

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



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In this corner...the editors

Shucks!

The Review editors are going to have to wait another month before reviewing the new, revised 1983 Strat-O-Matic Pro Football cards. We were hoping to get an early kickoff on the 1983 season (based on 1982 real-life, or the year of the STRIKE), but the thumb was down as far as the UPS truck pulling up to make the long-awaited delivery.

As everyone including E.T. is well aware, S-O-M has revised the cards for the upcoming table-top season. The changes were all spelled out in the packet of information notifying customers of the availability of the football, basketball and hockey cards.

With penalties being added last year, and now the changes reflecting contemporary, pass-oriented offenses, S-O-M Football is fast closing in on emulating the real thing. Since many of our games (even though co-editor Warren Newell is in a long-running, face-to-face draft league in Otsego, MI) are played solitaire, the revised version of that aspect of the game is eagerly awaited.

Duce the new cards arrive, Warren will give the set a careful scrut-

Once the new cards arrive, Warren will give the set a careful scrutiny and a detailed look at the cards is planned for the September Review.

Meanwhile, the wait goes on...

Wives join husbands for replay

Couples that play (S-O-M) together, stay together

Couples that play Strat-O-Matic together, stay together, right? It sure helps a relationship, at least it does for Valerie and Peter Crapo of Winooski, VT.

The Crapos and good friends, Richard and Barbara Hubbard, have even gone so far as to attempt a mammoth replay of 40 of baseball's best teams

from 1920 through the 1970's.

The project got off the drawingboard in early 1980 and the couples league is currently at the 70-game mark for all teams in the 162-game,

"Projected completion date is 1987," passes along Crapo, who adds that he and his wife work the 1920's, 1940's and 1960's while "Dick and Barb work the 1930's, 1950's and 1970's. Each team in the replay plays around 95 games against teams in their own division and the rest of the games are played against each other team in the league (two vs. each team)."

Setting up the schedule was also an infinitely taxing task as two months of meticulous work was done even before the first die was cast.

"The wives are veterans at the game now," continues Crapo, who spent his honeymoon at Cooperstown in Nov., 1981 and returned with Barb and Dick last year for the most recent inductions at the Hall of Fame shrine.

"Both wives," says Crapo, "are avid baseball fanatics." It's a cer-

tainty that playing a 162-game schedule for 40 teams doesn't leave much

time for bridge and monopoly...so make them fanatical couples!

Oh, and as far as the leaders in the six divisions after 70 games, they are: '27 Yanks (49-23, 7 games ahead), '36 Yanks (42-28, +3), '41 Dodgers (40-27, +3), '54 Cleveland (43-29, +6), '51 Yanks (38-26) and '67 Cardinals (40-28), +3%, and surprising '78 Dodgers (44-32, +2%).

Strat-O-Matic spotlight

YANKS AWESOME; BREWERS 'ALEING'

Thomas Swank, the avid S-O-M gamer from Bloomfield, NJ, has undertaken a new project - a full-season replay for both the 1982 Milwaukee Brewers, the famed "Brew Crew," and the power-hitting 1961 New York Yank-

ees, featuring Roger (*61) Maris and Mickey Mantle.

Swank, who's remembered for his many Gambit tournaments, says this replay has already brought him many of his greatest dice-rollin' thrills. His battle plan is to play the '61 Yanks and '82 Brewers against all the other '61 and '82 teams a total of six games (three home, three away), plus go head-to-head 30 times for a 162-game season.

go head-to-head 30 times for a loc-game season. So far, after 81 games or the halfway mark, the Yanks are 57-24 and rewers, troubled by pitching 'ales,' are struggling along at a .457 the Brewers, troubled by pitching 'ales,' are struggling along at a .457 clip with 37 wins and 44 losses. In meetings between the two, the Yanks

have won 9 of 15 games.

Maris and Mantle have been a dynamic duo with Mantle batting .351 with 28 home runs and 81 RBI, Maris a respectable .287 but with an awe-some 34 homers and 82 RBI. The Yanks are batting .281 with 138 homers.

some 34 homers and 82 HB1. The Yanks are batting .281 with 138 homers. Whitey Ford is on-target for winning 30 games, boasting a 15-4 record. Most memorable game of replay thus far, and perhaps greatest solitaire experience of Swank's long S-0-M career, occurred in game No. 44 when the '61 Yankees played the '61 Red Sox. It must have been at Fenway as Bill Skowron hammered three home runs, Maris, Mantle and Elston Howard two apiece as the Yanke crushed Boston, 11-2. Three times the

Yanks hit back-to-back homers.

The Yanks came right back in the next game to slam five more homers

- 14 over a two-game span! - en route to a lopsided 16-2 victory.

(continued on next page)

...Joseph Earls, Sturbridge, MA, has had many exciting moments of S-O-M, including: Babe Ruth ('21 vintage) stroking 17 hits in 21 atbats with nine homers and 10 walks in a six-game stretch; Tom Seaver ('76 card) hurling 54 consecutive innings of shutout ball in a head-to-head league against all-star lineups (the league folded before Seaver gave up another run) and Earl Williams ('71) and Gorman Thomas ('79) each belting four homers in a single game... Swing around the circle: when Steve Schumacher, Houston, TX, made his annual visit to Glen Head, NY (S-O-M) to pick up the new baseball cards last spring, he went on from there to visit and play the World Series of the North-South S-O-M League (NSSML) with good friend Bob Willnus of Ann Arbor, MI - all told a 1,500-mile trip by plane. Oh, and in the Series Willnus' Detroit Tigers defeated Schumacher's Cards, 4 games to 2...In a game between the Cleveland Browns of '65 and the Bears of '63, reports Ivan Finel, the Browns pulled out victory on a 20-yard TD pass in the final minute. But the big story in the game wasn't the last-second TD toss, rather Jimmy Brown's rushing for 279 yards in 37 attempts for the Browns...Samuel Rabi, Brooklyn, NY, found out that Fred Lynn ('79) can hold his own against left-handed pitching when he pitted Lynn against southpaw Paul Splittorff ('79) in a one-on-one individual duel. Lynn batted exactly 531 times, the same number as in real-life, and Splittorff was backed by a defense that represented a composite at each position of starters in the A.L. Lynn wound up batting .331, just two points under real-life, and had 42 doubles (36 real-life) and 34 home runs (39).

Football playing tip

Editor's note: Donnie Black is 32 years old, married and the father of one son. He has a B.S. degree in marketing and has been rolling S-O-M dice since 1969. Black is concerned that so many replays that see print in the Review are unaware of how to rate quarterbacks and thus figure who the actual passing leaders are. Even though this formula has been presented in the Review before, now is a good time - with the revised football game just around the corner (as far as the UPS truck) - for a quickie refresher course.

BY DONNIE BLACK, North Augusta, SC

"In the National Football League, a quarterback is rated on his passing abilities by applying a formula which takes into consideration such categories as pass completion percentage, average yards gained, touchdown pass percentage, as well as an interception percentage. If a gamer applies this formula in his league, he will be able to determine who his passing leaders are.

To determine the quarterback's rating, the following formula must be applied. Determine the quarterback's completion percentage and add that figure to his average gain multiplied by five and add 2.5 to that total. To these two figures add his touchdown percentage multiplied by 4. From this total subtract his interception percentage multiplied by 5. Now multiply this figure by 5 and divide that sum by 6. The final figure will be the quarterback's rating.

To illustrate, let's assume a quarterback has the following statistics: 100 attempts, 55 completions, 750 gross yards gained, 5 TO passes and 3 interceptions. His completion percentage is 55.0, his average yards gained is 7.50 [750 gross yards divided by 100 attempts], a TO percentage of 5.0 and an interception percentage of 3.0.

As a general rule the leading quarterbacks will have a rating in the mid 90's. However, there is no limit to the rating and in rare instances the final rating may exceed 100. Also, please note that a quarterback's gross yards reflects the total yardage gained on his pass complet—

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Seven years and still going strong

Team histories highlight colorful NABL Yearbook

The North American Baseball League (NABL) has come a long way from those toddler-sized steps that were taken back in 1976. That year, a six-team winter baseball league was formed by Brian Webster, successfully tried to join a PBM league and decided, following the re-

buff, to create the NABL.
"I had plenty of enthusiam, but little else," recalls Webster. "No-"I had plenty of enthusiam, but little else, recalls mester. Note body realized it at the time, but we were lucky to have four managers in our first year who were the kind we could build around for years to come - Rick Helwig, Jeff Moritz, Jim Dewey and myself."

From that humble beginning, the NABL has grown into one of the bluechip Strat-O-Matic play-by-mail leagues, one that has now completed seven

full seasons and expanded to 16 capable managers. Eleven of the managers are currently Canadians, thus the emphasis on the 'North' in the NABL.

Seven league champions have been crowned, despite the usual PBM pro-

blems of dropouts, illness, studies, etc. A draft is held annually and the NABL has been one of the pioneers when it comes to innovations, developing, among other things, an injury chart, a rating for "5" fielder, using computers to compile statistics and producing a colorful yearbook, with the latest edition consisting of 82 pages of team histories, managerial backgrounds, statistics and yearly playoff results.

