



STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW

Devoted exclusively to the
Strat-O-Matic Game fan,
with the consent of the
Strat-O-Matic Game Co.

VOL. V-10, December, 1975 45¢

Eight Old-Timer Teams To Be Added!

First the "bad" news. The Strat-O-Matic Game Co. won't be putting out six Old-Timer baseball teams from the period 1920-1939.

Now the good news. Instead, it will be putting out eight Old-Timer teams from that period!

Because the recent poll conducted in the Review showed a heavy concentration of votes for two New York Yankee teams (1921 and 1936) and because, after the first three teams, the voting was extremely close, S-O-M creator Harold Richman has decided on eight teams instead of the planned six.

When the Review editors last talked with the game company, Richman was researching the eight teams and preparing fielding and running ratings. The newest set of Old-Timer teams will be available when the 1976 baseball cards come out in the early spring.

Now, which eight teams will be added to the growing list of Old-Timer card sets already available?

Here are the eight that the readers picked via the poll and the percentage (out of 90 votes) that each received:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. 1934 Detroit Tigers - 72.2%. | 5. [tie] 1936 New York Yankees, 40%. |
| 2. 1927 Pittsburgh Pirates - 55.6%. | 7. 1922 St. Louis Browns - 31.1%. |
| 3. 1929 Chicago Cubs - 53.3% | 8. 1933 New York Giants - 16.7%. |
| 4. 1921 New York Yankees - 42.2%. | |
| 5. 1928 Cleveland Indians - 40%. | |

Regarding the poll, the lone deviation was in the choosing, by the game company, of the '33 N.Y. Giants over the 1925 Pittsburgh Pirates, whom actually received 22.2% of the vote. S-O-M did not want to have two of the same teams so close together, so it opted for the Giants instead. Two Yankee teams were selected, but they were 15 years apart. And, although the '36 Yanks were in heavy demand in the poll two years ago, the '21 team moved ahead in the latest poll. The '36 unit, according to many gamers, was thought to be more representative, but the '21 squad was much in demand because of the great season Babe Ruth had.

The readers responded with an excellent 90 votes being cast, 35 more than the earlier poll. And many of the S-O-M fans prepared lengthy and colorful team summaries in an effort to boost their choices. All those who took part in the poll are to be congratulated for helping in the selection of the newest eight OT teams--again S-O-M has listened to what the gamers have to say.

Now, just what will be coming your way in new baseball dice-rolling thrills? Here's a capsule look at the new teams.

1934 DETROIT TIGERS -- Features four Hall-of-Fame players: Charley Gehringer (.356), Hank Greenberg (.339, 26 homers, 63 doubles), Goose Goslin (.305) and player-manager Mickey Cochrane (.320)...add in Jo-Jo White (.313), Gee Walker (.300) and Pete Fox (.285) and you have speed on the basepaths, too. ...Pitching staff featured Schoolboy Rowe (24-8) and Tommy Bridges (22-11), plus Eldon Auker (15-7) and Firpo Marberry (15-5)...good defense also...Tigers batted .300 and stole 124 bases...one of more colorful teams of all-time; 15 members of team had special nicknames...1934 World Series can now be replayed, with St. Louis Cardinals.

1927 PITTSBURGH PIRATES -- Led by the Waner brothers, Paul (Big Poison) with his .380 batting average and 237 hits, and Lloyd (Little Poison) who batted .355 and collected 223 hits...Pie Traynor, the defensive wizard, handles third base and boasts a .342 average...supporting cast will include Joe Harris (.326), Kiki Cuyler (.309), Clyde Barnhart (.319) and George Grantham (.305)...team hit league-leading .305...only weakness was a lack of power, as only 51 homers were produced...Pitching also strong as big "stoppers" included Carmen Hill (22-11), Lee Meadows (19-10), Remy Kremer (19-8) and Vic Aldridge (15-10); Kremer had league-leading ERA of 2.47...defense was also strong suit...again a World Series matchup is possible, with Pirates squaring off against New York Yankees of that year, often thought to be greatest baseball team of all time.

1929 CHICAGO CUBS -- One of most awesome batting attacks ever put together. ...Hit parade is led by Rogers Hornsby (.380, 40 homers, 410 total bases), Hack Wilson (.345, 39 homers, 159 RBI), Kiki Cuyler (.360, 15 homers), Riggs Stephenson (.362, 17 homers) and Woody English (131 runs scored)...pitching staff was composed of Pat Malone (22-10), Charlie Root (19-6) and Guy Bush (16-7)...defensively the Cubs led league in fielding and turned 169 double plays...team had .303 average and slammed 140 homers (pretty good for those days)...will be an interesting team to pit against other highly-regarded, explosive nines.

1921 NEW YORK YANKEES -- First of great Yankee teams...Babe Ruth had a great year (better than '27?) as he hit 59 home runs, 16 triples, 44 doubles, scored 177 runs, drove in 170, had a slugging percentage of .846, walked 144 times and batted a mighty .378...team also featured Bob Meusel (.318, to go with 80 extra base hits), Wally Schang (.316)...only one regular batted below .290...pitching was solid, too, with Carl Mays (27-10, 3.04 ERA), Waite Hoyt (19-13...other name players included Roger Peckinpaugh, the shortstop, and Home Run Baker.

1920 CLEVELAND INDIANS -- Tris Speaker had great season, batting .388 with 50 doubles...seven regulars hit over .300...other "big sticks" included Steve O'Neill (.321), Elmer Smith (.316)...Pitching was also outstanding as evidenced by following records: Jim Bagby (31-12, 2.89 ERA), Stan Coveleski (24-14, 2.48), Ray Caldwell (20-10) and Duster Mails (7-0, 1.85)...team hit .303.

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1936 NEW YORK YANKEES -- Jim Elliott, of Orange, CA, who has done exhaustive research on Old-Timer baseball teams, calls this team more awesome than the Ruth and Gehrig-led Yankee teams of a decade earlier...Five players on team batted in more than 100 runs...Mighty attack featured Lou Gehrig (.354, 49 homers), Bill Dickey (.362, 22 homers), George Selkirk (.308, 18 HRs), Red Rolfe (.319), Tony Lazzeri and a rookie by the name of Joe DiMaggio (.323, 29 HRs, 125 RBI)...hit 182 homers, a record that was to stand until the '47 Giants came along...Aces of pitching staff, which had a league-leading ERA of 4.17 (it was a hitter's league, obviously) were Red Ruffing (20-12), Monte Pearson (19-7) and Pat Malone (12-4)...only weakness was on the bench, where the Yankees' depth was questionable...but '36 Yanks seldom needed bench help.

1922 ST. LOUIS BROWNS -- Lost the pennant to the Yankees by a game, but easily best Brownie team in league's history...had sparkling team batting average of .313--one of highest of all-time...Hall-of-Famer George Sisler sizzled with a torrid .420 average, 246 hits, 134 runs scored, 18 triples and 51 stolen bases...Ken Williams helped in the power department, batting .332 with 39 home runs and 155 RBI...Others creating the fearsome attack were Jack Tobin (.331), Hank Severeid (.321), Marty McManus (.312) and Baby Doll Jacobson (.317)...Mound corps was led by Urban Shocker (24-17, 2.97), Elam Vangilder (19-13)...Now it will be possible to match Browns against '22 Giants in World Series.

1933 NEW YORK GIANTS -- Compiled team ERA of 2.71--almost unheard of during runfeasts of period...Pitching staff was super led by Carl Hubbell (23-12, 1.66 ERA, 10 shutouts), Hal Schumacher (19-12, 2.16), Freddie Fitzsimmons (16-11, 2.90) and Roy Parmelee (13-8)...Bullpen, headed by Hi Bell and Dolf Luque was also a stone wall...Hitting was handled, for the most part, by player-manager Bill Terry (.322), Mel Ott (.283, 23 HRs)...defense was air-tight...lack of down-the-lineup hitting prowess is only drawback...Team is quite comparable to '40 Reds, '54 Indians and '65 Dodgers--great pitching staff, but with sub-par hitting.

There you have the eight. Watch for news of their being available from S-O-M early in January.

The History Of Strat-O-Matic

[Continued from last month]

Realizing that wide-spread advertising was needed, Richman approached his father for a loan. He promised his father that if the company did not show a profit or a promising future in one year, he would give it up and work for him. His father, still hopeful of adding new vigor to an already-established, thriving insurance business, agreed.

Putting out for the first time the complete set of baseball teams (20 at that time) and cutting down to part-time work as an accountant, Richman anxiously awaited results when the first ads broke in February and March.

Fair success followed, but then sales diminished tremendously in April and May. "Failure seemed inevitable," according to Richman.

JUNE IS ANYTHING BUT A SWOON MONTH

In June, however, a complete turnabout occurred and sales boomed. "It was amazing and so gratifying," says Richman. "I worked 80 days straight, picking up the mail at 8 a.m. and finishing up at 11 every night. I did everything from processing orders to typing, collating cards, shipping, etc. It was perhaps the most strenuous and most gratifying period of my life."

Richman didn't go around the world in 80 days, but that beginning on June 15, 1963, was the start of a series of successes for Richman and Strat-O-Matic that have touched table-gamers all over the world.

Within two years the loan to his father was repaid. A series of moves would occur. The business moved from his father's basement, to a two-story

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office in Port Washington [where today Richman resides], it was moved again in 1969 to a ground floor building, also in Port Washington, and this spring a move was made into the present quarters at Glen Head, NY, into a building with approximately double the space of the former location.

Changes also occurred in the games as the years passed. A football game, after four years of extensive testing, came into being in 1968. And basketball became the newest S-O-M creation in 1973, after two years of sometimes around-the-clock testing. Changes have been made in both since, with the basketball game undergoing much revamping from its original version.

Baseball has seen many improvements, too. The addition with the greatest impact had to be the two-sided cards [for righty-lefty batting and pitching], which came into being in 1972--making S-O-M easily the most enjoyable as well as realistic baseball game on the market. It was about this time that the baseball cards began to be figured by a computer, thus saving Richman countless hours from the days when he had to calculate each card manually. With the advent of the computers, the human error element was now also eliminated.

CARD-MAKING STILL A TIME-CONSUMING TASK

Since the baseball cards have been computerized, Richman estimates that 325 hours of manual work have been saved. The football cards, however, are still painstakingly developed following long hours of research. Much preparation by Richman is done before the cards are actually touched. Close to 450 hours go into the makeup of the football cards. Richman along with James Williams do almost all the work on the cards. The job usually takes from four to six weeks, with Williams usually putting in a full workday and Richman often working on into the night.

"The receivers' cards are probably the easiest to calculate, but a quarterback card will often take an hour or more to figure," relates Richman. "It was like going back to school for me, all the math," adds Williams, who has been with S-O-M for about 10 years now.

