



STRAT-O-MATIC

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

REVIEW

VOL. 14, February, 1984

The cop versus the convict

Unique PBM series matches policeman and prisoner

One of the most, if not the most, interesting play-by-mail baseball series crossed the desk of the Review not long ago.

One of the managers is well known to the Strat-O-Matic world: James Sanders, the policeman from Gary, IN, and organizer of the summertime conventions in northern Indiana.

The other manager is Gary Reece, whose address is Mansfield, OH. Reece's address is not subject to change until sometime in 1986 - when he's eligible for parole. He's an inmate at the Ohio State Reformatory.

How did a policeman and a convict cross dice-rollin' paths?

"Gary, who is an American Indian, read about my tournament [1983] in the Review and wrote me," relates Sanders. "We have been playing by mail and writing each other ever since."

The two hit upon the idea for a PBM series involving all-star teams comprised of an all-time "minority" and all-time "majority" players. Twenty-seven players would comprise the rosters, including nine pitchers and a left and right-handed DH.

"It took us three weeks to select our two squads," continues Sanders. "He was missing quite a few players he wanted so I had to mail him the cards he was missing."

The series would end after one team won 12 games. Gary's home games

(continued on page 2)

would involve his cellmate, a young man named Dan, who would roll the dice for Sanders' team.

Here are the lineups, carefully selected, used by each manager:

Gary Reece - All-Majority Team

vs. RHP

3b - Brett ['80]

OH - ~~Cash~~ ['61]

1b - Gentile ['61]

cf - Mantle ['56]

lf - Maris ['61]

rf - Evans ['77]

ss - Bowa ['75]

2b - Schoendienst ['56]

c - Bench ['75]

vs. LHP

lf - Murphy ['82]

ss - Yount ['82]

lb - Killebrew ['61]

3b - Schmidt ['81]

cf - Mantle ['56]

rf - Burroughs ['77]

OH - Torre ['71]

2b - Beckert ['71]

c - Fisk ['75]

Pitching Rotation

Seaver ['71]

Guidry ['78]

Tanana ['76]

Messersmith ['75]

Bullpen Corps

Sutter ['77]

Fingers ['81]

Gossage ['81]

James Sanders - All-Minority Team

vs RHP

2b - Morgan

cf - Mays ['56]

lf - F.Robinson ['61]

OH - Foster ['77]

rf - Aaron ['71]

1b - Allen ['72]

3b - Madlock ['75]

c - Howard ['61]

ss - Concepcion ['78]

vs. LHP

2b-Stennett ['77]

cf - Mays ['56]

lf - F.Robinson ['61]

OH - Foster ['77]

rf - Aaron ['71]

1b - Allen ['72]

c - Howard ['61]

3b - J.Robinson ['56]

ss - Concepcion ['78]

Pitching Rotation

Richard ['79]

Blue ['71]

Norris ['80]

Valenzuela ['81]

Bullpen Corps

Tiant ['72]

Jenkins ['71]

Marichal ['71]

R.May ['80]

Sanders' team emerged triumphant in the series, 12 games to 7. His record at home was 4-2 and on the road it was 8-5. Most valuable player was Sanders' Vida Blue, who had a 5-0 record, completed four games, had an ERA of 3.20 and struck out 44 in 45 innings.

Others who turned in noteworthy performances were Joe Morgan (.390 average with eight steals and 11 runs scored) and Willie Mays (six home runs, 17 RBI) for Sanders and George Brett (.413 average), Roger Maris (six homers, 12 RBI) and Tom Seaver (3-1, 51 strikeouts) for Reece.

Surprisingly, Gary's team outscored Sanders', 95-76, plus outhomered it, 35-28.

"We both enjoyed the series and will continue to play others," says Sanders. "Gary plans to attend my tournament one day and play this series face-to-face. Gary is working on a degree while he is incarcerated."

"It is amazing how S-O-M gets people together. Perhaps S-O-M should be introduced to the different warring factions in Lebanon; maybe then they will have something more constructive to do than fight each other."

Wrong price given on 1970, '30 cards

Whoa...

Don't dash off those checks for the new Strat-O-Matic Baseball card sets just yet.

The Review - which has been known to err in the past - has committed the unforgivable when it incorrectly listed the prices for the upcoming 1930 and 1970 baseball card sets.

The price listed in the January issue of the Review was correct for the 1984 (based on 1983 real-life) baseball cards: \$13.00 for the 26 teams plus \$3.85 for the additional players.

But it was incorrect for 1930 and 1970, both of which should have been \$16.00 instead of the stated \$13.00. So, correct that. But remember the \$16.00 tab for each card set also includes the extra players for those years as well.

Sorry...

Old-timer pro football poll begins

The year 1983 may have been known for the movie "Big Chill." But 1984, George Orwell's novel aside, promises to be a memorable and eventful one in Strat-O-Matic gaming.

The game company located on Long Island at Glen Head, NY, has revealed its next project will be the creation of pro football old-timer teams, replete with the newest changes in the game.

"We want you [the Review] to run a poll as to the teams readers want," said Harold Richman, S-O-M's creator, in a phone conversation as 1983 closed out.

"We will be watching it very closely. What the poll reveals will go a long way toward determining what teams we will come out with."

What S-O-M is asking is for readers to send in a list of their top 10 pro football teams from the years 1967 through the present (excluding this season's card set) and including the six old-timer teams already available.

The "new" old-timer teams, of course, will be playable with the new game, or the revised S-O-M Pro Football game, whereas currently past card sets are rendered obsolete as far as playing against 1983 teams.

S-O-M has indicated that it is hoping for a large response and that a majority of Review readers (circulation hovers around 1,700 currently) will participate in the poll. If the response is minimal, look for S-O-M to select the teams.

HURRY WITH YOUR TOP TEN

Because Strat-O-Matic would like to prepare the old-timers for the next football card set, the Review urges gamers to quickly respond to the poll. The game company plans on starting work on the set early this spring.

When writing in to the Review (don't send your top ten to S-O-M, as all results will be compiled by the Review and then forwarded to the game company), simply list your top ten. It can be in order of preference, but that isn't necessary.

Please don't write voluminous accounts of each team you wish to have printed by S-O-M. Just listing the teams will suffice and no "lobbying" is necessary.

"We expect many of the teams that will be picked will be Super Bowl teams," adds Richman. "Remember to remind readers that teams picked must have been from 1967 on, or teams that we have already printed. And that includes the six old-timer teams."

So, football gamers, now is your chance to create those matchups again of the Super Bowl teams and the powerhouses of the last 15 years--and with Strat-O-Matic's new look.

On the back page of the Review this month you will find a listing for your top ten football teams. Please fill it in (or send a postcard, letter, etc., if you prefer) and return promptly to the Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

Convention set for August 4-5

Fourth annual Bostock tourney slated for this summer

Circle the dates August 4-5, 1984. Why? Because that's when the Fourth annual Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament will be staged in Hobart, IN.

Again the host will be James Sanders, the policeman from Gary, IN who almost single-handedly has organized and conducted the first three such tournaments in memory of the former major league baseball player who was killed in Gary.

The site of the tournament will again be, as a year ago, the Gary
(continued on next page)

Works Supervisory Club, County K Road, in Hobart. Starting time will be 8 a.m. on August 4, which is a Saturday.

Cost of entering the tournament, which is approved and partially sponsored by the Strat-O-Matic Game Co., is \$8.50. S-O-M will again provide trophies to the winners and runnersup.

Four tournaments will be featured: advanced baseball, super advanced football, super advanced hockey and elementary baseball. "Gamers can enter only one tournament on Saturday," mentions Sanders. "But the elementary baseball is a backup tournament for Sunday only, so gamers who do not make the playoffs will have another chance at winning a trophy."

Actual teams will be used for tournament play, and teams will be chosen on a first-apply, first-choice basis.

Last year's winners have all been contacted and all have promised to return to defend their championships. Bob Clineman was the advanced baseball champ, while Ed Grep won football, Bill Waldheuser hockey and John Pattin elementary baseball.

Gamers seeking adding information about the tournaments [playing rules, team selection, travel and lodging, etc.] can write or call (no collect calls, please) at: James Sanders, Director S-O-M Tournament, 5806 Kennedy Terrace, Apt. 103, Gary, IN 46403 [phone: 1-219-938-6137].

Here's glimpse of what's coming in '84

Any day now that UPS truck should be making the stop you've been waiting for for many months.

Even though Strat-O-Matic said it was running behind in all stages of card production at the outset of January, everyone is hoping that by the end of the month all thumbs will be "up" as far as packing orders into UPS trucks throughout the country.

The Review gave a teaser as to what's coming in the new baseball card set in the January Review. Remember that Detroit will have a "4" Keystone combination in Alan Trammell and Lou Whitaker at short and second, respectively. S-O-M also reveals, before the arrival of the new cards, that Detroit will have four "1s" as Chet Lemon (center field) and catcher Lance Parrish also drew the coveted defensive rating.

