



STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW

Devoted exclusively to
the Strat-O-Matic Game
Fan, with the consent
of the Strat-O-Matic
Game Company

VOL. VIII-5, August, 1978

Payton Has 'Payoff' Card

The year 1977 belonged to Walter Payton when it came to running the football in the National Football League. And his 1978 Strat-O-Matic card for the Chicago Bears reflects the performance that produced 1,852 yards in 339 carries and a 5.5 average.

"Payoff" Payton is off and running on most guessed "wrong" calls. When sweeping the flanks, for instance, he gets loose for 73 yards on a dice roll of "2". There are short gains on 6 and 8, a 25-yard ramble on 4 and, hold onto your dice!, a long gain on 10. Payton is without peer as a runner in the newest S-O-M Football cards.

Greg Pruitt of Cleveland, Terry Metcalf of St. Louis, Tony Dorsett of Dallas and O.J. Simpson of Buffalo are other super runners--but Payton is now the king!

Although deadline time for the Review permitted only a cursory look at the new cards, here are some other observations:

* Overall, the offenses don't seem as strong as in recent years, but neither do the defenses. And there are fewer unusual cards.

* Seattle, San Diego and Green Bay don't have any fumbles on their defensive cards.

* Counting up the points on defense, Denver and Dallas--the Super Bowl rival--have the most, 56 each. Conversely, Seattle, with 29, has

(continued on back page)

Here's 'Game Plan' Sheet For Football

Play-by-mail S-O-M Baseball leagues are a snap compared to playing any of the other games via PBM. But, despite the complexities, many people give 'em a try every year--and many with very successful results.

Football is one that is growing in popularity. Smoothing the way has been a "Game Plan" sheet (first submitted by Richard York of Detroit and appearing in the Jan., 1976 Review).

The 'Plan' is, for the most part, quite complete, as well as easy to fill out and yet doesn't put the home coach in a state of shock trying to figure out. Some of the newer rules for S-O-M Football are not so easy to incorporate on the sheet, although others could be utilized and provided for under the section on the sheet entitled additional comments or instructions.

First of all, offensive and defensive units should be as listed on the team card. The exception would be, of course, if linemen and defensive linebackers and backs were also drafted. In such cases the offensive and defensive units should be listed on a new card.

Also, if the back running the ball is not listed by name, you should note whether the running backs are to be alternated regarding carries, or in what specific situations each is to be used.

York, who was a member of the International Football League at the time the "Game Plan" was brought to the attention of the Review (we have not heard if it is still in existence), also used the following limitation rules regarding passes attempted, rushes and receptions: 45 passes maximum over actual attempts; 40 carries for backs and 10 receptions for receivers.

Also, defensively, Frank Kastelic's solitaire defensive chart (Oct., 1975 Review) was used. Now here is the "Game Plan" sheet:

Teams: _____ At _____

Starting Lineup:

QB - _____
HB - _____
FB - _____
SE - _____
TE - _____
FL - _____

Reserves, or backups:

QB - _____
HB - _____
FB - _____
SE - _____
TE - _____
FL - _____

Team Plays:

Down & Yards To Go

1 S 10
2 S 11 or more
2 S 8 to 10
2 S 8 or more
2 S 7 or less
3 S 16 or more
3 S 3 to 15
3 S 3 or more
3 S 3 to 5
3 S 2 or less
3 S 6 or more

(Circle one when you have pass or run options)

Pass Run _____
Pass Short pass or long pass to _____
Pass Short pass or long pass to _____
Pass Run _____
Pass Run _____
Pass Long pass to _____
Pass Long pass to _____
Pass Run _____
Pass Flat pass to _____
Pass Run _____
Pass Flat pass to _____

(continued on following page)

4 S 1 or more Punt, Unless otherwise instructed _____

4 S 1 or more Field Goal attempt: _____

4 S 1 or more Punt out of bounds: _____

When to use timeouts: _____

When to use onside kickoff: _____

Additional comments or instructions: _____

Manager's signature _____

Field Goal, Kickoff Modifications Suggested

Gets His Kicks Out Of S-O-M Football

Don Mankowski of Columbia, SC, would like to enliven the kicking game in S-O-M Football. Mankowski, you may remember, was the creator of the "Strategic Punt System" (Dec., 1977 Review).

"My only complaint about S-O-M Football is the oversimplicity of the kicking game," says Mankowski, who proposes to do something about that flaw with his ingenuity. What he's done, in his latest ventures, is to create temporary modifications for both field goals and kickoffs, with the purpose of permitting more variety and strategy.

"Basically, my Field goal revision provides an incentive for a team to move in closer before attempting the kick, even if it does not advance to the next zone," says Mankowski. "My kickoff revision adds strategy to this phase of the game, allowing a coach to choose a long deep kickoff, a kick away from the best returner, or a shorter, squib kick. The type of kick determines the strength of the return and more variety is added to these plays.

"And yet," adds Mankowski, "the kicker's individual [or at least team] rating is not entirely eliminated."

Here is the field goal chart: (once a decision is made to try for a field goal, roll two dice and then roll again for the kick result)

Line of Scrimmage	Read from Next		Read from indi-	
	Nearer zone*		cated zone	Read from Farther zone*
3, 13, 23, 33, 38	- 7	-	2-6, 8-12	-
4, 14, 24, 34, 39	- 6	-	2-5, 7-12	-
5, 15, 25, 35, 40	- 5	-	2-4, 6-12	-
6, 16, 26, 36, 41	- 4	-	2-3, 5-12	-
1, 7, 17, 27, 37, 42	- 3	-	2, 4-12	-
2, 8, 18, 28	- -	-	2-10, 12	11
9, 19, 29	- -	-	2-9, 11, 12	10
10, 20, 30	- -	-	2-8, 10-12	9
11, 21, 31	- -	-	2-7, 9-12	8
12, 22, 32	- -	-	2-6, 8-12	7

* If already in minimum-distance zone, kick is automatically GOOD.

If already in maximum distance zone, kick is automatically NO GOOD.

(continued on next page)

On free-kick attempts following fair catches, accept the nearer readings but disregard farther ones. Also, allow a kicker to decline the "advantage" of a nearer zone if it actually hurts his chances.

Another advantage of the chart is that a team has a chance for a longer field goal than currently allowed in the game. A kicker with numbers in his 33-37 zone can try from up to 42 yards out (a 59-yarder), but must count on a lucky pre-field goal roll to even have a chance.

FIELD GOAL - SPECIAL PLAYS

In addition, let rolls of 2 and 12 on the pre-field goal chart activate the following Special Field Goal chart:

- 2 - Defense hits kicker (5-yard penalty and first down).
- 3 - Broken play--holder must run (or lose 10 yards).
- 4 - Kick blocked--loose ball 5 yards behind scrimmage line.
- 5 - Chance for fake--holder may run.
- 6 - Kicker's team offside (5-yard penalty).
- 7 - No change--roll again for kick result.
- 8 - Defense offside (5-yard penalty).
- 9 - Chance for fake--holder may pass.
- 10 - Kick blocked--loose ball 10 yards behind scrimmage line.
- 11 - Broken play--holder must pass (or lose 10 yards).
- 12 - Defense roughs kicker (15-yard penalty and first down).

Fake - Offense may ignore and roll again for kick result.

Holder - Backup quarterback usually. If another player, other than QB, use backup QB's card.

Type of pass/run - If pass, receiver is backup TE, in on blocking platoon. On fakes, read play as "guessed wrong;" on broken plays, as "keyed/double-teamed correctly."

Penalties - Roll again for result of kick; if good, offense has option of taking result or penalty.

KICKOFFS

Kicking team calls type of kickoff. Roll three dice: if white die is 1, 2, or 3, use team KO card as usual; if white die is 4, 5, or 6, refer to proper chart with red dice total. All three dice are rolled for the return (if any); two dice total being used on returner's card. White die is used to modify return according to the type of KO on chart. Negative numbers merely subtract from return; they are not losses. If ball ends up in end zone, score a touchback (not a safety).

The kickoff chart (use on rolls of 4, 5, or 6 with white die):

Dice total	Deep KO	KO Away	Squib KO
2	- TB	-4 (#2)	1 (#1)
3	- TB	3 (#2)	0/B
4	- -4 (#2)	8 (#1)	13 (#2)
5	- 8 (#1)	20 (#2)	25 (#1)
6	- 2 (#1)	13 (#1)	18 (#1)
7	- 5 (#1)	0/B	19 (#2)
8	- 1 (#1)	11 (#2)	16 (#1)
9	- -2 (#1)	6 (#1)	5 (#2)
10	- 6 (#2)	14 (#2)	19 (#1)
11	- TB	4 (#2)	0/B
12	- 15 (#1)	16 (#2)	21 (#1)

Change of return:

1	- +2	- -1	- -4
2	- +4	- 0	- -1
3	- *	- *	- *
4	- +5	- +1	- 0F
5	- +6	- +2	- +2
6	- short gain	- +3	- +3

(continued on next page)

* Refer to KO Special Chart; F - fumble at point of catch; O/B - out of bounds, 5-yard penalty against kicking team; TB - touchback. For on-side kick use normal procedure regardless of white die roll. Free kick after safety: use punt procedure for kick and return, but add 10 yards to kick. Any blocked punt goes 50 yards instead.

