



STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW

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

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New cards will soon be arriving

Here's sneak look at Ryne Sandberg's MVP-winning card

Call the 1985 Strat-O-Matic Baseball card set the year of the "Dwight Gooden Draft." Years from now, or so it appears, S-O-M gamers are going to remember the season that the young fireballer broke on the scene.

The Review got a sneak preview look at some of the new baseball cards and all it could say was "Wow!" when it came to Gooden. Draft leagues and play-by-mail leagues are going to probably engage in fist-fights and constitution alterations to see who the fortunate manager is that lands the right-handed phenomenon of the New York Mets.

Instant franchise would be another way of describing the Golden Gooden.

As his card on the next page vividly shows, Gooden is going to be a tough hombre to hit, and even walk against.

Against right-handed batters he has a walk on 4--6 and 6-7 and only hit chances on 5-11 (double 1-18, fly B 19-20) and 5-12 (triple 1-10, single 11-20).

Facing left-handed batters, Gooden issues walks on 4-6 and 5-10. Hits again are few, with chances on 5-4 (triple 1-10, double 11-20), 5-5 (double 1-2, single 3-20), 5-6 (straight single) and 6-6 (single 1-2, lineout 3-20). Batters better hope to land on their own cards.

For the record, Gooden hurled 218 innings, allowed only 161 hits and struck out a whopping 276. And he gave up only seven home runs, plus walked 73.

Against righties, Gooden has 64 strikeout chances out of 108 total, while against lefties he has 40. There is nary a home run chance on his card, either advanced or basic.

Along with Gooden's card, the Review also is presenting Ryne Sandberg's new card and the advanced version of the 1969-season card for Tom Seaver.

Sandberg is rated a "1" at second base, with an "e" rating of 6. Since Sandberg walloped 19 triples, he has the following chances on his
(continued on next page)

card: Versus lefties - 1-7 (straight), 1-8 (triple 1-8, double 9-20). Versus righties - 1-6 (home run 1-3, triple 4-20).

Sandberg, for the record, batted .314, with 36 doubles, the 19 triples and 19 home runs. He batted 636 times officially, drawing 52 walks and striking out 101 times.

Seaver's card reflects a minuscule 2.21 earned run average and 25-7 record. He did allow 24 home runs in 273 innings, however, and therein lies one of the big differences between the cards of Seaver and Gooden.

Now for those cards:

DWIGHT GOODEN					
throws RIGHT			e13	#3R	pitcher- starter(8)0
54% AGAINST LEFT-HAND BATTER			46% AGAINST RIGHT-HAND BATTER		
4	5	6	4	5	6
2- gb (p) B	2- fly (rf) B	2- gb (1b) C	2- GB (ss) X	2- GB (p) X	2- GB (ss) X
3- FLY (lf) X	3- FLY (rf) X	3- GB (p) X	3- GB (2b) X	3- FLY (lf) X	3- FLY (rf) X
4- GB (ss) X	4- TR 1-10	4- strikeout	4- strikeout	4- GB (3b) X	4- strikeout
5- fly (cf) C	DO 11-20	5- GB (ss) X	5- strikeout	5- GB (2b) X	5- strikeout
6- WALK	5- DO** 1-2	6- SI* 1-2	6- WALK	6- GB (ss) X	6- strikeout
7- strikeout 0	SI** 3-20	lo(ss) 3-20	7- strikeout 0	7- strikeout	7- WALK
8- strikeout	6- SINGLE (cf)	7- strikeout	8- strikeout	8- strikeout	8- strikeout
9- strikeout 0	7- strikeout	8- strikeout	9- strikeout 0	9- strikeout	9- strikeout
10- GB (3b) X	8- strikeout	9- gb (2b) C	10- CATCH-X	10- strikeout	10- strikeout
11- FLY (cf) X	9- GB (2b) X	10- CATCH-X	11- GB (1b) X	11- DO 1-18	11- FLY (cf) X
12- gb (p) B	10- WALK	11- GB (1b) X	12- GB (p) X	fly(lf)B 19-20	12- FLY (cf) X
	11- GB (2b) X	12- gb (1b) C		12- TR 1-10	
	12- FLY (cf) X			SI** 11-20	