Wade Boggs of Boston, who batted .361 and had 240 hits, will have a super card on offense, particularly against right-handed pitchers. Boggs, a southpaw swinger at the plate, has close to a .400 card against righties.

Tim Lincecum of Montreal will be an "AAA" stealer while the National League will have seven "AA" thieves in addition to Raines.

The Review did get a sneak preview peak at cards for the MVP and Cy Young Award winners, Dale Murphy of Atlanta and John Denny of Philadelphia in the N.L. and Cal Ripken Jr. and LaMarr Hoyt in the A.L.

Murphy, who batted .302 with 36 home runs and 121 RBI, will feast on righties, which he faced 73 percent of the time. Murphy has home runs on 1-5, 1-6 and 1-7 (1-7) against righties. He's not a superstar against southpaws, however, with his power and especially base-hit production substantially reduced. His only home run chance against lefties is 1-5, plus 3-12 (1).

Ripken, who didn't have the power of Murphy nor knocked in as many runs, will have a balanced card that's effective against both types of pitching. Against righties, Ripken has hits 1-5 through 1-10, 2-6, 3-5 and 3-6 (1-7). Home runs are found on 1-5 and 1-6 (1-8). Against lefties, the hits are similar, although the 3-column is not as strong, having hits on 3-5 (1-4) only plus walks on 3-6, 3-9 and 3-11.

In real-life Ripken batted .318, with 27 homers and 102 RBI.

Denny had a minuscule 2.37 ERA and posted a 19-6 record. His 4 and 5 columns, both ways, are virtually hit free (vs. left-handed batters he gives up a hit on 5-7 (1-2)). He can be hit in the 6-column, but extra

(continued on page 8)

Questions & Answers

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

QUESTION: In hockey when a face-off is won during a power play does a player have a choice to penetrate or pass? Or must he only penetrate or take an outside shot?

ANSWER: He must either penetrate or take an outside shot, according to Strat-O-Matic.

QUESTION: Also regarding hockey: Do you move a space on power-play timing when drawing to check a goalie rating? Or when there is a split number (example: GOAL 1-13)?

ANSWER: Strat-O-Matic says to move one space whenever a card is drawn. That is the way the game was timed when it was tested.

QUESTION: If a rebound shot scores in hockey is the person who took the original shot given an assist?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: On advanced action card No. 55 in the basketball game the following reading occurs on the second rebound: "DRF - if not, DRF." What number should follow DRF?

ANSWER: Just play the second rebound as a reading of "DRF." Ignore the second part as it was a printing error and cannot happen.

QUESTION: The offense, in football, is in a one running back and three wide-receiver formation. A short pass to the running back is called and a pass rush situation occurs with the blocking back matched against an asterisk pass rusher. Is it an automatic sack if the defense does not have an asterisk pass rusher?

ANSWER: According to S-O-M, forget the pass rush if the defense does not have an asterisk pass rusher. It does not apply.

QUESTION: Why is Tom Walsh (one at-bat) on the 1906 Chicago Cub roster? A couple of pitchers played much more and didn't receive cards.

ANSWER: S-O-M admits that many of the old-timer baseball teams were a problem as far as finding enough players. In the case of the '06 Cubs, another batter, or non-pitcher, was needed. Thus the card for Tom Walsh.

QUESTION: Runner on first in baseball, you hit and run with the next batter and he swings and misses. You fail to get a good lead with the runner on first and the catcher is a -3 throwing. The chances are 7-4 -3 = 0. Should there even be a throw attempt simply to see if the catcher might throw the ball into the outfield? Obviously if he gets the ball there the runner is dead, but can he in fact throw the ball away and allow the

(continued on page 6)

runner that slim chance? What would the game company rule on that one?

ANSWER: The game company's ruling is that the runner is automatically out.

QUESTION: In basketball when the man who is being guarded by the inside block man is positioned outside but is double-teamed, are all of his outside shots still considered to be open shots?

ANSWER: If you are referring to the center, here is S-O-M's answer: "If the defensive center is playing inside and the offensive center is positioned outside, he cannot be 2-tmd unless the defensive center comes out to guard him.

QUESTION: Please clarify a dispute on the penalty chart for me. A pass play results in an interception. A penalty situation results and the referral is to #4 on the defense (1, 2, 3 result in the same controversy). Is the interception considered a completed or incompleted pass? If completed, does the defense take possession of the ball?

ANSWER: According to S-O-M, an interception is considered an incomplete pass. Therefore, the interception would be nullified and a defensive pass interference penalty would occur.

QUESTION: On the hockey cards I noticed that Rob McClanahan of the New York Rangers doesn't have an intimidation reading. What should it be?

ANSWER: Some of the new hockey cards were missing ratings or were hard to read in some cases. McClanahan's "I" rating should be "1." Also his skating reading should have 1-6 (1). That is hard to read. Also for the Rangers, Barry Beck's reading at the right-hand top of his card should be "DEFENSEMAN," as should Bill Baker's for the Rangers. Baker's Offense and Defense ratings, which are hard to read, are both "1s". Luc Dufour of Boston should have "LEFT WING" in the corner and Brad Park of the Bruins should have a skating rating of 1-6 and faceoff of 0.

QUESTION: An open shot occurs in basketball, with a reading of "X, 1." Is it an automatic basket or does a "1" have to come up on the split numbers?

ANSWER: A "1" has to be drawn for the basket to count, otherwise the shot is missed.

The Review staff

Editors: Warren Newell [Otsego, MI], Del Newell [Kalamazoo, MI].

Production: Karen Newell.

Printing: Oliver S Tobias [Kalamazoo, MI].

Mailing: The Review is mailed monthly, third-class, from Otsego, MI. First-class mailing is available for an extra 20¢ per issue. All correspondence should be sent to: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078. All printed material, plus photographs, become the property of the Review once sent in. If you desire such material to be returned, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope and it will be done.

Just your average S-O-M 'fanatic'

He's perhaps an eccentric to some, but to most he's just your average Strat-O-Matic Baseball fanatic.

His name's Mark Frobom, he's from Minneapolis, MN, he's 25 years old and he's been playing S-O-M for over a decade. He doesn't like, or have the time for straight replays, but prefers to create his own leagues from a number of years - even creating a few cards for players such as Steve Dalkowski, the legendary minor league pitcher in the Baltimore organization.

Frobom, who's a journalism student at Minneapolis Community College,

created the Midly Eccentric Baseball League over a year and a half ago to quench his solitaire replay thirst.

He's also in a local face-to-face basketball league and a semi-face-to-face baseball. The MEBL was played basic game and 95 percent of the dice-rollin' was solitaire.

"I did accept challenges from other local leagues and play inter-league games, which count in my standings," says Frobom. "This year I was only 13-20, which accounts for the odd number of games in the schedule."

Frobom picked nine teams eventually to form the MEBL (originally it was a six-team alignment, with the 1956 and '61 teams being added after the season got under way).

The DH was used, the season consisted of 151 games and players on more than one roster were "traded to another at the appropriate time."

Frobom didn't load up for the league, preferring teams that present more of a challenge. "Also, I can replay my favorite teams without having to play boring teams from that same year." I find the subtle and not so subtle differences in a team's performance when playing teams from other years to be interesting."

1970 GIANTS TOWER OVER MEBL

The 1970 Giants turned out to be the best of a nine-team field that included, from the '70s, '79 California, '77 Oakland, '70 Cubs, '77 Pittsburgh; 1956 Washington; '61 Baltimore and Los Angeles Angels and last, and least, the 1982 Minnesota Twins.

The '70 Giants won the Western Division, compiling an 87-64 record, while '61 Baltimore and the '70 Cubs tied in the Eastern, with Baltimore winning a one-game playoff.

The World Series turned out to be no contest as the Giants, behind the superlative pitching of Juan Marichal, shut down the Birds in game seven, 5-0. Marichal won three games and had a 1.48 ERA in the Series. Dick Dietz batted .409 for the winners and had 11 RBI while Jim Gentile of the '61 Birds whacked five home runs.

Marichal had a solid regular-season, too, despite not having one of his better cards. Marichal posted a 19-14 record, while Gaylord Perry was 23-13 with a 2.62 ERA and Don McMahon saved 26 games. On the attack, the Giants featured Ken Henderson, Bobby Bonds, Willie McCovey, Dick Dietz and Willie Mays, who averaged .285, 109 runs, 28 homers and 100 RBI.

The 1961 Orioles featured MVP Jim Gentile, who blasted 50 homers to go with such impressive stats as 131 RBI and a .293 average. All

(continued on next page)



MARK FROBOM

told, eight players hit 10 or more homers for the Birds. Backup Hank Foiles was a surprise, hitting 16 homers and batting .317 in only 189 at-bats, while Steve Barber was a flop, going 11-19 for a first-place team. Oh, and Dalkowski, one of the original wild men, combined with Barber and Chuck Estrada to issue 455 walks, with Dalkowski giving up 158 in 127 innings plus striking out 181.