KICKOFF SPECIAL CHART

- 2 - KO must be fair caught.
- 3 - Personal foul on receivers; 15-yard penalty after return.
- 4 - Fumble - loose ball at point of catch.
- 5 - Kicking team offside, 5-yard penalty and kick over.
- 6-7 - No change, roll again for return.
- 8 - Receiving team offside, 5-yard penalty and kick over.
- 9 - Returner may lateral ball to teammate of choice as his run ends. Roll three dice. If white die 1-5, play completed, use Short Gain for additional run. If 6, incomplete, free fumble (neither team may advance it).
- 10 - Fumble - loose ball at end of [roll again] return.
- 11 - Personal foul on kicker, 15-yard penalty after return.
- 12 - KO must be fair caught.

ADVANTAGES-DISADVANTAGES

DEEP KICK - More touchbacks, more kicks to or near end zone. But most kicks handled by #1 returner and longer returns.

KICK AWAY - Fewer kicks to #1 returner. But more out of bounds kicks and shorter kicks.

SQUIB KICK - More fumble chances. But much shorter kicks and more out of bounds.

QUICK KICK

May be used on any down but fourth. Offensive back (usually QB) may quick-kick. Use regular punter's numbers. Normal return if defense called "pass," with free safety as #1 and tight safety as #2. But ball rolls dead if defense called "run."

Strat-O-Matic Spotlight

Nothing beats face-to-face play for bringing out the intrinsic thrills of Strat-O-Matic. Solitaire is fun, too, but it still doesn't compare to those one-on-one duels.

Two Canadians--Jim Coghlin, Pointe Claire, Quebec, and Chuck Van Den Corput, Burlington, Ontario--got together over the holidays back in April and battled face-to-face, playing 15 football games in five days. "A week of S-O-M is one of the greatest things for someone who plays nothing but solitaire for months," echoed the pair. "It was fun to get together with someone who doesn't think you're crazy, and play S-O-M games."

Chuck, by the way, won the mini-series, eight games to seven. Highlights included Chuck's New York Giants defeating the Jets in the battle of the Big Apple, 17-7; Walter Payton rushing for 169 yards for Chuck in a 31-17 Chicago romp over Washington; Jim all but spindling and mutilating Jim Plunkett's card after he threw an interception from the four, with San Francisco trailing Cleveland, 24-23, with less than a minute left; and Jim losing four games in one day and then roaring back to claim three wins in a row.

SUBLIME TO RIDICULOUS

Going from the sublime to the ridiculous was Kevin Knight's good fortune and then fate in the first inning of a Rangers-Astros game in the NASDMBRL replay league. Kevin's Rangers produced the most runs

[continued on next page]

possible on one swing of the bat--but then turned around and made the most outs possible on one swing as well.

The inning went like this for Knight, who hails from Baton Rouge, LA, and his actual-draft team:

Mike Hargrove walked. Toby Harrah singled. Jim Sundberg singled. And then Don Baylor slammed a grand-slam home run. Claudell Washington followed with another single. Then Ken Henderson singled. Tito Fuentes was the unfortunate one, however, who then lined into a triple play ["lo(ss) max"].

CHALK ONE UP FOR L.A.

Randy Marty of Monoma, WI, replayed the 1977 World Series and, in a deviation from real-life happenings, the Los Angeles Dodgers prevailed in six games over the New York Yankees.

Burt Hooton won a pair of games for L.A., which captured games 2 and 3, 8-0 and 5-2, and 5 and 6, 5-3 and 13-4. Don Gullett shut out the Dodgers in the opener, 5-0, and Ron Guidry posted a 7-2 triumph in game No. 4. Thurman Munson was the Series' leading hitter with three home runs, although Rick Monday of L.A. blasted a grand-slam in the sixth game.

S-O-M CLUB OF LONG ISLAND

Racquet clubs of various sorts are currently in vogue. And bridge and backgammon clubs are also flourishing.

Now comes the Strat-O-Matic Club of Long Island, operated by Steve Kurzban and located at 383 Old Country Road, Carle Place, NY [actually the building is the North Shore Backgammon Club]. Kurzban reports that a 20-team Super League is currently operating on Thursday nights in baseball and that a similar football league has begun on Wednesdays. And, for those who can't make the club scene on a regular basis, Kurzban also has set up one-night baseball and football tournaments.

The one-night tournaments operate on a basis of a \$2 admission fee and \$1 prize pool fee, with the winners of the various tournaments receiving S-O-M gift certificates. Strict rules are set up (and posted) regarding use of players, injuries, teams, etc. In football, for instance, two teams are played each night (the 1958 Colts vs. 1958 Giants launched the schedule on July 5, with Denver vs. Dallas slated to clash on August 2) with coaches alternating teams, and then win-loss record and point spread are used to determine the winners.

The regular leagues (six operated during the winter months) were all baseball draft leagues, except for one actual-team football. An 81-game schedule is played, with results, standings and related information posted weekly.

The S-O-M Club of Long Island could be pioneering a new trend in the world of sports table-gaming.

SHORT SHAKES

...Larry Bowa has a reputation as a slick fielder. Steady and consistent. But he's fast building a reputation as a consistent hitter in S-O-M as far as rookie gamers Scott Jennings and Kelly Conway (Grandview, MO) are concerned. They watched Bowa hit five straight flyballs to St. Louis center fielder Tony Scott in one game, then come back and ground out to short four out of five times the next game...Way back! It's gone! In Tom Marzagalli's (North Massapequa, NY) first game with the new baseball cards, Reggie Jackson smashed two home runs and drove in five runs in a 5-0 Yankee victory...Longest S-O-M league name? It may be ACSOMPMBL (Austin College S-O-M Play-By-Mail Baseball League) which has franchises in Denton, Dallas, Arlington, Sherman, Austin and Big Lake (in West Texas)--all, of course, found in the Lone Star state. All members are friends who met while students at Austin College, in Sherman, TX...Two greatest football thrills experienced by Tim Strack of Menomonee Falls, WI, was watching 1975 Terry Metcalf score five TDs against the Vikings and Walter Payton three (plus 220 yards) against Detroit.

S-O-M Baseball Trivia Quiz...

7

There's no summer break for Robert Henry, Strat-O-Matic Baseball's trivia quizmaster. He's got another set of cranium-scratchers ready to go. So, without further delay, let's dig into this month's trivia questions.

- QUESTION: Does 1977 Larry Bowa (32 stolen bases with three times caught stealing [Philadelphia Phillies]) hold the record for best stealing percentage for a player with 30 or more stolen bases not rated "AA"? [question submitted by Seth Sherman]
- A
- QUESTION: Recent Reds and Orioles teams have earned a reputation for perfect defense at second base and shortstop ("1" fielders at each position). Has any modern-day team, however, been so unfortunate as not to have a player rated better than "4" available at both positions?
- B
- QUESTION: Which modern players have received 10 or more home run chances and also a stealing rating of "A" on the same card?
- C
- QUESTION: Since S-O-M began using the computer to produce cards, which player has received the most home run chances on his card without also getting a Flyball A?
- D
- QUESTION: Who holds the record for lowest stealing percentage (i.e. stolen bases divided by total steal attempts) for a modern "AA" stealer?
- E
- QUESTION: Which player received 10 or more home run chances on his card without receiving any other hits on his card?
- F

...And Now For The Answers

- ANSWER: A - 1970 Amos Otis of Kansas City stole 33 bases without being caught as an "A" to establish the record.
- ANSWER: B - The 1977 Atlanta Braves and 1977 Seattle Mariners are the only teams that can be charged with this misdemeanor. To add to their problems, the Braves also have no catcher rated better than "4."
- ANSWER: C - 1961 Frank Robinson (10.1 HRs) 1964 Willie Mays (12.9)
1962 Frank Robinson (10.1 HRs) 1966 Hank Aaron (11.6)
1962 Willie Mays (12.6 HRs) 1975 Mike Schmidt (10.4)
1963 Hank Aaron (11.5 HRs)
- ANSWER: D - 1976 Ron Fairly with 10.5 card chances. S-O-M has more or less acknowledged that the 1962 Willie McCovey card, with 13.75 home run chances and no flyball A, is wrong. McCovey's card was figured manually--before the days of the computer came into use by S-O-M.
- ANSWER: E - 1977 Lou Brock reached the bottom with a 59.3 per cent success-caught mark. Brock stole 35 bases and was caught 24 times. Meanwhile, teammate Garry Templeton, also caught stealing 24 times, was rated "B" for 28 steals. And, then there was 1970 Amos Otis at 33-0.
- ANSWER: F - 1971 Curt Motton received 10.5 home run chances with no other hits. Motton, incidentally, did receive a Flyball A.

WORST INJURY

To set the record straight, 1976 and 1977 Manny Mota and 1976 Tony Oliva all had the worst injury--all with an injury on No. 7.

GKSML Completes A.L. Season

Break up the Newells!

That could be the battle cry of the other members of the Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League (GKSML) at the conclusion of the recent American League replay--the 15th such full-season (154 games) replay the longtime draft league has completed.