R RYNE SANDBERG					
stealing- A			bunting- A		
26% AGAINST LEFT-HAND PITCHER			74% AGAINST RIGHT-HAND PITCHER		
1	2	3	1	2	3
2- foulout (c)	2- gb (3b) B	2- gb (3b) B	2- foulout (c)	2- gb (3b) B+	2- gb (3b) B
plus injury	3- gb (ss) A	3- gb (ss) B	plus injury	3- gb (ss) B	3- gb (ss) B
3- fly (lf) B 1	4- fly (cf) B 1	4- gb (ss) B	3- fly (rf) B 1	4- fly (cf) B 1	4- gb (ss) B
4- fly (cf) B 1	5- WALK	5- SINGLE**	4- fly (cf) B 1	5- gb (ss) A	5- SI* 1-11
5- HR 1-8	6- SINGLE (rf)	6- SINGLE*	5- HOMERUN	6- SINGLE**	lo(ss) 12-20
DO 9-20	7- gb (ss) A+	7- strikeout	6- HR 1-3	7- strikeout	6- WALK
6- DO** 1-8	8- gb (ss) A	8- fly (lf) B 1	TR 4-20	8- gb (ss) A+	7- strikeout
SI** 9-20	9- gb (ss) B	9- SI* 1-8	7- DOUBLE(rf)	9- gb (ss) A	8- fly (lf) B 1
7- TRIPLE	10- gb (ss) B	lo(ss) 9-20	8- DO** 1	10- gb (ss) B	9- WALK
8- TR 1-8	11- gb (ss) B	10- SINGLE**	SI** 2-20	11- gb (ss) B	10- strikeout
DO 9-20	12- gb (3b) B	11- strikeout	9- SINGLE (cf)	12- gb (3b) B	11- fly (lf) B 1
9- SINGLE (lf)		12- lo(3b) max	10- SINGLE (lf)		12- lo(3b) max
10- SINGLE (cf)			11- gb (ss) B		
11- fly (rf) B 1			12- HBP		
12- HBP					

TOM SEAVER					
throws RIGHT			e11	#1R	pitcher- starter(8)0
41% AGAINST LEFT-HAND BATTER			59% AGAINST RIGHT-HAND BATTER		
4	5	6	4	5	6
2- gb (1b) C	2- gb (p) B	2- FLY (rf) X	2- fly (lf) B	2- popout (1b)	2- gb (p) B
3- GB (p) X	3- FLY (lf) X	3- strikeout 0	3- FLY (lf) X	3- gb (1b) C	3- GB (p) X
4- N-HR	4- lineout (ss)0	4- GB (ss) X	4- N-HR	4- FLY (cf) X	4- CATCH-X
DO 6-20	5- GB (ss) X	5- fly (cf) C	5- N-HR 1-6	5- GB (2b) X	5- gb (2b) C
SI** 1-5	6- strikeout 0	6- fly (cf) B	fly(lf)B 7-20	6- strikeout 0	6- strikeout
7- SI** 6-20	7- strikeout	7- strikeout	6- TR 1-2	7- strikeout	7- strikeout
8- DO** 1-10	8- fly (rf) B	8- fly (lf) B	SI** 3-20	8- strikeout 0	8- fly (rf) B
SI** 11-20	9- gb (2b) C	9- popout (1b)	7- DO 1-7	9- GB (ss) X	9- fly (cf) C
7- SI* 1	10- CATCH-X	10- GB (3b) X	fly(cf)B 8-20	10- strikeout	10- GB (ss) X
lo(2b) 2-20	11- WALK	11- GB (2b) X	8- SI* 1-6	11- GB (2b) X	11- GB (1b) X
8- WALK	12- FLY (rf) X	12- gb (1b) C	lo(2b) 7-20	12- gb (p) B	12- fly (lf) B
9- GB (2b) X			9- WALK		
10- FLY (cf) X			10- GB (3b) X		
11- GB (1b) X			11- FLY (rf) X		
12- gb (p) B			12- fly (lf) B		