Ferguson Jenkins of the '70 Cubs was the Cy Young winner after compiling a nifty 28-11 record and finishing second to Perry in the ERA derby, 2.62 to 2.63. The Cubbies had three of the league's four 20-game winners: Bill Hands (20-14) and Ken Holtzman (22-11, who won his last 16 games.

Johnny Callison of the Cubs hit three homers in a game twice, but Billy Williams was a disappointment, batting only .292 with 34 homers off a .322/42 HR card.

The 1977 Pirates may have had the biggest flop, though, in Dave Parker who turned a .338 card in real-life into a .264 season in S-O-M. California, '51 vintage, had Leon Wagner who belted 43 roundtrippers and produced 127 RBI - in only 129 games!

California also had a great one-two punch coming out of the bullpen in Tom Morgan (1.92 ERA, 24 saves) and Art Fowler (2.06, only 73 hits allowed in 131 IP).

Eddie Yost of the '56 Senators lived up to his reputation as the "walking man," drawing 151 free passes, while teammates Roy Sievers (33) and Jim Lemon (32) provided the long ball for a team that had little pitching. Harmon Killebrew was a semi-flop as DH; homering 28 times but striking out 185 in only 449 at-bats.

Standings and leaders:

Western				Eastern					
Won	Lost	GB		Won	Lost	GB			
70 Giants	87	64	-	61 Baltimore	88	64	-	<u>H:</u>	Bonds GIA 208
79 California	81	70	6	70 Cubs	87	65	1	<u>R:</u>	McCovey GIA 134
77 A's	60	91	27	77 Pittsburgh	81	70	6%		
56 Washington	58	93	29	61 Angels	79	72	8%	<u>2B:</u>	McCovey GIA 49
				82 Minnesota	56	95	31%		
<u>Batting</u>				<u>Home Runs</u>				<u>3B:</u> Garner PIT 18	
Carew CAL	.345			Gentile BAL	50			131	
Averill LA	.322			Wagner LA	43			<u>SB:</u>	Bonds GIA 70
Bonds GIA	.320			McCovey GIA	36			114	
Runnels WAS	.319			Grich CAL	35			<u>BB:</u>	Yost WAS 151
Downing CAL	.318			Santo CUB	35			110	
								110	
<u>ERA</u>				<u>RBI</u>				Grich CAL	
Perry GIA	2.62			Gentile BAL	131				
Jenkins CUB	2.63			Wagner LA	127				
Brown BAL	3.07			Sievers WAS	114				
Blue OAK	3.20			Lemon WAS	113				
Candelaria PIT	3.28			McCovey GIA	110				
				Grich CAL	110				
				<u>Wins:</u> Jenkins CUB 28-11				<u>L:</u> Barber BAL 19	
				<u>K:</u> Jenkins CUB 311				<u>SH:</u> Perry GIA 7	
				<u>SA:</u> Gossage PIT 33				Jenkins CUB 7	

Ripken will rip both righties and lefties

[continued from page 4]

base blows are seldom served up, especially home runs [only chance is on 6-4 (1) against RHB].

Hoyt had the best record, 24-10, but his ERA was a more lofty 3.66. Hoyt's not easy to hit, but he does serve up the long ball. His '84 card will, against LHB, have a home run on 5-9 (1-4) and straight on 5-10. He's better against righty swingers, giving up the roundtripper on 5-10 only.

Hoyt's hit chances off his card are, against LHB, on 4-9 (SI* 1-14), 5-8 (TR 1-2, SI** 3-20), 5-9 (N-HR 1-4, OO 5-20), 5-10 (N-HR) and 6-8 (OO** 1-8, SI** 9-20), and against RHB on 4-9 (SI* 1), 5-8 (OO** 1-14, SI** 15-20), 5-9 (TR 1-8, OO 9-20), 5-10 (N-HR) and 6-8 (SINGLE).

Readers roll 'em

MORE CARDS, PLEASE

I really enjoy reading your magazine. I am very interested in baseball. I am a long-standing member of a continuous league where we keep teams from year to year and draft new players.

I also like to replay past seasons and the biggest problem is assigning the missing players at-bats and innings pitched to the existing cards. I was able to decipher S-O-M's formula for the basic cards with the help of the Sporting News Guides.

We now create cards for the missing players who have at least 100 plate appearances or batters faced. It is actually a lot of fun creating new cards and positioning the hits.

With the advanced game a much better game for season replays, it becomes imperative for S-O-M to issue more cards per team because I cannot create cards due to the fact that the statistics are not available by left and right hand.

I am sure that those of us that enjoy full replays would be willing to pay for those additional cards. Some teams are really hurt with only 24 players.

In the September, 1983 issue you published an article on pitcher's defense and holding. There is one big problem with pitcher's holding and that is that the catchers on the teams should have their arm ratings adjusted by the overall effect of the pitchers holding to keep the system in balance.

I did this by multiplying each pitcher's holding rating by his batters faced and summing this total and dividing by the total batters faced. If the number is closer to zero, then no adjustment is needed. But for many of the 1982 teams the adjustment needed is between .5 and 1.

We are still trying to resolve how to handle this adjustment before using the pitchers hold ratings. The same problem will affect the pitchers hits allowed due to the change in

their fielding, but we do not feel it is significant.

PERRY ANDRUS, Westminster, CA

'MONOPOLIZE THE INDUSTRY'

I'd like some information on how to add to Strat-O-Matic's minuscule 24-player roster.

The baseball game would monopolize the industry if Strat-O-Matic supplied 26 or more players per team, plus a free schedule for all new game owners.

BRUCE MATHEWS, Cherryfield, ME

Editor's note: You might try the blank cards issued by S-O-M for those fringe players that don't receive a regular card, as described in the column to the left. Otherwise, continue to "lobby" for additional cards as you are doing now.

RETURNS TO STRATO

I'm 26 years old and bought your magazine last spring. It's really wonderful how a game can cause so much appeal and have a magazine devoted to it, isn't it.

I just got back into Strat-O-Matic last year [the last time I had played was in high school]. A few of us are starting to get the league fever around here, so you may hear from us soon.

Also, I built myself a stadium for my baseball. It's built out of particle board with felt for the outfield.

It's funny when some of my friends come over (the ones who don't play Strato) and see the stadium. They think it's childish. But I'd gladly give them the chance to catch the Fever.

Strat-O-Matic is a masterpiece. And the four of us who play are going to remain "kids" for a long time.

GEORGE ADAMS JR.
28430 Elbarnes
Grosse Ile, MI

UNHAPPY WITH REPRINTS

As I sit here reading letters from those who favor reprints of past seasons, I can't help but wonder how many seasons back they have Strat-O-Matic cards.

(continued on next page)

I started with six teams from the '69 season and have bought the complete set every year since then for the baseball cards. I have also, through ads in the Review, purchased the '68 and '67 sets.

Now, with S-O-M reprinting the '70 season, I see ads for the original set for \$35.00! I don't feel this is fair to those of us who have been loyal and collected the seasons each year. Not only does the practice of re-printing the cards de-value original sets, it also takes some of the fun out of collecting the sets for each year.

The reprints of assorted teams in the 60 percent size format was okay because it didn't offer the entire season and the cards were not original size.

Please don't de-value my cards further! I want to get sets all the way back to '62, but let them be original. Trying to get them is part of the fun of S-O-M. Playing with the cards is the best part, of course, but getting that hard-to-find card set or team is a thrill.

There are plenty of seasons that have never been printed. Lets start there.

RODNEY JOHNSON
956 W. Lajolla
Tempe, AZ

Editor's note: The arguments about reissuing past seasons, whether pro or con, have been discussed at length in the Review for the last couple of years. We don't wish to get that started again. S-O-M has made its decision [much of it based on the response by readers of the Review] and what it does next will likely be determined by the popularity of such sets as the '70 and the completely new 1930.

WANTS MORE HALL-OF-FAMERS

I am writing in support of the recent letters from Ron Duchesne and David Olson concerning the Hall of Fame C teams. I am currently in the middle of my third HOF replay and would welcome some new blood.

I don't think this would be a very difficult project for

Strat-O-Matic compared with putting out advanced sides for past seasons, etc. I think we gamers would make it worthwhile for S-O-M.

Here are my ideas as far as possible rosters are concerned:

American League - 1b - Harmon Killebrew; 2b - Rod Carew, Bobby Doerr; ss - Joe Sewell; 3b - Brooks Robinson, George Kell; of - Al Kaline, Sam Rice, Goose Goslin, Sam Crawford, Carl Yastrzemski; c - Ellie Howard, Rick Ferrell; p - Ted Lyons, Red Faber, Jim Palmer, Waite Hoyt, Addie Joss, Bob Lemon, Gaylord Perry.