HISTORY OF THE NABL

In 1977, the NABL became a summer league. And that year it also moved Helwig into the role as president and, shortly, commissioner of the entire league. "Rick did a great job," praised Webster. "We grew from six to 11 teams and began to resemble a stable league."

The next year the NABL expanded to 15 teams, including six teams joining from north of the border. The year of expansion also saw a record
418 wins recorded (presumably many of the victories were at the expense
of the newcomers) by the Hanover Barons (now called the Kingston Gulls).
No problems in 1979. And in 1980 Webster returned in the role of

Another expansion team was added, filling out a two-divileague. The use of computers was introduced in '80, too.

sion, 16-team league. The use of computers was introduced in '80, too The next year, 1981, was a time of troubles all season as strikes disrupted both the major league season and also shut down the Canadian Postal Service. The season was completed, however, and Webster's Vancouver Totems emerged as NABL champions after five years of close-but-no-cigar finishes.

In 1982, four new managers were added, replacing a quartet that had dropped out for a variety of reasons. "The four new men were all enthusiastic and competent managers," praises Webster. "The best thing about the NABL in 1882 was the crop of new managers."

The newcomers, in case you were curious, were Dean Sorok (Youngstown, DH; Youngstown Zorros), Larry Cohen (Rockaway Beach, NY; Rockaway Rockets), Tim Chisom (Salem, VA; Spartans) and Clark Baglole (Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island; Island Eagles).

IMPROVEMENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The NABL also made some changes, including a new roster management system which prevented managers from using huge numbers of players without regard for real-life at-bats and innings pitched, and S-O-M's new steal-

ing system was adopted.

"The new stealing system was quite successful," according to Webster. "There had been far more unrealistic results in previous years

The season's schedule was also lengthened, going from a previously demanding 14-week card to one of a more leisurely 18 weeks.

PLAYER USE LIMITED

The NABL uses four different types of limits for different types of (continued on next page)

(1) Non-pitchers who averaged at least 3.5 plate appearances (atbats plus walks] per game played in, will be limited to as many games played as they had in the major leagues. For example, a player with 112 431 at-bats and 26 walks would be allowed to appear in 112 games regardless of how many plate appearances were used. A player with 78 games played, 175 at-bats and 23 walks would not be covered by this rule.

(2) All non-pitchers who are not covered by the preceding rule will be limited to the number of plate appearances on their cards. This will be managed as the previous limits system, except no extra amount (i.e.

10 percent) will be allowed.

(3) Starting pitchers who had five relief appearances or fewer will have no limits on innings. Instead these pitchers will be limited to the number of starts that they had in real-life. Pitchers who had fewer than five relief appearances, yet still have relief listed on their cards, will be allowed up to five relief appearances.

(4) All pitchers with more than five relief appearances will be limited to the number of innings that are listed on their cards. No add-

itional percentage will be allowed.

THE NABL LINEUP

Who are the managers in the NABL for 1983? Well, from south of the Canadian border, in addition to Cohen and Soroka, there are Jeff Moritz
(Spokane, WA; Spokane Mets), Jim Dewey (Spokane; Spokane Banshees), Bruce
Kosa (Devon, CT; Devon Nine).

And, in Canada there are: Helwig (Hanover, Ontario; Hanover Jays),

And, in Canada there are: Helwig [Hanover, Ontario; Hanover Jays], Barry Willmore [Stratford, Ont.; Stratford Festivals], John Botting [St. Catherines, Ont.; Neustadt Cardinals], Clark Baglole (Cornwall, Prince Edward Island; Island Eagles), John Salem [Hanover, Ont.; Hanover A's], Brian Cheffins (Victoria, BC; Canadian Club], Andrew Johnstone (Victoria, BC; Oak Bay Brewmasters], Wayne Irving (Victoria, BC; Victoria Scouts), Stephen Woods (Kicgston, Ont.; Kingston Gulls), and Webster [Victoria, BC; Victoria Shamrocks].

SPACE SHUTTLE S-0-M?

One of the more interesting features of the NABL's yearbook is the summary (background) prepared by each manager. Most were attracted to S-O-M by either an advertisement (usually in a magazine or comic book) or a friend.

Here's the background of Dean Soroka, manager of the Youngstown

Zorros:

"Dean Soroka - who am I and who cares? The answer - everybody, hope, particularly rival managers in the NABL. I am a 20-year-old student, attending Youngstown State University, and am currently attempting to become involved with a co-op program offered by NASA (is that a competing league?]. My long-term goal is to play the first space-shuttle

Strat-O-Matic game while attempting re-entry.

As for my interest in baseball - let me put it this way - I have three great loves of life: 1. Baseball (S-O-M included), 2. Space (outer, that is; not the space between my ears as my brother claims), 3.

Girts.

My interest in Strat-O-Matic was started in, I believe, 1973 when brother and his friends organized a street league. I got involved soon. also own S-O-M's football and hockey games, but I value the baseball version the most."

BATTLE OF THE BAYS

The 1982 championship playoff, the culmination of skirmishing that teams with the best records included division winners and two extra who did not finish first.

When the playoff smoke had cleared, two Oak Bay teams (Stewart Arneil's Delicious, runnerup team in the National League West with a 101-61 record; and Andrew Johnstone's Brewmasters, second in the American (continued on next page)

League West at 79-83) met in the finals. Arneil, one of the prime mov League West at 79-83) met in the finals. Arneil, one of the prime movers in the NABL for five years but who was turning in his S-O-M dice following the playoffs, was heavily favored to make it a short series. The Brewmasters (i.e. OBBM) won two of the first four games, however, and an upset appeared in the making. But the Delicious won game four, 8-5, and then ended it by seizing a 5-2 win over OBBM ace Fernando Valenzuela in No. 5. and demolishing Brewmaster pitching in No. 6, 17-0.

Jack Clark of the Delicious was MVP as his team pounded out 11 home rups. The Delicious. after being held to seven runs in the first three

runs. The Delicious, after being held to seven runs in the first three games, exploded for 30 the last three.

Balance was the key for the Delicious as five pitchers won 10 or more games and an equal number of batters hammered 20 or more home runs. Jack Morris was the biggest pitching winner with an 18-16 record, while Dan Petry was 17-8 (2.79 ERA) and Vida Blue 17-4 (2.51) and Bruce Sutter had 17 saves.

The hitting featured Gorman Thomas' 33 homers and 102 ABI and Mike Hargrove's .352 average, built on 152 hits in 431 official at-bats (he walked 71 times in 134 games). Defense helped too as, even though Ken Oberkfell was charged with 31 errors, the team was guilty of only 86

miscues.

Team with the best record, however, wasn't from Oak Bay. Instead it was Webster's Victoria Shamrocks who went 107-55. The Shamrocks had a big two on the mound in Steve Carlton (27-9, 291 strikeouts) and Joe Niekro (18-8), while Nolan Ryan was 13-7 (2.33 ERA) and Danny Darwin, despite a 3.80 ERA, was a respectable 14-11.

Carney Lansford batted .321 and Dusty Baker .305. So what happened? The Shamrocks ran out of luck against the Delicious, losing in three Straight dames in the playoffs.

straight games in the playoffs. The Brewmasters, meanwhile, 27 games behind the Spartans in the AL West, rose up and knocked the Spartans off, 3-2, in the semifinals.

Standings, leaders and playoff results:

Standings, lead	iers and project	
National League West W L Shamrocks 107 55 Delicious 101 61 Mets 77 85 Club 72 90	6B East W Gulls 87 6 Nine 82 30 Aockets 64 35 Eagles 58	80 5 3-0; Gulls d. Nine 98 23 3-0; Delicious d.
American League W L West 106 56 OBBM 79 83 Zorros 70 92 Scouts 68 94	GB East A's W 88 27 Festivals 88 36 36 Jays 74 38 Cardinals 74	L 6B Festivals d. A's 3-2; 73 - 0BBM d. Spartans 3-2; 74 1 0BBM d. Festivals 4-3. 88 15 88 15
Batting Hargrove OBO .352 Schmidt KG .323 H.Brooks RR .323 Lansford VSH .321 Salazar HA .320	Kingman RR 41 Grich HJ 40 Nettles DN 39	H: Rose SS 211
ERA [162 IP] Guidry 9S 2.06 K.Forsch SS 2.10 Ryan VSH 2.33 J.Niekro VSH 2.38 Sutton IE 2.38 Solomon VSH 2.46 Blue 0BD 2.51	Wins Carlton VSH 27 Forsch SS 19 Gullickson HJ 19 McCatty RR 19 J.Niekro VSH 19 Rogers SS 19 Guidry SS 18 Leonard HA 18 Morris OBD 18	Strikeouts 141 Carlton VSH 291 141 Valenzuela OBB259 IP: McCatty RR Ryan VSH 235 315 Soto SF 202 SA: Fingers Blyleven YZ 199 VSH 33; Beattie CC 31; Lee Forsch SS 6 OBBM 20
Rogers SS 2.56 Stewart OBD 2.58	NL MVP: Schmi	dt JG; <u>NL Cy Young:</u> Carlton VSH HJ; <u>AL Cy Young:</u> K.Forsch SS

Readers roll 'em

DITTO FOR THE DEFENSE

I am writing in support of the letter written by Kurt Smeby defending commissioners (June, 1983 Review].