"The basketball cards are made right after the football and they're probably the easiest to make," says Williams. "Of course, the baseball cards are handled by a computer. Basketball involves 15 steps of preparation before finally putting on the Xs, etc."

THE S-O-M LINEUP

Seven full-time employees and frequent part-time helpers see to it that your orders are processed and on their way within 48 hours after being received. Because the cards are separate from the game itself, special selector sets can be offered as well as individualized orders filled, and it's not necessary to buy all the teams. Team boxes are stacked three-high on tiers at S-O-M now and there is a separate working area for each game. The team boxes, incidentally hold 500 teams. Once, a box containing St. Louis Cardinal players was stolen while in a van and awaiting shipment to S-O-M. "Can you image the surprise to the thief when he opened up the box and found 500 Lou Brooks looking at him," Richman says with a laugh.

Today, in addition to Richman, the S-O-M lineup includes previously-mentioned James Williams, Steve Barkan, who has been with S-O-M for over seven years; Linda Yonke and her husband, Bob, who just joined the company; Robert Iannucci, and Pauline Williams, James' mother, who has been in charge of shipping and collating the cards since almost the company's inception.

In addition, Bob Coffey and Tom Nelson (no stranger to S-O-M Review readers) are part-time workers and Dorothy Groves, Pauline's sister, frequently makes up entire games, readying them for shipping, on a part-time basis also.

RICHMAN: A MAN-IN-MOTION

Richman, as could be imagined, seldom rests. He quick-steps around his "home away from home" opening mail, figuring receipts, checking and ordering stock, testing changes in the current games or contemplating new games, etc.

The football game is likely his pride and joy [what other football game has individual defensive and offensive tackling and blocking ratings and incorporates

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Warren Newell N.L., World Series King **Review Co-Editor Sweeps GKSML Honors**

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Warren Newell knows the in's and out's of Strat-O-Matic from the playing as well as the writing end. The co-editor of the Strat-O-Matic Review can put together a draft baseball team with the best of 'em, as evidenced by his winning the Greater-Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League's National League replay and then sweeping to a World Series victory in four lopsided games.

Warren, a middle school band instructor in Otsego, MI, home of the Review, won the GKSML World Series a year ago with his American League team. After opting for an expansion team in the A.L. in 1975, that left him with only his N.L. squad to make a run at winning back-to-back honors.

And that he did. And with a team loaded with hitting, good defense, but suspect pitching. But it was the pitching that won it for him. Dennis Blair went 11-1 with a 2.11 earned run average, Ray Sadecki 9-3, Dale Murray 12-2, Bill Bonham 16-9, Ron Reed 14-8 and Pedro Borbon 7-2. Not the greatest array of names, perhaps, but a group of twirlers that blended together to ring up a league-leading 2.96 ERA. Couple the hurling with the hitting of Dave Rader (.355 on a part-time basis), Ron Cey (.298), Joe Morgan, Pete Rose, Tony Perez, Cesar Cedeno and Willie Crawford and 118 bases worth of thievery, and you have the ingredients of a winner. It didn't hurt the cause having veterans such as Willie McCovey and Bud Harrelson, either, who frequently worked opposing pitchers for walks, setting in motion big innings.

FAST START DOES IT IN N.L.

Warren got out of the starting gate with a 33-11 record and it wasn't until a late-season 10-game losing streak that his closest pursuers even saw dust from his fleeting feet. Cliff Sage, another veteran GKSML member, finished eight games off the pace after winning 27 of his last 31 games. Cliff also set a new GKSML record by winning 19 straight games! And his Don Sutton set another league standard by winning his first 13 games of the season. Sutton finished with a 24-9 record as he and Jon Matlack combined to win 47 games.

The rest of the league was strung out behind--far behind! Al Brinkert, who works in a Kalamazoo bank, and Joel Block, an Otsego High School student, deadlocked for third, 20 games off the pace.

Review co-editor Del Newell crept out of the starting gate and landed in seventh place--only a one spot improvement from the season before at which he announced after season's end, "Wait until next year!" Del was exciting with bat in hand but his pitchers frequently toiled in bunches--mainly because they couldn't get anyone out. Ralph Garr, acquired by Del in a mid-season trade with Dale Holland (for Jerry Morales and George Foster), led the league in hitting with a .375 average.

EIGHT-TEAM SETUP IN N.L.

Although the American League season had found expansion to a 10-team setup, the National reverted back to the old pattern of an eight-team league. One member of the A.L. season had moved away, another planned on playing just the A.L., so N.L. expansion ideas were discarded. The biggest result from not expanding in the N.L. was that batting averages, for the most part, dipped. This had been proven many times in the past: eight teams or less and you have virtually an "all-star" league, with the batters suffering the most.

WORLD SERIES 'NO CONTEST'

Warren, after running away with the N.L. title, took on A.L. king Dale Holland, who also resides in Otsego, MI, in the GKSML World Series. Dale had easily won the A.L., winning his five-team division and then polishing off Del Newell, three games to one, in the playoffs.

The mood for the Series was set in the opener when Warren jumped on Catfish Hunter for 15 hits and coasted to an 11-6 triumph backed by an 18-hit attack. Dale never recovered from that bombing and quickly dropped 7-3, 4-1 and 6-1 games and, presto, the Series was over even before dice-rollin' hands warmed up Reggie Jackson, Joe Rudi, Jorge Orta and Co., after devastating the A.L., could.

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n't solve the pitching slants of the "no-name" staff.

Here are the final standings and individual leaders for the GKSML:

| Standings | Won | Lost | GB | BA | ERA | Batting | |
|-------------------|-----|------|----|------|------|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Warren Newell | 98 | 56 | -- | .251 | 2.96 | Garr (DN) | .375 |
| 2. Clif Sage | 90 | 64 | 8 | .240 | 3.03 | Stargell (JM) | .359 |
| 3. Al Brinkert | 78 | 76 | 20 | .262 | 3.64 | Madlock (AB) | .333 |
| Joel Block | 78 | 76 | 20 | .244 | 3.67 | Hebner (DN) | .318 |
| 5. Dale Holland | 74 | 80 | 24 | .243 | 3.56 | Geronimo (JM) | .317 |
| 6. Jim Myers | 73 | 81 | 25 | .261 | 3.77 | Montanez (DN) | .310 |
| 7. Del Newell | 71 | 83 | 27 | .272 | 3.77 | Oliver (DN) | .304 |
| 8. Ron Ellinger | 55 | 99 | 43 | .239 | 3.67 | Buckner (CS) | .303 |
| | | | | | | R.Smith (AB) | .295 |
| | | | | | | Watson (JB) | .294 |
| Home Runs | | | | | | | |
| Bench (DH) | 33 | | | | | Hits | |
| Stargell (JM) | 29 | | | | | Garr (DN) | 214 |
| Schmidt (DH) | 27 | | | | | Oliver (DN) | 185 |
| Garvey (CS) | 26 | | | | | Stargell (JM) | 184 |
| Evans (CS) | 26 | | | | | | |
| Doubles | | | | | | Runs | |
| Stargell (JM) | 54 | | | | | Garr (DN) | 103 |
| Bench (DH) | 41 | | | | | Evans (CS) | 94 |
| Oliver (DN) | 39 | | | | | Bonds (CS) | 93 |
| Baker (DH) | 39 | | | | | | |
| Stolen Bases | | | | | | ERA | |
| Brock (RE) | 152 | | | | | Matlack (CS) | 2.39 |
| Lopes (JM) | 67 | | | | | Sutton (CS) | 2.57 |
| Bonds (CS) | 59 | | | | | Niekro (AB) | 2.59 |
| Morgan (WN) | 48 | | | | | Messersmith (DN) | 2.59 |
| | | | | | | Ellis (DN) | 2.76 |
| Comp. Games | | | | | | Bonham (WN) | 2.80 |
| Sutton (CS) | 21 | | | | | Brett (WN) | 2.84 |
| Matlack (CS) | 20 | | | | | | |
| Messersmith (DN) | 19 | | | | | Strikeouts | |
| | | | | | | Carlton (AB) | 247 |
| Shutouts | | | | | | Gullett (JB) | 215 |
| Matlack (CS) | 6 | | | | | Matlack (CS) | 210 |
| D'Aquisto (RE) | 4 | | | | | Sutton (CS) | 205 |
| Reed (WN) | 4 | | | | | Messersmith (DN) | 201 |
| Bonham (WN) | 4 | | | | | Seaver (JB) | 193 |
| Sutton (CS) | 4 | | | | | | |
| Niekro (CS) | 4 | | | | | Relief Performance | |
| | | | | | | Marshall (JM) | 12 16 |
| Home Runs Allowed | | | | | | Murray (WN) | 12 13 |
| Reuss (JM) | 30 | | | | | Folkers (CS) | 11 11 |
| Lonborg (JM) | 30 | | | | | Williams (CS) | 9 12 |

Looking For Back Issues Of Review?

The following back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review may still be purchased. Send to the Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

1975 - Jan., Feb., March, April, May, June, July, Aug. Sept., Oct., Nov.; 45¢ per issue.

1974 - Dec., Nov.; 45¢ per issue. Oct., Jan.; 40¢ per issue.

1973 - Aug., only issue remaining; 40¢.

1972 - Dec., Nov., Aug.; 40¢ per issue.

REMEMBER THAT STRAT-O-MATIC GAMES MAKE EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Readers Roll 'Em

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ATTACKS CLEARINGHOUSE

In the growing list of disadvantages of the "Clearinghouse" I must point out the following: (1) the Clearinghouse would drastically cut down the amount of managers available to a league. If a commissioner uses the Clearinghouse, obviously some people will be rejected. Most leagues have trouble finding enough managers as it is. I know, because the league I am commissioner of (AML) had trouble until it was finally established.

(2) Another point is when a commissioner takes someone as the result of a Clearinghouse report, and that manager drops out, then the Clearinghouse is blamed, although they would not be at fault. The commissioner would, obviously, be angered at the Clearinghouse.

I hope this letter will let people know that the Clearinghouse has some faults.

Mike Rennick
Oakbrook, IL

CLEARINGHOUSE SPEAKS OUT

This letter has a two-fold purpose: (1) to comment on the letters by Mike Rennick that seem to be finding their way into every month's issue of the Review, and (2) to let gamers know that the Clearinghouse is not sitting idle and doing nothing.

I think it is important that the readers know that according to a dependable source--Rick Shapiro--Mike Rennick sent a letter to the Clearinghouse stating that he was greatly in favor of it. At any rate, a few months later I received a letter, unsigned, supposedly from one who was blackballed into being unable to join Rennick's league by our Clearinghouse.

This letter's wording could only be described as nauseating in that it contained many four-letter words. Rennick followed up on this with a letter that told us how inept we were in handling this situation.