National League - 1b - Pete Rose, Willie McCovey; 2b - Joe Morgan, Billy Herman; ss - Rabbit Maranville; 3b - Mike Schmidt; of - Duke Snider, Ralph Kiner, Jesse Burkett, Lou Brock, Willie Stargell; c - Johnny Bench, Buck Ewing; p - Bob Gibson, Juan Marichal, Steve Carlton, Eppa Rixey, Tom Seaver, Tim Lincecum, Rube Marquard.

There are many other deserving players such as Satchell Paige and Josh Gibson, former Negro League stars, and others such as Billy Hamilton, Chuck Klein, Ed Delahanty, etc.

I realize that it is hard to get official stats for Negro League players, but in a league such as HOF where Cap Anson and Jackie Robinson play side by side, how official do we have to get?

MARK FROBOM, Minneapolis, MN

BASEBALL - GRADE A

I bought S-O-M Baseball in 1982 and since then have played over 300 games, whether solitaire, exhibition, league games (my league consists of four teams, face-to-face) or my current replay of the top 12 teams of past and present.

The game (in my opinion) is a must for anyone who loves sports. The baseball game has reached grade A as far as realism is concerned and the other two I have played (hockey and football) are equally as good.

I hope the game company will keep producing such fantastic games.

MIKE JANIS
Regina, Sask. Canada

[continued on next page]

RESPONDS TO HOCKEY RATINGS

I just received my Jan. Review which included several hockey-related items, and I'd like to respond to a few of them.

As far as Bill Modelski's letter, I agree and disagree with some points.

As far as Mike Bossy, Bill's right. I have the opportunity to watch several Islander games on cable and also hear some on radio and, while Bossy is decent defensively, he's not on the level of a Gainey or Trottier.

S-O-M's logic behind the rating is, "He received Selke Award votes." Well, he got four of a possible 345 points, one second-place vote and one third-place vote. Two years ago, Steve Kasper of Boston won the award on the basis of the three games he played against Edmonton and Wayne Gretzky, so, although the Selke is quite an honor, it's not a be-all, end-all thing.

However, I disagree on his next point. I'm sure S-O-M's defensive ratings are basically arbitrary, and plus/minus ratings can be taken several ways, as S-O-M pointed out. In addition, in some cases, +/- is not a true indicator. A player can be nowhere near the puck when a goal is scored and yet receive a plus or minus.

On Gary Lupul, number me among those who believe that a player's used is up to the individual gamer. What if Vancouver had used Lupul more than 40 games?

Concerning goalies cards, I'm undecided. I noticed S-O-M making more ratings according to team (especially passing), which is messing up my Edmonton Oilers team in the Gordie Howe Classic.

Between my friends and I, we figured out it takes 18 assists in 80 games to get a "J", 32 to get a "K" and 45 to get an "L" until this year. On Edmonton, a very good passing team, Lee Fogolin (18 assists, 72 games, non-passer); Kevin Lowe (34 assists, 80 games, "J" passer); Ken Linseman (42 assists, 72 games, "K") and Pat Hughes (20 assists, 80 games, non-passer)

are players I feel are slighted. On the other hand, Risto Siltanen (who was traded but remains on my Oilers team), now plays for Hartford, a sorry team. He had 25 assists in 74 games and received a "K" passing.

And some of Edmonton's "L" passers, notably Glenn Anderson and Paul Coffey, are no longer on my team. So, if S-O-M just rated individual players I'd be a lot better off (But that's not up to me to decide for everybody).

Donald Frankfort's column was interesting. I have no opinion on his first point, and agree with his third point about defensive defencemen. I also liked his point about Gretzky's P.M. I also think S-O-M may have altered Gretzky's defensive rating last year, when he was a "2," allowing him to take away the puck on opponent defense 1 and 2, giving him more scoring opportunities (so he'd get his 92 goals).

I was glad to see the Review urging gamers to order the FGCHA Penalty System. It is well researched and adds realism and a touch of excitement to the games. We've used it in the GHC the past two years and had good results.

Finally, I'm glad to see S-O-M paying attention to guys like Modelski and Bob Lopeck who, with their extensive knowledge of hockey and S-O-M's version, input their thoughts and contribute many excellent ideas.

STEVE DULL, Highland, IN

CHIEFS' COACH BACKED

I'd like to throw in my two cents on the recent timing controversy in the Jets-Chiefs football game (Nov., 1983).

I agree 100 percent with the Chiefs coach, who said the clock does not move on a touchback in the last two minutes of a half. This is a long-established NFL rule. I would not call it a "deviation."

The instructions for all S-O-M's games infer that the player has a fairly good knowledge of the sport involved. In this case it says on page one of the instruction booklet: All rules of football apply.

Case closed; no time elapses.

KEN DONNELLY

South Bend, IN

(continued on page 15)

How to add drama to late innings

By JACK KETTLES
St. Paul, MN

Here's my playing tip/rule option offered in the name of bringing back some of the suspense of pitch-by-pitch baseball in the late innings of a Strat-O-Matic game. To be used only in 8-9+ innings, though.

Prior to facing each batter in the 8-9+ innings, defensive manager rolls one six-sided die. If a "4" is rolled, rule is then in effect for that batter. Manager at bat then declares his "contact number" (a number between "1" and "6").

Each player rolls a six-sided die (d6). If pitcher's roll is higher than the result is a strike; if batter's roll is higher than result is a ball. Ties are foul balls (strikes). All foul balls are unplayable.

If batter rolls a number equal to declared contact number, batter then rolls three dice as usual and refers to cards in normal manner, ignoring all card results of walk, strikeout or any result which does not involve the batter making contact with the ball. The appearance of the batter's contact number always takes priority over a strike or ball call/roll. If card results are to be ignored, batter rolls three dice again and checks for new results.

At any time during the pitcher/batter battle when the rule is in effect, the batter may elect to "take" the pitch. The result of that pitch can then be only ball or strike. If contact number appears, it is ignored for that pitch. Ties, in this case, are considered called strikes.

Since there is only a 1 in 6 chance per batter in the 8-9+ innings that this (I call it the "Koufax Rule") will come into play, it may or may not have any direct bearing on the game's outcome.

It does have the potential, however, of adding some real spice and sweat to those final pitcher-batter confrontations, especially in tight ball games.

Computer 'DH's' for split cards

By JOHN LAMANNA, Campbell, CA

Split cards and their substitutes can be replaced with a pocket computer which has a random number generator. We all know that split cards are not good enough. I have made the progression from playing cards (resistant to marking), to the split chart (time delay and roll-overs) and the 20-sided die.

The 20-sided die is easy and fast, but is it accurate enough?

I play the percentages. I've learned to accept a loss playing the percentages. I won't compromise with less than the best possible accuracy. I got a Radio Shack TRS-80 PC-4. It is only 3"x7" and costs \$70. This PC-4 can "roll" all the dice. I press one key and the PC-4 displays the "roll" in a 6-12***20 format. It is fast, easy, accurate and it doesn't roll off the table.

I have the PC-4 "roll" all the dice. New dice are accurate but become worn and lose their accuracy. I was never sure of the accuracy of the 20-sided die.

I will never have to wonder about the accuracy of the PC-4. It will always "roll" true. Here is the program:

```
5   FOR Z=1 TO 100,000           80 IF Y 20 THEN 70
10 GOSUB 200                     90 D=Y
20 A=X                           100 PRINT A;"-";B+C"***";D
30 GOSUB 200                     105 NEXT Z
```

(continued on next page)


```

40 B=X
50 GOSUB 200
60 C=X
70 Y=INT(100*RAN#)+1

110 END
200 X=INT(10*RAN#)+1
210 IF X 6 THEN 200
220 RETURN

```

- Greater than sign in steps 80 and 210.

I use the split number that comes up with the dice "roll" only in a must situation. When you have a choice, you must "roll" again. For example, you try for a good lead and the PC-4 reads 5-3***6. You got a good lead so you must use the 6 to steal. If you "rolled" a 5-11***6 and 11 was out of the good lead range, then you couldn't use the 6 to steal.

Football playing tip

Changing from baseball to football quicker than you can roll S-O-M dice, here's a playing tip in the form of standardized defensive cards when playing draft leagues, or anything in which individual players are drafted.

Contributed by John Onderdonk of Ann Arbor, MI, who coaches one of 12 teams in a draft football league, the defensive cards are geared for the "average." Offensive and defensive cards will have to be drafted, however, to provide individual ratings of the linemen, linebackers and defensive backs when they come into play.