The Newells--Review co-editors Warren and Del, plus Del's 14-year-old son Todd--picked off the first three places in the A.L. Warren repeated as A.L. kingpin, Todd was second, three games off the pace, and Del chugged in third, 10 behind.

Break up the Newells! Right? Wrong! The National League replay, currently in progress, indicates it won't be necessary: Del is entrenched in the basement, while Todd is wallowing in the second division and Warren is struggling with a .500 pace.

BALANCE PAYS OFF

But, back to the American League. Warren blended good hitting (.268 team average, 190 homers and 839 runs scored) with adequate pitching and a superb job of platooning to post a 93-61 record.

Graig Nettles clubbed 43 homers and led the league with 125 RBI, while Bert Blyleven was 18-10 (despite giving up 41 homers!) and Jesse Jefferson--no household name--was acquired in trade and turned around and won 15 games.

Todd, with a mound corps of Frank Tanana (18-11, 230 strikeouts), Dennis Eckersley (20-10, 250 strikeouts) and Dave Rozema (18-8), and four players who hit 20 or more home runs and .278 team average stayed in contention until the final series of the season.

In fact, Warren won three out of four games from Del in that final series to sew it up.

WHAT IS A GKSML?

For new subscribers (and those who haven't been paying attention the last seven years), the GKSML is a Kalamazoo, Mich.-based S-O-M Baseball League, usually consisting of eight members, that replays both A.L. and N.L. seasons. It's a draft league with 15 players protected from one season to the next, and a draft of rookies (new cards), players traded from one league to another and players "cut" used to fill out 25-man rosters.

As mentioned before, longevity is the GKSML's greatest claim to fame. Many of the play-by-mail leagues, as evidenced by slick, voluminous yearbooks sent to the Review, are certainly better organized.

Two newcomers joined the GKSML this year in Gary Tien and Doug Towne, both of whom are in their late 20s and experienced hands at rolling S-O-M dice. They had previously played in a mini-league before deciding to cast their fate with the GKSML.

Oh, and Gary was fifth in the A.L. standings and Doug, like so many newcomers before him, finished in the basement. Both took over established teams, however, rather than expansion.

The regular cast, in addition to the Newells, was Clif Sage, Dale Holland and Jim Myers, all of whom live and work in the Otsego-Plainwell area, located about 19 miles north of Kalamazoo.

Again, a 154-game schedule was played and trading was permitted up to 100 games. The draft, as usual, was in reverse of the order of finish the previous A.L. season. Del, because he finished on the bottom in '77, received the first pick for his feeble efforts. He promptly chose Ron Guidry, who went on to post a sensational 18-5 record.

Todd had second pick and he selected Rozema. Dale took Rupert Jones third and he batted .263 with 19 homers. Gary made Mike Flanagan his

(continued on next page)

first choice [No. 4 overall] and it was a wise pick as he compiled a 26-12 record with 2.79 earned run average. Mitchell Page [Doug], Richie Zisk [Clif], Lee Stanton [Warren] and Eddie Murray [Jim] were the other first-round selections.

Jim Myers, last two years ago, fell back into the basement after winning one division of the A.L. the previous season. Jim's rise and fall could be traced to Mark [The Bird] Fidrych. When the Bird flew high Jim was perched at the top, too. But Fidrych's ailing wing brought down Jim this season, with Myers finally settling in seventh place.

THERE IT GOES!

Home runs, as one could imagine, sailed out of GKSM parks at a record pace. Last year the league hit a total of 824 homers, with a high of 136 by Warren and a low of 51. This year the league blasted 1,365 roundtrippers--an increase of 541 from the previous season! Clif Sage had a murderers row as the bleachers were reached a whopping 246 times (a GKSM record) as Jason Thompson walloped 50, Toby Harrah 32, Bobby Bonds 28, Zisk 23 and seven others 10 or more.

Rod Carew (property of Del) led the league in hitting with a .357 average. He ended the season on a sour note, however, going hitless in his last 14 official at-bats against Warren, otherwise the average would have been even higher.

Flanagan had the best won-and-lost record, while Dennis Leonard (Clif) and Eckersley were other 20-game winners.

NEW FIELDING CHART A SUCCESS

The new fielding chart was a big hit with all the GKSM managers. Many of the mentors went into the draft not realizing what those "E" ratings were all about. Everyone knows now.

Del, with virtually an all "2" fielding lineup comprised of low-error ratings, was charged with only 95 miscues. Gary's team committed only 98 while at the other end of the glove Doug's charges booted 125. Many of the individual error totals were almost identical to real-life. The average number of errors committed was 142 per team in real-life. But the GKSM's totals would be lower because the equivalent of only eight teams was used, leaving close to 150 players without a spot on a GKSM roster. Most managers made three to four defensive moves every game. Thus many of the "iron gloves" were not around to have balls bounce off them in the late innings.

Standings and leaders:

	Won-Lost	GB	Avg.	ERA	HR	E	Batting	
Warren Newell	93 61	-	.268	3.89	190	116	Carew DN	.357
Todd Newell	90 64	3	.278	3.99	149	103	Munson CS	.318
Del Newell	83 71	10	.273	3.86	151	95	Brett JM	.316
Clif Sage	77 77	16	.265	4.36	246	122	Thompson CS	.311
Gary Tien	73 81	20	.273	4.72	151	98	Rivers TN	.310
Dale Holland	71 83	22	.262	4.60	177	117	Hargrove GT	.308
Jim Myers	67 87	26	.249	4.57	181	121	Cowens DN	.306
Doug Towne	62 92	31	.257	4.52	120	125	Cooper DT	.299

Home Runs	AB	Won-Lost
Thompson CS 50	Nettles WN 125	Flanagan GT 26-12
Nettles WN 43	Rice GT 111	Leonard CS 24-11
Rice GT 39	Cowens DN 111	Eckersley TN 20-10
R. Jackson DH 33	Jackson DH 111	Ryan CS 19-16
Harrah CS 32	Thompson CS 109	Guidry DN 18-5
Hisle WN 30	Carew DN 97	Rozema TN 18-8
Money DH 30		Blyleven WN 18-10
		May DN 18-10
		Tanana TN 18-11

Doubles: McRae GT, 48; Jackson DH, 41.

Triples: Brett JM, 18; Carew DN and Randolph WN, 15.

Runs: Harrah CS, 115; Rice GT, 107.

(continued next page)

Stolen bases: Remy GT, 58 (83); ERA
Rivers TN, 50 (77). Flanagan GT 2.79 Strikeouts
Ryan CS 379
Comp. Games: Ryan CS, 31; Palmer DT, Ryan CS 2.84 Leonard CS 256
30; Leonard CS, 24; Palmer DT 3.09 Eckersley TN 250
Goltz DT, 24. Guidry DN 3.26 Tanana TN 230
Leonard CS 3.50 Goltz DT 210
Shutouts: Tanana TN, 5; Ryan CS, 4.
Saves: LaGrow GT, 14; Lyle DN, 12.
Innings: Palmer DT, 312; Ryan CS, 307. Games: Langford WN, 76.
HR Allowed: Eckersley TN, 42; Bleleven WN, 41. Walks: Ryan CS, 231.

Here Are S-O-M's Guidelines

Do-It-Yourself Error Ratings

If you're interested in attaching error ratings to your Strat-O-Matic Baseball cards prior to this season, here are guidelines you may wish to use.

S-O-M has supplied a card listing the error ratings by position, so it is not a secret by any means. But since the card comes only with the nameless player card set, many gamers are obviously not aware of it.

Remember also that the ratings below are only guidelines; they are not accurate to a minute degree as the regular card set for this year. The game company, re-emphasizing how the error ratings are derived, takes into consideration that a fielder plays every inning of every game. That's what the "E" rating is based on.

If you wish to be as accurate as possible in giving "E" ratings to older card sets, you could check fielding statistics (errors committed, innings played, chances, etc.) if such information is available.

Most gamers don't have the time nor access to such information, however, so the game company's guidelines would be the most convenient to use.

Here are the ratings for advanced fielding:

Scale

Excellent - makes very few errors.
Good - less than an average of number of errors committed.
Average - normal amount of errors committed.
Poor - high frequency of errors committed.

First Base	Second Base	Third Base	Shortstop
8 = excellent	10 = excellent	13 = excellent	16 = excellent
13 = good	17 = good	18 = good	22 = good
17 = average	23 = average	26 = average	32 = average
25 = poor	41 = poor	37 = poor	48 = poor

Outfield	Pitcher	Catcher	T Rating
4 = excellent	0 = excellent	2 = excellent	1-3
6 = good	12 = good	4 = good	1-5
9 = average	20 = average	7 = average	1-7
16 = poor	38 = poor	16 = poor	1-15

S-O-M also adds that these guidelines could be used in lieu of their regular "E" ratings if a gamer is dissatisfied with the ratings and wishes to make his own.

The Review Staff

Editors: Warren Newell (Otsego, MI), Del Newell (Kalamazoo, MI).
Production: Karen and Mary Newell.
Printing: Oliver S Tobias (Kalamazoo, MI).
Mailing: The Review is published monthly and mailed third-class from Otsego, MI. First-class mailing is available for an extra 15¢ per month.