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Remember, if you haven't already been notified of the new cards being available, you can go ahead and order. Last month's Review listed the preseason card prices. Here they are again:

1985 Baseball cards - \$13.50 (26 teams)
 " " extras - \$3.95
 1969 Baseball cards - \$16.75 (contains all advanced features)

Here also is a list of handling charges for those gamers ordering early:

Order Cost	Handling Charge
Under \$5.00	- \$1.00
\$5.01-10.00	- \$1.50
\$10.01-15.00	- \$2.00
\$15.01-20.00	- \$2.25
\$20.01-25.00	- \$2.50
\$25.01-30.00	- \$2.75
Over \$30.00	- \$3.00

Incidentally, the processing and collating of the new baseball cards seemed to be on schedule when the Review contacted the game company the first week of January. The National League cards were already arriving back from the printer, the American League was expected soon and the collating was under way. Snag, as always, is the extras, which were expected later in the month. Hopefully, not too much later.

How many card sets does the Review order at new card time? For the curious, this year's order will be 23 complete sets (replete with extras).

One set goes to the Review's MVP Contest winner, Jonathan Levin of Benton Harbor, while 12 sets are for the Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League (of which Review co-editors Warren and Del Newell are members). The other 10 are for another face-to-face league in southwestern Michigan.

Date set for 1985 Bostock Memorial

Sanders' summertime S-O-M gathering will be staged at Purdue

The date is earlier and the site has been changed for James Sanders' Lyman Bostock Memorial tournament. Sanders, the policeman from Gary, IN, is moving the fifth annual LBMT to Purdue University at West Lafayette, IN.

Dates are July 6-7 and the "stadium" for the tournament action will be the Purdue Union Building.

Again the tournament is being sponsored in part by the Strat-O-Matic Game Company, which again will be supplying trophies to winners and runnersup.

Four tournaments will again be staged, including (1) advanced baseball, (2) super advanced football, (3) super advanced hockey and (4) elementary baseball, the latter being a backup tourney for those who don't qualify for the playoffs in the others.

Entry fee for the tournament(s) is \$9.50.

More information can be obtained, including lodging, etc., by writing or calling: James Sanders, Director S-O-M Tournament, 5806 Kennedy Terrace, Apt. 103, Gary, IN 46403, or 1-219-938-6137. Please, no collect calls.

Strat-O-Matic spotlight

THERE SHE GOES...14 TIMES!

Anything can happen when a baseball gamer sits down to play the power-laden 1953 Brooklyn Dodgers. A weak pitching staff coupled with an awesome attack make for some remarkable slugfests.

Despite the "Bums" reputation for hard-hitting, gamers Parley Casto and James Earnisse of Chicago never expected the pyrotechnics display that would occur when the 1962 San Francisco Giants (managed by Earnisse) and Casto's Dodgers collided.

As perhaps an omen of things to come, Felipe Alou, the game's second batter, homered for the Giants. His blast was to be the first of 14 roundtrippers - that's right, 14 home runs! - as the Dodgers won a wild and woolly 12-11 thriller in 11 innings.

Harvey Kuenn's two-run homer in the top of the ninth inning put the Giants ahead 11-10. But Duke Snider knotted the count with a lead-off roundtripper in the bottom of the frame to force extra innings.

Finally, with two outs in the bottom of the 11th, Carl Furillo's smash ended the marathon slugfest. Willie Mays of the Giants had three homers and three players - Kuenn and Jose Pagan of San Francisco and Roy Campanella of the Dodgers - hammered two each.

CALLING THE SHOT REVISITED

While on the topic of home runs, the Will County Hot Stove League had a bleacher blow that was reminiscent of the day when Babe Ruth pointed to the stands and "called the shot."

