. These teams must be sold, so I will accept the first reasonable offer I get. Also included is a free bonus. Send offers to: Tom Brew, 539 Henry St., Oceanside, NY 11572

FOR SALE: Thinking about a replay? Why not use the exact schedule and pitching rotation for all the major league teams from that season? I have all sets available from 1900-present. 1956 is just \$7.25, 1981 is available for just \$8. On other sets prices vary; write me for quotes or information. Money back if not satisfied. Rich Pray, 7800 LaNain Dr., Pensacola, FL 32504

FOR SALE: Baseball - '70 AL complete, Astros, Braves, Cards, Cubs, Dodgers, Expos, Giants, Mets, Padres; 1971 A's, Brewers, Chisox, Indians, Orioles, Senators, Twins, [continued]



Braves, Cubs, Expos, Reds; '72 Mets, Reds; '78 Yankees; '79 all teams except Red Sox. Football - '71 Steelers; '72 Browns, Chargers, Cowboys, Vikings; '73 Cards, Cowboys, Redskins, Steelers; '74 Cards, Chargers, Cowboys, Dolphins, Raiders, Steelers, Vikings; '75 Steelers; '76 Bears, Bengals, Browns, Cards, Bucs, Colts, Cowboys, Dolphins, Eagles, Falcons, 49ers, Giants, Jets, Lions, Packers, Patriots, Raiders, Rams, Saints, Seahawks, Steelers. Basketball - 1974-75 complete. Hockey - 1978-79, '79-80, '77-78 complete sets. Willing to trade for '56, '70-80 Red Sox teams with extras. Send bids to: John P. Walsh, 453 Cornell Ave., Pemberton, NJ 08068

FOR SALE: Know how to compute batting averages but realize that it takes up a lot of time? With the 1981 S-O-M Advanced Report, you will have all the information at your fingertips to get a head start in your league. My scouting report includes: 1. The batting average of all the players cards, including extras, 2. A relevant home run ratings system--not a meaningless number! Both leagues for \$4, 35¢ for single teams. Free bonus prize if you buy both leagues. Order today. Adam Rust, 3674 Congress St., Fairfield, CT 06430

FOR SALE: 1. 1966 LA, ex. cond.; 2. 1968 SF, StL., Cin. w/ext., fair cond.; 1969 NYY (19), fair; 1969 LA (20), mint; 3. 133 assorted 1968; 4. 1971 entire NL, ex. cond. w/ext., except Cin. (20), StL (20), Pit. (18), AL with ext., Cal., Chis., KC, Bos., Wash., NYY, Clev., Milw., Det.; no ext., Oak., Min. 6. 1972 no ext. Det., Chis., Bos., Min., Oak., Balt. (22), Cubs, StL., SF, Atl., SD, Hou., LA; 6. complete 1970 ex. cond. w/ext. except Blt., Bos., Min., Oak., Atl., NYM, StL., Pit. 7. 1973 ex. cond., Cal. (20), Tex. (20), NYY (20), Milw. (20), Clev. (20), Det. (20), Chis (19), Min. (21), Bos. (23), Blt (23), Cin. (19), SF (23), Atl. (23), Phil. (20), Pit. (20), LA (18), StL. (24), Hou. (24), Mon. (24)

NYM (24), SD (24), Cubs (24), KC (24); 8. 1974 ex. cond. w/ext., Cin., Mon., StL., LA, SF, Hou., Phil. (23), Atl., Cubs, NYM, Tex., Bos., Milw., Min. (23), Det., Chis., Clev., KC, Blt., Cal., NYY; 9. 400 assorted 1976's; 10. 1976 Tor. & Sea. expansion cards (complete, mint). Dave Scheer, 86 Mill St., Spencerport, NY 14559 (716-352-9089)

FOR SALE: Available now! Available now! Available now! Super Stats presents its 1982 ratings of Strato Baseball cards. These ratings are based on the actual S-O-M cards not the player's stats. These ratings are designed to allow you to pick your mathematically best hitters and pitchers against any opponent. The Super Ratings are for use with the advanced game only and are available for all 26 teams and the 104 additional players. Each player is rated for both the left and right side separately. Additional special info on each player is also provided. For your complete computer print-out of all players (no single team orders), with full instructions on how to use the ratings, send \$4 plus 50¢ postage [\$4.50 total] to: C. Super, 1333 N. Martel Ave., Suite 108, Los Angeles, CA 90046. Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

FOR SALE: 1969, '70, '75 football cards, '70 (2 sets), '71 (2 sets) and '75 baseball cards. All cards in excellent condition. Also, Vol. I-6, 8, 10, 12 and Vol. II-1 through II-11 of Strat-O-Matic Review. Make offer to: Tom Clark, 27 E. Third St., Lakewood, NY 14750

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1965-1979; Football - 1967-1979. Most sets complete; many duplicate teams. Basketball, some complete sets, 1970's, Hockey, some complete sets, 1970's. Most teams good to mint condition. Send SASE only for list of available teams. Steve Forester, 306 N. Normal, Apt. 1, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

FOR SALE: What has fewer pages than War and Peace? What has fewer tables than a large metropolitan restaurant? What has fewer grammatical and syntactical errors than

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its illustrious predecessor? The second edition of Winning Strat-O-Matic Baseball, that's what. In its 60+ pages and 13+ tables is the wisdom of Surdam (not to be confused with the wisdom of Solomon). Here are comments from satisfied customers. Larry Fryer: "Your Strat-O-Matic thesis was outstanding." Mike Mancini: "I have read it over 5 or 6 times already and enjoyed it each time I did." I not only show you how to compute the chances for batters, pitchers and fielders, I help you evaluate whether the .300 singles hitter is more productive than the .240 power hitter. If winning is your goal, or if you just desire a better understanding of the game, then this publication is for you. I guarantee that your knowledge of winning baseball will be enhanced by this work, or you can request a refund [within 10 days of receipt]. Don't delay, reserve your copy today. I anticipate a March 15 mailing date. Such a deal, and for only a lousy 10 bucks. Remit your order to: Dave Surdam, 1925 Harris #7, Eugene, OR 97405