The problem is this--the Clearinghouse has not reached the point where it is giving out any information to anyone, so it would be impossible for the above situation to occur as Mike Rennick would like to believe, or as he would like for other gamers to believe. The play-by-mail Clearinghouse is presently consolidating the information that we have received and is, at best, still in the organization stages. We are also evaluating the opinions that have been expressed towards us both through our own direct mail and that information that we receive from reading the Review.

You will be hearing from us in the future, but we have been slow to actually start the Clearinghouse without 100 per cent assurance that structurally we are sound. This will be to the game-players advantage in the long run.

In conclusion, I suggest that Mike Rennick get his facts straight. If he wants to voice his disapproval of our Clearinghouse, why can't he do it in a civilized manner as have others? If he needs to see his name in print, rent some space in his local newspaper; others have better things to say in the Review. To everyone else, I assure you that you will hear more on the progress of the Clearinghouse in the months to come.

Bill Hansing
S-O-M Associates,
P-B-M Clearinghouse

SUGGESTS LEAGUE FORUM COLUMN

Why don't you print up a column dealing with problems that leagues face; a sort of president's forum for the league heads to exchange ideas that will help new presidents and current presidents. We certainly could use a forum to exchange ideas.

Dave Surdam
36744 Immigrant Road
Pleasant Hill, OR

Editor's note: An excellent idea--would anyone like to get the ball rollin'? J.G. Preston had a column similar to the above-mentioned, but when his interests changed and his S-O-M playing waned, he discontinued the column. We would seriously like to see it picked up again--by either one person or by many--and become truly a forum for ideas and helpful hints, but not a column of just replays [which is covered currently in the "League And Replay Scene"].

MORE HALL-OF-FAMERS?

Do you know if the Strat-O-Matic Game Company is going to have any more Hall-of-Fame teams in the near future? I have already selected 20 players for another National League team and will start picking players for an American League team right away--if S-O-M should decide to take another poll.

I would really like for S-O-M to come out with six more teams so a league of ten could be played.

Tommy Collins
Barstow, TX

Editor's note: More HOFs are not in the immediate plans of S-O-M. Current project is the selection and printing of six Old-Timer teams from the period 1920-1939 (reader poll results were found in the November issue of the Review).

WANTS REVIEW BI-WEEKLY

I think your newspaper is great but is there anyway you could publish it bi-weekly or once a week and have it shorter. Or maybe you could have it once a week. By doing this the rates might have to go up but I'm sure people would be willing to pay more.

And if you don't have time you could always hire someone to help you. Anyway what reasons do you have for not putting out the Review more often? Don't get me wrong, I think your magazine is great. But I think it could be even better.

Also, I think S-O-M Hockey would be great and that S-O-M management should spend more time on developing it than improving the basketball and football games.

Jim Mitzelfeld
19107 Chelton Dr.
Birmingham, MI

Editor's note: The time it takes to print each issue of the Review [usually one week] and high mailing costs [which may soon be increased] make it virtually impossible to print any more than once a month. Many table-game publi-

cations, we have found, produce six to eight issues a year--and for the same reasons we have given.

TERRIFIC HAPPENINGS IN S-O-M

I have decided that it is high time that someone wrote and said how many terrific things are happening in the S-O-M world. First, the Kubis Khan, I think, is one of the best basketball league's assembled. I thoroughly enjoy reading all the news about this great league.

I also think that the GKSM [Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League] is the best baseball league. I would also like to hear more news about the GKSM.

The Review, well, I think it is doing a super job and also the S-O-M League Scene is one of the best columns for small replays. I would also like to see the Review published twice a month. The suspense of waiting for one each month just kills me. Keep up the good work.

Brad Williams
Fairburn, GA

'JEALOUS' OF NO-HITTERS

In your October issue in Readers Roll 'Em, I read an article labeled "Boo No-Hitters." If you ask me I think the person sounds a little jealous about no-hitters by others. He isn't the only one, however. Everybody who complains sounds jealous.

Jeff Rodner
Omaha, NB

RATING PASSERS

I am writing in response to Bob Tate's question concerning the rating system that is used in the National Football League for rating passers. We in the AWA Football League also use the same system from a booklet that was mailed to me from the public relations department of the NFL, at no charge.

I am surprised that Mr. Tate has been told by the NFL offices that this rating booklet is not available to the public, and I suggest that he, and others who are interested, direct a letter to the Public Relations Department, 410 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022. I might also suggest that the questions be mailed to Mr. Don Weiss, who is the public relations director.

Now it could be possible that these booklets are no longer available to the public, for whatever reason. If this is the case and any Strat-O-Matic leagues

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would like to have their passers rated with this system, I would be more than happy to do this for the price of only a return stamp and envelope. Just mail your passers' stats to me and I will return the stats and the ratings promptly. It is a very simple procedure with the booklet.

Mike Applegate
3500 Granada Ave. #137
Santa Clara, CA 95051

WHO WILL BE ON ROSTERS?

I'm sure there are many people who have the same problem as I do, deciding which players Strat-O-Matic will chose to put on the 20-player rosters. I was wondering if there is anyway the Review could print, in advance, the roster of the 20 players from the new 1976 teams. I would help a great deal in choosing the correct teams, knowing that Ollie Brown would come with the Phils, or which eight pitchers Cincinnati will have. I'm sure other people would agree with me.

Steve Flentge
Schaumburg, IL

Editor's note: It is not really possible to be current with such information. Events move rapidly from the time the game company decides which players to print to the time the new cards are available to the public. The Review could not be current with the rosters because, with early publishing dates and all, the information could not be received from S-O-M early enough to be of much help. If certain players are asked about--and the query made early in the fall--the Review probably could be of help.

Another suggestion, if wondering about rosters, would be to check the Sporting News when it publishes the final baseball stats. Using at-bats and innings pitched as the primary basis, you could pretty much tell the 20 players that will be on each team, except for a few cases.

WHERE'S BOB HAZLE CARD?

I am writing with what I feel is a legitimate gripe. In 1957,

the Braves brought up a player named Bob Hazle, who hit .403 with seven home runs over the last two months of the season. However, the Game Co. did not make a card for him.

Much the same thing happened to Greg Goosen in 1969 with Seattle. He hit .309 with 10 homers. Both Hazle and Goosen batted about 140 times.

The reason the Game Co. give for not creating cards for these players is "their performance is not indicative of their ability." Who is the Game Co. to say what the ability of the players is? In 1973, the Game Co. made a card of Hector Torres, whose average was .091. Although Torres was not a good hitter, he was not an .091 hitter either. In 1972, a card was made of Willie McCovey with a .213 average. Does the Game Co. feel that McCovey is a .213 hitter?

I feel that the Game Co. should base its selections solely on playing time, and not exclude players just because they hit well. Many people feel that the slugging of Bob Hazle won the 1957 pennant for the Braves. Even if it didn't, Hazle certainly contributed more to the team than someone like Del Rice or Don McMahon, who pitched a grand total of 46 innings.

Mark Frobom
1069 26th Ave. SE
Minneapolis, MN

Editor's note: Although the Bob Hazle card for that year would be a delight to have because of his hitting prowess, he was excluded because he lacked playing time in comparison to others on the team. He ranked 15th in at-bats among those other than pitchers. McMahon, although pitching few innings, appeared in 32 games as a short reliever and saved nine as well as posting a 1.54 ERA. Rice also was a necessity because he was the backup catcher to Del Crandall, both of whom batted only 527 times between 'em. Another outfielder, Bobby Thomson, who batted 14 more times than Hazle, was also not included. The selection of Andy Pafko (220 at-bats) might be questioned, but most likely was included because Wes Covington (328) and Billy Bruton (306) had limited plate appearances. As it is, with four outfielders, the Braves will still fall short of at-bats if a full-season is replayed.

S-O-M FOR THE BLIND?

I have a blind uncle (who loves baseball) and I wondered if S-O-M for the blind has ever entered Harold Richman's mind? I'm sure it would cost a bundle but it would be well worth it.

Brad Pfeifer
Dearborn, MI

Basketball Concludes Year-Around Play

10

Super S-O-M League A Super Success!

History was made some months back when the Super Strat-O-Matic league put the final touches on its mammoth 63-page, all-sports yearbook. The league, fulfilling a dream of commissioner Dave Lewis of Monticello, FL, completed not only a baseball play-by-mail replay, but also a football and basketball as well--making it the first such league to complete year-round S-O-M sports action.

A 40-game basketball season was the culmination of 1974-75 Super S-O-M activity. The New England Court-Dusters (yep, that's right, Court-Dusters), coached by Dick Kapitan of Malden, MA, won the playoffs after a 25-15 second-place regular-season finish. New England "dusted" off Van Nuys, 3 games to 1, in the first round of the playoffs and then went seven games before disposing of regular-season king, Rial Cummings' Bay Area Miracles, with a 97-91 conquest.

Altogether, six members participated in the basketball league. It was a draft affair and some outstanding quintets were put together.

HOME IS WHERE COURT-DUSTERS ROAMED

New England, which was virtually unbeatable at home, winning 18 of 20 games, for instance, featured an offense built around Bob McAdoo, Cazzie Russell and guards Calvin Murphy, Pete Maravich and Jerry West. McAdoo was runnerup in league scoring with a 32.1 average, was second in field goal accuracy (54.7) and was tops in rebounding with 16.8 per game. Murphy sped through opposing defenses for 23.1 points a game while shooting at a 53.8 per cent clip. Defense and rebounding were Duster weak points, but a league-leading 117.3 scoring average more than made up for them.

Rick Barry, John Havlicek and trade-acquisition Nate Thurmond sparked Bay Area to a 26-14 regular-season mark. Barry led the league with a whopping 36.6 scoring average and Havlicek was fifth with a 26-point output each game. Thurmond, with help from Cliff Ray, proved that it wasn't necessary to have a super center to win. Thurmond, in the twilight of his career and notably weak scoring and passing, bewitched, bothered and bewildered McAdoo into a seven-of-25 shooting performance on one occasion.

DEFENSE, REBOUNDING KEY VAGABONDS

Mike Quintero coached and coaxed the Van Nuys Vagabonds to a third-place, 23-17 finish. Rebounding (Van Nuys led the league with 52.3 per game) and a sticky defense (allowing a league-leading 107 points each outing) were the team's trademarks. The offense sputtered and often stalled, however, finishing last in field goal percentage (44.3) and next-to-last in scoring (106.5). Spencer Haywood, Elvin Hayes, Lucius Allen and Dave Bing were the flashiest Vagabonds.

Fourth place went to Ted Dinkel's Delaware Dunk-Hunters, who surprisingly wound up fourth in scoring (110.4) despite a lineup comprised of Bob Lanier, Walt Frazier, Dave DeBusschere and Paul Silas.