Ron Crump, of New Lenox, IL, reported that a home run roll was "called" for Jose Cruz and the dice roll promptly turned up Cruz' homer number, much to the unbelieving dismay of rival manager Kris Kovalcik.

Many gamers hope for a good roll...but the call in this situation was emphatic: a home run for Cruz. And it was.

As far as the Will County League, it's in its second season after being formed a year ago. "I placed an ad in the Review and got five managers on one call," enthuses Crump. "This season we're up to 10 managers."

HOCKEY CHALLENGE CANCELLED

Larry King's Hockey Challenge Tournament has died a quiet death.

King, best remembered for the well-organized Empire State S-O-M Baseball League, headquarters New York, NY, reports that the hockey project was abandoned in the fall of 1984.

All participants have had their money refunded (\$5 per), including those gamers who lost in the opening round. "I've had to cancel the Hockey Challenge Tournament due to a heavy work schedule and lack of time," explained King.

WHO IS THAT GUY IN CENTER FIELD?

There was no reader's test intended - the Review simply got its names mixed up.

In the January issue a center fielder for the Chicago Cubs was identified as Bob Didier, who once upon a time was in the National League, not with the Cubs and not as an outfielder, though. Didier was a catcher.

Of course, the real name should have been Bob Dernier, who was rated a "1" in center field for his defensive work in the summer of 1984. Bob Dernier going once...twice...and gone.

Readers roll 'em

WHY REDUCE TRIPLES?

In response to David Davis' letter in the December issue on reducing triples, I say why?

Why don't we reduce doubles, singles and stolen bases, too? If you want your stats to come out perfect, then why play?

Any player is capable of hitting a triple. That's part of the thrill of S-O-M. The unexpected play winning a game, the unlikely hero, getting the small split and so on.

I feel this simulates real-life play more than if everything were measured to come out "just right."

Greg Luzinski got eight triples. Bravo. What a year. Who would have believed it? Who would have believed that Dave Johnson would hit 40 home runs in a year, Johnny Bench would steal 13 bases, or Mike Warren would pitch a no-hitter?

They all did. Let the dice fall as they may. Curse 'em, or cheer 'em, but you've gotta love 'em.

RODNEY JOHNSON
Tempe, AZ

PRESEASON PRICES...

I'd like to make a suggestion.

Whenever Strat-O-Matic comes out with its most recent issue of cards, the Review should inform the readers how much the cards will cost.

This way we can send in the correct amount and don't have to wait to get a flyer from S-O-M.

This should be done for each of the sports that S-O-M puts out since there are potential buyers for each of the games.

DAVID ICENOGLE

Editor's note: The Review customarily puts in the preseason price for the new baseball cards (see 1985 Jan. and Feb. issues). But the S-O-M gaming public has seldom expressed interest in preseason prices for the other sports. If there's a demand for it, we'll find out the prices and print them.

AGREES ABOUT USFL

I agree with Tim Retchless of Olean, NY, about producing USFL cards. I am an avid USFL fan as I'm sure Tim and many other of your customers are. It would be a productive step for Mr. (Harold) Richman (S-O-M's creator) to take.

Also, I think it would be an excellent idea to produce a computer version of the S-O-M games, since computers are in many homes and it would be an exciting new change.

If J.C. Beausoleil is reading, please write to me to tell me about your program.

DOUG FELDMANN
415 Webster St.
Algonquin, IL 60102

NEW RULES BOOKLET NEEDED

I purchased a 1979 game from Kaybee Toy & Hobby in Grand Rapids, MI, and sent for and received five free teams (new).

There is a mention of penalties on the specialty cards but that's all. Do I need new rules and a new X chart?

Michael Mills
804 W. Green St. #2
Hastings, MI 49058

Editor's note: Yes, you do need the new rules and X chart. We suggest you write to S-O-M.