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Don't pay high prices! Following teams \$1 - 1972 Cubs, White Sox, Twins, Astros, A's; 1971 A's, Dodgers, Twins, Mets, Reds. Following Old Timers 60¢ - '27 Yanks, '31 A's, '35 Cubs, '35 Cardinals, '60 Pirates, '24 Senators, '57 Braves, '65 Twins, '65 Dodgers. Or will trade any 2 above teams for any 1 of the following: 1979 Pirates; '72 Dodgers, Braves; '75 Reds; '71 Giants. Or any 1 of the Old Timers above for 1 of following: '61 Yanks, '53 Dodgers, '54 Indians, '54 Giants, '61 Tigers, '61 Reds, '62 Giants, '67 Cardinals, '06 Cubs. All my teams are in good or better condition - expect the same. Send list with SASE and alternate choices, please. All replies answered. Terry Henry, 4137 Westgate Road, Orlando, FL 32808

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1977, '78 and '79 complete sets, including extra players. Football - 1978 complete set; 1977 Cowboys. Basketball - 1973-74 Knicks,

76ers, Kings, Warriors, Rockets, Braves, Suns, Lakers, SuperSonics, Cavaliers, Pistons. Please send all bids to: Robert Gross, 8 Concord Dr., Englishtown, NJ 07726

FOR SALE: Baseball, complete sets [with extras where applicable], 1968-1980, excellent to mint condition, plus miscellaneous teams, 1964-1980, fair to mint condition. Note: OBA, BA, DP, HR stats written neatly on some cards. Also for sale: 1978 pro football and basketball games, complete, mint condition. Sale to the highest bidder. Send inquiries to: David Stamper, 22425 100th Ave. W., Edmonds, WA 98020 [206-775-7897]

FOR SALE: Football game with following teams: '77 Bucs, Rams, Cowboys, Steelers, Broncos, Vikings, Dolphins; '76 Raiders. 2½ scorepads, Excellent condition. First \$12 gets game. Send check or money order with SASE [late checks are returned] to: Terry Henry, 4137 Westgate Road, Orlando, FL 32808

FOR SALE: I am an S-O-M player of 20 years and a highly-successful PBM veteran of 10 years. Here is an opportunity for you to share in two of my most valuable strategic tools: On-Base Ratings and Real Fielding Ratings. An OBR is a calculation of the actual on-base percentage chance from the card, and as such, is an indispensable tool for making platooning decisions. All batters and pitchers are rated against both righties and lefties, over 1,200 separate ratings in all. An RFR combines the range and error of a player for one comprehensive rating, showing the actual probability of a batter reaching base against any fielder when an "X" chart is rolled. It tells you, for example, if a "4, e2" outfielder is more effective than a "2, e14". Every player is rated at every position he plays. Ratings are ready now for the 1982 set and come with tips on how to use them. Order the 1982 OBR's or the RFR's for \$3.50 each or \$6.50 for both. Bruce Herman, 5242 South Thorn, San Diego, CA 92105

FOR SALE: Prefer bids on sets. Set 1 - Dec., 1977-June, 1980 S-O-M  
(continued)



Reviews (Fair), also missing Nov., '79 issue]; Sept.-Dec. '81. Set 2 - All 1972 Reviews including Directory. Baseball Set 3 - '05 Giants, '06 Cubs, '09 Tigers, '09 Pirates, '11 A's, '19 White Sox, '21 Yanks, '29 Cubs, '69 Pirates, Reds; '73 Giants, Angels. No. 4 - '64 Dodgers (mint). No. 5 - 1978 complete w/extras. No. 6 - 1980 complete w/extras. Football No. 7 - 1978 complete. No. 8 - 1979 complete. No. 9 - 1980 complete. No. 10 - '58 Giants, '60 Eagles, '65 Browns, '68 Raiders, '76 Colts, '76-77 Cowboys. College Football No. 11 - 24 all-time greats; 16 1977-78 team, with complete game. Basketball No. 12 - 1972-73 Bucks, Knicks, Celtics, Lakers, Bullets; 1979-80 76ers, with complete game. All sets in good condition unless noted. Highest bid by end of month. Will answer all SASE or highest bids. Anthony Johnston, 1916 Alden Lane, Little Rock, AR 72207

## League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: PBM league in second season is looking for backups. Also, a regular position may be opening up soon. Prefer managers with PBM experience willing to make a long-term commitment. Send resume to: Gary Esneault, 5401 Brookside, Apt. 301, Kansas City, MO 64112

LEAGUE FORMING: Five-team face-to-face league already formed. We will draft from the six teams in the N.L. East. We want to merge with anyone interested in forming a similar face-to-face league drafting from the six teams in the N.L. West, featuring some PBM play between divisions. Call or write: Bruce Helmkamp, 203 Highland, Collinsville, IL 62234 (618-344-2961)

LEAGUE FORMING: Here's your chance to play George Steinbrenner and Billy Martin. The Federal League is preparing for its second season of 20-team, play-by-mail baseball and is looking for dependable managers and backups with over 18-year-olds preferred. Dues pay for monthly newsletter and yearbook

and league features trades, re-entry draft and honest away results. Send a letter outlining your league and S-O-M experience to: Mike Mayko, 390 Welch's Point Road, Milford, CT 06460

LEAGUE FORMING: New league, using 1980 set with extras. It will be a straight-team league; 80-game schedule. For more information, write: Jim Teal, 5446 Glenfield Dr., Saginaw, MI 48603 (1-515-799-5185)

LEAGUE FORMING: Face-to-face baseball league forming in the Sullivan and Effingham, IL, area. This will be an adult draft league. Our league wants to expand so only interested, experienced and reliable managers reply. We will use the new cards and start as soon as possible. Write to: Lenny Luchtefeld, 1011 S. Worth, Sullivan, IL 61951 (phone 217-728-8906 after 6 p.m.)