Dave Lewis' Deep South Daredevils, like Evel Knievel, didn't get far off the ground, losing all but six road games and finishing with a fifth-place 14-26 record. Rudy Tomjanovich averaged 22.8 points and Charlie Scott 22.4, with Bobby Dandridge, after a slow start, chipping in 19.9. Dave Cowens, although a terror on defense, disappointed when his team had the ball, averaging 17.6 points but connecting on only 43.6 per cent of his field goal attempts.

Dennis Yost's Baltimore Bullets fired only blanks at the outset, losing 21 of their first 24 games. Despite the presence of Mr. "Skyhook" himself, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the Bullets could win but 10 of 40 games. Jabbar did pour in 29.2 points per game and Phil Chenier helped out with 22.1. Sidney Wicks, Jim McMillan and Geoff Petrie should have made this a super team, instead it was last in scoring (105.7) and committed a league-high 571 turnovers.

Turn to the next page for team standings and individual leaders:

| Standings | Won | Lost | Home | Away | Off. Avg. | Def. Avg. | Turnovers |
|-------------|-----|------|------|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Bay Area | 26 | 14 | 14-6 | 12-8 | 2 - 112.0 | 2 - 107.3 | 5 - 14.3 |
| New England | 25 | 15 | 18-2 | 7-13 | 1 - 118.6 | 6 - 115.3 | 3 - 13.4 |
| Van Nuys | 23 | 17 | 15-5 | 8-12 | 5 - 106.5 | 1 - 107.0 | 1 - 12.3 |
| Delaware | 22 | 18 | 15-5 | 7-13 | 4 - 110.4 | 3 - 110.1 | 4 - 14.1 |
| Deep South | 14 | 26 | 8-12 | 6-14 | 3 - 111.5 | 5 - 114.7 | 2 - 12.7 |
| Baltimore | 10 | 30 | 3-17 | 7-13 | 6 - 105.7 | 4 - 110.2 | 5 - 14.3 |

Coach of the Year: Rial Cummings; Player of the Year: Rick Barry.

| Scoring | Rebounding | Field Goal % |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Barry [BA] | McAdoo [NE] | Maravich [NE] |
| McAdoo [NE] | Jabbar [BAL] | McAdoo [NE] |
| Jabbar [BAL] | Silas [DEL] | Jabbar [BAL] |
| Haywood [VN] | Cowens [DS] | Murphy [NE] |
| Havlicek [BA] | Hayes [VN] | Johnson [BA] |
| Lanier [DEL] | Haywood [VN] | Hudson [DS] |
| Frazier [DEL] | Dickey [BA] | Russell [NE] |
| Murphy [NE] | DeBusschere [DEL] | West [NE] |
| Tomjanovich [DS] | Tomjanovich [DS] | Barry [BA] |
| C.Scott [DS] | | |
| Chenier [BAL] | | |
| DeBusschere [DEL] | | |
| Allen [WN] | | |
| Dandridge [DS] | | |
| Snyder [DEL] | | |
| Cowens [DS] | | |
| Russell [NE] | | |

Records: Scoring - Abdul-Jabbar, 71; Team - New England, 148. Rebounding - McAdoo, 34; Assists - West, 15.

Guest Columnist

How To Build Winner In S-O-M Basketball?

BY TOM NELSON
Springfield Garden, NY

Editor's note: Tom Nelson is a member of the Mid-Coastal Basketball Association, comprised of 12 members. It is a play-by-mail league that has completed two seasons. Tom completed a rags-to-riches story by winning it all the second year.

I intend to give you a crash course in survival in a basketball draft league. First, begin with a positive attitude even is Dennis Awtrey is your starting center. The positive approach is: "Well, maybe he'll punch Jabbar in the nose and get him out of the game." This approach will let you have fun with any personnel.

Your first serious step is to size up the players on your team. How old is he? Can he help in the future? Does he have any serious injury that may curb his career? These questions will determine whether or not your players are expendable and/or should you ride out a poor year with them and be perhaps the owner of an All-Star team!

The bible of any draft basketball player will be competent sports magazines. The Sporting News usually tabs a hot NBA prospect as does Basketball Weekly. The true draft coach will be interested in a Bill Walton, Jim Chones, or Keith Wilkes than prime veterans like John Havlicek, Chet Walkers or Lenny Wilkens, whose careers are almost at a close. Unless you are dealing with a maniac, you should forget about wasting time going after players like Jabbar, McAdoo, Lanier, Cowens or Haywood, etc. More often than not, these superstars are enjoying the most productive years of their careers. Any coach would be foolish to deal them away to a building team and would justifiably rip your

(continued on following page)

club's nucleus out in the process if he did.

DON'T BE FOOLED BY HIGH SCORING AVERAGE

Another thing to watch is the player's card. Don't be fooled by a 28.4 scoring average. He may have hit 42.4 per cent getting it. A lot of missed shots can get you killed. The complete scorer shots and hits from all three areas well. When I rebuilt my team after my initial season, I was rewarded with the best all-around center in Strat-O-Matic in Bob Lanier. Where McAdoo shoots better outside and inside and is slightly better rebounding, Lanier, while very close in the mentioned departments, is a superior defender and passer.

Jabbar defends better and rebounds about even, but, although he outscored Lanier during the season, he is an inside man only, while Bob shoots outside and passes better. All these facts made it easy to build a solid team. In short, the big men are crucial to the success of any basketball team. However, a good productive pivotman is rare. Those who can almost carry a franchise are hard to find. Jabbar, Lanier and Cowens are those who come to mind now.

As an alternative to the center shortage, look for a good rebounding forward. It's even better if he can score, too, but it is secondary if he doesn't. This is where the likes of an Unseld, Silas, or Hairston would suffice in place of an Haywood, Wicks, or Hayes.

Finally there are the guards. Despite their ability, guards like Frazier, Chenier, Scott, or Smith would go very quickly in a deal for one of the big men previously mentioned. The backcourt can be sacrificed for a dominating front line.

Basketball Playing Tip

Steve Klein of Maynard, MA, has a suggestion to prevent the best players from seeing too much action in Strat-O-Matic Basketball.

In addition to the minimum rest provided on a player's card, Klein feels an additional three minutes rest be assigned each player. This would guarantee, he feels, more frequent use of backup or fringe players. To make sure the better players are rested, Klein proposes that one point be deducted from both defense and rebounding ratings, one point from his shooting frequency and that a turnover be added to his passing column if the minimum time rested (plus three minutes) is not adhered to.

The way it would apply regarding turnovers is: if player is a 1-3 Dazzler, 4-6 Turnover, he becomes a 1-2 Dazzler, 3-6 Turnover, as far as rating.

Questions & Answers

Editor's note: Questions regarding individual and team ratings will not be answered in most cases unless a mistake has been made. The game company cannot, for reasons of security, disclose its card-making formula, which would be necessary in some instances to answer such questions. If your question regarding ratings do not appear in the Review within three months after being sent, you may assume the rating is correct.

QUESTION: Why aren't football cards for fringe players created on the basis of performance, rather than "to insure realism"? Why not let the gamer decide whether to use the player realistically [regarding attempts] or not?

ANSWER: To quote one of the executive's at the S-O-M Game Co.: "For the same reason people are starting Rick Auerbach at shortstop [the current season] for the Los Angeles Dodgers." The Review has found this to be true quite often: a fringe player, with limited at-bats, being used as a starter and having a booming batting average. That's no crime, certainly, but many times stats are sent to the Review that have such fringe players leading in many of the important categories.

QUESTION: Why was Greg Gross rated a "C" stealer in the 1975 baseball cards? He did steal 12 bases, but was caught 20 times. Shouldn't his rating have been lower?

ANSWER: He had too many attempts to be rated lower than a "C".

QUESTION: Regarding the new S-O-M Basketball cards, when a "5" is rolled with the white die, do you refer to the opponent's team defensive card, or to a switching situation? This part of the instructions has me confused.

ANSWER: Refer to the defensive card. After the reading, the team that was on defense now has a switch situation on offense.

QUESTION: Why is it that the fielding positions of the new 1975 baseball cards differ in order in the basic and advanced versions?

ANSWER: The order in the basic game is the correct order--programming problems.

QUESTION: On the Philadelphia A's, 1931, Max Bishop has a 1-11 walk plus injury. Is that correct?

ANSWER: Yes. It's similar to Buster Adams' reading for the 1946 St. Louis Cards (1-2, home run + injury). Both are correct, just strange programming that's all. Injuries could happen in such situations, though; tripping and twisting an ankle, etc.

QUESTION: Each year I can hardly wait for the new baseball cards to arrive. I live across from Long Island (home of the game company) and would like to know if I could go the game company and purchase the new cards when they're available, rather than waiting the extra week or more for them to arrive by mail?

ANSWER: Yes. You can purchase the cards at the game company.

QUESTION: On the 1946 Red Sox, Tex Hughson's pitching card, dice roll of 6-7, it has a single *1-10, lineout (2B) B 11-20. Is the "B" a mistake?

ANSWER: Yes. Disregard the "B" reading.

QUESTION: What is the reading on #7 on the Boston Celtics (1974-75) elementary card? Many people have told me the result (missed shot) is incorrect.

ANSWER: The result--missed shot--should read X instead, or if double-teamed, X 1-6; missed shot 7-20. You are correct; missed shot is incorrect.

QUESTION: Why does 1974 Rick Wise have a 4-4 double (6-20), 4-5 double, 4-6 double and 4-7 double, as well as a 4-8 (1-14) against left-handed batters and a 4-4, 4-5 and 4-6 (1-5) against right-handed batters? On the elementary side his card has only a 4-5 double **1, single ** 2-20. Why so many doubles on the advanced card?

ANSWER: S-O-M: "The advanced card is correct. It is accurate due to the whole play-by-play operation."

QUESTION: What is the 3-column, No. 12 result on Bob Allison's 1967 batting card for the Minnesota Twins?

ANSWER: Walk.

'Oldies' Dominate Baseball Replay

It was strictly "no contest" when it came to matching three "oldies" versus three 1971 teams in a six-team, 154-game, solitaire replay conducted by David Spurling of Winchester, VA. For those who like to argue the merits of the modern-day teams against those of the not-so-distant past, the arguments stack up favorably on the side of yesteryear.

Led by Mike [The Bear] Garcia, the 1954 Cleveland Indians outdistanced everyone--including the homer happy '61 New York Yankees--and compiled a 96-58 record, 10 games ahead of the Bronx Bombers. Third-place went to '57 Milwaukee Braves. Then came the '71 teams... Baltimore was the only one to crack .500, finishing 79-75 but 17 games off the pace of the rampaging Indians.

Pitching dominated the league as evidenced by only three regulars batting over .300. The Bear did everything but claw the bat out of the hitter's hands, racking up a 1.69 earned run average, a 23-9 record and at one point going 37 consecutive innings without allowing a run.