Readers Roll 'Em

11

'E' FOR EXCELLENT

Recently you asked the readers to send in their comments regarding the new fielding system; my first impression at that time was that perhaps S-O-M didn't rate some of the fielders with the observation that the fielding rating (1, 2, 3, or 4) indicated range and the error rating indicated how they handled the ball, and I used Reggie Jackson and Carl Yastrzemski as examples.

I would now like to give my impression of the new fielding system after having used it for 100 or so games. I think that the idea and way it is handled is outstanding; it appears that S-O-M is very concerned not only with playing time of the game, but as much accuracy as possible. The new fielding chart gets good ratings in both areas.

Hats off to Harold Richman and Co.! I look forward to his other ingenious refinements to already what is the best game on the market.

Kevin Anderson
Lake Oswego, OR

Editor's note: Reader Anderson's earlier comments regarding the new fielding chart appeared in the May, 1978 issue.

TWO WRONGS...AND COUNTING

It was very interesting to see how you featured what was, in effect, an advertisement for compiled fielding percentages in your June issue.

I think that you did two things wrong in your presentation. First (and least importantly), by referring potential buyers to the vendor of the chart, you provided him with free non-classified advertising. I think that it would have been more than enough for you to simply state that there was an advertisement for the product in the back. This is no major complaint, however.

More importantly, you did not make the one obvious criticism of this method of rating fielders. The percentages given do not take into account what result would come from an out.

For example: a player is rated a "3" or "4" but has a low error rating. Another is a "1" or "2" with a fairly high error rating. Both players would receive a similar percentage from the system, which was featured in your first pages.

One extremely important thing has been totally ignored. When a "4" rated shortstop makes an out, it is usually a groundball C or B, while a "1" rated shortstop will make the double play. I think it is very important for all potential buyers of these ratings to realize that they can be very misleading. I also think that it is important for you to point this out when you print something like this. You guard the quality of what you print and therefore you must try to not mislead people who could waste money on a non-perfect piece of merchandise.

Brian Webster

Editor's note: Okay, we concede, those "1s" and "2s" do make a difference, depending on the type of groundball. The "1s" will turn more double plays. To be totally accurate, the "Real Fielding Ratings" would have to also figure in the types of groundballs hit to the four varieties of infielders. We thought the ratings had merit, however, and should be brought to the attention of the S-O-M public. We weren't, however, trying to "plug" them. We apologize for any misunderstanding.

TRY IT MY WAY

I wish to respond to John Reid's views in the May, 1978 issue of the Review.

Raising the cost of the entry fee isn't the answer (to keeping league members from dropping out). Why penalize the loyal and devoted Strat-O-freaks when one or two members elect to quit the league?

The trouble with stats isn't doing them, it's making duplicate (or even triplicate) copies to pass on to the league commissioner, opposing team's manager and a copy for yourself. In order to reduce all the monotonous laboring over

[continued on next page]

the statistics, I thought up a system whereby each league member keeps the records of his own team. After each series, the home manager sends the visiting team only the statistics regarding that specific team. At the end of a previously selected period of time, each league member mails the league commissioner a sheet of accumulative records. At this time, the league commissioner picks out the leaders and types a list up into a report sheet.

Ira Wolins
Philadelphia, PA

OLDIES BUT SWIFTIES

I have been rereading my old Reviews and noticed Dec., 1977 trivia quiz in which Robert Henry says no modern player has ever been rated stealing "E" running 1-17. Well, I just found some of my brother's 1962 cards and found such cards.

The list included Orlando Martinez (Twins), Charley Neal (Mets), Leo Cardenas (Reds), Bernie Allen (Twins), Roger Maris (Yankees) and Ernie Bowman (Giants).

They were probably rated so high because there were also 1-19s and many 1-18s, too.

The trivia corner is one of the best parts of the Review. S-O-M is best played when one knows the tricks of trivia when managing.

Ed Nielsen

Editor's note: Henry does not include the 1962 card set among the "modern." Running ratings were higher, for the most part, then.

TRIVIA'S HIS FAVORITE

I have currently received two issues of your magazine and generally speaking have found it pleasant reading. To be frank, the article by Robert Henry sparked this correspondence more than any other single factor.

I immediately fell in love with his column in my first issue, April, 1978. I have long been a fan of S-O-M Baseball, having played it since the 1968 cards. I was in a face-to-face league with Bruce and Larry Shaw (accountant and lawyer, respectively) and my

younger brother, Walt, an aspiring major league pitcher and, perhaps, someday inclusion on an S-O-M roster!

After moving from my boyhood home in Cleveland Heights, OH, to St. Paul, I have played every baseball season solitaire since the '73 cards. They are 162-game seasons, but I shorten the season by reducing the number of teams participating, by combining two teams (i.e. first-place team of East Division with last-place team of West; second with fifth, etc.), but keeping the A.L. and N.L. leagues separate. I play the basic version of the game, but incorporate many advanced factors, such as bunting, hit-and-run, catchers' throwing ratings and outfielders' arms (by rolling one die: 1-2 right fielder, 3-4 center, 5-6 left). Also the new fielding ratings for pitchers only.

This game has given me great pleasure. Each season takes from March to Oct. to play, with the rest of the time spent making the intricate scoring and stat sheets that I use to keep voluminous records, none of which I will bore you with here.

What interested me most about Mr. Henry's column was his meticulous curiosity for sophistication in the game, which matches my own. I rarely read the articles regarding football and basketball, and show little interest in the "replays" and other people's stats. I feel, actually, that mine are just as accurate, and unimportant to the general reader. The trivia section fascinates me and I only wish that I lived in New York in order to spend several days trading recollections of past cards with Mr. Henry.

I have several questions to ask the "trivia master" and I apologize if they have been covered in past issues. I hold an interest in unusual factors of individual cards and seem to recall one from my dim playing past. Diego Segui, the year he was with the Cards, possibly '70, had a small part single on 4-7. The rest of the result was groundball "C" instead of lineout. I remember

[continued on page 20]

Scott Messinger: Gamer With Mission

Every Thursday evening and early Friday morning, the local library becomes a home away from home for home run researcher Scott Messinger. Every week, as the clock turns, he faithfully checks over old newspapers until 4 a.m. in quest of home run totals for the Old Timer pitchers.

Messinger's delvings haven't gone unnoticed, however. "For this," he says, "I am ridiculed, jeered at, skewered, insulted and generally made a laughingstock. Yet I continually go and tabulate home runs until my eyes refuse to focus any more."

The native of North Hollywood, CA, is, obviously, a determined young man.

And, because of his perseverance, more Old Timer team home run totals are coming your way again this month.

Remember on the teams that Messinger is researching, home run totals are not listed for pitchers--mainly because such records were not kept at that time. That's where Messinger fits into the scheme of things--checking and rechecking box scores in the newspapers of that time, searching for "gopher" balls.

This month his efforts zeroed in on the 1924 Senators, 1929 Cubs, 1933 Giants and 1935 Cubs.

1924 WASHINGTON SENATORS

Give up a surprisingly low 34 roundtrippers with Walter Johnson giving up a high of 10. Joe Martina was next with seven--it was his only year in the majors--while Allen Russell's lone long shot was served up to Babe Ruth.

The breakdown:

Walter Johnson	- 10	George Mogridge	- 2	Others	- 1
Firpo Marberry	- 3	Curly Ogden	- 4	(3 with Senators)	
Joe Martina	- 7	Allen Russell	- 1		
		Tom Zachary	- 5		
		Paul Zahniser	- 2		

1929 CHICAGO CUBS

Was, according to Messinger, an easy team to do since there were no trades involving pitchers. Cubbie hurlers turned their heads 76 times to watch enemy blasts sail into the bleachers in 1929.

The breakdown:

Sheriff Blake	- 8	Mike Cvangros	- 3	Charlie Root	- 12
Guy Bush	- 17	Pat Malone	- 12	Others	- 7
Hal Carlson	- 6	Art Nehf	- 11		

1933 NEW YORK GIANTS

This was Carl Hubbell's best year--23-12 record with a 1.66 ERA--so Messinger was particularly interested in checking this team out. But he met with frustration when he could account for 60 of the 61 home runs allowed that year.

As luck would have it, either Hi Bell or, you guessed it, Hubbell gave up the phantom 61st. Here is the breakdown, excluding Hubbell and Bell, according to Messinger's findings:

Watty Clark	- 5	(3 with Giants)	
Fred Fitzsimmons	- 14	Roy Parmelee	- 9
Dolf Luque	- 4	Hal Schumacher	- 9
		Others	- 12

Messinger also points out that the original statistics on Luque (3) and Fitzsimmons (8) were incorrect.

[continued on next page]

"Undoubtedly the most interesting team to research," according to Messinger, as 85 home runs were hit off Cub pitchers. Lonnie Warneke, who served up 19 souvenirs for the bleacherites, has the highest total of any pitcher researched thus far.

That's all from Messinger for this month, although he, when last heard from, said he was 88 games into the 1936 season for the New York Yankees. ZZZZZzzz...

Those Oldies But Goodies...

Radbourn League Rolls On

While on the topic of Old Timers, it's worth mentioning that the Radbourn League, the "Gone With the Wind" of the S-O-M leagues, has completed its second season.