Here are the defensive cards:

Dice #	LINEBACKER		
	0 LB	2 MEN / 1 LB	3 MEN / 2 LB
2	- Short Gain	Short Gain	+2
3	- OFF. RG +8 or +2	OFF. RG +8 or +2	OFF. RG +3 or -1
4	- Short Gain	+8*	Leftside Player in Zone +3 or -1
5	- Def. NT F+3 or +3	Def. Left Player F+1 or +1	Right Side LB in Zone FO or 0
6	- Def. NT +5 or 0	Def. Right Player +6 or 0	0
7	- Swing OC/NT +5*or +2*	Swing OC/Def. Right Player +3 or +1	Swing OC/HAP +1 or 0
8	- Def. NT +6 or +3**	Def. LT or HAP +6*or +1*	+1
9	- Def. NT +5 or +1	Def. RT or HAP +5 or +1	Leftside Player in Zone +4 or +1
10	- OFF LG +7 or +2	OFF LG +4 or +2	OFF. LG +2 or 0
11	- Def. NT +6 or +3	Def. LT or HAP +5 or +1	Rightside Player in Zone +1 or -1
12	- BB +10 or +5	BB Short Gain or +5	BB +4 or 0

Dice #	OFF-TACKLE		
	0 LB	1 MAN / 1 LB	2 MEN / 2 LB
2	- Long Gain	Long Gain	+2
3	- OFF Onside G +5 or 0	OFF Onside G +5 or 0	+3
4	- Short Gain	Def. Player SG or +2	HALB in Zone +2 or 0
5	- Def. NT F+4 or +4	Def. Player F+1 or +1	HALB in Zone F-1 or -1
6	- Def. NT +7 or +2	Def. Player +7 or +1	0
7	- Swing OOT/NT +7 or +3	Swing OOT/D Player +4 or +2	Swing OOT/HAP +1 or -2
8	- Def. NT +8* or +4*	DT or HAP +6 or 0	-1

(continued on page)

9	-	Def. NT +6 or 0	DT or HRP +5 or 0	HALB in Zone +5 or -1
10	-	Off. Ons. End +8 or +3	Off. Ons. End +6 or +3	HALB in Zone +4 or -1
11	-	Def. NT +5 or +2	DT or HRP +5% or +1%	HALB in Zone +2 or -2
12	-	BB Short Gain or +9	BB Short Gain or +8	-4

END RUN

#		ONE MAN / 0 LB	TWO MEN / 1 LB
2	-	Long Gain	+5
3	-	Off. Onside Guard +7 or +1	Off. Onside Guard +3 or -3
4	-	Def. End +15 or +2	LB in Zone +3 or -1
5	-	Def. End F+1 or +1	LB in Zone F-1 or -1
6	-	Def. End +7 or +1	-4
7	-	Swing OOE/DOE +6 or +4	Swing OOE/HRP +3 or -1
8	-	Def. End +8 or +1	-1
9	-	Def. End +6 or -1	LB in Zone +5 or -2
10	-	Off. Onside Tackle +7 or +2	Off. Onside Tackle +4 or -3
11	-	Def. End +9% or +3%	LB in Zone +3 or 0
12	-	Blocking Back Long Gain or Short Gain	Blocking Back +2 or -7

Swing Play: Tie goes to offense except when HRP appears. Tie then goes to defense.

Note: Add +10 when * or ** applies.

FLAT / LOOK-IN PASS

		0 MEN	ONE MAN	TWO MEN
2	-	Long Gain	+4 (2-6, 11, 12) x (7-10)	
3	-	+7	LB in Zone Int. +1 6 (2-10) x (11, 12) 5 (2-8) x (9-12) 4 (2-6) x (7-12) 0 (2-4) x (5-12)	Int. +4
4	-	+8		
5	-	+9	LB in Zone x or +1	-5
6	-	+10	LB in Zone x or +5	-5
7	-	+13	LB in Zone x or SG	
8	-	Receiver	Receiver	-3
9	-	Receiver	Receiver	
10	-	+23	LB in Zone x or +6	
11	-	+16	+3	Int. +3
12	-	+30	+5	Int. +5

SHORT PASS

		THREE MEN	FOUR MEN
2	-	-9	+13
3	-	+12 (2-7, 12) x (8-11)	-9
4	-	+13	
5	-	Defender x or 10	+12 (2-5, 12) x (6-11)
6	-	Receiver	Receiver
7	-	Defender x or 15	Defender x or 15
8	-	Receiver *	Receiver *
9	-	Int. +16 (2-5, 11, 12) x (6-10)	Int. +16 Defender 6 (2-9) x (10-12) 5 (2-7, 11, 12) x (8-10) 4 (2-6, 11, 12) x (7-10) 0 (2-5) x (6-12)
10	-	Defender x or Short Gain	

(continued on page)

Short Pass continued

11	-	Long Gain	+14
12	-	Defender x or Long Gain	Defender x or +22
<hr/>			
LONG PASS			
<hr/>			
		0 MEN	ONE MAN
2	-	Long Gain	Long Gain [2-4, 12]
			x [5-11]
3	-	+28 (2-8, 12)	-9
		x (9-11)	
4	-	Receiver	
			-9
5	-	Long Gain	Def. Back in Zone
			+30 or x
6	-	Receiver #	Receiver #
7	-	Int. +29	Int. +29 Def. Back in Zone
		Defender	6 [2-9] x [10-12]
		6 [2-6] x [7-12]	5 [2-7, 11, 12] x [8-10]
		5 [2-5] x [6-12]	4 [2-6, 11, 12] x [7-10]
		4 [2-4] x [5-12]	0 [2-5, 11, 12] x [6-10]
		0 [2-3] x [4-12]	
8	-	Defender x or	Def. Back in Zone
		Long Gain	+27 or x
9	-	Defender x or	
		Long Gain	
10	-	Receiver	Receiver
11	-		
12	-	Defender x or +27	Def. Back in Zone
			+28 or x

Readers roll 'em

(continued from page 11)

DELIGHTED ABOUT 1930

I am delighted to read that a season from the 1930s will be coming out next year. I am very curious to see what the cards will say about the players of my youth.

I still believe, however, that the 1934 season was the most exciting of that decade and hope that the management of S-O-M, one day, will agree with me.

STANLEY SCHICK
Washington Arms Apt.
Building 150, Apt. C2
Washington, NJ

FUMBLES UNREALISTIC

I am a first-year football gamer. A friend and I are presently involved in a 12-team season. The early season games were very low scoring and the stats were very unrealistic, but as we learned the art of offense, the games became much more realistic and we were much more satisfied with the results.

That changed during a game between Washington and Atlanta. In this game, John Riggins fumbled the ball four times and Atlanta went on to win, thanks to the miscues.

All of his fumbles were the result of the Falcons' defensive card on which the split number for fumbles is 2-9, 12. The reason for this unusually high split number is unknown to me, but I don't feel Riggins (who's own split number for fumbles is 2, 12) should be subject to this.

My suggestion is that a fumble on a defensive card should result in the same split number as the ball carrier has on his own card. My second complaint pertaining to fumbles is that all runners on a team have the same fumble split.

TODD BURKES, Canton, OH

Editor's note: All fumbles on computed on a team, rather than individual basis. This is done to take into account the numerous fumbles that result in exchanges between quarterback and the center.

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-O-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 are prohibited from being 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: Roster sheets for 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1982 baseball sets. I would also be interested in pre-1980-81 basketball years or separate teams. I will respond to all letters. Dean Ruffner, 1433 Alameda, Lakewood, OH 44107

WANTED: Football - 1968 St. Louis Cardinals and San Diego Chargers. Will pay a fair price. Max Monroe, 61 Poplar St., Davisville, WV 26142 (304-422-5536)

For Sale

FOR SALE: Basketball. Complete team sets for 10 seasons, from 1973-74 to 1982-83. Will sell all 10 seasons as a package or individual seasons. Daniel Holec, 105 Hilltop Circle, Glenshaw, PA 15116 (412-486-0815)

FOR SALE: 1980 hockey, complete game and extra players. 1980 baseball set and extra players plus non 4-column pitchers; 1981 baseball set and extra players. All cards excellent condition. Self-addressed, stamped envelope guarantees response. Bids close 20th of month. Tony Combine, 1471 Nicholson St., Erie, PA 16509

FOR SALE: Football teams, 1968-78. Good condition. If you meet my price, I will sell immediately. Lower bids will be decided at the end of the month. Mike Bordelon, 5445 Braesvalley # 724, Houston, TX 77096 (phone: 713-721-5465)

FOR SALE: Get batting average, on-base percentage and slugging percentage vs. LHP and RHP for each batter in 1983 card set. Receive 3-decimal averages (not just an expression of chances per 108), six ratings for each batter delivered to you by March 1 for \$5. Pitchers averages vs. LHB and RHB available for additional \$5. Includes extras. Roger Johnson, 7526 Chairman Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70817

FOR SALE: Over 6,000 baseball cards in stock, 1972 to present. Send requests to: Sports Games Association, P.O. Box 60062, Oklahoma City, OK 73103

FOR SALE: Football fans! Complete and in mint condition, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980 S-O-M Football teams. Every team's record and playoff scores included. Must sell. Asking \$15 per season set plus \$3 postage and handling and insurance. First come, first served. I will not sell individual teams, but I will consider selling separate conferences. Write or call: Jeff Dirgo, 44 Center Grove Road, Gateways R-5, Randolph, NJ 07869 (201-327-1717). Send SASE.