Some of the modern day "wonders" didn't fare so well against the "oldies," as evidenced by Frank Robinson of the Orioles batting only .214 with 18 homers and Oakland's Vida Blue slipping to a 16-21 record and 3.21 ERA. Blue did lead the league in strikeouts, however, with 286.

Although Spurling's replay is far from the last word on which teams [from what time period] are superior, it's another notch on the smoking gun of older teams who seem to prevail more often than not in such shootouts.

Standings and leaders:

| | Won | Lost | GB | Batting |
|--------------------------|-----|------|----|-----------------------|
| 1. '54 Cleveland Indians | 96 | 58 | -- | Mantle [NY] .321 |
| 2. '61 New York Yankees | 86 | 68 | 10 | Avila [CLE] .317 |
| 3. '57 Milwaukee Braves | 80 | 74 | 16 | Rosen [CLE] .304 |
| 4. '71 Baltimore Orioles | 79 | 75 | 17 | E.Howard [NY] .299 |
| 5. '71 Oakland A's | 61 | 93 | 35 | B.Williams [CHI] .297 |
| 6. '71 Chicago Cubs | 60 | 94 | 36 | |

| RBI | Home Runs | Doubles | Triples |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Mantle [NY] 130 | Mantle [NY] 48 | Jackson [OAK] 34 | Covington [MIL] 13 |
| Williams [CHI] 104 | Maris [NY] 45 | Williams [CHI] 34 | Sch'dienst [MIL] 13 |
| Aaron [MIL] 101 | Aaron [MIL] 39 | Sch'dienst [MIL] 33 | Bruton [MIL] 12 |

| Hits | Runs | Steals |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Avila [CLE] 205 | Mantle [NY] 113 | Campaneris [OAK] 41 |
| Sch'dienst [MIL] 186 | Maris [NY] 106 | Rettenmund [BAL] 29 |
| Williams [CHI] 177 | Smith [CLE] 100 | Bruton [MIL] 21 |

| ERA | Wins | Strikeouts |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Garcia [CLE] 1.69 | Garcia [CLE] 23-9 | Blue [OAK] 286 |
| Trowbridge [MIL] 2.57 | Ford [NY] 22-9 | Jenkins [CHI] 263 |
| Hunter [OAK] 2.92 | Hunter [OAK] 21-13 | Ford [NY] 207 |
| Burdette [MIL] 2.93 | P.Dobson [BAL] 20-11 | |
| P.Dobson [BAL] 2.97 | | |
| Wynn [CLE] 2.97 | | |

| Complete Games | Shutouts | Saves |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Jenkins [CHI] 23 | Garcia [CLE] 7 | Arroyo [NY] 32 |
| Hunter [OAK] 20 | Buhl [MIL] 5 | McMahon [MIL] 17 |
| P.Dobson [BAL] 20 | | Mossi [CLE] 14 |

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Super Bowl Champs In Grid Replays

'70 Dallas, '71 Colts Like Money In Bank

15

Steve Lathim finds Strat-O-Matic Football to be an excellent way of relaxing after a long day in his job as an Assistant Vice President at the Citizens Bank of Liberal Missouri. He's been playing S-O-M Football since 1969, usually solitaire, and has, during his rest and relaxation periods, completed a replay of the 1969 AFL and the 1970 and 1971 NFL seasons. He's currently in the middle of a 1973 NFL replay.

Steve sent along to the Review standings, highlights and playoff results from the 1970 and 1971 replays. And since many gamemasters are likely to be in the middle of their own gridiron replays, they may be of interest for those who like to glean over performances from the not-so-distant football past.

1971 NFL Standings (AFC)

| Eastern | Won-Lost-Tied | Central | Won-Lost-Tied | Western | Won-Lost-T |
|-------------|---------------|------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| Miami | 9 3 2 | Pittsburgh | 9 5 0 | Kansas City | 13 0 1 |
| Baltimore | 10 4 0 | Cincinnati | 7 5 2 | Oakland | 6 8 0 |
| New England | 7 7 0 | Cleveland | 7 7 0 | Denver | 5 8 1 |
| Buffalo | 4 9 1 | Houston | 2 10 2 | San Diego | 5 9 0 |
| N.Y. Jets | 2 11 1 | | | | |

(NFC)

| Eastern | Won-Lost-Tied | Central | Won-Lost-Tied | Western | Won-Lost-Tied |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Washington | 10 4 0 | Minnesota | 9 5 0 | San Francis. | 10 4 0 |
| Dallas | 8 5 1 | Chicago | 6 8 0 | Los Angeles | 7 6 1 |
| St. Louis | 7 6 1 | Green Bay | 5 7 2 | New Orleans | 6 8 0 |
| Philadelphia | 5 9 0 | Detroit | 4 8 2 | Atlanta | 6 8 0 |
| N.Y. Giants | 4 9 1 | | | | |

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS -- Kansas City was super tough on defense, eight times holding opponents without a TD...John Brockington of Green Bay was leading rusher with 1,406 yards, followed by Larry Brown of Washington (1,242), Larry Csonka of Miami (1,200) and Willie Ellison of L.A. (1,194)...Gary Garrison grabbed 56 passes to lead the league, while Otis Taylor (54) and Ed Podolak (53) of the Chiefs were second and third...San Francisco had top offense, averaging 367 yards per game, plus six times scored more than 30 points...Denver gave Kansas City fits in both games, despite big difference in won-and-lost records: A Jim Marsalis interception runback for a TD in the final quarter gave K.C. a 13-13 tie in one, while the Broncos dropped the second, 28-27.

1971 Playoffs

Kansas City 35, Miami 10...best record teams clash, with Chiefs making it a runaway by racing to a 21-3 first half lead...Dolphin ground game is silenced with but 43 yards in 21 carries...Podolak carries 15 times for 121 yards for K.C.

Baltimore 27, Pittsburgh 24...Ball-control (199 yards in 46 carries) does trick for Colts, who take 27-10 lead and then hold off Steelers...Terry Bradshaw bombs Colt defense, connecting on 21 of 40 passes for 282 yards and three TDs--but he has two crucial interceptions.

AFC Championship: Baltimore 27, Kansas City 17...Bruising ground game again works for Colts, who spoil Kansas City's hopes for an unbeaten season...Norm Bulaich blasts to 176 yards in 21 carries, while John Unitas throws for scores of 12 (Eddie Hinton) and 53 yards (Tom Mitchell)...Len Dawson of Chiefs had three passes pilfered; Podolak was lone bright spot with nine catches.

Washington 16, San Francisco 13...27-yard field goal by Knight in overtime is difference...Larry Brown picks up 137 yards rushing, Charlie Harraway 60 for 'Skins...49ers moved ball well--mostly between 30s, however--but lost three fumbles...Frisco did gain 295 yards.

Dallas 24, Minnesota 10...Vikings get manhandled in this one, being held to but

[continued on next page]

163 yards total offense...Roger Staubach is 12 of 22 for two TDs for Cowboys.

NFC Championship: Dallas 13, Washington 10...Balanced attack (182 yards rushing, 181 passing) key for Dallas...Brown held in check by Cowboy defense, gaining only 51 yards in 14 carries...Bill Kilmer does go 19-of-36 for 304 yards via the airplanes, however...Knight missed 22-yard field goal late in game that if successful would have forced overtime.

SUPER BOWL: Dallas 14, Baltimore 7...Dallas, after 1-4 start, climaxes great comeback as Staubach goes 23 of 28 for 219 yards and two TDs in amazing passing performance...Lance Alworth and Bob Hayes caught eight and six passes, respectively...Colts stymied throughout; rushing for only 82 yards, Unitas connecting but 13 times in 33 attempts.

1970 NFL Standings (AFC)

| Eastern | Won-Lost-Tied | Central | Won-Lost-Tied | Western | Won-Lost-Tied |
|-----------|---------------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Baltimore | 9 5 0 | Cincinnati | 9 3 2 | Kansas City | 11 3 0 |
| Miami | 9 5 0 | Cleveland | 6 7 1 | San Diego | 7 7 0 |
| N.Y. Jets | 8 5 1 | Houston | 4 9 1 | Oakland | 6 7 1 |
| Buffalo | 3 7 4 | Pittsburgh | 2 12 0 | Denver | 5 9 0 |
| Boston | 1 12 1 | | | | |

(NFC)

| Eastern | Won-Lost-Tied | Central | Won-Lost-Tied | Western | Won-Lost-Tied |
|--------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Philadelphia | 9 4 1 | Minnesota | 9 3 2 | S.Frisco | 11 2 1 |
| St. Louis | 8 6 0 | Detroit | 6 6 2 | Los Angeles | 11 3 0 |
| Dallas | 8 6 0 | Chicago | 5 8 1 | New Orleans | 6 7 1 |
| N.Y. Giants | 5 7 2 | Green Bay | 4 9 1 | Atlanta | 5 9 0 |
| Washington | 4 10 0 | | | | |

SEASON HIGHLIGHT -- Colt-Dolphin games were thrillers, Colts winning both by scores of 59-33 and 41-31...Miami was top offensive club with 5,047 yards; Green Bay best on defense, allowing 3,686 yards...Duane Thomas of Dallas was top rusher with 1,199 yards, followed by Mercury Morris (1,139), Cyril Pinder (1,055) and Floyd Little (1,009)...Otis Taylor and Charley Taylor were pass-receiving leaders with 63 and 57, respectively...San Francisco's only regular-season losses were to Los Angeles, 42-21 and 17-16.

1970 Playoffs

Los Angeles 21, Philadelphia 14..."Cinderella" Eagles move ball up and down field but score only 14 points...Roman Gabriel threw winning TD pass to Jack Snow in last two minutes...Cyril Pinder capped great season by rushing for 132 yards in 22 carries.

Minnesota 17, San Francisco 13...Defense over offense in this one as 49ers net only 227 yards...Minnesota's defense set up all team's ppoints, with Gary Cuozzo passing 10 and 14 yards for touchdowns.

NFC Championship: Los Angeles 13, Minnesota 10...18-yard field goal by Ray in overtime decides it...Vikings smother L.A. running game, so Gabriel goes to air and hits on 26 of 41 passes for 244 yards...Cuozzo suffers horrible game (prompting Vikings to go after Fran Tarkenton?), connecting on only eight of 29 passes...Dave Osborne was bright spot for Vikes, rushing for 116 yards in 17 cracks.

Baltimore 37, Cincinnati 20...offensive duel as Baltimore picks up 368 yards, Cincinnati 391...Unitas was 20 of 28 for 252 yards and four TDs passing...Bengal ground game churns out six yards per carry but fumbles twice in shadow of Colt goal posts.

Kansas City 40, Miami 7...Chiefs struck for 17 points in first quarter and went on to overwhelm Miami...Bob Griese was intercepted three times...Jan Stenerud kicked four-of-four field goals and Robert Holmes rushed for two TDs.