The Review staff

Editors: Warren Newell (Otsego, MI); Del Newell (Kalamazoo, MI).
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Another vote for computerized S-O-M

BY SHANE McDONALD, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada

The article in the October, 1984 Review by J.C. Beausoleil about his computerized version of Strat-O-Matic Baseball prompted me to write and detail my experiences with computer S-O-M games.

I was first exposed to S-O-M during the summer of 1971 when I bought the 1970 baseball game and I've been a fanatic ever since. I now have all the games, except for the new "Sports Know How" trivia game, and enjoy them all.

I've always been a "numbers freak" and so naturally I tried to keep statistics for all my games. I gave it up for two reasons - I kept losing the stats and the time taken to compile them could be better spent playing.

This all changed in 1979, though, when I bought a TRS-80 Model I computer.

PROGRAM CREATED FOR COLLEGE FOOTBALL

The first thing I wanted to do with this computer was to write programs for all the S-O-M games. I haven't got them all written yet, but I'm working on it.

The first program I wrote was for the old basketball game, using the basic version. This game worked out pretty good and quickly became the most used program on my computer.

The program runs on a 16K Model I TRS-80, stores player information on cassette tapes, and is written in the BASIC language. It keeps complete statistics on all players and speeds up playing time from about one hour (manual playing, no statistics) to about half an hour.

After the success with this program, I began writing a program for the advanced game with one added feature: instead of playing face-to-face or solitaire, the program was to also give the option of it playing one, or both, of the teams. While I was writing this new program, S-O-M came out with its new basketball game, so I trashed the old and decided to wait for the new game. But, I still haven't gotten around to writing this yet.

The next game I started working on was College Football. I bought the game when it first came out and really enjoyed it, but I had trouble finding opponents and I didn't like the solitaire version.

This figured to be an ideal game to computerize, especially if I wrote it so that the computer could play one or both teams. It turns out that this game is so much fun to play, I haven't gotten around to computerizing any other games.

FOUR COACHES AND THE COMPUTER GANG

Three friends and I now have a league - we play one team and the computer plays the other 20. All team statistics are kept and we have another program which ranks all the teams.

We play an 11-game season, plus four bowl games. We are now in our second season. The four coaches in the "Blain Avenue College Football League" are: McDonald (Notre Dame), Robin McDonald (Michigan State), Philip Guebert (Pittsburgh) and Derek Small (California). The remaining 20 teams are played by the computer.

The league is split into four conferences, depending on the final rankings from the previous year. Each team plays the other five teams in its conference once and plays six out-of-conference games. The two top teams in each conference advance to the bowl games.

(continued on next page)

Results from the BACFL's first season:

Position	Team	Votes
1.	Alabama (10-1).....	74
2.	Texas A&M (11-0).....	73
3.	Arkansas (8-3).....	64
4.	Ohio State (9-2).....	61
5.	Notre Dame (8-2-1).....	59
6.	Pittsburgh (5-5-1).....	53
7.	Colorado (7-4).....	49
	Oklahoma (7-4).....	49
9.	Michigan (7-4).....	42
10.	California (5-6).....	41
	Nebraska (7-3-1).....	41

Bowl Results: Cotton - Oklahoma 27, Ohio State 20
Orange - Texas A&M 30, Alabama 20
Rose - Arkansas 28, Penn State 14
Sugar - Notre Dame 17, Florida 6

I'm also in the process of computerizing pro football and hockey. From my experiences, I can say that S-O-M should offer computer games, plus including the possibility of having the computer play one or both sides would be a great additional feature.

James Sanders extends win skein

Gary policeman again wins Mid-Michigan football tourney

James Sanders, the policeman from Gary, IN, not only puts on a first-class tournament, he can also play the Strat-O-Matic games in a first-class manner.

Sanders is, of course, the man responsible for the Lyman Bostock Memorial, which will again be staged this summer. He's so busy with the myriad of details involving the tournament, however, that he seldom, if ever, participates in his own tourney play.