I was one of the few who enjoyed the old basketball game thoroughly and so S-O-M's new recognition of basketball came as a pleasant surprise.

I decided to capitalize on that opportunity and form my own league. We are now ending our second season and my two teams will likely finish first and se-

One team, built through trading and drafting, features Robert Parish, Sidney Moncrief, Maurice Cheeks, Marques Johnson, Bobby Jones and Kevin McHale; the other Dan Issel, Adrian Dantley, Johnny Moore, Reggie Theus and Buck Williams.

Back to Smeby's analysis of

commissioners. He was right in that we do have certain advant-

However, in my league all teams have a fair and equal opportunity. In the last two years, we have had five managers that are no longer with us and only one of those has ever been suspected of cheating.

ANTHONY GIACABLE

WANTS NO. 5, 6 HITTING CARDS

I would like to see a number 5 and 6 hitting card(s) for pitchers, if only because a No. 4 card doesn't do justice to such pitchers as Steve Carlton (of the 1980's] and Mike Marshall [1970's].

On another topic, why does sem that the lion's share of it seem mail, playing tips, league replays, letters, ads and every-thing else come from the Strat "belt' (borders: Wisconsin to the north, Arkansas to the south, West Virginia on the east and Kansas to the west].?

What about all you fellow Canadian Strat-O-Maticians? I know you're out there. There are 300 in the Montreal area alone. Let's speak up - Vive Strat! Long lie dice-rollers everywhere.

LEWIS HAKITA Montremal, Canada

Editor's note: Contributions to the Review know no geographic bound-ary, so any so-called "Strat Belt" is created only in the minds of gamers. A close check of back issues of the Review, we believe, would reveal that California is also a popular S-O-M state. Anyway, the welcome mat at the Review is always out for everyone, whereever they may be.

ANGEL OR YANKEE ... ?

I agree with many others that Strat-O-Matic is great. I've been playing around 14 years - baseball and football primarily. I'm presently a member of a PBM league, thanks to the Review.

About the newest baseball cards: I think putting Tommy John on California is a joke. He should have been on neither the Angels or Yankees, but played the number games with each club as he really did. This way gives the Angels too much pitching and the Yanks not

enough.

I realize you can do this (make the switch in teams), but not if you didn't order extra players.

JIM MCPARTLAND 78 Morris St. West Haven, CT

SHARE THE SPOTLIGHT

I think the Review is doing a good job of keeping gamers informed. The biggest problem with Strat-O-Matic is that it doesn't give each game fair attention.

I realize baseball is the most popular, but let's hold off on huge past seasons and old timers until hockey and basketball at least have one quarter of the old timers baseball has.

I would most like to see a Russian national team put on cards For hookey.

PAUL HARASEN

904 Shannon Rd. Regina, Sask., Canada

(continued on next page)

'TUNNEL' TOO SHORT

I would like to comment on the time tunnel article by Larry Fryer in the May issue.

For starters, where are these people on his chart: Lou Whitaker and Glenn Hubbard at second base; Wade Boggs at third; Dickie Thon at shortstop; Ron Kittle and Gary Ward in the outfield?

I would like to know why Dave Concepcion is No. 7; his play will be diminished in five years. What about Alan Trammell at shortstop?

CASEY JOHNSON 12005 Branscombe Huntsville, AL

Editor's note: Remember, Larry Fryer's "time tunnel" article was just a look into the future - one gamer's look ahead. Fryer admits that he may miss on some, but overall he's been uncanny in his forecasts. Being from Michigan, we wondered about Whitaker and Trammell, too.

THE WAY IT WASN'T

Lately I've been having a Pot of fun matching the 1982 Dodgers and Brewers in the confrontation I wanted to have in last year's Series (and thanks to S-O-M I now can).

In the basic system the "Bums" error themselves right out of the ballpart (Steve Sax plays frighteningly like he, in fact, is playing at second base this season - terrible!). With the advanced game it's a much tighter contest and I thank you (Strat-O-Matic) for the enjoyment your game provides.

A notice in the latest Review has me looking into joining a PBM league and trying my hand at managing the Cubs of 1982.

How accurate is the "e" rating defense system? My Dodgers vs. Brewers series got me interested enough to check it

The actual team defenses for '82 were: Dodgers, .979, and Brewers, .980. The average "e" point ratings for the S-O-M starters/regulars were: Dodgers, 13.5, and "Brew Crew," 12.3. That puts the Brewers about one

"e" point ahead of L.A., just as they were, in fact, one percentage point ahead in the actual stats. How accurate? It looks to me like the S-O-M system once again comes up very accurate.

Well, back to my dream series. Last game it was Dodgers 2, Brewers 1, with Valenzuela awesome on the mound for L.A. and Steve Garvey finally breaking out of a paralyzing O-for-12 slump. Hope springs eternal.

JACK KETTLES Age: 36 St. Paul, MN

ALL-STARS GREAT IDEA

The Readers roll 'em section of late has had some provocative ideas, and I wish to comment on them.

I think Jim Elliott of Orange, CA, has an absolutely superb idea. An issue of all-time all-stars for each team is great. I, for nation-wide interest, would include all teams except Seattle and Toronto. I think, for example, an Al Woods or John Mayberry card would be, by comparison, laughable.

And, yes, I'd include the Washington Senators.

Jim also has a good idea in halting (at least temporarily) issues of past seasons. I wouldn't have agreed last year, but Jim gave me a whole new perspective.

Basically, I think S-O-M fans

are offense-minded in promoting their own ideas on past-team issues. Well, it seems to me that with all the regular and special issues since 1962, that superior and mediocre and everything in-between has been represented.

In fact, while everyone has a favorite team, year or player, they would have to admit that representation of all aspects of base-ball have in 21 years been complet-ely represented (at least in the basic version) through S-O-M cards.

KEVIN J. FORD Chicago, IL

RECENT ISSUES PRAISED

I'd like to commend the Review for the fine articles that have been appearing lately. The last issues have really been super. The May issue was really packed (continued on next page)

with exciting features. As base-ball is my primary interest, I found the two 1956 replays very interesting. I was glad that Rick Smith and Ed Caylor had more success with the Cincinnati Reds than I'm having in my old-timer league, the South Coast League.

My league isn't an actual 1956 replay, however, as it contains teams from the 1948-1957 period. However, the Reds currently occupy the cellar and I fear they may have taken up permanent residency in that lower stratosphere.

I also enjoyed the college football replay - a rarity of sorts in the Review. The way James Overmeyer "personalized" the replay with actual names of star players told me that he had done some research on the teams ahead of time. It also made the replay much more interesting than it might otherwise have

The pictures of Dave Siem-ienski's "Dave-Way Park" were just fabulous. Almost made me think I was really there. Nice job, Dave. I'd like to see more such artistic efforts in the Review in future issues.

In the July issue I read with interest Vincent Paterno's letter regarding re-issued sets, which advocated virtually the same conditions that I had mentioned in my guest column last December. Even the most devout fans of the re-issues must realize that the probability of all nine of those seasons becoming moneymakers for the game company

is very, very small.

As I pointed out in my original article, I'd be willing to accept two or three re-issued sets (to be determined in a poll later], but any more than three would be boring. If S-O-M is planning to re-issue the 1962 set next year, it should not print 1963 the year after that.

I'd accept a re-issue of 1962 because many characteristics of the cards changed following that season (i.e. running ratings were reduced, flyball "A" wasn't given to virtually every player on a roster and the four hitting cards for pitchers came into effect in 1964).

Basically, though, I think the game company should skip around taking one card set from each decade ('40s, '30s, '20s, etc.).

JIM ELLIOTT

Orange, CA

FLYER IS UNATTRACTIVE

I have been a big fan of Strat-O-Matic games over the past several years and for that reason have been somewhat interested in the Review.

However, I have never brought myself to subscribe for some undetermined reason. Suddenly the reason hit me, and I felt you should know. You have one of the most unattractive flyers trying to sell something that I have ever seen. And it hasn't changed in years.

You have the same terrible picture of some greasy kids at a convention that took place years ago. Where are the college professors, the businessmen, college students (although the kids pict ured would probably be out of college by this time) or even the servicemen all over the world.

How about a change in your

gimmick? I'm sure you would probably see results.

BRAD SHEARER 726 S. 15th Ave Freeport, IL 61032

Editor's note: The flyer, we admit, could be updated. But, the "greasy kids" aside, haven't you over the past several years been curious as to the content of the Review? To paraphrase another say ing: Don't judge the Review by its flyer.

INJURIES REVISITED

Strat-O-Matic is an excellent game but I find a few things a little unrealistic.

For one thing, almost everyone has the same chance of getting injured. This doesn't seem right, especially since there are some players, such as Steve Garvey, who never miss a game.

Also, I have one more complaint and that is that on the present card of Dan Meyer there must have been a mistake because he hit .294 against lefties and only .235 against righties, but the card doesn't reflect it.

BRIAN JEPPERSON

Here's S-O-M's card formula for batters

Guest columnist

By ANDREW COYLE

Editor's note: Andrew Coyle is a 22-year-old graduate student in statistics at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He's played Strat-O-Matic games, particularly the baseball, for seven years, and for the last five years has made a concentrated research effort, aided by computer, to discover the most elusive of entities, the Strat-O-Matic formula.