LEAGUE FORMING: Face-to-face baseball and/or football leagues now forming in Detroit area. Advanced rules will be used. Seasons will consist of 162 baseball and 16 football games. For information, write or call: Jeff Oziuban, 5726 Artesian, Detroit, MI 48228 (phone: 336-6543)

LEAGUE FORMING: Need four to five managers in 2nd annual successful Can Am Baseball League (CABL). A summer PBM league where limitations for use of players are exaggerated or not even considered. We're using new 1982 N.L. cards plus extra players. You must be enthusiastic to play; between April-Oct. Interested? Mail to: George Smilka, 236 Northcliffe Blvd., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5E 3K7

LEAGUE FORMING: Use your baseball cards from the 1976-1980 seasons in a new league. New advanced-version continuous PBM league forming with 20 all-star teams from each league and division from these years. Individual rosters will be chosen through consensus balloting of managers joining the league. For more information or opportunity to manage, write or call (after 6 p.m. EDT): Dan Doucette, 30 Proctor Circle,

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Peabody, MA 01960 [617-531-3888]. Players from the North Shore encouraged to join for a face-to-face division. You must have all cards from these years to join.

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Established advanced PBM baseball league is in need of both new managers and backup managers. We are an innovative league which puts great emphasis in manager input. This is a draft league with all players retained. We currently have four immediate openings, including two championship teams. Phone 842-523-8519, or write: Dennis Regling, 1524 Westgate Road, Seymour, IN 47274. All replies will be answered.

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Need one more manager for the World Baseball League. This is a 24-team league, 12 in the Canadian League and 12 in the American League. Plus I need 10 backup managers. Teams left in the American League are Chicago and Oakland; in the Canadian League, Ottawa, Regina, Toronto and Vancouver. This is a 110-game draft season, using the advanced side. We will have two divisions, east and west, plus two seasons, first half will be 60 games and the second half will be 50 games. The league starts May 10 and ends Oct. 9. An all-star game, playoffs and World Series will be played. Each manager has two teams; one A.L., one C.L. Contact: Greg Bucurestean, 7427 Sarena, Detroit, MI 48210, or call 1-313-361-3077.

## Contests

**CONTEST:** The 2nd Annual Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament will be held the weekend of June 5-6 in Gary, IN. Featuring advanced baseball, super advanced hockey and football, and elementary baseball. Trophies awarded to winners and runnersup of all four events. Actual teams will be used; chosen on first-choice basis (yes, you can use 1956 season). Admission: \$7.50. For a weekend of fun and excitement, give it a try. Tournament is backed and supported

by the Strat-O-Matic Game Company. For further information, call or write: James Sanders, 5806 Kennedy Terrace #103, Gary, IN 46403. Phone: 1-219-938-6137. Enclose SASE and I will send flyer.

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## Looking for back issues of Review?

The following back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review can be ordered by writing: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

1982

Jan., Feb., March. Cost: 70¢ each.

1981

Feb., March, April, June, July, August, Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Cost: 70¢ each.

1980

Feb., April (limited), May (very limited), July, Sept., Oct. (limited), Nov., Dec. Cost: 60¢ each.

1979

Feb. (very limited), March (very limited), April, June, Aug. (limited), Sept., Oct., Dec. Cost: 60¢ each.

1978

Dec., Nov., Oct., Sept., Aug., July, June, May, April, March, Feb., Jan. Cost: 60¢ each.

1977

April (limited), July (limited), Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Cost: 60¢ each.

1976

Jan., Oct., Nov., Dec. Cost: 60¢ each.

1975

Jan., Feb. (limited), May (limited), July, August. Cost: 60¢ each.

1974

Nov., Dec. Cost: 60¢ each.

1973

August (limited). Cost: 60¢ each.

Issues prior to 1973 are no longer in stock. Also, when ordering, please list a second and third-choice for issues that are "limited" or "very limited." The latter listing means that there are fewer than half a dozen issues of that month still in stock.



## Here again is split-number dice system

It wouldn't seem like the baseball season if the Review didn't reprint Bryan Baker's split-number dice system. One of the most popular playing tips ever, if not the most popular, Baker's dice system does away with the split deck and makes it possible for numbers 1-20 to occur on any roll of the dice.

Most of the veteran gamers use it now, so the reprinting of the playing tip is mainly for new subscribers to the Review.

Checking the split-number chart below, note that it is subdivided: columns 1, 2, and 3 always refer to split numbers 1-10, and columns 4, 5, and 6 always to numbers 11-20. Always roll three dice when using the chart. Numbers along the sides refer to two-dice totals [red dice usually] and numbers across the top refer to one-die total [white die].

No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	No.
2	- *	*	*	*	*	*	- 2
3	- *	4	7	11	14	17	- 3
4	- 1	4	8	11	15	18	- 4
5	- 1	5	8	12	14	18	- 5
6	- 2	6	9	11	15	19	- 6
7	- 3	5	10	12	16	20	- 7
8	- 2	6	9	13	17	19	- 8
9	- 3	7	10	14	16	20	- 9
10	- 1	4	8	13	17	18	- 10
11	- 4	7	7	13	15	*	- 11
12	- *	*	*	*	*	*	- 12

\* Roll dice again. This is necessary so that each split number will have the same probability of occurring.

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### Relievers must 'warm up'

Timothy Arthur of Portsmouth, OH, is another gamer who thinks that 'relief' should be more than just reaching for the next S-O-M card in the so-called bullpen. In other words, relief pitchers shouldn't be brought in cold--there must be some warmUp time in between.