He does play football against good friend Joe Craig...and Sanders does travel wherever there's tournament action, especially football, which is his favorite S-O-M game.

In November of last year Sanders was off to engage in S-O-M Football tournament play, at the fourth annual Mid-Michigan Fall Invitational Super Advanced Football Tournament in the small community of McBride.

Again Jim Perkins of Edmore, MI, put on the event, which this year attracted 14 gamers - the largest turnout ever.

Sanders again chose the 1958 Baltimore Colts for double-elimination play and again, like the year before, he breezed through the tourney without losing a game.

The '58 Colts defeated, in order, the '79 Steelers, 33-14; '73 Vikings, 17-7; surprising '79 New England, 28-17; and again the Patriots, this time in the Super Bowl, 24-13.

All told, seven states were represented at the two-day tournament. Also on the scene were: Sam ('79 Steelers) and Joe Dragovich ('73 Dolphins), brothers from East Chicago, IN; Joe Craig ('75 Steelers), Gary, IN; Craig Dashut ('68 Jets), Downers Grove, IL; Mark Frobom ('79 Patriots), Minneapolis, MN; Gary Peck ('73 Steelers), Fairfield, OH; Ken Donnelly ('73 Rams), South Bend, IN; Ron Brammer ('72 Miami) and Rick (continued on next page)

Wise of Kansas City, MO; Randy ('69 Kansas City) and Roger Bigelow ('80 San Diego), Stanton, MI; Perkins ('71 Dallas), Edmore; and, making the longest trip, Ray Perry ('73 Minnesota) from Riverside, CA.

Frobom finished second with his '79 Patriots, who knocked off '71 Dallas (29-21), '72 Miami (44-13) and '73 Miami (27-17) before running into Sanders' Colts.

Joe Dragovich's '73 Dolphins wound up third with a 4-2 record and Perry's '73 Vikings and Perkins' '71 Cowboys tied for fourth at 3-2.

Dragovich came out of the loser's bracket to capture third place as, after losing to '71 Dallas (28-10) in the opener, he successfully ran the gauntlet of '79 Pittsburgh (16-10), '68 Jets (20-10), '72 Miami (33-12) and '73 Minnesota (13-10).

There was also a consolation tournament for those unfortunate few who lost twice quickly. Gary Peck's '73 Steelers won it, defeating Sam Dragovich's '79 Steelers, 25-20, in the final.

The winter tuneup is over...now the next tournament action will be this summer when the LBMT is staged again by Sanders.



MARK FROBOM (LEFT) CONGRATULATES JAMES SANDERS AFTER TOURNEY TRIUMPH



HERE'S THE GATHERING FOR MID-MICHIGAN FALL INVITATIONAL

By JOHN McTERNAN, Belleville, IL

A possible money-saving tip would be to laminate your charts and pitchers' hitting cards. For those who don't know what laminating is, it's a process that encloses your charts in two thin layers of clear plastic.

Most printing shops either do it, or can refer you to someone who can. Average cost is about \$1 to \$2 a chart. The process keeps the often-handled charts and hitting cards looking new and crisp.

Another correctable problem is with the dice used to play football and basketball.

Usually after about three-quarters of the season the black die is just that - completely black. The X and D's have worn off.

Simply take the dice to a plastic or wood engraver. It cost me \$3.50 to have mine engraved.

Then fill in the D's and X's, or in football the R's and X's, with paint. Wipe with thinner and you have a lifetime dice.

Editor's note: John McTernan is a frequent contributor of playing tips to the Review, most of the tips pertaining to basketball.

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 regards to the supplementary stealing rules in baseball, if a player does not establish a lead, can the offensive manager put on a play (hit-and-run or bunt)? Or does the manager have to put the play on before he attempts to get a lead?

ANSWER: Any play must be put on before he attempts for the lead.

QUESTION: Runners on first and third bases, no outs, infield in, dice roll yields GBA+. Does this result in runner on third scoring and runner on first advancing to third? Or second?