FOR SALE: Cards, cards and more cards. Over 3,000 from 1966-1982. Extras, extras and more extras. Over 1,500 from 1971-1982. All 4,500 cards are Strat-O-Matic Baseball. Send your want list and trade list to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen St., Philadelphia, PA 19111

FOR SALE: Football punting strategy is expanded with 1982 season edition punter ratings/statistically (continued)

...ived yardage chart for punting "coffin corner kicks." For newly revised Strat-O-Matic Pro Football game. No increase in price from last year's advertised edition. Enclose \$1.95. Larry Quisberg, 2712 Tomoka Avenue, Titusville, FL 32780

FOR SALE: Individual NL and AL teams from 1972-1979. All teams with extras and in good condition. Individual NFL teams from 1974, 1976-1979, all in good condition. Also basketball teams, complete, 1974-75 (\$16.00), 1976-77 (\$14), 1978-79 (\$10). Price ranges on the baseball and football teams are \$4.75 to \$1.25. For list, send stamp to: Jon Bourdon, 5 Joseph Ave., Lee, MA 01238. No phone calls, please.

FOR SALE: NFL Football. Complete team sets for eight seasons, 1974 to 1981. Will sell all eight as a package or individual seasons. Daniel Holecy, 105 Hilltop Circle, Glenshaw, PA 15116 (412-486-0815)

FOR SALE: Baseball Fans! Complete and in very good to excellent condition, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1980 baseball teams with additional players. Asking \$15 per season plus \$3 postage and handling and insurance. First come, first served. I will not sell individual teams but I will consider selling separate leagues. Write or call: Jeff Dirgo, 44 Center Grove Road, Gateways R-5, Randolph, NJ 07869 (201-328-1717). Send SASE.

FOR SALE: Complete hockey game and cards, 1977-78. Complete baseball game and cards, 1977 (no extras); complete baseball game and cards, 1978 (no extras). Two sets of nameless Football cards. One set of pitchers hitting cards. Also: 1976 Cincinnati Reds; 1972 Minnesota Vikings; 1977 Dallas Cowboys. Will sell only complete sets of cards for items 1, 2 and 3. Bids accepted until March 1, 1984. Or I will trade all of the above for complete set of 1973 Football cards. Ed Mlak, 1439 Main St. West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada BK 1C4

OR SALE: Yearbook of stats from

162-game, 15-team old-timer baseball schedule; all possible stats included. \$10 each. Contact: Martin Piuismann, Box 300, Blairsburg, IA 50034 [phone: 515-325-6084]

FOR SALE: Baseball, 1973, complete, no extras, \$30; 1979 and 1980 complete with extras, \$20 each year; 1977 and 1978 NL only, \$15 each year. Football - 1970 and 1972, complete, \$35 each year; 1971 Washington, Dallas, Minn., Detroit, San Fran., Kansas City, Miami, Balt., \$3 each team; 1975 playoff teams and Cleveland, \$2 each team. I will accept bids, but won't break up a league or year unless the offer is exceptional. Bob Forrest, 445 Valley, San Francisco, CA 94131 (415-550-8339)

FOR SALE: 1978 Pittsburgh Steelers, \$15; 1979, 1980, 1981 and 1982 football cards, \$50 for each season. All cards are in mint condition. 1956, 1961, 1979, 1980 and 1982 baseball cards in mint condition for \$50 per season. Half of the cards have writing on them with RBI's listed to the right of HRs and games played to the right of AB's. Some of the pitchers' cards have games and games started below the W-L records. The number to the right of IP, H's, BB's, K's and HR's allowed indicate average per-nine innings. 1982 cards have supplementary steal ratings on back of cards. Player cards for Gary Rajisch and Ron Washington are missing in the 1982 set. Eric Stein, W. 423 Columbia, Spokane, WA 99205 [phone: 509-489-2504]

FOR SALE: 1973 Pittsburgh Steelers, \$10; 1976 Pittsburgh Steelers, \$12. Please send your money order to: Alan Rowisiger, 78 Milton Road, Rye, NY 10580

FOR SALE: Baseball schedules for entire 1930, 1956, 1961 and 1970 seasons. Great for replays. Both AL and NL. Send \$1 per season plus one postage stamp for each order. Specify seasons wanted. Mailed immediately. Send to: Richard Breest, 6 Wren Drive, Hauppauge, NY 11787

[continued]

FOR SALE: A first for S-O-M fanatics. Playbook III includes easy-to-use weather charts for every team that can be used month-by-month or by season. Now there are rainouts, snowouts, suspended games and rain-shortened games stopped during or after virtually any inning. Ratings are based on exact results from 1970 and 1983 seasons, and are a must for replays. Seasons are \$3 each or \$5.50 for both. Also available: 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-and-run, sacrifice/squeeze play, outfield/infield drawn in and injury charts that include hit-and-run homers, misplayed bunts and a wider variety of injuries and realistic results. Playbooks I and II are \$6 each or \$11 for both. All Playbooks are professionally typewritten. Paul Ladewski, 14340 Maple Lane, Midlothian, IL 60445

FOR SALE: 1974 Rams, Dolphins, Raiders, Cowboys, Steelers, \$2 each. 1971 Brewers, \$2.50; 1972 Red Sox, \$2.25; 1975 Red Sox, Orioles, Reds, Expos, \$2 each. Send to: Jeff Dirgo, 44 Center Grove Road, Gateways R-5, Randolph, NJ 07869 (201-328-1717). Send SASE.

FOR SALE: Football - 1970, all teams, \$100; 1977 all teams, \$40; 1980 all teams, \$35; 1981 all teams, \$25; all football teams, \$175. Basketball - 1974-75, \$50; 1976-77, \$40; 1977-78, \$30; 1978-79, \$25; 1980-81, \$23; 1981-82, \$20; all basketball cards, \$150. Will also trade for pro-1975 baseball seasons. Will only sell as a set, no individual teams. If you don't like these prices, make me an offer. All SASE will be returned to you if you don't get the teams you have requested. All cards are in good to excellent condition. Some writing on a few of the cards. Send check, money order, or bids to: Doug Crandall, 742 South 9th, Salina, KS 67401 (913-827-8171)

For Trade

FOR TRADE: 1962, 1968-1982 Green Bay Packer teams. Would like to trade for the following baseball teams. 1969 Seattle Pilots; 1970-1981 Milwaukee Brewer baseball teams with additional players. Will trade the complete set for the baseball teams if possible, or will trade on a one-to-one basis for the teams. Packer teams are in good to excellent condition. Send offers to: Terry Battistine, Route One, Box 358, Brownsville, WI 53006

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for managers for a face-to-face baseball league in the St. Louis area. Players drafted from the newest set of cards. Write or call: Darryl Hudson, 7021 Dover Court, University City, MO 63130 (phone: 314-725-3813)

LEAGUE FORMING: S-O-M Realism, NL, PBM, seeks league members. Request for teams on first come, first served basis. Hope to have wide-spread membership. Respond for rules and information on this unique league. John E. Paugh, P.O. Box 85, Ozone Park, NY 11417 (212-845-7955)

LEAGUE FORMING: Tired of inefficient PBM leagues which are ruined by a few inconsiderate players? Yes? Then the Greater Half Moon Bay Baseball League is for you. This new, exciting league will boast 16 teams in four divisions. Timetables for stats and results will be set and met. Tardiness will not be tolerated and experience required. Draft of new cards will be held in three stages in March. For more information, please send resume of PBM playing experience to: Blaise Castren, 227 Felicio Common, Fremont, CA 94536

LEAGUE FORMING: The Strat-O-Matic Computer Baseball League is beginning its second season. We are a PBM league, which plays a 160-game schedule and have honest results. We are in need of six managers for the 1984 season and reserve managers. (continued)

We are a computer drafted league with a great chance for your club to make the playoffs. If interested, write: SOMCBL, Drawer- K, Whitman, WV 25652, or phone 304-239-2067 and ask for Don.

LEAGUE FORMING: The New York Metro Baseball Strato League II is forming. Looking for devoted Strat players in the New York Metro area to form a face-to-face league utilizing a limited draft formula. All advanced rules and E ratings. We're looking to have fun and baseball realism. Some of us in the league have many years of Strat under our belt and we're itching to get the 1984 season, using the new player cards, under way. Call Marty after Feb. 14th at 516-363-2004 for more details.