This is anything but the average S-O-M league, since the teams include the likes of the 1881 Providence Grays, 1887 St. Louis Browns and 1894 Boston Beaneaters--none of which S-O-M currently puts out.

But that problem--no S-O-M cards--didn't stop oldies-but-goodies enthusiast Bruce Hesselbach, 27, an attorney who resides in Flushing, NY. He (Jan., 1977 Review) dug into his vast S-O-M card collection and altered the cards to correspond with the performances of the oldies.

Since the teams were totally different than during the first season, and another manager was added for a total of seven, cards had to be manufactured for all.

The league again replayed a 156-game season, with the 1884 Providence Grays, managed by Dennis Madej, winning the pennant as well as defeating the Chicago White Stockings of 1876 (winners of the first season) in seven games in a World Series.

Madej, 30, hails from Buffalo, NY. His Grays produced a 109-47 regular-season record with a go-go offense that saw nine players steal 20 or more bases. Hesselbach's 1887 Browns finished second at 107-49.

HOSS RADBOURN IS MAIN MAN

Since pitchers were rubber-armed in those days, the idea of a rotation and three days of rest between starts was unheard of. So, many of the pitchers toiled almost every game. Hoss Radbourn (for whom the league was named) of the Grays, for instance, pitched an amazing 893 innings, fashioned a phenomenal 71-25 record and posted a 2.09 earned run average. The Grays, incidentally, had a three-man staff.

Other teams and their managers included: Boston Beaneaters (Tom Fees, 19, Richton, IL, student at Illinois Institute of Technology); 1894 Philadelphia Phillies (Dave Mendonca, 24, sports writer in San Jose, CA); 1879 Troy Trojans (Bob Bentz, 18, Progress, PA); 1883 Buffalo Bison



(whose manager quit early and most of games were played by other league members); and 1886 Baltimore Orioles (David DeWees, 16, Grove City, OH, youngest member of Radbourn League).

Fees has been extremely active in S-O-M league play--managing in the Ty Cobb Memorial League, East Coast Baseball Association and Nocturnal Glitcher League.

Bentz, although 18, has been playing S-O-M for 11 years, prompting him to remark: "I have been playing longer than I haven't been playing. I'll bet not too many people

(continued on next page)

can say that." Bentz is also quite a whiffleball player, being a renowned slap hitter, commissioner of the Ridgeway League as well as its grounds-keeper and equipment manager.

DUFFY WAS TOP HITTER

Hugh Duffy of Boston led the league in batting with a lofty .463 average (collecting 305 hits), while Tip O'Neill of St. Louis hit .446 with 72 doubles, Ed Delahanty of Philadelphia .442 and teammate Sam Thompson .431 plus knocking in a league-high 180 runs and slashing 38 triples. Matt Kilroy of Baltimore was the "whiff" king, striking out 792 in 764 innings en route to a 23-76 record.

Here are the standings for the second Radbourn League:

	Won-Lost	GB		Won-Lost	GB
1884 Providence	109 47	-	1879 Troy	56 87	*
1887 St. Louis	107 49	2	1883 Buffalo	50 84	*
1894 Boston	92 64	17	1886 Baltimore	34 122	75
1894 Philadelphia	76 71	*			

* Did not play full 156 games.

What's Your 'Column' Preference?

Todd Sharek is a Strat-O-Matic baseball buff who admits that the subject of hit placement oftentimes drives him crazy. He's well aware that dice don't have a memory and of the laws of probability, but sometimes it seems certain columns are "hotter" than others.

Below are some questions (forget the laws of probability) that Sharek has asked himself, the cards and dice during the course of his many S-O-M replays.

* Don't you agree a 1 column (5 through 10 hits) is so easy to get, much more so than a 2 column (5 through 10 hits)?

* Or is the 2 column (5 through 10), 3 column (6) hitter the most streaky and inconsistent?

* Or is the 3-5 card (also hits on 1-9, 2-7) the worst card a batter can get? Show me such a card (Larry Parrish, for example, who was on my team in a 1977 league, based on 1976) and I'll show you a .189 hitter.

* Or are the 1-8, 1-9, 2-8, 3-5, etc., hitters the best psychologically because of their great hit placement?

* Or are hitters who have 1-7, 1-8, 1-9, 1-10, 2-7, 3-7 hits always the ones who hit better than their real-life averages?

* Or are hitters who have 2-2, 2-3, 2-4 (sometimes 3-7) homers hit less roundtrippers than they do in real-life?

* Or do 2-7 through 2-12 hitters psyche you down when they're in the lineup?

* Or are the "bad" pitchers with 4-6, 4-7, 4-8 and 6-5, 6-6 on-base chances pretty hard to hit sometimes?

* Or is the easiest card to homer from a 1-7, 1-8, etc., or off pitchers a 5-4?

* Or is the "best looking" hitters card the 1-7, 1-8, 1-9, 1-10, 2-7, 3-7?

* Or is the "best looking" pitcher's card the 4-4, 4-5, etc., card and the 5-4, 5-5, 5-6 card?

As you can tell from the above, there's a lot more to managing a Strat-O-Matic Baseball team than one in the big leagues.

In the bigs you worry about platooning matchups, injuries, pitching rotation, etc.

But in S-O-M, as Sharek points out, you also have to decide whether you're partial to 1 column hitters, 2 column, a mixture of 1 and 3, one of the "off-beat" cards, or none of the above. Or, better yet, why worry? Just roll 'em!

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; 151-200 words--\$3.25. When you send in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, or LEAGUE FORMING. And name card sets by the year upon which they were based. Note also that only advertisements regarding Strat-O-MATIC products, related merchandise (baseball guides, etc.) and leagues will be accepted. And merchandise competing with S-O-M products (i.e. scoresheets) also may not be offered for sale. Ads, to be included in the next issue of the Review, must be in by the third of the month. Late ads will be held over until the next month for publication. Also, money for ads will not be refunded, but will be credited to your subscription if you do not wish ad to appear.

Wanted

WANTED: Complete baseball sets or individual teams. Following years are requested: 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967. Send all replies to: John J. Kelley, 10 Clark Circle, Lynn, MA 01905 or call (617) 599-5680.

WANTED: Baseball - will buy or trade for 1969-73 San Diego Padres. I have 1967 Yankees, Phillies, Indians and Reds to trade. Teams must be in good condition. For a reply enclose SASE. Eric Johnson, 519 Willow St., West Barnstable, MA 02668

WANTED: Baseball - 1971, 1972 Pirates; 1973 Mets; 1975 Tigers. Football - 1972, 1973, 1974 Miami. Send your price and condition of cards to: Ray T. Cook, 2886 Brown Ave., Manchester, NH 03103

WANTED: Baseball - will pay a good price for any or all of the following teams: 1966 Orioles, 1968 Tigers, 1969 Mets. Send your price to: John Joyce, 44 Beacon St., Clinton, MA 01510

WANTED: Football - 1971 Redskins, '72 Redskins, '73 Redskins. Lowest bid goes. Call or write: Scott Troxler, 171 Rozwood Dr., Charlotte, NC (704-392-7944).

WANTED: Baseball - 1970 to 1976 cards of the Cincinnati Reds, Oakland A's, Baltimore Orioles and Pittsburgh Pirates (with extras if possible). State the condition of the cards and send bids to: Kevin Hill, 1536 Latham Avenue, Lima, OH 45805

WANTED: Baseball teams 1975 and before. Also want extra players for the following years: 1969, '70, '71 and '73. Contact: Keith Fosness, 510 17th So. Apt.#4, Moorhead, MN 56560 (218-236-6957).

WANTED: 1969 National League baseball with extras. Must be in fairly good shape. Will pay reasonable price. Reply to: D. Munger, 407 Kellogg Ave., Janesville, WI 53545

WANTED: All Phillies teams since 1970. Will pay \$1.00 for each. Send responses to: Kevin Goldmen, S. North Woods Rd., Wayside, NJ 07712. FOR SALE: 1976 baseball - Orioles, Giants, Cardinals, Cubs, Astros, Dodgers, Padres, Braves, Expos, Royals, A's, Pirates, Reds, Twins. Extra cards included. 50¢ each or 3 teams for \$1.25.

WANTED: Table sports games publications. Send list of available issues and asking price to: Mike Stephens, 312 Newton Ave., Oakland, CA 94606

WANTED: 1969 Twins, A's; 1972 Phils. Will accept good, reasonable bids, or will trade with some 1972 baseball and football teams. Todd Gurstel, 8018 Westwood Hills Dr., Minneapolis, MN 55426

WANTED: 1965 Clemente, 1967 Curt Flood, 1971 Pat Kelly, 1971 Jim Price, 1969 and 1973 extra players, 1968 season. Send price and condition to: John Russo, P.O. Box 1323, Morgan City, LA 70380 (phone: 504-395-5115, or days 504-384-9733).

WANTED: Wish to buy Montreal Expos team sets, 1969 through 1975, including extra players. Will pay \$4.00 for sets in good condition. Send to: Mike Braithwaite, 1850 Burfield Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K1J 6T1

WANTED: 1963, 1964, 1968, 1969 complete baseball sets. Also need 1969 Orioles, 1965 White Sox, 1967 Senators. Send price to: John Russo, P.O. Box 1323, Morgan City, LA 70380 (phone: 504-384-9733, nights 504-395-5115).