What Arthur and his gaming friends do is provide for relievers warming up. The relief pitchers have to be announced when they start throwing and they must "warm up" the equivalent of two batters. If a reliever enters the game and only one batter has been pitched to while he was warming up, then the reliever enters the game with his dots as SINGLES\*\* for one more batter. If no warmup, then the dots are singles for two batters.

Arthur also curtails the amount of warming up a reliever may do. A reliever is allowed one full inning (three outs) of warming up. After that tiredness sets in and, for every inning beyond one that he warms up, his endurance factor is reduced one inning. Thus if a pitcher warms up for two innings and has an endurance factor of "3," then the endurance is reduced to "2" because he warmed up more than one inning.

A reliever can warm up for an inning, rest an inning, and then warm up again, with no penalty regarding endurance when he enters the game. But if the warmup-rest routine is repeated a third time, then the endurance factor is again reduced one inning.

Another rule Arthur uses is: "A strict starter may relieve only if there are no relievers available to pitch and he must have at least two days or 18 innings of rest. A strict starter takes at least five batters

(continued on next page)

to have batted before he has sufficiently warmed up and has an endurance factor of "3" innings. Relievers, as far as rest, can appear in two consecutive games without penalty as long as they do not pitch beyond their endurance factor."

But, anytime a pitcher pitches on four consecutive days, regardless of the number of innings pitched, the fourth day his dots are "SINGLES\*."\*

In the case of doubleheaders, a relief pitcher's endurance factor is the total of innings he can pitch in a day, rather than the innings he can pitch in a game.

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## Do-it-yourself no-hitter

A trip to Fantasy Island for Steven Pieracini of Napoleon, OH, would conjure up visions of a no-hitter in Strat-O-Matic Baseball. A high school teacher, father of five and a S-O-M-gamer for the last five years, Pieracini has come close to a no-hitter but never actually experienced one.

Since a trip to Fantasy Island couldn't be fit into his busy schedule, Pieracini decided to create his own no-hitter. There would be no "zee plane, boss! zee plane." Rather it would be: "zee game, zee game!"

What Pieracini did was to take J.R. Richard's card [1980], surround him with an all-1 defense, install George Brett as the DH for offensive purposes, and then hand-pick a lineup of right-handed batters--albeit a feeble one at that--for tall J.R. to mow down.

Some of the soft-touch hitters included outfielders Jose Cardenal (no hits or walks against a right-hander), Bombo Rivera (almost as bad a card) and Paul Dade. The infield consisted of Doug Ault at first, Mick Kelleher at second, Luis Pujols at third and Luis Gomez at short. The catcher was Steve Nicosia and Duffy Dyer was the DH. "Dyer was the DH [three walks]," noted Pieracini, "because the pitcher might have a better chance for a hit."

The team, appropriately enough, was dubbed the SHUTOUTS.

It appeared Pieracini, who is presently commissioner of the Great Lakes S-O-M winter league and during the summer also manages a team in the Atlantic Coast League, had created the ideal mismatch--a no-hitter loomed only nine innings away.

In the first game, everything went smoothly for two innings. Then Gomez walked in the third inning, moved to third on two sacrifices and almost scored, with Dade rolling a 3-7 (3-6 is a single) for the final out. But then in the seventh, with the SHUTOUTS trailing 12-0, J.R. was nicked by a two-out single by Gomez. "I was crushed," relates Pieracini. "I couldn't even finish the game. Was I doomed to never witness a no-hitter?"

After scolding Richard, telling him to take the game more serious and not to complain about the numbness in his arm, Pieracini tried again.

And this time it paid off. A no-hitter at last! Richard struck out 12, walked one (Doug Flynn made one error) and the final score was 12-0. A fluke? Pieracini didn't think so. He tried again, the same day, and presto, another no-hitter. Again Richard struck out 12 and walked only one.

Two no-hitters, both by the same pitcher, and back-to-back! Pieracini had created his own "Fantasy Island." So, when things are going bad, and just missing a no-hitter is your fate time and time again, you might wish to try Pieracini's plan so that "every S-O-M manager can be sure to see at least one no-hitter in his career."

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In what may have been the first no-hitter with the new baseball cards, Dave Righetti, pitching for Steve [Boom] Johnson's "Bronx Boomers," shackled the hard-hitting 1977 Cincinnati Reds in an exhibition game.

(continued)



Righetti struck out nine and walked five, including issuing an intentional free pass (Johnson's orders) to George Foster in the ninth inning. It was a good move since Johnny Bench, the next batter, rolled a 1-5. Foster had won two earlier practice games by belting ninth-inning homers.

Johnson also reports that Ed Figueroa, 1975 vintage, hurled a no-hitter against the '75 Orioles in a solitaire replay he's conducting. Closest call for Figueroa, who struck out three and walked two, was when Paul Blair rolled a single 1-18 in the seventh inning and the number drawn was a 19!

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## Guest columnist

BY MARC JACOBSON  
11990 Ferndale St.  
Philadelphia, PA

If you are like me, when you received your 1981 S-O-M Baseball card set, you probably thought this year's set is not one of the most exciting ever issued. But before you start writing letters to the game company, remember that the cards are only a parallel of real-life. Here are some effects that the strike-shortened season had on the statistics:

**BATTING** - While there were certainly some great offensive performers (i.e. Mike Schmidt), the general production of the offense was down. This was not a result of the composition of the ball, as may have been the case in 1968, but rather due to the pitchers getting a jump on the batters--twice. Normally the pitchers would be ahead of the batters near the beginning of the season, but this would usually wear off by mid-season. Due to the hiatus, this point was never reached and when the second half resumed the pitchers again had the advantage.