LEAGUE FORMING: We are a six-team draft league in our fourth year. We have one manager's position and two backup positions open. The two backups will have teams in 1985 as we will expand to eight teams. No experience necessary. Contact: Kevin Gertsen, 1240-Meadowview #1, Marion, IA 52302 (319-377-9681)

LEAGUE FORMING: The RCMBL is looking for managers to fill recently vacated managerial positions for the current season. We are roughly one-half through the season and need one manager immediately and others to act as backups. The RCMBL is a PBM draft baseball league. If you're interested, contact: Doug Crandall, 742 S. 9th, Saliva, KS 67401 (913-827-8171)

LEAGUE FORMING: National League summer PBM super advanced league entering its seventh season has openings for four new managers. Some AL cards used when traded from NL to AL. Players are retained until traded. No fancy newsletters and not very many rules or regulations to follow. Just an informal, casual type league. Players and draft picks traded. We draft when cards come out. American League is winter league, same type league; needs backups. Write: Thomas Angel, P.O. Box 55, Astor, FL 32002

LEAGUE FORMING: Now is your chance to join an established play-by-mail baseball league entering its fifth season. The Mid-Atlantic Table Sports Association (MATSA) is a continuous 10-team National League draft league. We play a comfortable 126-game schedule from April through August, and we need new managers for the upcoming 1984 season. For more details, send qualifications to: Ed Grant, 1 Chatfield Drive, Apt. 28, Stone Mountain, GA 30083

Contests

CONTEST: Enter the third annual NIT (Northern Indiana Tournament). Face-to-face advanced baseball and super-advanced football. Trophies will be awarded to the winners and runnersup. To be held March 10 or 11th. For further information, contact: Ken Donnelly, 18644 Cleveland Road, Apt. #11, South Bend, IN 46637. Enclose SASE. Or call 219-277-6098 or Pat Tafelski at 219-259-3657.

Looking for back issues of Review?

The following back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review are still available:

1983

Jan., Feb., March, April, May, July, Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Cost: 70¢ each. Note that June and August have been sold out.

1982

Jan. [very limited], March, April, August, Sept., Nov., Dec. Cost: 70¢ each.

1981

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

1980

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

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

Another female rolls S-O-M dice

Cheryl Blomstrom [December, 1983 issue of Review] isn't the only female rolling Strat-O-Matic Baseball dice.

She's got some support in the table-top world of ERA (earned run average, that is) in Denise Keefer, who manages the Richmond Rebels in the Mid American Baseball Association (MABA), a part play-by-mail, part face-to-face league that not long ago completed a replay of the 1976 season.

Denise, according to the league statistical report sent to the Review, is 32 years old, recently was married and works as a welder. She's the lone female in the 16-manager MABA, which was organized by Bob Giles late in 1980 after Giles became disenchanted with another league that he belonged to.

When the other league folded, the MABA got off the drawing board and became a reality.

It's a draft league and rules are that a limit of 125 percent of real-life at-bats and innings pitched is used except for those players with 425 at-bats and 225 innings, in which cases unlimited use is the rule.

Managers are asked to adopt a team name that includes a nearby city that has a population of at least 200,000. "A team must use a city of at least 200,000 as its base and even if taken over by a new manager must get eight of the managers to agree to let the team be moved," confirms Giles, who calls Fort Lauderdale, FL, home. "This lends continuity and stability to the league."

Some of the managers that live in more rural areas do adopt names of cities that are sometimes over 1,000 miles from where they reside, admits Giles, who adds that 12 of the 16 original managers have completed two seasons of play.

A LOOK AT THE MANAGERS

Before getting into the standings and statistics of the MABA, let's take a look at the managers that comprise a league that has quickly established a solid foundation on which future successes are sure to be built.

The eventual league champion, the New York Titans, was guided by Vinnie Corso. Corso took over for a manager who dropped out after getting married, with Corso eventually directing his team to 109 wins and a five-game playoff victory over the Denver Bears guided by Garry Byrne.

Corso is married and his trade is an air conditioner repairman. Byrne, meanwhile, is single, 33, a draftsman-musician, and a close friend of the MABA's organizer, Bob Giles.

Giles, incidentally, is also 32, employed as a statistical surveyor for a Fort Lauderdale bus company, and was "ghost manager" of the Boston Rangers for the 1976 season.

Other managers included: Keith Boehme (Washington Caps), federal government employee; Carl Shoudel (Dallas Texans), 28, student at the University of Kentucky; Paul Citro (Atlanta Hawks), 31, salesman; Jack Baxter (Cleveland Clippers), married and a draftsman; Ray Sayer (San Diego Sebers), 29, manager of a video arcade; Nathan Rome (Seattle Mariners), 10, easily youngest manager in league, son of Dave Rome (Oakland Oaks), 34, environmental specialist; George Heady (Detroit Wheels), health inspector; Jeff Wilkins (Louisville Colonels), 29, district manager for a pizza chain; Rich Allen (Tampa Tarpons), 28, salesman; Lenny Slaughter (Memphis Chicks), 23, policeman; and Charles Jones (Chicago Colts), 29, state government employee.

The World Series, or playoffs, was over in five games, with Corso's Titans simply too tough for Byrne's Bears. New York won the opener, 6-2, as Mark [The Bird] Fidrych hurled an eight-hitter; the second, 13-1, as Graig Nettles socked two home runs and Carlton Fisk and Dave Parker one apiece; also game three, 2-1, as Dennis Leonard and Larry Gura combined

(continued on next page)

for a seven-hitter in besting Jerry Reuss (six-hitter) in a pitchers duel. Ross Grimsley kept Denver alive by blanking New York in game four, 2-0, tossing a five-hitter and being backed by Butch Wynegar's solo home run. But New York wrapped it up in game five, scoring in the bottom of the 10th for a 5-4 victory. Gura, who pitched two innings of one-hit relief, got the win after Fidrych had been knocked out. Nettles, who had three homers and six extra-base hits among his 10 safeties, was voted MVP. Nettles batted .500, had five RBI and six runs scored.

Complete statistics were published in the MABA's yearbook, with each team summary sheet containing complete individual batting and pitching, plus a listing of the MVP [team], top hitting streak, team winning and losing streak; most runs scored in a game and the lineup used on opening day.

Standings and overall leaders:

Northern				Southern			
Won	Lost	GB		Won	Lost	GB	
New York Titans	109	45	-	Tampa Tarpons	94	60	-
Boston Rangers	79	75	30	Richmond Rebels	84	70	10
Washington Caps	70	84	39	Memphis Chicks	62	92	32
Detroit Wheels	59	95	50	Atlanta Hawks	59	95	35
Playoff: New York d. Tampa, 5-6, 3-2, 2-4, 3-2, 3-0							
Central				Western			
Won	Lost	GB		Won	Lost	GB	
Louisville Colonels	94	60	-	Denver Bears	104	50	-
Chicago Colts	78	76	16	Oakland Oaks	81	73	23
Cleveland Clippers	76	78	18	San Diego Sabers	76	78	28
Dallas Texans	53	101	41	Seattle Mariners	54	100	50
Playoff: Denver d. Louisville, 5-2, 6-4, 6-9, 3-1							

Batting		Home Runs		RBI	
Carew TAMP	.359	Kingman RICH	43	Schmidt SD	147
Morgan NY	.358	Schmidt SD	43	Nettles NY	135
Poquette BOS	.342	Nettles NY	39	Yastremski MEM	125
Johnstone RICH	.337	Yastrzowski MEM	37	B. Robinson TAMP	113
Leflore BOS	.333	B. Robinson TAMP	32	Kingman RICH	112
2B: B. Robinson TAMP 49		ERA		Wins	
Rivers CHI	49	K. Brett WASH	1.63	Fidrych NY	28-6
3B: Geronimo LOU 16		Seaver OAK	1.95	Seaver OAK	28-8
R: Lynn SD	127	Pattin NY	2.10	Sutton NY	25-9
H: Griffey DEN 219		Falcone NY	2.11	Reuschel DEN	25-7
Leflore BOS	217	Fidrych NY	2.15	Falcone RICH	24-2
SB: Leflore BOS 86		Reuschel DEN	2.15	Blue CLEV	24-8
Morgan NY	77	Swan RICH	2.24	Palmer LOU	23-7
IP: Seaver OAK	341	Rooker LOU	2.46	Koosman CHI	23-8
SH: Seaver OAK 9		Strikeouts			
SA: Gura NY	41	Ryan CLEV	350	Blyleven CHI	259
CG: Seaver OAK 33		Tanana CHI	287	Eckersley RICH	228
		Seaver OAK	276		

Review's new prices in effect March 1

Don't forget that the Review's new prices will go into effect soon, and that this, as a result, will be the last month to renew at the old rates.

The increased prices, after over two years of holding the line, will be as follows:

3 months - \$3.00; 6 months - \$4.50; 1 year - \$7.25. First-class mailing is available for an extra 20¢ per month cost.

In Canada and overseas the prices are:

3 months - \$3.60; 6 months - \$5.70; 1 year - \$9.65. Prices in Canada and overseas include first-class mailing.