AFC Championship: Baltimore 26, Kansas City 21...Kansas City controlled play in first half, but trailed 13-7 at halftime...Duncan raced 93 yards with second

(continued on next page)

half kickoff for Baltimore and Kansas City never recovered...Returns and fumbles were costly to Chiefs, who held Colts to but 45 yards in 24 carries rushing and Unitas to 12 of 26 with three interceptions through the air.

SUPER BOWL: Baltimore 24, Los Angeles 21...Colts again outplayed, but win it all...Baltimore ground game nets only 55 yards in 20 cracks, but Unitas does sneak for two TDs and passes to Roy Jefferson for a 14-yard aerial score with three minutes left to win game for Baltimore...Gabriel has trouble with Colt secondary, completing 10 of 24 passes but for only 83 yards...Super Bowl triumph for Colts proved that you don't have to have a running game (Baltimore was 25th in the league) to win a championship.

Advertisements

Rates per issue will be as follows: First 30 words--50¢; 31-50 words--70¢; 51-70 words--\$1.00; 71-100 words--\$1.50; 101-120 words--\$1.80; 121-150 words--\$2.00; 151-175 words--\$2.50; 176-200 words--\$3.00. 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 and leagues will be accepted. Merchandise competing with S-O-M-produced products, such as score-sheets, etc., also may not be offered for sale. Also, no photocopied S-O-M cards should ever be offered for sale. Ads, to be included in the next issue of the Review, must be in by the third of the month. Money for ads will not be refunded, but will be credited to your subscription if you do not wish ad to appear. Be sure and give all sections of the country ample time to respond to ads; the mail is notoriously slow in some areas.

Wanted

WANTED: Any of the following S-O-M Baseball teams--1968 Cardinals, 1968 Tigers, 1969 Twins, 1971 Braves, 1972 Pirates, 1972 Orioles. Send prices and condition to: Steve Cross, Box 118, Fort Madison, IA 52627

WANTED: 1974 additional players. I will accept the most reasonable bid. Please send all bids to: Bill MacLeod, 17362 Via San Ardo, San Lorenzo, CA 94580

WANTED: Any Detroit or California baseball teams prior to '74. Must be in good condition. Will accept lowest bids. Send bids to: Stewart Healey, 0-20 Sunnybrook Dr., Grandville, MI 49418

WANTED: Baseball--1969 Lanier, San Francisco; 1972 Grich, Baltimore; Fisk and Petrocelli, Boston; Hiller, Detroit; Braun and Thompson, Minnesota; Lyle, New York; Marshall, Montreal. **FOR SALE:** Reviews, Feb., May, Aug. 1973. Send all information with prices to: Rod Neifert, 7949 Patton Ave., Citrus Heights, CA 95610, and SASE.

WANTED: Desperately need 1971 baseball roster. Will pay good price. Send your price to: Myron Melnarik, 11134 Westwood Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230

WANTED: Desperate for following baseball teams and will pay generous prices: 1961 - Baltimore, White Sox, Indians, Cardinals; 1962 - Angels, White Sox, A's, Dodgers, Cardinals, Phillies, Twins, Yankees, Boston; 1963 - White Sox, Twins, Cardinals, Giants, Yankees, Boston, Dodgers, Phillies; 1964 - White Sox, Baltimore, Tigers, Boston, Reds, Cardinals, Giants, Phillies, Mets, Braves, Angels, Yankees; 1965 - White Sox, Reds, Baltimore, Indians, Giants, Braves, Phillies; 1966 - Baltimore, Dodgers, Pirates, Giants, Braves, Tigers, White Sox, Phillies; 1967 - Tigers, White Sox; 1968 - Tigers; 1969 - Mets, Baltimore, Twins, Pirates, Reds, Senators, Cubs; 1970 - Cubs, Reds, Boston, Dodgers, Yankees, Mets; 1971 - Baltimore, Mets, Tigers, Pirates, Cardinals; 1972 - Cubs, Pirates. Especially desirous for teams from 1961 through 1966, and will really make it worth your while to sell to me. Please send all replies to: Gary Gannet, Clifford Art Studio, 40 West 17 St., New York, NY 10011, or call (212) 929-3710.

WANTED: 1964 St. Louis Cardinals baseball team. Send bids to: Joe Poe, Box 136 Blanding One, Lexington, KY 40506

WANTED: Desperately want any of the following--need immediately: 1962 Dodgers; 1964 Orioles, Red Sox, White Sox, Twins, Braves; 1965 Indians; 1966 Phillies; 1967 White Sox, Twins, Tigers, Pirates, Reds, Giants, Phillies; 1969 Tigers, Mets, Cardinals, A's; 1970 A's, Dodgers, Expos. Send offers to: Rich Trumpfeller, Rt. 5, Box 5342, Browns Mills, NJ 08015, or call (609) 893-5581.

WANTED: A competent, honest, responsible manager who loves to win, for my team. Position opens up in January. Join for the seventh winning season for PSOML (1974 cards). The team includes Bench, Garvey, Hargrove, Morgan, Bowa, G. Brett, Madlock, Dwight Evans, Dave Parker, Vail, Lynn, Carbo, Rice, Zisk, Seaver, Palmer, Hunter, Messersmith, Matlack, Busby, Tanana, Gullett and numerous farm prospects. If you want to be challenged, take this team; naturally we'll expect a pennant and that's the unique challenge. We want a manager who'll stay in the league for several seasons (with talent like that who could resist?). If interested, send a resume of previous league exposure and your managing philosophy (to insure the GM and manager have similar outlooks). Hurry as we need to fill this position soon. Send a SASE to Dave Surdam, 36744 Immigrant Road, Pleasant Hill, OR 97401. FOR SALE: Mint condition (regular 20 players) - 1969 Angels, Tigers, Royals, Twins, A's, Reds, Dodgers and Padres; 1970 Orioles, Red Sox, Twins, Yankees, A's, Braves, Dodgers, Pirates and Giants; 1971 Orioles, Tigers, Royals, A's, Braves, Dodgers, Pirates and Cards; 1972 Red Sox, Indians, Tigers, Royals, Yankees, A's, Orioles, Reds and Pirates. 1972-73 NBA Basketball teams (all 17 teams in mint condition) with game parts included. Minimum bids: \$1.50 for the baseball teams (I pay postage) and \$25 for the basketball teams (you pay postage). Bidding ends

December 18th. Send a SASE.

WANTED: 1969 baseball set, preferably with extra players, and in good condition, if possible. Will consider all offers. Bids accepted up to the 15th of the month. Include SASE for response. Send to: Mel Williams, 317 Byrkit St., Mishawaka, IN 46544

WANTED: The following baseball teams, preferably with extra players: 1969 Mets, Braves, Twins, Seattle Pilots; 1970 Orioles, Reds; 1971 Pirates. All teams must be in good to excellent condition. Will pay any reasonable price. Send offers to: Tony Maynard, RD#1, Conneaut Lake, PA 16316

For Sale

FOR SALE: I am selling my 1969 football set. All the teams are still in excellent condition. If you are interested, bid on individual teams only. I won't accept any bids on the entire set or any combination of teams. List the team or teams you want and the amount you want to bid for each team. Richard Siteman, 13 Sheridan St., Portland, ME 04101

FOR SALE: Send stamp, bid for '71 baseball; '72 A.L.; '67 Rams, Vikings, Lions, Giants, Browns, Steelers, Cards; list of other teams. Stan Bogart, Valley Forge Apts., Apt. C, 305 Lafayette Bldg., King of Prussia, PA 19406

FOR SALE: By mail auction, bid by lot number. All lots are S-O-M Baseball. Postage extra. Bids end in three weeks. Lot 1 -- 1967 National League, complete, good; Lot 2 -- 1967 American League, complete, good; Lot 3 -- 1968 Minnesota Twins, complete, very good; Lot 4 -- 1968 Atlanta Braves, complete, very good; Lot 5 -- 1968 New York Mets, complete, very good; Lot 6 -- 1968 New York Yankees, complete, very good; Lot 7 -- 1968 Baltimore Orioles, complete, very good; Lot 8 -- 1971 National League (plus extras), complete, very good; Lot 9 -- 1971 American League (plus extras), complete, very good; Lot 10 -- National League 1972 (plus extras), 8 players missing, very good; Lot 11 -- 1972 American League (plus extras), 13 players missing, very good; Lot 12 -- 1973 National League (plus extras), complete, very good; Lot 13 -- 1973 American League (plus extras), complete, very good; Lot 14 -- 9 different Old-Timer teams, complete, mint. Lot 15 -- 21 blank cards and

10¢ extra cards, very good. Send bids to: Doug Larson, Box 882, Esterhazy, Sask., Canada

FOR SALE: For 3¢ you can get a Topps football or baseball card with your favorite S-O-M player's picture on it. Most any recently active player is available and you can specify year of issue. All orders sent first class and guaranteed good condition. Enclose 10¢ postage, plus 10¢ for every ten cards over 10 and list alternate choices. Send orders to: Kevin Murtaugh, 5619 Marlowe Dr., Flint, MI 48504

FOR SALE: 1962 baseball - \$70; 1963 baseball - \$70; 1964 baseball - \$65; 1965 baseball - \$40; 1966 baseball - \$40; 1967 baseball - \$40; 1968 baseball - \$27; 1970 baseball - \$25; 1971 baseball - \$20; and 1972 baseball - \$18. Larry Wolf, 3329 Monticello Court, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

FOR SALE: Do you want 1973 football cards or 1973-74 basketball game? If so, send your name address and phone number to: Brian Cisz, 503 S. Forest, Mesa, Arizona 85204. If you win all you pay is postage. Tell whether you want the football cards or the basketball game. Drawings will be held on Dec. 1. Winners will be contacted by phone or mail.