**HITTING VARIANCE** - One notices that at the beginning of the season a typical batting average is the norm, mostly among substitutes. Many a pinch-hitter has an average around .400 at the start of the season, but this stabilizes to a truer average by season's end. Conversely, a player who had a subpar April would have five months to redeem himself. Since there were only four months, some averages did not approach the norm. This resulted in S-O-M issuing a list of a number of players whose use should be restricted; in the past, they have listed at most three such players. Mathematical statisticians would say that an average based on few at-bats is still an estimator of the player's true ability, but not a "minimum variance estimator" due to the disparity of the results.

**ROSTER MOVES** - The strike created havoc with both real and S-O-M rosters. In the past, a spring training phenom who didn't quite make it would find himself in the minors by mid-May. This season, such a player usually had enough at-bats or innings pitched to get an S-O-M card. For example, Marty Bystrom was plagued with injuries after April and found himself back in the minors after the strike, yet was still issued a card with the Phillies.

Many teams also had "first and second half starters," rather than platooning players, because of the strike. An example would be Kansas City as Clint Murdle was the first-half right fielder and Darryl Motley the second-half, each being used exclusively. Several teams spent the whole season trying to fill a position; the result being that Atlanta had five left fielders, Pittsburgh four first basemen, as did Oakland and Toronto, plus the A's and Houston had four second basemen (main position listed on the card, extras included).

**PITCHING** - Since the pitchers were ahead of the hitters most of the season, the majority of the pitchers' cards looked good. In fact, some cards, such as Dave Righetti, Goose Gosage and Kevin Saucier were awesome. Houston no longer cornered the market on pitchers giving up a low home run percentage; many pitchers, too numerous to list them all here, didn't give up home runs on their cards. Overall, the law of averages did not catch up with the pitchers because of the shortened season and as a result the 1982 card set ranks as a good one for pitching fans.

## Readers roll 'em

### MORE PENALTIES, PLEASE

I liked Pete Manzollillo's hockey playing tips (Jan. issue) regarding penalty minutes. There are not enough penalties in the S-O-M game. Specifically, the 5-minute majors and misconducts.

I feel S-O-M must come up with a new super advanced penalty chart similar to the one that Pete suggested. For proof, I am replaying the St. Louis Blues' season and there aren't enough penalties. At mid-season I will switch over to Pete's system and inform you on the results when my replay is completed.

An even bigger problem is the advanced action deck for hockey. The home team must have the advantage over the visitors. It is much easier to beat the Blues on your home ice than to travel to the Checkerdome. S-O-M did it for basketball, why not hockey?

Bill Modet'ski  
15178 Hanfor  
Allen Park, MI

### QUESTIONS MAY'S USE

I found the article on the GKSM World Series (Jan., 1982) interesting, especially the part about Rudy May winning the first, fourth and seventh games. Either the managers in the GKSM do not use the traditional World Series schedule (Game one, game two, travel day, game three, game four, game five, travel day, game six, game seven) or they chose to ignore Strat-O-Matic's recommendation that Rudy May be required to have 4 days rest between starts.

This was especially interesting to the managers in our league since the manager who owned Rudy May had to forfeit three games for pitching May with just three days rest and consequently lost the pennant, by three games.

Also, in the World Series, the losing manager could only use the awesome J.R. Richard in games 2 and 6 because of the aforementioned 4 days rest rule.

David Carroll  
194 W. Dakota  
Troy, OH

Editor's note: In the playoffs and World Series, the GKSM allows pitchers to hurl with two days rest. The losing manager in the World Series, John Madden, used Nolan Ryan as a starter in the same games that May pitched. During the regular-season, though, a pitcher cannot start a game without a three-day rest period.

### FUN WITH S-O-M

My friend and I have been enjoying Strat-O-Matic Baseball since 1975. We make up our own teams. Each year each one gets cards they already own and only new players are drafted, according to finish of previous schedule. We have 8 teams each with a roster of 40. It has been fun.

Regarding the Review, we especially like articles on explanations of rules and other people's variations of play. [Catcher-x: out on dropped popup--do players advance or what?]

I believe double-sided cards were started in 1971. Would like to see S-O-M reissue some more (since that date and before that date) even if they are the miserable, hard-to-handle small sizes.

I think your readership is made up of gamers and/or collectors. I would like to think that one of these days I (a gamer) can get to a gamer before he becomes a collector and thereby enrich my pre-1974 cards. We have taken up buying two sets each year, one to use and one just in case.

Kary Kintzel  
1343 W. Wisconsin  
Milwaukee, WI

### 1956 SEASON A BIG HIT

Strat-O-Matic is to be congratulated for producing the 1956 baseball season with all the advanced features.

I hope that your publication and its readers will encourage Strat-O-Matic to keep producing more complete baseball seasons. I would especially enjoy playing

(continued on next page)



strong hitting seasons from the 1920's and 1930's, or possibly a season from the 1890's, such as the 1894 season with 12 teams in the National League.

I also think that S-O-M is long overdue for a complete football season of the past.

Henry Dressel  
87 Cherry St.  
Etna, PA

#### A POPULAR SYSTEM

I enjoyed the recent article on how to judge a card by Marc Jacobson (Jan., 1982 Review). I was surprised to see that my own system of total bases-calculations had already been titled the "Earnshaw Cook system!" I guess it's a pretty obvious system that many have discovered in past years.

One very important factor not mentioned is the double-play factor (groundball-A). This can be the tie-breaker between two super sluggers. One may have 7 GB-As and lots of GB-Bs and the other may have over 30-inning-ending GB-A's. I approximate the average (basic side) around 20.

I recently purchased the new reprints and was surprised to see the lack of need for reprinting all those Yankees. We have the '61-'64 Yankees, but no '60 Yankees with which to replay the series against the Pirates.