"As I have long felt that the company should reveal its formulas and because I am confident that doing so would not cause irreparable damage to S-O-M (even knowing the formula, I have neither the time nor desire to rate 600+ players a season and would gladly pay cash to have Mr. Harold Richman do it for me), I offer this treatise up to the scrutiny of the gaming public with the hope that it will enrich their enjoyment of the great game of baseball.

CP= [(ST/PA)x2)-LA x108

This is the Strat-O-Matic formula for determining the batter's card in baseball.

The line of reasoning used to reach the elegant mathematical conclusion above is deceptively simple; so deceptive that it took me five years to figure it out.

When first confronted by a statistical game based on baseball, it is natural to assume that the steps required to put percentages on paper are intuitive. That is, a .320 hitter's card (barring walks) should consist of 32 percent hits and 68 percent outs.

This method is perfect except for one troubling item: the pitcher's card. Disregarding the time-honored adage that pitching is 70-some percent of baseball, and assuming that the contributions of the batter and pitcher are equal, it is easy to see that our .320 hitter as determined above is not going to hit .320.

To illustrate this face it is necessary to define the Average Pitch-

To illustrate this face it is necessary to define the Average Pitcher. The Average Pitcher conforms to the league average in every statistical category and can be expected to contribute those percentages to the batter-pitcher confrontation. The Average Pitcher's OBA (opponent's batting average) will, of course, be the league batting average, usually somewhere around .260 in modern times. For simplicity's sake let's assume that our Average Pitcher 'allows' a batting average of .260 (again, barring walks).

Now, when our .320 hitter meets our '.260 pitcher, he is not a .320 hitter anymore. He is a (.320+.260)/2, or .280 hitter. The spectrum of pitchers that a hitter faces over an entire season can be likened to the Average Pitcher, in that the good and bad pitchers will cancel each other out in the long run.

BEEFING UP THE HITTERS' CARDS

The end result of this particular rating system is that good hitters will perform beneath their true ability and bad hitters will perform shows their true ability. We have reached what seems like a dead end.

Not quite. Get rid of the Average Pitcher for a moment and think of our hitter batting against a blank card (one allowing no hits at all). In a full season against this card he will hit .320/2, or .160. However, if we double his average, making it .640, he will end up hitting .640/2, or .320 against this blank pitcher's card. This is the key, in my opinion, to the entire formula.

We would be done were it not for one fact: the great majority of pitchers are not blank cards. They contribute a batting average of their own and this must be accounted for.

To adjust for the imperfect pitchers of reality it is necessary to amend the blank card scenario. Our hitter, with his doubled average of

(continued on next page)

.640, will now hit (.640+.260)/2, or .450 against the Average Pitcher. To compensate it is necessary to subtract the Average Pitcher's expected contribution from our hitter's card. In other words, in order to insure that our hitter bats .320 against the league spectrum of pitching we must give him a card with an actual average of (.320x2)-.260, or .380 Now, in a full season against the Average Pitcher he will hit (.380+.260) /2, or .320.

That is the gist of the formula and we are now in a position to look at it element by element.

ST - This stands for the statistic in question, be it singles, dou-

bles, triples, home runs, walks or strikeouts.

PA - This stands for Plate Appearances, determined in the following fashion: At-bats+Walks (disregard sacrifice hits, sacrifice flies and HBPs].

LA - This stands for the league average (per plate appearance) of the statistic in question.

 ${\sf CP}$ - This stands for the number of points on the actual batter's card, where 2 and 12 count as 1 point, 3 and 11 count as 2 points, 4 and 10 count as 3 points, 5 and 9 count as 4 points, 6 and 8 count as 5 points and 7 counts as 5 points. The righthand side of the formula is multiplied by 108 because there are 108 such points on an S-O-M card.

MADLOCK'S '81 SEASON CARD IS EXAMPLE

As an example of applying the formula we will calculate a card for Bill Madlock's 1981 season. We will need not only his stats, but the appropriate league averages.

1981 National League averages - 18: .171; 28: .039; 38: .007; HR: .015; BB: .075; 90: .133 (note that plate appearances are determined by AB+TBB, but that IBB are not considered walks for any other purpose).

```
BILL MADLOCK - 1981
BILL MADLOCK - 1981
18 - [[(65/313]x2]-.171]x108= 26.39
28 - [[(23/313]x2]-.003]x108= 11.66
38 - [((1/313]x2) -.007]x108= 0.07, or 0
HR - [((6/313]x2) -.015]x108= 2.52
BB - [((27/313]x2)-.075]x108= 11
50 - [((17/313]x2)-.133]x108=-2.63, or 0
```

When we compare these calculations with the actual point totals on the S-O-M 1981 basic eard for Madlock, we find differences that I believe to be trivial.

Comparison

- 18-26.39 28-11.66 38-0 HR-2.52 88-11 S0-0 - 18-26.40 28-11.55 38-0 HR-2.55 88-11 S0-0 Predicted -Actual

Another comparison, using the 1981 season, is for Cecil Cooper: Predicted - 18-22.88 28-12.82 38-0 HR-3.79 88-4 50-1 Actual - 18-22.30 28-12.40 38-0 HR-3.80 88-4 50-1

As you have noticed, this article deals only with the batter's card; the pitcher's card is a much trickier matter, and one on which I am not confident enough to offer up to public scrutiny."

The Review staff

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The Review is mailed monthly, third-class, unless first-class, at an extra cost of 20¢ per month, is desired and Mailing: paid for.

Song laments 20-sided blues

Political scientist at Northwestern pens words about casting die

Ed Goetz is a member of the political science department at Northwestern University, Evanston, IL. He's also a member of the even larger 'department' called Strat-O-Matic gamers.

He's been a fan of S-O-M for 15 years and participated in a number

of leagues. The leagues that he is engaged in the last few years have always used the 20-sided dice instead of the orange split-cards.

His experiences with the one die jammed with numbers have moved him to record, in song form, the following:

"THE 20-SIDED BLUES"

By Ed Goetz

Groundball thirdbase X and I've got a "one" for another unearned run

Home run one to four and he rolls a two, I'm getting a bad case of them 20-sided blues

Now when you're playing Strats there's something you should know if the game's on the line and there's a 20-sided roll, you know you'll roll twenty or he'll roll a two, and you will be singing these old 20-sided blues

Î've got a man on second he's a double-A and on a single to right he's going all the way

but when I roll nineteen and the rally is through I know I've got a bad case of them 20-sided blues

it can make a fast man slow it can make a good glove bad, it can make a strong arm weak it can drive a manager mad that 20-sided die is a terrible tool because what it does best is cause them 20-sided blues

I go into the ninth with a three-run lead my defensive team in and the "Goose" throwing heat

but he starts rolling those ones and there's nothing I can do and five runs later I got them 80-sided blues

Coming next month...

... Next month the Review will feature the 1983 pro football cards ...Next month the Review will feature the 1983 pro football cards and a close look at the changes the game company has made...It'll be Super Bowl time as the Washington vs. Miami matchup is re-created on a tabletop...Pictures and stories about the happenings at Hobart, IN, site of the Bostock Memorial Tournament, will be coming your way...The GKSML's 25th full-season replay (based on 1982 real-life and using the National League cards) will be another special feature of the August issue...and much, much more...

'Bums' best of '56 in mini tourney

The New York Yankees may have been the best over the long haul, but the Brooklyn Dodgers proved to be tops over the short as they won a mini tournament conducted by Bob Cusack using the 1956 baseball cards.

Cusack, who calls Hingham, MA, home, didn't conduct a single-game-and-you're-gone elimination tournament. Instead rounds one through

three were all best-of-seven and round four, or the championship series, was a best-of-nine affair.

The New York Yankees won the real-life World Series, edging the Dodgers in seven games. But in this tournament it was one series and out for the Yanks as Baltimore, behind the robust hitting of Bob Nieman, Gus Triandos and the spray-hitting of Billy Gardner (current manager of the Minnesota Twins), who was 10 for 21 for a .476 average, ousted the Yanks in only five games.

So much for one of the favorites. The Dodgers, the other favorite, based on real-life, were extended six games before defeating St. Louis.

Other highlights of first-round action included Warren Spahn hurling two successive shutouts as Milwaukee nipped Cincinnati, 4-3...Dale Long cracking four home runs and driving in 13 tallies, leading Pitts-burgh to a 4-3 series triumph over the New York Giants...Billy Virdon stroking four triples for the Pirates against the Giants...and Billy Pierce of the White Sox picking up two pitching wins while yielding only one earned run in 18 innings.

BOSTON WINS 10 IN ROW

It was the Boston Red Sox, however, who were the most torrid of 'em all in the first two rounds. First the Sox despatched the Washington Senators in Four straight games. Next up it was Kansas City also taking Team ERA through eight games was a glittering 2.19. the four-count.

Along with Boston whipping K.C., other second-round action saw Baltimore clip the White Sox, 4-3; the surprising Chicago Cubs upend Pittsburgh, 4-3, as Sam Jones sports a 1.38 ERA after 26 innings; and the gers, in a battle royal, surviving via a 4-3 spread against Milwaukee.