FOR SALE: Complete National League set (1973) in fair condition, also '73 Milwaukee, Boston, Texas, Baltimore, Kansas City, Chicago, California (fair condition). 1974 Cleveland, Detroit, Yankees, Minnesota, Oakland, 32 cards (excellent). Also, 1973-74 basketball cards (excellent condition). Send bids to: Michael Strano, 99 Arlington Pl., Depew, NY 14043

FOR SALE: Football -- 1968 Jets, Colts, Rams, Giants, Raiders, in excellent condition, \$2.50 each; 1969 Vikings, Chiefs, Lions, Dolphins, all in excellent condition, \$2 each; 1970 Colts, Bengals, Browns, Lions, Chiefs, Rams, Dolphins, Vikings, Giants, Jets, Raiders, Cardinals, Chargers, 49ers, all in mint condition, \$1.50 each; 1971 Colts, Browns, Packers, Rams, Chiefs, Dolphins, Vikings, 49ers,

Redskins, all in mint condition, \$1.25 each; 1972 all 26 teams, in mint condition, \$10 as set. Baseball -- 1970 A's, in good condition, \$1; 1971 all 24 teams, with extra players, in mint condition, \$10 for complete set; 1972 all 24 teams with extra players, also in mint condition, \$10 for complete set. Basketball -- 1972-73 Hawks, Celtics, Knicks, Bullets, Warriors, Bucks, Lakers, Bulls, Cavaliers, Kings, in mint condition, \$1 each; 1973-74 Bucks, Cavaliers, Knicks, Pistons, Lakers, Celtics, in mint condition, \$1 each. Write to: Kurt Conlan, 901 S.W. 74 Terrace, Plantation, FL 33317

FOR SALE: Basketball -- 1972-73 Bulls, Kings, Knicks, Lakers, Bucks, Hawks, Warriors, Cavaliers; 1973-74 Bucks, Pistons, Bullets, Braves. All teams great condition! Send bids, at least 50¢, to: Rod Barnaby, Box 111, Wibaux, MT 59353

FOR SALE: The following six sets: 1962 Yankees, Red Sox, Twins, Orioles, Tigers--these five teams sold as one set; 1964 A.L.; 1965 A.L.; 1965 N.L.; 1966 A.L.; 1966 N.L. No separate teams will be sold. Teams are in good to excellent condition. You may bid on as many sets as you wish. Only winning bidders will be notified. Please no bids under \$40 for 1962 set, \$30 for 1964, \$25 for 1965, \$20 for 1966. Good luck. Have only one set of each. Send bids to: Barry Green, 2916 Brighton 7 St., Brooklyn, NY 11235

FOR SALE: S-O-M Baseball game with 1971, 1972 and 1974 teams combined to make 24 of the best teams. Surprising results. Send bids to: Rich Bachelier, 500 Mobile, Waterloo, IL 62298

FOR SALE: 1967 football teams - Giants, Rams, Steelers, Packers; 1968 Saints, Falcons; 1969 Broncos; 1970 Browns, Jets, Steelers, Broncos, Bills, Patriots, Oilers, Chiefs, Chargers, Bengals, 49ers, Redskins, Giants, Eagles, Bears, Cowboys, Cardinals, Colts (2), Raiders (2), Falcons (2), Packers (2). All in good condition. Highest bid wins--will allow time for all bids. Baseball - 1969 Padres, Astros, Phillies, all extra players, Astros have only 23 players. Excellent condition. Send bids to: Mike Cummins, Mobile Park Est.#58, Pana, IL 62557

FOR SALE: 1968 baseball, good condition, some with writing. No Detroit, St. Louis. 1970 baseball, mint condition. No Cincinnati. To highest bidder.

Mickey Wilson, Box 1980, Clark University, Worcester, MA 01610

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1968 Giants; 1970 Dodgers, Giants, Padres, Mets, A's, Twins, Yanks, Tigers, Orioles; 1971 whole A.L. except Senators, Twins; 1972 whole N.L. and A.L. except Dodgers, Expos; 1973 Pirates, Astros, Red Sox, Giants. Football - 1968 Saints, Lions, Browns, Steelers, Rams, Falcons; 1969 Chargers, Broncos; 1970 Packers, Raiders, Dolphins, Broncos, Browns, Eagles; 1971 all 26 teams. Send bids--none under \$1.25 per team. Michael Italic, 114 Perth Ave., New Rochelle, NY 10804. (914) 235-0318. Please send an SASE.

FOR SALE: 1968 Giants, Eagles, Redskins, Vikings and Cardinals; 1969 49ers; 1970 Falcons, Oilers, Rams, Steelers, Redskins, Saints, Chiefs; 1971 Packers, Cards, Rams, Raiders; 1972 Cards, Vikings, Bengals, Chiefs, Falcons, Jets; 1973 Cardinals. Will sell or trade for 1968 Colts, Jets, 1969 Chiefs. Write: Hillel Italic, 114 Perth Ave., New Rochelle, NY 10804, or call (212) 235-0318.

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1970 Brewers; 1971 Royals, White Sox; 1972 A's, Reds, Mets, Phils, White Sox, Yanks, Braves, Tigers, Indians; 1973 Dodgers, Yanks, Astros, Expos, Angels; 1974 Cubs, Indians, Rangers, Pirates. Football - 1969 Cowboys, Rams, Browns, Raiders, Bears; 1971 Steelers, Bills, Rams, Patriots, Browns, Lions, Saints, Redskins, Bengals, Raiders, Falcons, Chargers, Chiefs; 1973 Broncos; 1974 Steelers, Cards, Giants, Jets, Colts. All teams great condition. Send bids, at least 50¢. Prompt service guaranteed. Write: Rod Barnaby, Box 111, Wibaux, MT 59353

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Need 12 or 6 people for PBM '74 National League round-robin tournament. If only six are interested, will use West teams. Each person has all 12 teams, each team will play the other teams in the league once, a total of 11 games per team,

132 games/person and 12 games with each opponent. This will find both the best team and the best player of S-O-M PBM baseball. If interested, write for details: Mike Metcalf, 31 Rowena, Urbana, IL 60801

LEAGUE FORMING: Attention S-O-M Baseball buffs--NESOML (North Eastern Strat-O-Matic League) will begin its 4th season this spring. Here's your chance to manage Joe Morgan, Fred Lynn, Tom Seaver, Nolan Ryan and other superstars. As of this date there are several openings left and backups are needed. NESOML is a PBM league, using the advanced version. The draft will be held in mid-February and season opener is April 1. So the sooner you mail your name, age and S-O-M experience to me, the sooner I can mail you our constitution. So write now, to: Tom Natoli, 29 Eastbrook Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054. All letters will be answered.

LEAGUE FORMING: The U.S. League needs a couple of managers to take over established teams, plus some backup managers for the upcoming season. We're a draft baseball league about to start our second season. The only requirement is that you be reliable and won't drop out; no experience needed. For more information write: Ted Bailey, 836 Warren Way, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Please hurry!

LEAGUE FORMING: Managers are wanted to play 12 of the greatest and worst teams of the era 1876-1899 in a 154-game schedule. No experience is necessary. I will supply cards which are similar to those noted in Review, August, 1975. Fee of \$4.50 per manager will be required to cover cards and newsletters. Any surplus will be refunded. Teams are: 1896 Baltimore NL, 1887 St. Louis AA, 1876 Chicago NL, 1884 St. Louis U, 1894 Philadelphia NL, 1884 Providence NL, 1894 Boston NL, 1884 New York AA, 1887 Louisville AA, 1887 Indianapolis NL, 1888 Washington NL and 1899 Cleveland NL. Send preferences with SASE to: Bruce Hesselbach, 92-08 Springfield Blvd., Queens Village, NY 11428

LEAGUE FORMING: Draft league based on 1950-60 Old-Timer set. Build your own franchise and watch it go. For more information, send SASE to: Mike Borzenski, 6105 Lerner Way, Lansing, MI 48910

THE REVIEW IS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MORE PICTURES AND BACKGROUND SKETCHES OF S-O-M PLAYERS -- HOW ABOUT YOU?

S-O-M League, Replay Scene

EAST COAST STRAT-O-MATIC LEAGUE -- Rick Zolzer, fresh from winning the advanced S-O-M Baseball championship at the convention in Champaign-Urbana, added more honors by winning the playoffs in a head-to-head gathering in New York...Rick's Bogardus Ballbusters finished off Dave Standig's Bethlehem Bucs in the finals of the 1968 draft season replay...league consisted of eight teams; started with 1967 cards and now has completed two seasons...Zolzer's triumph was a revenge of sorts, since he lost to Standig in the playoffs the year before...Bill Mazeroski, who, incidentally was traded away by Standig, was the Series MVP, coming back to haunt his old teammates with a pair of home runs, one a grand-slam...Mel Stottlemyre of Whitestone had a no-hitter as well as eight shutouts and rookie of the year Bob Moose also twirled a no-hitter, for Bogardus...the convention that brought the league's members all together, also was the scene of a 1969 rookie draft. Jim Palmer, Dock Ellis and Al Oliver were the 1-2-3 picks...Joe Matlen, picked for last, guided his team into playoffs

Standings and leaders:

| Division I | | Division II | |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|
| | Won-Lost | | Won-Lost |
| Rick Zolzer (Bogardus) | 88-32 | Dave Standig (Bethlehem) | 74-46 |
| Leo Barr (Manhattan) | 65-55 | Joe Matlen (Farmington) | 65-55 |
| Scott Kallgren (Wicklow) | 49-71 | Roger Fahey (Whitestone) | 63-57 |
| Bill Kennedy (Centereach) | 38-82 | Jim Faust (Lakewood) | 38-82 |

Batting: Horton [BOG] .305; M. Alou [WIC] .304.

Home Runs: Horton [BOG] 39; F.Howard [BOG] 38.

RBI: Horton [BOG] 96; McCovey [BOG] 91. Stolen Bases: Willis [WHIT] 67.

ERA: Gibson [BOG] 1.85; Bolin [FARM] 1.97. Wins: Gibson [BOG] 22-7; Sutton [BOG] 20-5. Strikeouts: Gibson [BOG] 234; Jenkins [BETH] 199.

Playoffs: Bogardus d. Farmington, 3-0 (games); Bethlehem d. Manhattan, 3-2.

World Series: Bogardus d. Bethlehem, 4-2.

MLM BASEBALL LEAGUE -- Completed second season with '74 cards; six-team, 60-game, draft setup...David Mannheim, Will Miller and Henry Levine conducted league, each having two teams...trading was allowed, although actual team names were started with...two of Mannheim's teams--Rangers and Dodgers--finished second and third and met in playoffs, with Dodgers winning three games to two... In World Series, Dodgers outlasted Miller's Orioles in seven games, winning the finale after Ron Santo's three-run homer and the 12-strikeout hurling of Nolan Ryan, 5-3. Four games of Series were decided by single run and two games went into extra innings...Rod Carew of fifth-place Astros won batting title (.372), Willie Stargell of fourth-place Cubs both home run (18) and RBI (47) crowns... Jim Rooker (Orioles) had lowest ERA, 1.77, while Ryan fanned the most, 144.

| Standings: | | | Won-Lost | GB |
|-------------------------|-------|----|------------------------|----------|
| Orioles (Will Miller) | 40-20 | -- | Cubs (Henry Levine) | 27-33 13 |
| Rangers (Dave Mannheim) | 38-22 | 2 | Astros (Will Miller) | 27-33 13 |
| Dodgers (Dave Mannheim) | 32-28 | 8 | Pirates (Henry Levine) | 19-41 21 |

BASEBALL REPLAY -- 12-team, full-season replay conducted by Jeff Morse of Springfield, VA, assisted by his father Richard...elementary game was played, although designated hitter was used for all teams...1954 Cleveland Indians won East--had team ERA of 2.73 as "Big Three" (Early Wynn, Mike Garcia, Bob Lemon) won 80 games; while 1961 New York Yankees finished second after walloping 249 homers and 1971 Baltimore was third as Jim Palmer won 28 games...In the West, good-hitting Minnesota (1969) prevailed as Jim Perry posted 21-17 record and Ron Perranoski was stopper in relief with a 1.38 ERA. Injuries wrecked the '74 A's and they wound up third. Dick Allen hammered 52 homers for the fifth-place White Sox of 1973. An oddity was that Nolan Ryan and Bill Singer of the last-place 1973 California Angels had 3.11 and 3.44 ERA's, respectively, but yet lost 51 games between 'em, Ryan dropping 22, Singer 29...In the playoffs it

was no contest as the Indians knocked off Minnesota in three straight games, outhitting the Twins, 36-17. Vic Wertz stroked three homers and hit at a .615 pace for the Tribe in winning Series MVP laurels.