WANTED: 1967 to 1971 and '73 Raiders; 1968 to '71 and '73 Vikings. To buy or trade basketball 1974-75 Bullets, Braves, Kings and Pistons. Good to excellent condition. Football '72 Redskins; 4 cards slightly ripped, other cards excellent condition. 1972 Dolphins, will trade for any 2 Raider teams plus \$5. Send prices or bids to: Ken Calderone, 39 Plymouth St., New Hyde Park, NY 11040

For Sale

FOR SALE: Baseball, 1974 Cardinals, Cubs, Mets and Astros. 1975 both American and National leagues. All teams with additional players. Football, all 1976 AFC teams. Also, 1977 N.L. additional players--\$1.00. Jeff Cristaldi, 18 Dorothy Dr., Torrington, CT 06790

FOR SALE: 1970 through 1975 baseball sets with additional players. Also, 1971 without additional players. More than one on most sets. Larry Wolf, 5648-D Birchmont, Houston, TX 77091

FOR SALE: Complete baseball sets, including extras in good to excellent condition. 1970 [\$40], 1971 [\$35], 1972 [\$30], 1973 [\$25], 1974 [\$20]. Write to: Thomas Tucker, 1309 Denlyn St., Novato, CA 94947

FOR SALE: 1972 Cardinals, Mets, Braves, Giants, Reds, Dodgers, Astros, Expos. Good condition. Extras included. \$1.25 each or best offer. 1967 Phillies, Reds, Braves, Mets, Pirates, Astros. No extras. Mets minus one player.

Fair condition. \$1.00 each or best offer. Mike Naddeo, 5317 E. Ludlow Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85254

FOR SALE: 1973 baseball complete. Need 1969 Orioles and extra players for them. Also need 1965 White Sox, 1967 Senators. John Russo, P.O. Box 1323, Morgan City, LA 70380 (phone: 504-384-9733 days, 504-395-5115 nights).

FOR SALE: 1966 Twins; 1967 Yankees, 1967 Athletics; 1969 Padres (no extras). Yankees fair, others good condition. Winning bids only will be notified after Aug. 1. Write: Jesse Seegmiller, 67 N. 900 W., Provo, UT 84601

FOR SALE: S-O-M Football teams, 1967 through 1973. Condition good to excellent. I have a price in mind for each team and will sell either to the first person who meets my price, or to the highest bidder by the end of the month. Mike Bordelon, 5445 Braesvalley #724, Houston, TX 77096 (phone: 713-721-5465)

FOR SALE: 1975-76 basketball game, all 22 NBA teams plus 20 key players from ABA (set is in mint condition). Send bids to: Joe Gavin, 152 Bielak Rd., Orchard Park, NY 14127

FOR SALE: Baseball, 1976 Royals, Boston, Cubs, Astros, Pirates. Football, 1975 Oilers, Colts; 1974 Steelers, Vikings, Buffalo, Cardinals, Bengals, Redskins ('74 mint condition); 1976 all teams. Willing to trade for 1971 Dolphins. Teams cost 50¢ to \$1.25. Also request info on PBM. John Stefanick, 390 Two Mile Creek, Tonawanda, NY 14150

FOR SALE: 1972 Football, complete, mint condition. Would prefer to sell as complete set, but will accept bids on individual teams. For a reply, enclose a SASE. Send to: Dave Laude, 4800 Cumnor Road, Downers Grove, IL 60515

FOR SALE: 1968 complete baseball, average condition. Need '70 National League and '76 complete. Send bids to: Sky O'Callahan, 5820 Flambeau #1, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90274

(continued on next page)

FOR SALE: List of baseball teams and individual players, 1969-1975. Send 25¢ for list and one player. J. Schmitt, 1338 W. Maumee #87, Adrian, MI 49224

FOR SALE: Will trade 1971 Orioles in very good condition, for 1973 Mets or 1970 Reds in very good or better condition. John Hoffman, 55 Millside Lane, Mill Valley, CA 94941

FOR SALE: 1971 football teams, in good condition, will sell to highest bidder or \$13.00. 1972 American League, \$7 or to highest bidder, in average condition, without extras. 1974 A.L., \$8 or to highest bidder, with extras, in good condition. Will sell any of the above teams as individual teams. Write to: Jon Bourdon, 5 Joseph Ave., Lee, MA 01238

FOR SALE: Football - 1969 Broncos, Chargers; 1971 Falcons, Eagles, Bills; 1972 Patriots, Giants, Lions, Chiefs, Saints, Browns, Jets. Baseball - 1976 set with extras; 1974 Yanks, Pirates, A's, Cards, Rangers; 1973 Orioles, Tigers; 1971 Pirates. Send bids and SASE to: Steve Pavlek, 8213 W. Cloverbrook St., Milwaukee, WI 53223

FOR SALE: 33 football teams for \$10.00; as a set only, or will trade for the following teams: 1967 Los Angeles; 1968 Dallas; 1969 Detroit, L.A.; 1973 Miami. Also, will buy the above for \$4 each. Must be complete. 1969 San Diego; 1970 Atlanta, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Houston, Kansas City, N.Y. Giants, N.Y. Jets, San Diego, Philadelphia, Washington, Boston missing defensive card, Green Bay and Miami also, Minnesota missing one specialist card, New Orleans also; 1971 Cincinnati, Kansas City, N.Y. Jets; 1972 N.Y. Giants, N.Y. Jets; 1973 Denver; 1974 Chicago, Houston, New England, Oakland, San Diego; 1975 Oakland. Teams in fair-to-good shape. Mark Woloszyn, 1052 Hudson Ave., Rochester, NY 14621

FOR SALE: Football - 1969 49ers, Broncos, Giants, Lions and Rams; 1970 Patriots, Redskins, Packers, Cowboys and Vikings; 1971 Cow-

boys. All teams are in good condition. SASE will assure a reply. Send all bids to: George Modlin, 6103 Hokie Ct., Richmond, VA 23234

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1963 Twins; 1966 Giants, Braves, Twins; 1967 Twins; 1968 Twins; 1970 Twins; 1971 Twins, Royals; 1972 Twins, Astros, Angels, A's, Indians, Yankees; 1973 Indians, Royals, White Sox, Orioles, Cubs, Astros, Braves, Tigers, Yankees, Twins; 1974 full set; 1975 full set; 1976 full set; 1977 full set. All excellent condition. Full teams and '75-'77 sets have extras. Football - 1967 Packers, Bears, Giants; 1968 Vikings, Giants; 1970 Packers, Broncos, Eagles, Browns; 1971 full set; 1972 Rams, Redskins, Steelers, Dolphins, Cowboys, Packers; 1973 Rams, Bengals, Cowboys, Dolphins, Vikings; 1974 full set. Basketball - 1974-75 full set; 1975-76 full set. Game boxes for all 3 games. Send bids to: Kevin Lammer, 908 Prairie Ave., Faribault, MN 55021

FOR SALE: Basketball (1) complete game with all parts included. Teams included are 1974-75 Boston, Washington, Chicago, Los Angeles, Golden State and Buffalo. Football (2) complete game with all parts included. A new scorepad is also included. (3) 1974 Green Bay, Houston, Baltimore, New England, San Francisco and New York Jets. (4) 1975 Miami, Cincinnati, Dallas and Los Angeles. Baseball (5) 1973 Montreal, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Los Angeles. (6) 1974 Cleveland, Kansas City, Baltimore, New York Yankees, Milwaukee and Chicago White Sox. (7) 1975 National League. All items are in excellent condition. I pay all postage costs. Please send bids on a set(s) only. Ezra Ochshorn, 12501 28th St., Tampa, FL 33612

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Need six new managers for new baseball league in Commack, NY, area. 1977 cards will be used and basic game will be played. It will be a draft and trade league. Start as soon as possible. First come, first

[continued on next page]

serve basis. Hurry please. Call (516) 864-2295, or write: Tom Coll, 12 Tyron Street, Commack, NY 11725

LEAGUE FORMING: I am looking for 13 reliable managers for a play-by-mail league with all of the American League teams. Will use the advanced cards and play with the extra players. We will start as soon as possible, so write as soon as you can. I will double-check all of the statistics to try to eliminate all the cheating I can. IF interested, write to: Douglas Crandall, Box 60, Glade, KS 67639

LEAGUE FORMING: The Houghton Beach Club is happy to announce the long-awaited opening of its Strat-O-Matic, advanced strategy, face-to-face, draft league. Some mandatory regulations will be enforced, but for the most part league policy will be established by the league's participants. Applications are now being accepted from individuals residing between Vancouver, B.C., Portland, or, and Spokane, WA. The Seattle, Tacoma, Everett metropolitan area will represent the league's geographical center and headquarters. Persons interested should send complete resumes and any league policy preferences to: H.B.C., Tournament Offices, David M. Stamper, Chairman, The Highlands, Seattle, WA 98177. All inquiries will be answered.