Boston continued its winning ways in round three (by this time the field was reduced to four teams), capturing the first two games of its series with Baltimore. But Baltimore, with Hector Brown improving his record to 4-0, won the next four and the series to advance into the fin-

Cubbie fans feared the worst against powerful Brooklyn...and they got it as the Dodgers swept 'em in four in the other semifinal. Brooklyn simply overpowered the Cubs, building its home run total to 22 after 17 games.

BIRDS PLUCKED IN FINALS

Brooklyn kept up the attack in the championship series against the Orioles, winning five of seven to wrap up the best-of-nine finale early. Duke Snider and Carl Furillo slammed six home runs between 'em in the

When the dust had settled, and Cusack had put away the dice once again, Brooklyn had a 17-7 record with 35 roundtrippers in the 24 games. The team batting average was a respectable, but certainly not outstanding, .255. But the team ERA of 3.85 was a surprise. Snider was the team's MVP after hitting a tournament-high nine homers and driving in 20 runs. Dale Mitchell, a part-timer, batted .517 (15-29) in a limited role, while Junior Gilliam led the regulars with a .320 average (34-106).

Don Newcombe was the ace of the mound staff, going 5-1 with a 2.61 ERA. Roger Craig had a 4-1 log and Clem Labine and Carl Erskine were each 3-0. Baltimore's highlights included Bob Nieman (.353, 19 RBI), Bob Boyd (.330), Bardner (.323 and Brown (5-0, 0.79 ERA in 45 innings). The Birds had a 14-11 record, .276 batting average and cracked 26 home runs. But pitching (4.83 ERA) was a problem throughout tourney.

Advertisements

Rates per issue are as follows: 50 words or less - \$1.00; 51-100 words - \$2.00; 101-150 words - \$3.00, Maximum length of an ad will be 150 words. 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 also that only advertising for Strat-D-Matic products, or closely related merchandise, will be accepted and that merchandise competing with S-O-M products may not be offered for sale. Photo-copied cards also, of course, may not be offered for sale. Ads, to be included in the next issue, must be in to the Review by the third of the previous month. Late ads will be held over for inclusion the following month.

Wanted

WANTED: 1977 special printing of Seattle Mariners and Goronto Blue Jays for 1976 set; 1974 season Philadelphia Phillies' card of Terry Harmon and 1976 season SF Giants' extra player cards for Glen Adams, John D'Acquisto, Mike Sadek and Charlie Williams. Mike Mayko, 390 Welch's Point Road, Milford, CT 06460

WANTED: All baseball rosters from the years 1962-1973, all football rosters prior to '80 except for '71. The 1981-82 basketball roster and all basketball rosters prior to '80-81 except for '72-73 and all hockey rosters except for '80-81 season. I will pay one dollar apiece for all original rosters and 25¢ each for copied rosters. Send rosters to: Brian Smith, 2872 E. Broad St., Bexley, OH 43209.

WANTED: Baseball - 1975, 1976 and 1977 seasons, both leagues if possible; but National League and extras not required. Must have all American League in good condition if possible. Send offers to: Kevin Russell, 3871 Adelaide Dr., Martinez, CA 94553 or 415-228-8237.

WANTED: Complete sets of baseball cards for seasons up to 1980. Must be in excellent condition. Send price and terms to: Jack Krol, P.O. Box 2155, Hammond, IN 46323

WANTED: 1973 Expos (with extras); 1976 Als; '77 White Sox; '78 Brewers. Please state condition; trades possible. Contact: Mark Sternman, 6 Westview Lane, Scarsdale, NY 10583 WANTED: 1927, '60, '71, '72, '73, '74, 'Ø5, '76, '77, '78 Pittsburgh Pirates; 1974 Oakland A's; 1975 Boston Red Sox; 1976 Cincinnati Reds. Contact: Dan Sweden, 16100 Liggett St., Sepulueda, CA 91343

For Sale

FDR SALE: Complete football sets 1967-1981. Good to excellent to mint condition. Will include unused game board, play selectors and dots free of charge.with each purchase. I will pay postage for shipment to you, express mail if possible. £ach bid will be answered ASAP. Buy now - you're not going to find another deal like this anywhere. Tony D'Abbraccio Jr., 21-09 30th Ave., Astoria, NY 11102

FOR SALE: Baseball sets complete with additional players and in mint condition: 1972, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979. Complete sets without additional players: 1971. All sets sold by complete years only - no individual teams or leagues sold separately. Larry Wolf, 5648-D Birchmont, Houston, TX 77091

FOR SALE: Join the many S-O-M fanatics who have accepted the challenge. Playbook I can be used solitaire or head-to-head and involves super advanced strategy where managing makes the difference. Play results include pickoffs, rundowns, interference, balks and more. Playbook II gives you advanced hit-andrun, sacrifice/squeeze play, outfield/infield drawn in and injury charts that emphasize speed and defense and give you more options. Now there's hit-and-run homers, misplayed bunts and a wider variety (continued)

of injuries and realistic results. Professionally typewritten playbooks are \$6 each, or \$10 for both. Paul Ladewski, 14332 Maple Lane, Midlotnian, IL 60445

FOR SALE: Tired of spending hours upon hours compiling stats for your league? Let us do the work for you. Spend more time throwing dice than pushing calculator buttons. We're a professional statistical company using computers to produce high quality, professional results. Stats can be done periodically or seasonally, for however many games the stats represent. Standings, leaders and individual and team stats for any 5-O-M game are done quickly and accurately. Ideal for all leagues (PBM and Face-to-Face). Multiple copies can be ordered to provide for all league members. For free information and price list, write: Jarbis, Inc., P.O. Box 81, Franklin Park, NJ 08823

FOR SALE: Football, 1967 Packers, Raiders, Rams, 49ers, Colts, Chiefs, Cowboys, Bears; very good condition. Also, 1972 NFC; very good condition. Purchase by set only. Highest bid at end of month wins. I'll pay postage. Paul Bressoud, 1412 Chester, Arcata, CA 95521 [707-822-5712]

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1968 Braves; 1970 Twins; 1972 Braves, noyals, Heds, Tigers, White Sox; 1973 [all with extras] Cubs, Dodgers, Astros, Cardinals, Expos, Phils, Padres, Mets, Giants; 1974 Heds; 1975 [all with extras] A's, Astros, Cardinals, Twins, Yankees; 1977 Braves, Cubs (24), Expos, Tigers (24); 1978 Angels, Astros, Braves, Phils, Hangers, Hoyals; 1979 Cubs, Giants, White Sox. All teams in excellent to mint condition, except 1974 Reds (good). Send bid with SASE to: Eddy Adams, 5505 Old Lexington Road, Athens, GA 80605 or call nights (404-543-6360)

FOR SALE: S-0-M Football solitaire charts, statistically created to act as human beings. Over 40 hours in the making. Charts actually overcompensate for weaknesses in its own defense as well as keying runningbacks, doubleteaming receivers and calling different defenses. Also plays

differently when protecting a big lead. Over 20 pages in all. Also, new football yard 2 charts (additions to present x-chart), ing reverse calls, flea flickers, punter passes and runs, blocked sideline passes and more. punts, Send SASE for free brochure on above innovations. Football - 1970 Vikings, \$12; 1970 49ers, 1971 Colts, Chiefs, \$10; 1973 Dolphins, \$15; Vikings, \$10; Bengals, Steelers. Raiders, Cowboys, Rams, skins, \$6; 1974 Steelers, \$12; Vikings, \$8; Bills, Raiders, Rams, Redskins, Cardinals, Dolphins, \$6; 1975 Steelers, \$12; Cowboys, \$10; Raiders, Rams, Colts, Cardinals, \$5; 1976 set, \$24. Send to: Leon Kalayjian, 39 Gramercy Ave., Rye, NY 10580

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1976 season complete with extras and special "expansion" cards, \$25. Football - 1975 complete, \$30; 1976 complete, \$25. Basketball - complete game with 1977-78 teams, \$20. You bay postage. George Soika, 3770 Kehr Road, Oxford, OH 45056 (call: 513-523-4233)

FOR SALE: To highest bidder. Gradings are as follows: mint, excellent (ex), good. Baseball, complete sets with extras: 1974 (ex); 1972 (mint); 1973 (NL good, AL ex); 1974 (NL ex, AL mint); 1975 (glossy, ex); 1976 (NL ex, AL mint); 1979 (mint); 1978 (mint); 1978 (mint); 1978 (mint); 1978 (mint); 1978 (mint); 1978 (mint), Football - 1973 (ex); 1974 (ex); 1975 (mint); 1976 (mint); 1977 (mint). Will take bids through end of month. Will contact highest bidder. I will pay postage. Money order or cash will be accepted.