I realize the team selection was influenced by S-O-M'er vote, but a proliferation of Yankee fans in their 20's and 30's seem to have dominated in their nostalgia. Possibly next time a weighted system for "first-place," "second-place" votes from each ballot could be used or a restriction on similar teams.

Additional [dread!] comment on reprints: How about a complete set of Hall-of-Famers? Especially the Negro Leagues whose players are not available in Old-Timer reprints. S-O-M could issue cards for HOF inductees each year along with the extra players set to keep it up to date.

IF S-O-M won't reprint these, how about a formula chart modified enough to protect "the secret" but accurate enough to conjure up some HOF'ers or even a few extras for the reprint teams? They could make some money from the chart and I doubt anyone would attempt to construct a current year set when S-O-M's is so moderately priced.

Robert Schellhaas  
13 Anderson St.  
Ft. Stewart, GA

#### CANADIAN FOOTBALL, ANYONE?

I'd like to see CFL [Canadian Football League] cards. S-O-M wouldn't have to make major rule changes and with CFL becoming more popular via Vince Ferragamo, Billy Johnson, James Scott, etc., and coverage on ESPN, I believe CFL would be a big seller in the U.S. as well as Canada.

By the way the Review is doing a great job. My favorite parts are the new card analysis and how about having an MVP Contest for football, hockey and basketball?

Carey Miller  
Saskatoon, Sask.

#### 'BIG BOYS' ARE WRITING

We [Central Oklahoma S-O-M League: The Big Boys League] are a league of four members. Our senior member began in 1964 and the others in 1969, 1976 and 1977. We have just completed our second 162-game season. That's who we are. Now, here are a few current things we all agree on:

(1) S-O-M Baseball is No. 1 for realism.

(2) Stealing has long been due a modification.

(3) Bunching the hits on the pitchers' No. 4 column was a great idea. Do something like that for the hitters, too, and it would be even better.

For anything else we must respond as individuals at this time. Remember that unhappy people tend to write more letters.

Randel DeHyatt  
Bethany, OK

Editor's note: No. 3 above, in the words of Marv Throneberry, would be a "bad idea." Most of the gaming populace is happy to see  
(continued)

S-O-M return to its familiar card patterns.

#### ENJOYS NEW STEALING

I very much enjoy the new base-stealing system proposed by Strat-O-Matic and sincerely hope it becomes a permanent fixture to its baseball game.

The old system takes into account a baserunner's speed, catcher's throwing arm and defensive manager's decision to hold a runner on base. This new system, however, adds to this the ability of the runner to get a "good" lead off a pitcher.

Adding this information to a player's profile provides an entirely new dimension to the game, its strategy and realism. There are now times when even a great base-stealer will not be sent because not getting those "few extra steps" increased his chances of being thrown out (or vice versa).

Runners who rarely attempt a steal but are successful the few times they get a good lead, can now possibly affect the outcome of a game. The system also allows for pick-offs, which I am very pleased to see become part of the game.

Again, it is my sincere hope that these rules are adopted by S-O-M for the future--I have actually become bored using the simpler ratings. My one suggestion is for a separate card, reflecting the player ratings for each team, be printed. A list with hundreds of players is hard to follow.

Joseph Dubin  
100-6 Dreiser Loop  
Bronx, NY

Editor's note: In addition to realism, another area on the plus side is that the new stealing ratings do not seem to increase the time needed to play a game. Most changes result in longer games, but this hasn't been the case.

#### WHAT'S AVAILABLE AT S-O-M?

I would like you to consider listing the items currently available from S-O-M. I know that many items have been updated so that they may not be com-

patible with the new game (revised).

However, occasionally I get the urge to play with some older teams and it would be convenient to know what I can still get.

I understand space may be at a premium--perhaps every two or three issues?

Nelson Fong  
1312 Kathy Ct.  
Livermore, CA

Editor's note: The Review has requested an update from Strat-O-Matic as to what's available, along with a battery of questions to be answered. Hopefully, it all will be available either this month or next.

#### RULES NEED REVISION

Let's face it, the rules in Strat-O-Matic games are poorly worded and ambiguous in some places, especially in the football and hockey games. Only if you're an intense student of the sport can you make a logical deduction as to what the rules imply.

Why not go back and compile all the "Questions & Answers" in the Review over the past few years and perhaps sell them in booklet form, or reprint them in different issues of the Review?

I have trouble with the football rules and would love to have a book at my fingertips which I could check to look up the question and answer, rather than flipping through past issues of the Review trying to find an answer.

Bete Manzolillo  
2526 S. St. Marks Ave.  
Bellmore, NY

Editor's note: A good idea(r). Hopefully the Review can get something moving in this direction in the months ahead.

#### RETURN TO THE REVIEW

I can't believe it's been almost a full year since I let my subscription run out. Give me 30 lashes and confiscate my dice, but please renew my subscription for another year.

Although I've missed out on what issues have been bandied about on the Review pages, I would like to make a couple of comments. First, I'm glad to see the baseball cards issued under the old format of random  
[continued on next page]



hit selection. Although from a pure statistical standpoint it doesn't make any difference, the random hit selection gives each player his own individual look, something that makes S-O-M stand out from other games.

Secondly, I think the new basketball game is great. The action card system gives the game the flow that was missing before, as well as making it an easier game to play solitaire. Keeping complete stats, I usually complete a game in 75-80 minutes, although I have finished games in 60 minutes.

Finally, I'd like to mention the AWA Football League, which was put to rest last year after 10 seasons of head-to-head play. Family commitments, work commitments and coabbes moving out of the area made it impossible to continue the league as we were used to having it.

Ten seasons is a good long haul for any league, but it was sure fun getting there. My only regret is that we're quitting now that the 49ers are finally winning. And Neil Christie, who guided Cincinnati to three league titles in the AWA, commented that it was about time the real version of the Bengals finally made it to the Super Bowl.