LEAGUE FORMING: Immediate opening for reliable managers in the well-established CASDML PBM league. We use the new cards (1977 statistics), National League only, advanced version (extras included). Please list your preference of teams. Entry fee is \$5, with a \$3 refund at the end of the season if you are still in the league. Please write to: Mike Regimbal, 1201 Pharmacy Ave., Scarborough, Ontario M1R 2H5

LEAGUE FORMING: Attention PBM fans! The All-Star League (ASL) which has been a face-to-face league for 10 seasons is going the PBM route when we start our 11th season, and we are looking

for 5 All-Star managers. The All-Star League will be an 8-team league using a 2-division set up. It is a draft league using the '74-77 cards plus extras. Trading is permitted and the teams are continuous. A 160-game season will be used. Many extras like a periodical newsletter, MVP, Cy Young, All-Star game and many more. Entry fee is \$2.50. All letters will get a reply. Send to: Doug Smith, 13162 Adland St. #D, Garden Grove, CA 92643 (phone: 714-534-8051). Letters will be accepted until Sept. 15. Basic version will be used.

LEAGUE FORMING: Need 16 superior managers for new PBM draft league, using new cards. This league is for those managers who believe they are the best around. A participant in this league named Randy "Dr. P" Parker wants all those managers who don't mind getting "crushed" by him to join. The 'Doctor' knows he is better than the "Wolfman," and he wants him to join (if he will accept the challenge). The sooner one replies, the higher drafting position one will receive. And, as Dr. P. says: "Don't be a spineless jellyfish, join this league!" Chris McCartan (commissioner), 152 Brookside Blvd., Newark, DE 19713 (302-738-4588)

LEAGUE FORMING: The Super National League baseball replay. I am looking for 14 reliable managers for this play-by-mail league, using all 12 National League teams and the Sox and Yankees. Please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope and the list of teams you want--be sure they are in order, 1 to 14. Use the 1977-based season. Will start sometime around September, but hurry; best teams go first. Rules and considerate fee comes soon after I receive your letter. You must buy or have all 14 teams. Scott Troxler, 171 Rozwood Dr., Charlotte, NC 28216

LEAGUE FORMING: Want 6 to 8 reliable managers for the start of a play-by-mail draft baseball league. Using current set of cards with extra players. Players kept from year to year. Using the advanced side of cards. Trading allowed
(continued on next page)

after teams have been drafted through the first part of the season. All advanced rules will be used. League dues are \$10 per season to cover the cost of mailing, photo-copying, monthly newsletters, etc. If interested send a brief summary of yourself, including name, address and phone number, along with playing experience (if any) in both play-by-mail and other leagues, age and future plans. Constitution will be typed up and sent out after I have all of the managers needed. Again, if interested, contact: Richard York, 1291 Christine Terrace, Madison Heights, MI 48071, or phone 313-398-8905 before 10 p.m. on weeknights, anytime weekends.

LEAGUE FORMING: Any one interested in starting a face-to-face baseball league in Mayfield Heights area? Makeup of league dependent on members' interests. Must be over 18. Call 442-0263 for Ken DiVincenzo, 1122 Washington Blvd., Mayfield Heights, OH 44124

LEAGUE FORMING: Draft league using 1977 American League; advanced version to be used, including the new fielding ratings. If interested, write or call: Keith Fosness, 510 17th St. So. Apt. 4, Moorhead, MN 56560 (218-236-8957). WANTED: 1963 Cardinals, Twins, Dodgers.

LEAGUE FORMING: Having survived our first successful season, our play-by-mail basketball league is looking to fill positions vacated and expand to more teams. The league is play-by-mail, a draft setup and uses the advanced version of the game. For information send a SASE to: Mike Borzenski, 2937 St. Louis Ave., Fort Wayne, IN 46809

LEAGUE FORMING: Need 20 managers for an advanced NL-AL PBM league. This league promises to be a good one because the commissioners have years of PBM experience, and have combined all the good parts of a PBM league into this one, along with a few new twists. If you are interested, send a summary of yourself (age, PBM

experience, phone number and specify league). Please reply immediately because we want to get started as soon as possible. Send your return letter to the appropriate commissioner. National League commissioner: Jeff Jauch, 1024 East Wylie, Bloomington, IN 47401. American League commissioner: Bruce Ramage, 1935 Montclair Ave., Bloomington, IN 47401.

Looking For Back Issues of Review?

The following back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review are still available. To purchase, send to: S-O-M Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

1978 - July, June, May, April, March, Feb., Jan. Cost: 50¢ each.
1977 - Dec., Nov., Oct., Sept., August, July, April, Feb. (very limited). Cost: 50¢ each.
1976 - Nov., Oct., June. Cost: 50¢ each. Also, Jan. Cost: 45¢.
1975 - Nov. (very limited), Oct., Sept., August, July, June, May, Feb., Jan. Cost: 45¢ each.
1974 - Dec. and Nov., only issues still in stock. Cost: 45¢ each.
1973 - Dec. (very limited), August. Cost: 45¢ each.
1972 - August (very limited). Cost: 45¢.

Please include a second choice when ordering issues that are in "limited" supply. Also, don't forget that copies of the latest Strat-O-Matic Directory are still available for \$1.00.

Readers Roll 'Em

(continued from page 12.)

because it cost me a few games. Were there any other pitchers to have this anomaly?

Also, has Mr. Henry found some consistent formula for determining the placement of a Flyball A. Home run totals apparently are a contributing factor, but does RBI totals have anything to do with it?

Paul Siegel
1121 Randolph Ave.
St. Paul, MN

No-Hitters

S-O-M Roller Waits 1,500 Games Before Pitching Gem Occurs

No-hitters are like the common cold: they can strike anytime and usually the reason remains a mystery. Aiden Colie of Wayne, NJ, waited longer than usual for his first--or to be bitten by the no-hit bug--as he played well over 1,500 games before contacting what was in his case becoming almost a rare malady.

Then on March 19, 1978 it happened. Jerry Koosman of the New York Mets was the carrier, hurling a no-hitter against Pittsburgh, winning 7-0. Koosman struck out six and walked three and was backed by John Milner's home run and nine walks culled off Pittsburgh's Jim Rooker.

Closest call to breaking up the no-hitter came in the seventh inning when Bill Robinson lifted a flyball (RF X) to 4-rated Ed Krane-pool. Fortunately for Koosman, as well as Colie, a "16" was drawn--a flyball A on the advanced chart--and Koosman escaped danger.

Another long-time S-O-M gamer who recently ended a no-hit drought was Stephen Ogibee, Dayton, OH, who said he's been playing for 10 years and "with all my one-hitters and close calls I could write a book."

The "book" had a happy ending as Frank Tanana (1976) shut down Texas (also '76), allowing only a walk to Toby Harrah in the eighth inning to stand in his way of a perfect game. Stephen is hoping no-hitter No. 2 comes along quicker. He's not thrilled about the "10-year plan" for experiencing no-hitters.

SURPRISE: A NO-HITTER!

One of the more unusual no-hitters to cross the desk of the Review editors in recent months was that experienced by Tom Marzagalli of North Massapequa, NY. He was pitching Doug Bird of Kansas City against Houston using the 1976 season cards. Bird walked five and the Royal defense committed two errors. Nothing unusual, really, or so Marzagalli thought.

It wasn't until after the game was over, the "crowd" had filed out of the stadium, that Marzagalli started tallying up the statistics. Presto! Jubilation reigned. Bird had indeed pitched a no-hitter. It was the second no-hitter for Marzagalli, who, believe it or not, almost was the last to find out about it!

HURLS NO-HITTER--AND LOSES

Dick Hughes of the 1967 St. Louis Cards joined that exclusive, teary-eyed, club of pitchers that pitched no-hitters and yet wound up losing the game. Rick M'Irus, a 10-year vet of S-O-M gaming, witnessed the sad spectacle as the 1965 Twins scored on Orlando Cepeda's two-base error and Minnesota eked out a 1-0 victory over the stunned Hughes. A sacrifice and Dal Maxvill's bobble of a grounder, added to Cepeda's faux pas, led to Hughes' demise. Jim Perry was the winning pitcher. But he "only" hurled a three-hitter.

Other no-hitters reported to the Review recently included:

* Don Sutton of the 1976 Dodgers shackling the hard-hitting Boston Red Sox of '76, 3-0. Sutton issued walks to Fred Lynn and losing pitcher Luis Tiant. Keith Markman of Great Neck, NY, was the young man on the dice-rollin' end.

* Steve Carlton outdueling and coming away with a no-hitter against the Dodgers and Tommy John in a replay game using the new cards. Mark Guerra of Yeadon, PA, was the excited viewer of the proceedings.

* David Dembeck of Joplin, MO, a virtual novice at S-O-M with only two years experience, watched Fred Norman, '75 Reds, work his way through the '71 Mets' lineup without a safe blow being struck. Norman fanned eight and walked three.

* The just-missed award this month goes to Nolan Ryan, '76 Angels, who gave up a seventh-inning hit to opposing pitcher Bob Miller (plus gave up five consecutive walks and a sacrifice fly, resulting in four runs) against the '62 Mets, losing 4-1. Pete Manzollillo, Bellmore, NY, couldn't believe what was happening to "Ryan's Express."