Editor's note: The above ad did not have a name or address attached to it. Would the person who placed the ad please contact the Review immediately. And, in the meantime, all correspondence regarding this ad should be sent to the Review, and will be forwarded.

postage. Send SASE and offers to: Lars Tiffany, Route 20, Lafayette, NY 13084

FOR SALE: Twenty-eight pastseason reprints, all pre 1971 teams, minus 1966 Pirates, \$5; 1974 Dolphins, Colts; 1960 Eagles; 1979 Pirates; 1980 Twins; 1979 Bills; 1963 Bears; 1958 Giants, \$1 each. WANTED: 1967-1972 Steelers; 1962-1969, 1972-1973 Pirates. Jeff Wilson, Box 128, Bullhead City, AZ 86430 [602-754-2756]

FOR SALE: Football card sets - 1968, '70, '71, '72, '73, '74, '75, '76, '77, '78, '79, plus many single teams from '67, '69 and many extra "great" teams from 1968-1977. All cards are in at least good condition while most are in excellent to mint shape. Send bids and/or for complete list of cards to: Mark Reinbolt, 1504 N. Cherry St., Mt. Carmel, IL 62863. I will personally answer all letters.

FOR SALE: Are you nostalgic about the football style of the 1970's? Here's your shot at 0.J., the Steelers, Raiders, Cowboys and much more. I'm selling complete football sets from 1973 to 1981 (with many loose teams). Most sets have original rosters. Sets from 1976 on include record manuals. All sets include bonuses and will be shipped securely. Also selling 1976-77 and 1979-80 basketball sets with game, \$25. SASE gets a listing of many items available: Reviews, games, teams, supplies and much, much more. David de La Fuente, 471 Dansel St., Kent, OH 44240. Help keep a kid in college.

FOR SALE: Baseball teams; most teams available for each year. Year price per team: 1967, \$6; 1968, \$5.50; 1969, \$5; 1970, \$4.50; 1971 and 1972, \$4.25. Free 20-sided die (uninked) included with each order of \$25 or more. Dave DeGriselles, Box 826, New Castle, DE 19720 (302-328-1228)

FOR SALE: 1968 NFL football; excellent condition; \$200, or best offer. Lynn Gryzbowski, 5403 Paramount Blvd. #105, Long Beach, CA 90805 FOR SALE: Baseball - 1970 to 1976 complete sets with extra players. Good condition. Football - 1967 to 1976, complete sets. Good condition. All cards will be sold as complete yearly sets only. Best offers will be accepted. Send bids to: Alan Bergner, 685 Marilyn No. 3 East, Glendale Heights, IL 50139

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Experienced gamer wishes to form face-to-face pro football league, either draft or actual teams, in Lynn-North Shore/Boston area. Call or write: Brian Fitzgerald, 22 Portland St., Lynn, MA 01902 (phone: 617-581-0311)

LEAGUE FORMING: Two managers needed to manage two teams each in advanced basketball league presently completing second season. Each of the four expansion teams will receive two of the following players: Malone, Toney, Woodson, Vandewghe, L. Drew, Magic Johnson, Bird, Sikma, Paxson and Tripucka. Schedule involves playing 7 games in 40 days per team [14 games per manager]. As you can see, the expansion teams will be able to contend from the very beginning. Please respond as soon as possible: Anthony Giacobbe, 15 Welles Court, Staten Island, NY 10301

LEAGUE FORMING: Football PBM league. This football PBM league will be quite different from those that have tried PBM football and failed. am organizing S-O-M Football buffs who are serious about the game and starting a draft league unlike regular PBM leagues you will not play home games, you will play two other teams with instructions from them while your team plays elsewhere. This eliminates the downfall of every PBM football league where home team wins every game because the coach knew all the plays before. We will have 16-20 teams and each coach will play 16 games. We will go at a pace of one game a week as in the NFL. Please do not get involved if you are not going to give the league 100 percent. Super advanced rules will be used and newsletters with full stats will be published every (continued)

fourth week. I have already started taking names so contact me immediately. SASE a must. Send name, age, phone number to: Larry Scotti, 638 Woodrow Road, Staten Island, NY 10312

LEAGUE FORMING: Advanced version, PBM 1961 league forming. Depending on amount of managers, we will play 154 games. Weekly newsletters during season. Please contact: Paul Zucker, 2475 N. Haskell #512, Tucson, AZ 85716

LEAGUE FORMING: Worcester area gamers interested in forming a face-to-face baseball league starting in September; to play 100+ games. We will play with advanced rules and new stealing rules. We will use cards from the 1981 and '82 seasons. If interested, write: Charles H. Pugsley Jr., 4 Victoria St., Dorchester, MA 02125, or call Monday-Thursday, 5 - 10 p.m. 617-265-0974.

LEAGUE FORMING: Decade, third season 1974 National League, actual teams replay.needs two managers. A well-organized league, Decade stresses maximum flexibility to manage a team using actual schedule, at minimal postal costs. Advanced play with excellent quality managers as backbone of the league. If you want to use those dusty but exciting early 1970's teams, and manage them as Gene Mauch and Sparky Anderson did, try Decade. You must own '74 teams; \$25 league dues include permanent notebook and quality newsletter. Send managing resume to: Sky O'Callahan, 5242 Glenwood Circle, La Palma, CA 90623

LEAGUE FORMING: The SportsWorld Football League is currently searching for managers to act as backups for our premier season. No experience is necessary. There are 12 teams divided into two conferences and play a 16-game schedule. For more information, please write or call: Bob Monek, RD #4, Bethlehem, PA 18015 [phone: 215-838-9271]

LEAGUE FORMING: Managers needed for established PBM draft baseball

league. American and National League teams open. For more information, call Doug Crandall at 913-827-8171, or write to: 1423 West Cloud, Salina, KS 67401. League starts draft in August, or as soon as managers are found.

LEAGUE FORMING: The OOPS Football
League will begin its 15th season
in 1983 (we have using \$5-0-M
cards since 1975). We are a faceto-face league in the Los AngelesOrange County area. We are an ongoing draft league (when you acquire the rights to a player,
either through the draft or by
trade, you keep them for life).
New teams draft from an expansion
pool which includes many quality
players, such as Ken Anderson,
wilbert Montgomery and Vince Ferragamo. All teams draft from previous
year's NFL rookies. We follow
NFL draft and scheduling rules,
and our season runs concurrently
with the NFL. For further information, write: P.O. Box 4141,
Downey, CA 90241. Or call: Paul
Mankiewicz (213-861-2151) or Dave
Siemienski (213-640-8008)

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Looking for back issues of the Review?

The following back issues of the Review can be ordered by writing (and enclosing the proper amount) Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

Jan. [limited], Feb., March, April, May, July. 70¢ per issue.

Jan., Feb., March, April, Aug., Sept., Nov., Dec. Cost: 70¢ each.

1981
Feb., March, April, June,
July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.
Cost: 70¢ each.

Feb., July, Sept., Nov., Dec. Cost: 70¢ each.

April, June, Aug., Sept., Oct. Dec. Cost: 60¢ each.

All except July. Cost: 60¢ each.

Experience pays off Montreal upsets Islanders in 80th Street League in hockey replay

Put an experienced coach at the helm and have the players slip into the Montreal Canadians' uniforms, and the result is smooth sailing for the former dominant ship of state in the NHL.

This time, however, the success belongs to Montreal in the 80th Street Strat-U-Matic Hockey League, a six-team league that plays a full 80-game season plus playoffs.

Montreal, guided by Harry Buonocore, won its division and then, for the third time in the last four years [where are you, Islanders?], captured the Stanley Cup. The lone year that Montreal didn't win - last year, to be exact - it was Buonocore's Buffalo Sabres that swept all

All the coaches live in the Howard Beach, NY, area and all the games are face-to-face as a result. The four top teams, out of six total, make the playoffs and each of the playoff series is a best-of-seven affair.

Other teams in the two-division league include the Edmonton Dilers

(guided by Ralph Facciolo), Quebec Nordiques (Greg Buonocore), New York Islanders (Phil Miano), Vancouver Canucks (Matt Sapienza) and Boston Bruins (Mike Zincawitz).

GRETZKY 'THE GREAT' IS MVP

Wayne Gretzky of the Oilers, to the surprise of no one, was the league's MVP after scoring 197 points (111 goals, 96 assists). Mike Bossy of the Islanders was runnerup in the scoring derby with 165 points.

The Islanders, indomitable in real-life, did win the East Division with a 44-24-12 record, two points behind Montreal's West-winning 102.

An injury to Billy Smith in the Stanley Cup playoff may have cost New York a real-life perup as Montreal won the finals. 4-2.

York a real-life rerun as Montreal won the finals, 4-2.

Montreal defeated the Nordiques in one semifinals matchup, 4-1, and the Islanders turned back Edmonton, 4-3, en route to the Stanley Cup playoff.

Pierre Mondou of Montreal was playoff MVP, banging home 15 goals and assisting on seven others in 11 games. And the Canadians, namely Harry Buonocore, were rewarded by being given \$40 of the \$90 in the league's bankbook.

As far as the schedule, each team played 25 games against teams in their division and 10 against those in the other division. Trading was allowed and 40 players changed teams as a result of 12 transactions. Injuries [see chart on next page] struck down 60 players and 344 games were missed. Key injury, of course, was to Billy Smith, who had won 25 regular-season games before being lost for the playoffs in the third game against Montreal.

Other highlights included Montreal having five 100-point scorers... Quebec winning its last three games to edge out Vancouver and Boston for the final playoff berth...West Division defeating the East, 2 games to 1, in all-star series...and Montreal having to go three overtimes before knocking out the Islanders in the sixth game of the Stanley Cup.