Standings and leaders:

| East | Won-Lost | GB | West | Won-Lost | GB |
|----------------|----------|----|------------------|----------|----|
| '54 Cleveland | 105-57 | -- | '69 Minnesota | 93-69 | -- |
| '61 N.Y. Yanks | 93-69 | 12 | '72 Kansas City | 91-71 | 2 |
| '71 Baltimore | 92-70 | 13 | '74 Oakland | 78-84 | 15 |
| '70 Boston | 81-81 | 24 | '74 Texas | 71-91 | 22 |
| '71 Detroit | 80-82 | 25 | '73 Chicago W.S. | 61-101 | 32 |
| '72 Milwaukee | 66-96 | 39 | '73 California | 60-102 | 33 |

Home Runs: Blanchard [NY] 52, Allen [CWS] 52, Mantle [NY] 51, Maris [NY] 50, Killebrew [MIN] 38, Yastrzemski [BOS] 38, Mayberry [KC] 38, Cash [DET] 37, Powell [BAL] 35, Briggs [MIL] 35.

ERA: Stafford [NY] 2.19, Garcia [CLE] 2.28, Lemon [CLE] 2.38, Ford [NY] 2.56, Wynn [CLE] 2.64, Palmer [BAL] 2.73, Hunter [OAK] 2.78.

Wins: Wynn [CLE] 28, Palmer [BAL] 28, Garcia [CLE] 27, Nelson [KC] 26, Stafford [NY] 25, Lemon [CLE] 25, Lolich [DET] 25.

No-Hitter: Bill Singer [CAL] vs. New York [4-0].

Awards: MVP - Mike Garcia [CLE]; Cy Young - Early Wynn [CLE]; Fireman of Year - Don Mossi [CLE], 77 IP, 0.81 ERA.

GREATER DUMONT S-D-M LEAGUE -- An eight-team, face-to-face, draft baseball league in Dumont, NJ, that plays a 162-game schedule...has completed three seasons...top four teams, providing they have .500-or-above records, make the playoffs...League commissioner Hal Bomzer, after winning 104 games during the regular-season, swept to the championship by first beating Tom Wolfram's team in the playoffs, 3-0 (games), then disposing of Randy Gleit's nine, 4-1, in the World Series. Gleit had decisioned Gerry Printz, 3-0, earlier in the playoffs... Bomzer's Nolan Ryan won the Cy Young Award after winning 25 games and striking out a whopping 404 batters; Johnny Bench [Bomzer] and Joe Morgan [Printz] shared MVP honors--Bench hit 32 homers, 55 doubles, drove in 118 runs and batted .305; Morgan scored 120 runs, hit 32 HRs, doubled 37 times and hit .312...Printz' team once hit 14 homers in a three-game series...Bomzer's powerful squad compiled a 23-game winning streak...Mike Marshall [Bomzer] was Fireman of Year, winning nine games and saving 25...Last-place Jeff Levine guaranteed his spot by dropping 40 out of 43 games at one point...Light-hitting Ted Kubiak twice collected two pinch-hits in an inning for Bomzer.

Standings and leaders:

| | Won-Lost | GB | Batting | Home Runs |
|----------------|----------|----|--------------------|-----------------|
| Hal Bomzer | 104-58 | -- | Carew [TW] .346 | Schmidt [HB] 41 |
| Gerry Printz | 95-67 | 9 | Montanez [GP] .313 | Jackson [GP] 39 |
| Tom Wolfram | 92-70 | 12 | Rudi [GP] .313 | Rudi [GP] 37 |
| Randy Gleit | 85-77 | 19 | Morgan [GP] .313 | Bench [HB] 32 |
| Joe Ronson | 82-80 | 22 | Bench [HB] .305 | Morgan [GP] 32 |
| Mitch Gershman | 78-84 | 26 | Garvey [HB] .301 | Wynn [JL] 32 |
| Jay Schechter | 73-89 | 31 | Harrah [HB] .298 | |
| Jeff Levine | 41-121 | 63 | | |

| RBI | Doubles | Triples | Stolen Bases |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Bench [HB] 118 | Bench [HB] 55 | Garr [JR] 15 | Brock [JL] 64 |
| Rudi [GP] 116 | Garvey [HB] 41 | Geronimo [RG] 14 | Lopes [JL] 41 |
| Garvey [HB] 115 | Morgan [GP] 37 | Hargrove [RG] 14 | Bonds [MG] 40 |
| ERA | Wins | Strikeouts | Saves |
| John [GP] 2.24 | Ryan [HB] 25 | Ryan [HB] 404 | Marshall [HB] 25 |
| Ryan [HB] 2.34 | John [GP] 25 | Gullett [HB] 266 | Murphy [TW] 20 |
| Gullett [HB] 2.55 | Gullett [HB] 23 | Messersmith [GP] 224 | |
| Sutton [RG] 2.59 | Hunter [HB] 23 | Blyleven [JR] 220 | |
| Capra [TW] 2.62 | Messersm. [GB] 23 | | |
| Blyleven [JR] 2.74 | Sutton [RG] 21 | | |
| Barr [TW] 2.89 | Capra [TW] 20, 6. Perry [MG] 20 | | |

Strat-O-Matic Spotlight

'MINI-CONVENTION' PLANNED

Thomas Swank of Little Falls, NJ, has another S-O-M project in the works. Swank, another ever-active gamer when it comes to Strat-O-Matic, is planning to host a "Head-On 1976 Bicentennial Invitation Baseball Tournament." Two tournaments are planned: one using the advanced game and 48 teams from the period 1971-1975; the other elementary and using 48 teams from 1905-1970.

A best three-of-five-game series will be played in each round, so it won't be a single loss and then you start the long trip home type of thing.

Swank plans on having the tournament in his home (39 Pleasant Ave. in Little Falls, NJ 07424) on weekends and would like to hear by phone or mail from parties interested in participating. The tournament will continue for eight weeks, with play commencing Friday from early to late evening and Saturday from afternoon to early evening. People will be able to enter both tournaments. And a trophy will be given to both champions.

Swank would like to get the tournament launched as soon as possible and is asking those interested to contact him with a list of teams, in order, they would like to play, the contestant's name, age and preference as to playing Friday evening or Saturday afternoon, and a \$4 entry fee (for trophies, refreshments, etc.). Details regarding the tournament will also be provided when Swank is contacted. Swank's phone number is 256-3447.

WHERE IS HE NOW?

Remember J.G. Preston, one-time Review league columnist, part-time employee of the Strat-O-Matic Game Co. and organizer of the Metropolitan Baseball Association (a play-by-mail league)? Well, after graduation from high school last June, he and his family moved to the Buckeye state, Ohio, where he's joined radio station WKOV as a full-time employee who also does play-by-play of local high school sports events.

He's plenty busy, what with a night shift at the radio station and additional work at a WKOV cable TV station, but he reports he hasn't lost the ol' Strat-O-Matic "bug". He was hoping to start a face-to-face football league at last report. All is well with J.G.

SHORT SHAKES

....As the Review was readied for its December printing, a mail strike in Canada was still going on. So our S-O-M partners over the border are in a deep "freeze" as far as incoming or outgoing mail. All Reviews bound for Canada were turned back at Detroit in November; hopefully they, along with the December issue, will get through soon...Dave Mendonca of San Jose, CA, pitted the pitiful 1962 New York Mets against the powerful 1961 New York Yankees in a 154-game baseball replay not long ago. The results were what one might expect: the Yanks won 118 games, lost only 36. Mickey Mantle hit 70 home runs, drove in 176 runs and batted .355, while Roger Maris had 66 homers, 165 RBIs. Ralph Terry of the Bombers no-hit the Mets, too, as it was Mendonca's eighth no-hitter in seven years of S-O-M...Turning on The Juice: O.J. Simpson, true to real-life, runs well against everyone. Against Miami's stingy defense in a replay of the 1974 season, The Juice slipped tacklers and skipped to 292 yards rushing in 37 carries, scoring four touchdowns. It was all for naught as far as the final score, however, as Miami still pulled out a 28-27 victory, as Mike Turnis of Hopkinton, IA, commanded the action...Eric Frankel of Oakland, NJ, played an Old-Timer baseball tournament not long ago, and the results were quite surprising. Best two-of-three series were played until a best-of-seven final series. And, surprisingly, the '27 Yankees didn't dominate like is so often the case. In fact the '27 gang was knocked out in the first round. Winning it all was the 1948 Cleveland Indians. Along the tourney trail the Indians scalped the '54 Tribe, '53 Dodgers, '46 Red Sox, '06 Cubs and finally the '61 Tigers in the championship series (2-0, 2-3, 9-6, 20-6, 5-4). Ken Keltner was named MVP after hitting 11 home runs, seven against the Tigers (four in the 20-6 massacre), and batting .496 for the tourney.

Strat-O-Matic Review
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The History Of Strat-O-Matic

[continued from page 4]

them smoothly into the game without checking charts and adding and subtracting numbers?).

Richman uses the Review as a gauge for what new developments or changes S-O-M gamers are seeking. He attributes reader interest as being instrumental in most changes, including the two-sided cards in baseball and the outfielder and catcher throwing ratings, more recently.

Since the baseball cards are handled by computer now, Richman does have more time to devote to research. But S-O-M still has to process a game-by-game, play-by-play of the entire baseball season (the information provided by the Associated Press)--a very time consuming job--before such data can be fed into computers and the card makeup pattern printed out.

S-O-M also has to pay a royalty every year to the Baseball Players Association for the use of the players' names (one game company refused to do this and wound up losing a court suit over it), but so far this hasn't become necessary in football or basketball.

And, as far as the future, college football will definitely be the next game S-O-M puts out, with it probably available next summer. After that...? Hockey, perhaps some Old-Timer pro football teams, could be in the works.