S-O-M League, Replay Scene ²²

CONTINENTAL BASEBALL FEDERATION¹ - PBM even though all except one member resides in Missouri...just completed second season, based on N.L. '76 cards; actual teams with draft of unrostered players, plus trading... eight teams...advanced side of cards used...ages of members ranges from mid-20s to mid-teens...CBF has knack for survival as in first year only one manager had prior PBM experience...one manager did quit during second season...managerial lineup: Mike Hamilton (Kirksville Comets-- Cincinnati), David Lutes (Kansas City Bombers--Philadelphia), Herb Baker (Houston Astros), David Dannov (St. Louis Cardinals), Tom Oldweiler (Chili Dogs--San Francisco), Steve Lathim (Montreal Expos), Steve Hamilton (L.A. Dodgers), and the Kentucky Bluegrass (Chicago Cubs), whose manager surrendered as the team sank quickly to the bottom...George Foster was MVP after batting .345 with 33 homers and 145 RBI; Joe Morgan batted .323 with 28 HRs while Ken Griffey hit .327. Dock Ellis (20-7, 2.66), Doc Medich (17-6, 2.69) and Fireman of Year Skip Lockwood (25 saves, 2.02) had the Comets streaking all season...Randy Jones of Houston was Cy Young winner after going 25-13 with 2.08 ERA.

Standings and leaders:

	Won-Lost	GB	Batting	Home Runs
Kirksville	98 56	-	Madlock KEN .333	Monday CD 39
Houston	86 68	12	Montanez CD .328	Foster KIRK 33
Kansas City	82 72	16	Griffey KIRK .327	Morgan KIRK 28
St. Louis	80 74	18	Johnstone KC .325	Schmidt KC 25
Los Angeles	78 76	20	Morgan KIRK .323	Cey LA 25
Chili Dogs	75 79	23	Hernandez HOU .322	H: Griffey KIRK 211
Montreal	70 84	28		2B: Simmons SL 44
Kentucky	47 107	51		3B: Tyson SL 27
			RBI	R: Morgan KIRK 121
			Foster KIRK 145	SB: Brock SL 97
			Monday CD 132	K: Koosman CD 287
			Morgan KIRK 108	CG: Jones HOU 20
			ERA	SA: Lockwood
			Koosman CD 1.77	KIRK 25
			Jones HOU 2.08	HR: Nolan KIRK 32
			Richard HOU 2.36	E: Russell LA 34
			RAU LA 2.54	
			Freisleben KC 2.59	

DEWEY CARIBBEAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE - Five crew members of the USS Dewey played 12-game season (using '77 cards) while ship was operating in Caribbean...coaches and teams were: Leonard Carson (Baltimore), Bob Parnell (Pittsburgh), Andy Schuck (Los Angeles), Jim Kanipe (Oakland), Jim Hanaway (Miami)...Baltimore, behind high-powered offense averaging 360 yards and 30 points, won regular-season and also post-season Dewey Bowl, matching first and second-place teams...Bert Jones passed for 2,672 yards, completing 213 of 327 for 65 percent accuracy...Lydell Mitchell was leading rusher with 1,281 yards while Roger Carr hauled in 77 passes... Pittsburgh had best defense in league, although Oakland was sporadic: Dave Casper caught 56 passes, Cliff Branch 55, but Ken Stabler fired 24 TD passes and had league-high 25 interceptions...Miami had most porous defense, giving up 32 points and 347 yards per game...Baltimore won Dewey Bowl, 24-21, as Mitchell rushed for 146 yards and two TDs and Jones was 12-of-21 for 127 yards.

Standings and leaders:

	W	L	Rushing	Att-Yds.	Avg.	Receiving	No.-Yds.
Baltimore	9	3	Mitchell BAL	282-1281	4.5	Moore MIA	89-1540
Pittsburgh	8	4	F.Harris PIT	286-1128	3.9	Carr BAL	77-1457
Los Angeles	7	5	McCutcheon LA	242-953	3.9	Swann PIT	73-990
Oakland	4	8					
Miami	2	10					

(continued on next page)

Passing	Att-Comp	Pct.	TD-Int.
Jones BAL	327-213	65%	27-13
Harris LA	213-137	64%	15-7
Stabler OAK	300-178	59%	24-25

RUNNERUP REPLAY - Myron Pecora and John Moore, perhaps feeling sorry for Kansas City and Philadelphia after a pair of runnerup finishes in the playoffs, decided to replay an entire season pitting the two against each other...a 162-game season was played by mail, using the advanced 1976 baseball cards (24 players per team)...Pecora, who guided the Phillies, is 23, married, lives in Martinsburg, WV, and works in Hagerstown, MD, with Freline Publications-Upstart Library Promotionals... Moore, 20 and single, lives in Huntington, WV, and is a radio announcer for WGNT...both met while students at Marshall University and both have had numerous S-O-M experience...in the replay, the Phils' superior power and wealth of relief pitching wore down K.C., with Philadelphia winning the series, 91-71...the Phils were especially tough at home, going 53-28...designated hitter was used..."Stats for many players were extremely close to their real-life stats," according to Pecora, "despite the difference of inter-league play and abundance of left-handed pitching. Even pitcher's records and hit versus innings pitched ratios were close to real-life, despite higher earned run averages...Highlights included Garry Maddox of Philly being chosen MVP after leading in batting (.332), doubles (50), hits (227) and knocking in 88 runs...Hal McRae (.325) and George Brett (.320) of K.C. were the other .300-plus hitters...Mike Schmidt was tops in the power categories (41 HRs, 111 RBI), Fred Patek swiped 56 bases, while Steve Carlton (3.29) won 20 games and Jim Lonborg (3.76) 18...Marty Pattin of the Royals served up 24 home runs--18 to Schmidt!...Doug Bird of K.C. was 11-3 at home, but 3-11 on the road... the Phils batted .269 as a team with 111 homers and 3.59 ERA, while K.C. was .276 with 74 HRs and a 3.95 ERA.

BERKIN LEAGUE - Unique in that eight teams were formed from blind draft...all games, 154 per team, were played by Steve Berndt or Mike Parkin of Rochester, MN...no mention of what year players were from, although most had to be from either '76 or '77...Waukesha Stags won league with 90-64 record as Rod Carew (.362, 216 hits), Joe Morgan (29 HRs, 56 steals) and Frank Robinson (33 HRs, 132 RBI) keyed attack and Eric Rasmussen (23-9), Bill Singer (20-12) and Jerry Reuss (20-8) formed pitching staff that was better with dice than real-life...second-place in all-star type league went to Flint Wingers (87-67), who featured Dave Kingman (34 HRs), Ron Cey (32) and Reggie Jackson (27)...George Brett of sixth-place Santa Fe Kings (74-80) batted whopping .410, while Mark (Bird) Fidrych of fourth-place Emporia Shockers won 23 games and had league's lowest ERA, 2.26.

MANDEVILLE LEAGUE - Solitaire baseball effort by George Mandeville, Bonifay, FL, who took four teams through 162-game season, using '77 cards...two of teams were apparently real-life Cardinals and White Sox, with Warriors and Tornadoes the others, although how rosters were stocked wasn't disclosed...Ron Reed went 20-7 and Hal McRae batted .354 for Warriors, who won 13 of last 14 games to pull away and win title...Jose Morales of second-place Tornadoes checked in at .3559 and Lamar Johnson of Sox finished at .3556.

Standings:

	Won	Lost	GB		Won	Lost	GB
Warriors	101	61	-	Cardinals	77	85	24
Tornadoes	88	74	13	White Sox	58	104	43

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

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 32
OTSEGO, MICH.

THIRD CLASS

If the number before your name reads 8/78 this is the last issue of your current subscription. To renew, check the number of months desired below and enclose proper amount (check or money order preferred, please no coins). Send renewals to address listed above in left-hand corner.

_____ 3 months, \$1.80; _____ 6 months, \$3.25; _____ 1 year, \$5.75.

_____ Strat-O-Matic Directory, \$1.00.

Chicago Whiz Best Of Backs

(continued from first page)

* Cleveland, which was frequently "burned" on punt returns, has a long gain on No. 8 on its specialty card. Ouch!

* Times have changed for Minnesota, as not one member of front-four defense is rated a 6. Carl Eller has dropped to a 4 and Alan Page a 5.

* Seattle is no great shakes, but running back Sherman Smith, the converted quarterback from Miami University in Oxford, OH, has short gain on both guessed right and wrong on off-tackle and end run.

* Split end Mel Gray of St. Louis has 14--count 'em, 14!--long gains on his card, including one on No. 4, guessed wrong, on a flat pass.

* Miami won't have to rely strictly on Bob Griese's passing (58.6%, 22 TDs). The Dolphins have a quartet of backs--Benny Malone, Norm Bulsich, Gary Davis and Leroy Harris--with averages ranging from 4.2 to 4.8, plus all have good cards. And having four 3-rated offensive linemen will help the overland express, too.

* Cliff Branch, Oakland's swift receiver who usually has long gains plastered over his card like the measles, doesn't have a single one this time. His longest gain was 43 yards--but it did wind up on No. 7 for both guessed right and wrong on the payoff end of a long pass.