Neil, you see, is a five-time winner in AWA play; thrice with Cincy, once with Miami and once with Philadelphia. So there was added sweetness for the league members when the Bengals lost to the 49ers.

By the way, Neil predictably has challenged me to a rematch in S-O-M when the new cards come out.

Mike Applegate  
Santa Clara, CA

#### SEASONS MOST WANTED

The baseball seasons I would most like to see S-O-M develop and printed, in order, are 1959, 1947 and 1949. Also, how about past football seasons? Or reprints of Super Bowl teams?

I enjoy reading the Review each month and hope that it continues as the vital forum for all Strat-O-Matic viewpoints.

Steve Bernhardt  
Tucson, AZ

#### MORE CHANGES SUGGESTED

Because the baseball strike proved that all institutions are subject to change, I have a proposal for the Glen Head Gang that I'm positive will only enhance the game.

The problem is this: not all pitchers' offensive abilities are created alike. In real-life late-inning games, Gene Michael will pinch-run Ron Guidry on his day off from pitching, which leads me to believe he deserves a better running rating than S-O-M gives him.

I am confident that by personalizing the sacrifice ability of National League pitchers, some games would be influenced. The ratings have brought some impact to a pitcher's ability as far as error frequency, but what about a pitcher's other responsibilities? Not all pitchers are equal when holding runners, backing up bases, etc.

The injury system for a pitcher continues to perplex me. A 6-12 roll or a 2-2 roll punishes a durable pitcher as much as it does the chronic-arm pitchers.

One final mind-boggler. Why must all players become injured while batting? A strikeout plus injury reading is neither dramatic nor realistic when it comes to grinding out a replay. Instead, a double (cf) plus injury like the '78 Tucker Ashford card had seems more believable.

What might prove to be more interesting would be to make the "4" split on an x-chart a possible injury for the fielder in question.

Keith Adams  
Marquette U.  
Milwaukee, WI

Editor's note: Most of your complaints, if you will pardon our bluntness, are of the minor variety. All players have injury chances on their cards, as set up by computer. Limiting the duration of injuries is up to each gamer or league. S-O-M has made numerous changes over the years in its products--most suggested by gamers, many of them in the pages of the Review--but it must be remembered that too many changes will make the game longer, and perhaps more difficult, to play. Playability is one of S-O-M's trademarks.

## S-O-M league, replay scene

BURLINGTON COUNTY BASEBALL LEAGUE - Eight-team league that plays 162-game schedule...Burlington, NJ, is home for BCBBL, which completed its third season last fall...Barry Buyers of Willingboro, NJ, emerged as champ of the league after his Senators defeated Jim Minugh's Florence Brewers in a best-of-seven series, 4-1...George Brett of the Senators, after flirting with .400 in real-life, finished with a league-leading .370 average, while Mike Schmidt of the Burlington Red Sox set a BCBBL record by smashing 44 home runs...The league lineup: Riverside Blue Jays (Fernando Andrade, 21, Riverside, NJ), Florence Brewers (Jim Minugh, 28, charter member, Florence, NJ), Somerset Indians (Jody Buyers, 21), Delran Phillies (Carl Sarlo, 21, Delran, NJ), Pennypacker Pirates (Norm Steady, 28), Roebling Reds (Bob Dulo, 28, engineer, Roebling, NJ), Burlington Red Sox (Robin Buyers, 27), Willingboro Senators (Barry Buyers, 28)...Senators won 24 of last 32 games, Philadelphia only 13 of 32 to decide race in Cobb Division...Brewers' bullpen of Doug Corbett (9 wins, 19 saves), Goose Gossage (10, 19) and Rick Camp (6, 16) figured in 79 percent of team's wins...On the dismal side, Joe Niekro (5-16, 5.58 ERA) of the Blue Jays and Jim Palmer (4.14) and Larry Gura (5-11, 5.18) of the Indians had sub-par seasons...Phillies stole league-record 219 bases as Rickey Henderson swiped 106 in 177 attempts.

### Standings and leaders:

GEHRIG	W	L	GB	Avg.	ERA	COBB	W	L	GB	Avg.	ERA
Brewers	106	56	-	.274	3.32	Senators	90	72	-	.273	3.32
Reds	87	75	19	.255	3.51	Phillies	78	84	12	.269	3.95
Pirates	79	83	27	.262	3.35	Indians	71	91	19	.256	3.82
Red Sox	73	89	33	.245	3.77	Blue Jays	64	98	26	.240	4.23

Batting	Home Runs	RBI	Playoffs
Brett SEN .370	Schmidt RS 44	Oglivie PIR 125	Senators d.
Buckner PHI .338	Oglivie PIR 43	Cooper SEN 104	Brewers, 3-2,
Murray BJ .327	Hornor BREW 39	Schmidt RS 100	2-3, 12-2, 4-0,
Carew PHI .321	Armas BJ 37	Hornor BREW 93	8-7
Cooper SEN .313	Jackson RED 36	Armas BJ 93	

Wins	ERA	R:
Norris BJ 21-12	May PIR 2.53	R: Randolph SEN 98
Reuss RED 20-14	Pastore BREW 2.63	H: Cooper SEN, Murray BJ 195
Carlton RS 19-15	Carlton RS 2.91	2B: Yount PIR 51
Rogers SEN 18-9	Barker PIR 2.93	SB: Moreno IND 110/152
Eckersley BREW 17-6	Soto PIR 2.96	Henderson PHI 106/177

Relief wins: Reardon RS 13-5 SA: Corbett BREW, Gossage BREW 19  
MVP: Oglivie PIR Cy Young: Norris BJ Fireman: Gossage BREW

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1980 DETROIT TIGER REPLAY - Conducted by Bill Modelski of Allen Park, MI, a suburb of Detroit...Individual averages were somewhat off, reports Modelski, although team averages were very close. Team batting average of .273 matched real-life mark...Modelski, a veritable man-in-motion playing two PBM leagues while attempting the 162-game replay, admits the undertaking was taxing: "I was surprised," he says, "how difficult it was to accomplish. Even 162 games is tough. Compiling the stats was also a very tedious job. To those people who have done full-season replays for the entire league, hats off. You should be considered for the Nobel Prize"...As for the stats, Lance Parrish batted .282 (.286 real-life) and displayed more power than real-life (33 HRs, 114 RBI compared to 24, 82); Steve Kemp (.328, 22 HRs, 96 RBI) was team MVP; Richie Hebner was a disappointment, batting .268 (.290) and his run production dipping to 47 (82); and Dan Schatzeder, a flop in real-life, pitched the way Detroit would have been delighted with, going 15-8 with a 2.82 ERA...Team record was 82-80.