ANSWER: Because of the "+" in the result, runners advance two bases. Runner on third scores, runner on first goes to third and batter has a single.

QUESTION: In baseball, do you add two to the runner's rating on fly B? with less than two outs, or only with the second out?

ANSWER: With the question-mark you automatically add two to the runner on third's rating, regardless of the number of outs.

QUESTION: In the baseball rules it states: "Assume a switch-hitter bats lefty versus right-handed pitcher, or righty vs. LHP." Is this mandatory, or can I bat a righty vs. a RHP, and vice versa?

ANSWER: It is mandatory. That's how the statistics are computed.

QUESTION: In hockey during a five-on-four power-play, the power-play team's center has the puck. An action card results in "loose puck; possible breakaway." If the split card breakaway reading says "C (LW)," who has the shot - the LW, or is it a loose puck?

ANSWER: The power-play team has lost the puck and the short-handed team has a breakaway. Award the shot to the short-handed team's center. If he is off the ice, give it to the left wing. Hope that the puck does not go to Gretzky, if you are playing Edmonton.

QUESTION: During a five-on-four power-play, if the offensive (power-

play team) center draws an action card and it reads "opponent defense 12," what happens? There is no opponent covering the center on the power-play.

ANSWER: Remember the little man who wasn't there? Well, this is the case of the big defenseman who isn't there. In my table-top North American Hockey League games, I let the center walk in unmolested for an inside shot. If you visualize the advantage an extra man has on the power play, this is a logical interpretation of the rules. I have used this interpretation since the first edition of the game. I don't feel it skews the statistical results.

QUESTION: During a five-on-four power-play, if the offensive center has an outside shot and elects to try and penetrate for an inside shot, what happens? There is no opponent covering the center on the power-play.

ANSWER: Let the center skate in and blast away inside. Once again, the extra man on a power-play has a big advantage. In the pre-S-O-M Hockey days, I used to play Negamco Hockey. I used this same philosophy on the power play and felt that I obtained realistic results. Strat-O-Matic is a much more refined game and, I feel, still yields realistic results with this interpretation.

(Editor's note: The hockey questions were once again answered by Dave Hager, a writer and editor for the Kalamazoo Gazette. Hager has tried all the hockey tabletop games and is a big fan of the Chicago Black Hawks)

QUESTION: The basketball playing board has a section for timeouts, yet I can find nothing in the rules regarding timeouts. Are there timeouts, and how do they slow down the clock?

ANSWER: Timeouts are not in the rules. But they should be used the same as in real-life, only more so for making substitutions, setting up in a press defense or fast-break offense, than 'discussing' a set play, etc. Many things cannot be done in S-O-M Basketball (such as changing defenses or offenses on the run), and this is where timeouts come in. As far as timeouts, here's the NBA rules regarding them: (1) Each team may be granted seven charged timeouts during regulation play. (2) Each team is limited to no more than four timeouts in the fourth period and no more than three timeouts in the last two minutes of regulation play. (3) In overtime each team is allowed two timeouts, which can be taken at any time.

QUESTION: When playing super advanced football, for several teams the suggested offensive starters are two tight ends, two wide receivers and one running back. When switching to the pro set should the offensive blocking ratings be adjusted?

ANSWER: No. Leave the ratings as they are.

In the news with Strat-O-Matic

Transplanted New Englander also replays World Series

11

The Review wasn't the only one playing the 1984 World Series while it was still in progress.

Jim Goggin, an admitted Strat-O-Matic 'fanatic' for the last 12 years, also was rollin' 'em for the Series before the last pitch in real-life was history.

Goggin's dice-rolling was the subject of a feature story in "The Daily Break" section of the *Virginian-Pilot*. "Just wanted to let you know that Strat-O-Matic is going strong on Virginia's peninsula," said Goggin, who enclosed a copy of the article for the Review's edification.