S-O-M league, replay scene

22

SOUTH HILLS DRAFT LEAGUE - Face-to-face that played 160-game schedule in first year...took eight months to complete...Norm Bradel's Outlaws defeated Bob Butera's Condors in World Series, 4-2 in games. Joe Niekro (two wins) and Cecil Cooper (Five-for-five in final game with a home run) were standouts for Outlaws...Outlaw infield of Buddy Bell (3b), Alan Trammell (ss), Jose Cruz (2b) and Cooper robbed many opposing hitters of base blows...other members of league (each manager guided two teams) were Dean Amrhein, Ed Smith, Jeff Cosian and Jeff Field... Dale Murphy of Condors was MVP after smashing 63 home runs and knocking in 171.

Standings and leaders:

East	W	L	GB	West	W	L	GB
Condors (BB)	101	59	-	Outlaws (NB)	89	71	-
Bandits (NB)	93	67	8	Pteradaquels (DA)	89	71	-
Toros (DA)	89	71	12	Cougars (BB)	87	73	2
Champ. Exp. (JF)	66	81	28½	Panic (ES)	84	76	5
Wizzards (JC)	60	87	34½	Castoffs (JC)	58	87	23½
Poorports (ES)	53	91	40	E-Z Swash. (JF)	53	88	26½

Batting	Home Runs	RBI
Brett BAND .374	Da.Murphy CONO 63	Da.Murphy CONO 171
Wilson CONO .352	J.Thompson PTQ 48	T.Kennedy BAND 131
Hrbek BAND .328	Hoerner PTQ 43	Cooper OUT 119
Oberkfell COUG .319	Cooper OUT 41	J.Thompson PTQ 116
Da.Murphy CONO .313	T.Kennedy BAND 40	Dw.Evans BAND 114

ERA	Won-Lost	Strikeouts
Reuss CONO 2.56	Reuss CONO 28-6	Soto COUG 332
J.Niekro OUT 2.67	J.Niekro OUT 28-8	Carlton TOR 275
Petry CONO 3.05	Petry CONO 27-11	Welch COUG 202
Andujar BAND 3.42	Andujar BAND 22-13	Barker COUG 198
Barker COUG 3.50	Valenzuela PTQ 19-12	Guidry BAND 189

R: Da.Murphy CONO 140	BB: Roenicke OUT 141	LOSS: Carlton TOR 18
H: Wilson CONO 243	SB: Henderson COUG 104	SV: DeLeon COUG 33
2B: White CONO 61	IP: J.Niekro OUT 336	
3B: Wilson CONO 25		

NATIONAL TEXAS LEAGUE - Featured in the December, 1983 issue of Review ("Cheryl is one of 'guys' in NTL"), the NTL has now completed eight full seasons of PBM baseball...Cheryl Blomstrom's Philllies made the play-offs for the third time and reached World Series for the first, bowing to husband John's Astros in five games (4-0, 8-1, 4-2, 0-3, 6-3). Dave Parker of Astros was MVP of Series after two game-winning hits, two home runs and eight RBI. Parker sat out the one game Astros lost. Championship was the fourth in last five years for Astros...Gracious winner, John Blomstrom, gave plaudits to wife Cheryl, by saying: "A special congratulation goes to the Philllies on the most dramatic improvement in one season ever by a NTL team"...Other managers in eight-team draft league included Craig Becker (Giants), Mike Turnis (Cards), Tony Brizzolara, 26, pitcher for the Atlanta Braves in real-life (Pirates), Rick Blount (Expos), Mike Davies (Dodgers) and Brent Goodwin (Braves)...Astros won because of hitting (Dale Murphy, 35 homers, 102 RBI) and Bob Horner (30-85) and pitching, Joaquin Andujar (17-12, 3.16) and Fernando Valenzuela (16-16, 2.73), although Blomstrom, John, that is, admitted pitching staff was getting long in the tooth (Nolan Ryan had sub-par 11-16 season)...Draft was key to improvement for Cheryl's Philllies, who went from last place, 41 games out of first, to two games shy of the top spot. Al Oliver (.311, 26 HRs, 93 RBI), DeLeon (8-5, 1.48 ERA, 9 saves) and Show (14-11, 2.68) were top draft choices. Joe Niekro (15-10, 2.72), Phil Niekro (11-4, 2.89) and Craig Swan (14-10, 2.90) formed league's

(continued on next page)

	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Batting</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>	
Astros	90	72	-	Morgan BRAV	.328	Schmidt BRAV 35
Phillies	88	74	2	Dawson EXP	.324	Murphy AST 35
Giants	84	78	6	Thompson PIR	.313	Clark PHI 33
Cardinals	83	79	7	Oliver PHI	.311	Guerrero DOD 30
Pirates	82	80	8	Hernandez BRAV	.306	Horne AST 30
Expos	79	83	11			
Dodgers	75	87	15	<u>RBI</u>	<u>R:</u>	Schmidt BRAV 107
Braves	67	95	23	Schmidt BRAV 103	<u>2B:</u>	Oliver PHI 43
				Murphy AST 102		Matthews CARD 43
				Dawson EXP 99	<u>3B:</u>	Richards DOD 10
				Carter GIA 95		Lezcano PIR 10
				Oliver PHI 93	<u>SB:</u>	M. Wilson GIA 49
					<u>BB:</u>	Schmidt BRAV 134
ERA				<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>SH:</u>	Soto CARD 6
Soto CARD	2.23			Soto CARD 22-9		Rogers CARD 5
Sarmiento PIR	2.38			Lollar BRAV 21-12	<u>SA:</u>	Bedrosian EXP 26
Candelaria GIA	2.62			Andujar AST 17-12		
Show PHI	2.68			Bedrosian EXP 17-15		
J.Niekro PHI	2.72			Candelaria GIA* 17-17		
Valenzuela AST	2.73				<u>Playoffs</u>	Phillies d. Giants
						[10-3, 6-5, 1-6, 10-2]
<u>Strikeouts</u>				<u>MVP:</u> Oliver PHI		
Soto CARD	297			<u>Cy Young:</u> Soto CARD		
Carlton AST	234			<u>Rookie:</u> L.DeLeon PHI		
Candelaria GIA	231			<u>Comeback:</u> Morgan BRAV		<u>World Series</u>
Valenzuela AST	198			<u>Manager:</u> Cheryl Blomstrom		Astros d. Phillies
Sutton GIA	197			PHI		[4-0, 8-1, 4-2, 0-3, 6-3]

1977 LOS ANGELES DODGERS REPLAY - Joe Emmert from Fillmore, CA, is obviously a Dodger fan, having replayed six seasons [1977-82] and planning many more before his dice-rolling career is terminated...1977 was his latest (he's anxiously awaiting the new cards so he can begin a replay of 1983) and the Dodgers had some memorable moments even though the won-and-lost record showed one less on the win side than real-life...High-light of the '77 replay was Burt Hooton's performance. Hooton went a perfect 22-0, with a 1.50 ERA. He started 31 games and worked 223 innings, the same as in real-life. Hooton was, in short, incredible. In games he started, the Dodgers were 28-3...L.A. also got impressive pitching performances from Don Sutton (19-7, 2.74 ERA) and Doug Rau (16-6, 3.27), while Charlie Hough was credited with 23 saves in relief...The power quartet of Dusty Baker, Steve Garvey, Ron Cey and Reggie Smith wasn't quite as productive as real-life, although a lot of roundtrippers sailed out of the park. Baker led the barrage with 35 homers, 102 RBI and a .304 batting average; Garvey hit 33 homers, with a .290 average and 110 RBI; Smith blasted 31 and drove in 88 runs; while Cey was somewhat of a disappointment with 27 home runs but only 77 RBI, 33 short of real-life...Ironically, Hooton was beaten in the first game of the playoffs against the Phillies, 6-1. The Phillies went on to sweep the National League playoffs, whipping L.A. in three straight games..."All in all, I was very pleased with the club's showing in the regular season," said Emmert. "I eventually hope to replay all the Dodger seasons back to 1970."

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



If the number before your name reads 2/84, this is the last issue of your current subscription. When renewing, check the number of months below and enclose proper amount (check, money order, U.S. Funds, but please no coins). First-class mailing is available for an additional 20¢ per month. Also, when renewing, please list your subscription expiration date as it expedites the process.

The Review's new subscription rates (January, 1984) will become effective March 1, 1984. Anyone wishing to renew under the old rates must do so by Feb. 15, 1984.

_____ 3 months, \$3.00; _____ 6 months, \$4.50; _____ 1 year, \$7.25.

Note that the cost in Canada is as follows: _____ 3 months, \$3.60;

_____ 6 months, \$5.70; _____ 1 year, \$9.65. The price in Canada does include first-class mailing.

Here's ballot for past-season pro teams

(continued from page 2)

Here are the top 10 pro football teams that I would like Strat-O-Matic to reproduce (1967 through 1981 real-life seasons, plus six old-timer teams):

- | | |
|-----|------|
| 1 - | 6 - |
| 2 - | 7 - |
| 3 - | 8 - |
| 4 - | 9 - |
| 5 - | 10 - |

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

Do not send to the Strat-O-Matic Game Co., however.