Standings and leaders:

	W 44 35 26	22 35 39		102 80 67	East NY Islanders Vancouver Boston	W 44 28 24	L 24 42 39	T 12 10 17	Pts. 100 66 65
Scoring Gretzky EDM Bossy NYI Napier MON Gradin VAN P.Stastny QU		G 111 92 102 75 45	86 73 47 71 100	Pts. 197 165 149 146 145	GAA Herron MON Melanson NYI B.Smith NYI Wamsley MON Fuhr EDM		3.50 3.53 3.77 3.92 3.92		

(continued on next page)

BOTH STREET INJURY CHART

Pick split card when injury occurs:

No. 1 - 5 6 - 10 1 - 5 - Player is injured rest of game.
6 -10 - Roll 1 die plus remainder of game.
11-13 - Roll 2 dice plus remainder of game.
14-16 - Roll 3 dice plus remainder of game. 17-18 - Roll 4 dice plus remainder of game. 19-20 - Roll 5 dice plus remainder of game.

Rewards for rebounds Hockey playing tip

By QUINN McKENZIE, Cottage Hills, IL

Here is a hockey playing tip which I find makes my games more realistic. I found that "defensive" defensemen were really not as valuable as they are in real-life, especially in "clearing the crease" during rebound situations. This rebound system rewards a team with good defensive players, especially defensemen, during rebound situations.

It also helps those good offensive players (like Phil Esposito of old) to punch in rebounds that lesser players would not.

I marked the split cards in the right-hand corner as follows:

1 - DRO/OLW 11 - DC/Off. Highest S - DHO/OFD 12 - Automatic Def. rebound, def. highest 3 - DRD/OLW 13 - DRW/DLW 4 - DRD/DC 14 - OLW/DRW 5 - 010/080 15 - OC/DC (plus injury) 6 - DLD/ORW 16 - 00/00 7 - DLD/ORW 17 - DLW/DRW 8 - DLD/DC 18 - DRW/DLW 9 - DRW/Offen. Highest 19 - OLD/DRD 10 - DLW/Offen. Highest 20 - ORD/DLD

Do this to all 40 split cards. Next, in the left corner, mark card as follows: 10 cards (it doesn't matter which 10) with a 4+, 10 cards with a 2+, 10 cards with a 3+ and 10 with a 4+. This completes all the

My system of rebounds requires two split cards, instead of just one. My system or recounds requires two spirt ceres, instead of just one. The first drawing refers to the right corner, telling which player's rating will be needed. If, for example, card '7' was pulled up, you would have written on it, "DLD/DRW." This means the defensive left defensemen is being tested. Pull the second split card, referring to the left corner. This tells us what rating is needed.

Suppose you pull a 3+; this means the left defensemen would have to be a 3 or 4, or the offensive right wing has a rebound shot. The second position listed always gets the rebound if the first one doesn't measure up to the needed rating. (use defense ratings for defensive players, offense for offense)

Notice that 40 percent of the rebounds involve defensive defensemen; I believe this adequately rewards those unglamerous but needed steady

Please note: a 1+ means the rating in question has to be 1, or greater; 2+, a 2 or greater; 3+, a 3 or greater; a 4, only a 4 rating

Editor's note: McKenzie's playing tips have appeared in the Review before, including football playing tips in the Dec., 1982 issue.

Hockey playing tip

SUPER-ADVANCED PENETRATION CHART

SUPER-ADVANCED PENETRATION CHART

Kurt Smeby, the gamer for all seasons who calls Las Vegas, NV, home, is back with a hockey playing tip.

"In order to accentuate offensive mode/defensive forecheckers more into S-0-M Hockey," writes Smeby, "I'm introducing the super-advanced penetration system:

"Simply find the numbers needed as normal, but under the correct column listing. The correct listing, numbered 1-6, is found by adding your opponents' offensive mode to his number of forecheckers (example: 1-0 mode = 1, 3-2 mode = 5). The accuracy of the penetration is identical to S-0-M's advanced version, but realism and playability are enhanced."

Offensive Penetration Rating	Opponent's Defense	1 (0)ffensiv _2	re Mode +	Defens 4	ive For	recheckers) 6
	4	1-6	1-7	1-8	1-10	1-11	1-12
	3	1-7	1-8	1-9	1-11	1-12	1-13
4	2	1-9	1-10	1-11	1-13	1-14	1-15
	1	1-12	1-13	1-14	1-16	1-17	1-18
	4	1-4	1-5	1-6	1-8	1-9	1-10
	3	1-5	1-6	1-7	1-9	1-10	1-11
3	2	1-7	1-8	1-9	1-11	1-12	1-13
	1	1-10	1-11	1-12	1-14	1-15	1-16
	4	1	1-2	1-3	1-5	1-6	1-7
	3	1-3	1-4	1-5	1-7	1-8	1-9
2	2	1-4	1-5	1-6	1-8	1-9	1-10
	1	1-5	1-6	1-7	1-9	1-10	1-11
	4	1	1	1-2	1-3	1-4	1-5
	3	1	1-2	1-3	1-5	1-6	1-7
1	S	1-2	1-3	1-4	1-6	1-7	1-8
	1	1-3	1-4	1-5	1-7	1-8	1-9

Football playing tips [continued from page 3]

ions and does not reflect any yardage lost on sacks.

Now divide 500 by 6 and the rating will be 83.3 for this example.

S-O-M league, replay scene

AOCKY MOUNTAIN SPORTS ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL REPLAY - Put Tony Dorsett and Earl Campbell in the same backfield, toss in the tosses of Dan Fouts as quarterback, and you have an awesome football machine - or the winning team, the Washington Brethren, in the Rocky Mountain's 1982 draft league season...Mike Harrison was the coach directing a machine that averaged over 30 points a game en route to winning the league's second Strato Bowl (42-23 over expansion team Utah, guided by Mark Carlson)...Borsett rushed 320 times for 1,624 yards and Campbell blasted to 1,090 in 234 cracks; Fouts completed 218 of 372 passes for 3,092 yards and 29 touchdowns and Kellen Winslow latched on to 118 of Fouts' throws for 1,123 yards...George Rogers of Utah, however, was the league's No. 1 rusher, ripping off 2,102 yards in 382 attempts for a 5.5 average...MVP of the league, however, was Kenny King of Minnesota, who gained 2,062 yards in 368 carries for a 5.6 average...League used TCFL's standardized defense cards for the first time and reported realistic results...Biggest turnabout was Steve Garrett's taking over a team that was 6-8 last year and directing it to 13-3 mark in the league's second season. Garrett's California Surf was upset by Utah in the second-round of the playoffs, 23-17, however...Everyone qualified for playoffs, although except for Utah the playoffs pretty much followed regular-season finish in the standings...Coaches and their teams included: Harrison (Washington Brethren), Garrett (California Surf), Jay Blain (Hawaii Volcanoes), Russ Lemmon (Indiana Impact), Phil Miller (Illinois Willies), John Taylor (Minnesota Norsemen), Mark Carlson (Utah Redskins), Steve Weiser (Arizona Cactus) and Andy Ross (Floride Blazers).

Standings, leaders and playoff results:

Washington	W L Off	3 22.8	Playoffs First round - Utah 38, Florida 34
California Arizona Minnesota	13 3 27. 10 6 23. 9 7 25.	6 23.9	Illinois 34, Hawaii 24 Second round - Minnesota 17, Indiana 7
Indiana Illinois	9 7 25. 8 8 22. 8 8 25.	9 22.0	Arizona 35, Illinois 21 Utah 23, California 17 Semifinals - Washington 23, Minn. 20
Utah Florida	8 11 25. 3 13 24.	2 27.3	Utah 37, Arizona 36 Strato Bowl - Washington 42, Utah 23
Hawaii	2 14 22.		
Rushing Rogers UT	Att-Yds. 382-2102	Avg. TD 5.5 17	Receiving NoYds. Avg. TD Winslow WA 118 1123 9.5 11
King MN Dorsett WA	368-2062 320-1624	5.6 9	Largent IL 109 1684 15.4 17 Watson IN 101 2095 20.7 18
Nathan AZ O.Anderson CA	245-1576 251-1466	6.4 9 5.8 6	Senser IL 88 838 9.5 3 D.Clark IL 88 809 9.2 5
Montgomery IL Dickey IN	263-1426 227-1243	5.4 11 5.5 7	Giles AZ 86 1075 12.5 10 Ross CA 84 677 8.1 8
Passing Fouts WA	Att-Comp. 372-218	Pct. Yds 58.6 309	
Jones CA Anderson IL	394-231 523-326	58.6 297 62.3 354	
Morton IN Montana AZ	365-188 502- 3 00	51.5 302 59.8 374	
Zorn UT White FL	368-208 452-240	56.5 255 53.1 310	2 14-13 76.0

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HUNTSVILLE S-0-M PRO FOOTBALL LEAGUE - Two-man operation that calls Huntsville, AL, home: Casey Johnson, 14, and Pat King, 25...1980 cards were used for this complete-season replay using the advanced version... took 1% years to complete, following original schedule, plus playoffs... Two biggest disappointments were Buffalo (7-9) and San Diego (8-7-1).