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1980 FOOTBALL REPLAY - Dale Wiederholt, Al Stoltz and Arnie Fritsch, all of Dubuque and friends of Steve Olson, replayed the 1980 football season, an endeavor that took 4½ months for the Iowa quartet to complete...Many surprises occurred, reports Olson, the biggest being Seattle's 10-6 record facing a tough lineup of teams...The Seahawks, in fact, reached the Super Bowl, where finally Philadelphia shot them out of the air, 30-24, as Harold Carmichael caught seven passes for 140 yards and Wilbert Montgomery rushed for 110 more on 31 carries...Dallas was devastating on offense, scoring 514 points, while Buffalo had the best defense, yielding a mere 208 points and producing the best record, 14-2. Green Bay had the longest winning streak, nine games...Memorable shoot-outs in the playoffs were: Philadelphia 48, Chicago 45 [Walter Payton rushed 24 times for 201 yards for Chicago while Ron Jaworski completed 28 of 48 passes for 436 yards and four TDs for Eagles]; Lynn Bickey passed for 397 yards and Gerry Ellis and Eddie Lee Ivery each rushed for 100 more as Green Bay upset Dallas, 34-27; and Jim Zorn filled the air with passes, going 41 for 57 for 396 yards, as Seattle buried the offensive-minded San Diego Chargers, 52-21.

Standings, leaders and playoff results:

AFC East				AFC Central				Playoffs			
W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA				
Buffalo	14	2	372	208	Cleveland	10	6	402	329	Seattle 28	
New England	10	6	405	334	Houston	9	7	384	354	Oakland 20	
Miami	8	8	259	312	Pittsburgh	8	8	389	362	Seattle 27	AFC
Baltimore	5	11	322	454	Cincinnati	6	10	326	330	Buffalo 21	
NY Jets	5	11	267	403							
AFC West				NFC East							
W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA				
San Diego	10	6	389	359	Dallas	12	4	514	397	San Diego 35	
Seattle	10	6	392	350	Philadelphia	9	7	413	320	Cleveland 7	
Oakland	10	6	343	350	St. Louis	8	8	410	346	Seattle 52	
Denver	7	9	365	402	Washington	6	10	267	342	San Diego 21	
Kansas City	5	11	368	450	NY Giants	2	14	254	448	Philadelphia 48	
NFC Central				NFC West							
W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA				
Green Bay	11	5	341	284	Los Angeles	12	4	405	292	Chicago 45	NFC
Chicago	10	6	344	295	Atlanta	8	8	382	382	Green Bay 34	
Detroit	9	7	426	327	New Orleans	4	12	309	399	Dallas 27	
Minnesota	7	9	326	380	San Francisco	3	13	340	477	Philadelphia 38	
Tampa Bay	6	10	236	347						Los Angeles 28	
Rushing				Receiving							
Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD				
Campbell HOU	373	1677	4.4	18	Winslow SD	89	1299	14.4	10	Philadelphia 30	
Payton CHI	336	1672	4.9	9	Jefferson SD	78	1361	17.4	4	Green Bay 21	
Dorsett DAL	275	1416	5.1	19	Cooper SF	82	553	6.7	4		
Anderson SL	298	1368	4.5	18	Clark SF	71	1309	18.4	11		
Andrews ATL	265	1319	4.9	8	Joiner SD	71	1271	17.9	11		

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NORTH EAST BAKERSFIELD S-O-M FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NEBSOMFL) - Eight-team, California-based league that has completed three seasons of play. Basic game is used and league plays 10-game schedule...Members are: S.J. Adams [Houston], Steve Adams [San Diego], Eddie Hayes [Minnesota], Bill Hoesman [Philadelphia], Brian Self [Dallas], Brad Barker [Los Angeles], Mark Morrison [Buffalo] and Joe Adams [Oakland], who at 56 is league's oldest member...The league's patriarch, in fact, won the championship by defeating Houston, 22-14, as the Raider defense forced six turnovers...Wilbert Montgomery of Philadelphia was the rushing leader, gaining 747 yards in 168 carries, including a 222-yard game against Dallas; while Ron Jaworski passed for 19 touchdowns and John Jefferson led in receptions, with the San Diego ace making 95 catches for 1,584 yards. Standings:

Blue Division				Red Division				Playoffs			
W	L	T		W	L	T					
Minnesota	7	3	0	Houston	8	2	0	Oakland 12			
Oakland	7	3	0	Philadelphia	5	5	0	Minnesota 7			
Buffalo	3	5	2	Los Angeles	4	4	2	Houston 23			
San Diego	2	7	1	Dallas	4	5	1	Philadelphia 21			



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Pictured below, left to right, are members of a face-to-face league in Woonsocket, RI (Ray Sylvester, Paul Lipsky, Sy DuParron) that's been in existence for nine years (ages range from 23-43); Tom Nelson, another well-known S-O-M buff and frequent visitor to the game company; and Gerald Grossman, lawyer from Philadelphia and member of two face-to-face leagues.