(continued on next page)

Joe Ferguson, Bills' quarterback, was only 44.5 percent in the completion department while Dan Fouts of the Chargers had 30 interceptions but only 16 touchdown passes...New York Jets surprised by winning Super Bowl, defeating Philadelphia in defensive duel, 13-6.Richard Todd's 8-yard pass to Tom Newton with 30 seconds left decided the outcome...Tony Nathan of Miami and Detroit's Billy Sims were conference MVPs.

Standings and leaders:

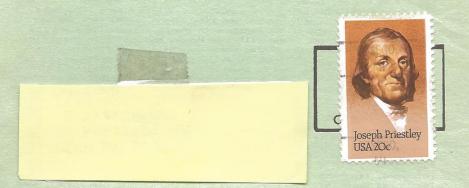
NFC Central W Detroit 12 Chicago 9 Green Bay 7 Minnesota 7 Tampa Bay 5	L T 3 1 7 0 9 0 9 0 11 0	East Philad Dallas St. Lo NY Gia Washin	uis nts	W L 12 4 10 6 10 6 6 9 6 10	T 0 0 0 1 0 1 0	Playoffs St. Louis Philadel. Detroit 2 Philadel.	28, 4, St	Atlanta t. Louis	16
West Atlanta Los Angeles New Orleans San Francisco	W L 11 4 8 8 7 9 6 10	1 0 0 0	AFC East Miami NY Jets Baltimor New Engl Buffalo	9 9 9 e 8 and 7 7	7 7 8 9	Playoffs NY Jets 3 Miami 20, NY Jets 1 NY Jets 2	Pitt O, Oa	tsburgh akland 9	10
Kansas City Seattle	L T 2 4 0 8 7 1 8 8 0 5 11 0 4 12 0	Cin Hou	Central tsburgh cinnati ston veland	9 7		Note that below are both conf	comb	pined fo	
Aushing Campbell HOU Payton CHI Sims CHI Anderson SL -Dorsett DAL Jenson DEN Nathan MIA	Att-Yds, 437-2156 302-1854 332-1733 308-1718 322-1662 312-1600 251-1514	12 14 11 3 14 3 9 6 0 4	4.9 F 6.1 V 5.2 N 5.6 C 5.2 N 5.1 L	Receiving Francis Francis Finslow Rewsome Chandler Rathan M Ofton G Gims, DE	NE SD CLE NO IA B	NoYds. 100 1067 98 1376 94 1127 92 1465 89 821 88 1612 85 1245	TD 7 3 7 4 3 10 12	Avg. 10.7 14.0 12.7 15.9 9.2 18.3 14.6	
Passing Jaworski PHI Sipe CLE Dickey GB Manning NO Bartkowski ATL Plunkett OAK Fuller KC Griese MIA	513 3 518 3 560 3 420 3 349 4 348 4	266 3 279 3 303 4 323 4 237 2 188 2 153 1		-Int. 18 12 25 11 11 17 17					

FEDERAL LEAGUE - Pitching was the name of the game for this PBM baseball league that includes a total of 24 teams as John Bell's Detroit Tigers, featuring two 20-game winners and a staff ERA of 2.79, captured the World Series...Federal League completed its sixth season when Bell got the last out against another pitching-rich team, the Los Angeles Dodgers, in a surprising four-game Series sweep...Draft league, with trading, plus newsletters on a regular basis keep the lines of communication open and give personalities to formerly faceless managers...Kurt Smeby, Las Vegas, NV, a frequent contributor to the Review in all sports, is commissioner, while Jeffrey Hammerlund, Algonquin, IL, and Bill Modelski, Allen Park, MI, are presidents of the National and American leagues, respectively...Highlight of sixth FL baseball season was a no-hitter in the All-Star game. Six NL hurlers combined to hold the AL without a hit, with Nolan Ryan receiving credit for the win. The NL won, 4-1, with the AL's tainted run resulting from an error (by Andre Dawson) and three walks issued by Tom Seaver...Hurling for the NL in the 'Star game (combinued on page 23)

were, in order, Ryan, Fernando Valenzuela, Don Sutton, Seaver, Hooton and Steve Carlton, who got credit for a save...Ironically, Bell, who was to guide the Tigers to the top, was the losing manager in the All-Star game. Jim Ferguson (San Francisco) was the NL pilot...As far as Bell's juggernaut, which won 104 of 162 games, MVP Steve McCatty was the mainstay of an outstanding pitching staff. McCatty had a 24-10 record with a 2.50 ERA. Bert Blyleven was 22-11 (3.28), Jerry Reuss 18-13 (2.90), Vern Ruhle 16-9 (2.93), Jim Beattie 13-5 (2.09) while reliever Dave Smith had a 1.99 ERA and saved 18 games. Overall, the staff ERA was 2.79 - with only St. Louis (2.78) being more minuscule...Willie Aikens (32 homers, 102 RBI), Rick Monday (30 homers) and Kirk Gibson (.308) were the top hitters, although some of the managers in the FL viewed with alarm the overuse (in comparison to real-life) of Monday and Gibson in the strike-shortened season)...Others doffed their hats Bell's way for his shrewd trades and assembling of "Freak cards" that paid off in championship fun...Smeby also points out that FL checked in with a .525 home-field winning percentage, a very realistic success rate at home, especially when compared with PBM leagues in which the home team wins 70 percent of the time...Also in the FL's managerial lineup are: Sky O'Callahan (Philadelphia; LaPalma, CA), Smeby (St. Louis), Michael Mayko (Milford, CT; NY Mets), Tim Dugan (Astoria, DR; Montreal), Hammerlund (Cubs), Gary Miller (Savannah, GA; Los Angeles Dodgers), Keith Dermond (Norcross, GA; Cincinnati), Ferguson (Terre Haute, IN; San Francisco), Paul Schieck (Las Vegas, NV; Houston), Michael Hines (Knoxville, TN; Atlanta), Dave Kirby (Savannah, GA; San Diego) and Jeff Sienke (Algonquin, IL; Pittsburgh), who replaced Paul Saffell, and, over in the AL, Modelski (NY Yankees), Randy Shavis (Richmond, VA; Boston), Bob Holman (Lima, OH; Baltimore), Ken Flesher (North Las Vegas, NV; Milwaukee), Joe Smith (Hoopa, CA; Cleveland), John Lawton (Oetroit, MI; Dakland), Phil W

NL East Batting .259 2.78 St. Louis Lansford TEX .372 Buckner LA Pittsburgh 93 69 3.22 L. Smith PHI .332 3.77 Philadelphia .263 Hargrove SF .332 38: Chicago Cubs R7 75 13 . 285 3.31 Reynolds Hernandez SL .324 Montreal 80 82 20 .255 4.07 Bell MIL .323 HOU & NY Mets 110 48 . 243 4.63 Templeton Buckner LA 323 NL West Kemp CUB SL 24 .323 Los Angeles 106 56 75 Home Runs H: Lansford 19 . 270 Atlanta 87 3.81 G. Thomas MIL 54 TEX 256 San Francisco 82 . 257 Schmidt PHI 26 3.97 43 A: Henderson San Diego 92 36 .247 70 4.32 Clark SF DAK & .256 Cincinnati 66 96 40 3.74 Dawson MON 39 Raines MON 103 Luzinski HOU Mayberry PIT Houston 59 47 . 252 4.64 39 131 39 AL East Grich ATL SB: Raines 104 Detroit . 266 2.79 BBI MON 158 Milwaukee 94 68 10 .268 3.39 Schmidt PHI 142 Henderson NY Yanks 85 77 19 .247 3.42 Clark SF 139 DAK 128 Baltimore 70 92 34 .245 4.13 Thomas MIL 133 SH: Gura KC 8 Boston 68 94 36 .253 3.95 Dawson MON 132 SA: Sambito Cleveland 61 101 43 4.69 . 238 Murray BAL 119 MON 30; AL West Gossage Grich ATL 113 Dakland 98 64 .270 3.08 CG: NYY 26 Kansas City 2 96 66 .286 3.30 Minnesota 79 83 19 .263 4.11 Valenzuela Texas 75 87 23 . 289 4.32 LA 31 White Sox 72 90 26 .284 4.32 McCatty DET California 70 92 4.53 28 (continued on back page)

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S-O-M league, replay scene

[continued from page 23]

rederal League	leaders	con't								
ERA		Wins		Strikeouts						
Sota LAD	2.15	Valenzuela LAD	28-9	Valenzuela LAD	332					
Valenzuela LAD	2.27	McCatty DET	24-10	Carlton PHI	307					
Hooton LAD	2.39	Seaver SL	24-12	Ryan SL	293					
Barker SL	2.40	Soto LAD	55-8	Soto LAD	247					
McCatty DET	2.50	Ryan SL	22-10	Sutton CIN	535					
Seaver SL	2.53	Carlton PHI	22-14	Berenyi CIN	558					
Ryan SL	5.65	Leonard KC	22-18	Guidry NYY	225					
Home Runs/Innin	Home Runs/Innings									
Tekulve PIT	40.7	Niekro ATL	29.5	* Note that Mike						
Fingers CAL	34.7	Stieb BOS	26.4	Knoxville, TN,						
Ryan SL	32.6	Solomon PIT	23.8	printout sheets for all individ team statistics	lual and					