Although Goggin doesn't tell how the cards were created for some of the players (was Kirk Gibson's actual 1983-based card used?, etc.), the final results were very obvious: Detroit swept San Diego in four games!

Chet Lemon's two-run single in the 10th inning won the opener, 7-4 and negated a 4-for-4 performance by the Padres' Graig Nettles. Gibson's three-run seventh-inning homer, coupled with the one-hit, four-inning relief stint by Aurelio Lopez, led to a 7-4 triumph in game two.

In game three, Lance Parrish homered twice and Milt Wilcox tossed a five-hitter as Detroit breezed 10-1. Parrish delivered again in game four, driving in five runs, three on a first-inning homer, as Detroit wraps up the Series, 5-3. Parrish was chosen MVP after four home run and driving in 10 tallies.

Steve Garvey of the Padres gets the "LVP" - least valuable player - after going hitless in 17 trips.

BEANTOWN BEGINNINGS

Goggin, now 31, married and the father of a 10-month-old daughter, and a elementary school physical education teacher at Williamsburg's Walsingham Academy (he's also assistant track coach at William & Mary College), is a transplanted New Englander.

He grew up in Boston and was, in fact, a national class runner while attending Boston College (Doug Flutie country). He still runs 40 to 60 miles a week and a few years ago flashed his running form by picking off seventh place in the Richmond Marathon.

Back to Strat-O-Matic. Goggin first began playing the game while managing a parking-garage booth in Boston. The boredom was offset by S-O-M. And because of S-O-M, Goggin has had very few boring minutes in his life.

Goggin's card collection numbers over 8,600, most of the card having been pored over frequently. He's currently playing a 160-game scheduled pitting the all-time rosters of each team in the American and National League. He figures it's a five-year project, if not longer.

Goggin keeps orange notebooks, loaded with results and "other pertinent minutiae." One entry in the notebook is for a no-hitter pitched by Stan Coavaleski of the Cleveland Indians. It happened August 1 of last year. Stapled to the same page is a clipping from the March 20, 1984 issue of *The Sporting News* of an obituary for Coavaleski, who had died recently.

The article, written by Mike D'Orso, also frequently mentioned S-O-M and its creator, Harold Richman. Said Richman when asked the number of games sold by S-O-M: "I can't tell you, but we have to pay royalties to the Major League Baseball Players Association for every game we sell and they're getting more from us than from any other company."

Kevin Slattum, a 25-year-old Californian who is working on a master's degree in English at William & Mary, is a frequent game-playing companion of Goggin. He's helping on the all-time replay. When he leaves it will be Goggin rollin' 'em solitaire on a five-year plan.

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: To meet with fellow Strat-O-Matic fanatics in the Anniston-Oxford-Fort McClellan area. Would also like to hear from gamers in the rest of Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee. My address is: Dave Dunwoody, 1925 Rocky Hollow Dr., Apt. 2, Anniston, AL 36201 (205-236-0508)

WANTED: Following 1973 cards: J. Alou, Conigliaro, Hamilton, Lindblad, Stanhouse, Mitchell, F. Alou, Rodriguez, Oglivie, M. Alou, Beene, Baney, Crosby, Gagliano, Dietz, Gilbreath, Arnold, McMahon, Capra, McMullen, Richert, Boswell, Lintz, Theodore, McBride, Folkers, C. Robinson, Bourque, Anderson, Rogodzinski, Wilson, Blass, Parker. Cal Whitbeck, 206 North Ct., Mason, MI 48854 (517-676-5145)

WANTED: Hockey cards, 1979-80, '80-81 and '81-82 seasons, with or without extras. Will buy for any reasonable price or trade the 1956 or 1970 baseball seasons. Send price, condition, or trade inquiries to: Matt Chowning, Rt. 1 Box 396, White House, TN 37188 (615-672-4124)

WANTED: The following out-of-print baseball teams - 1961, 1967, 1968 Detroit Tigers; 1961, 1964 New York Yankees; 1965, 1966 Minnesota Twins; 1965, 1966 Baltimore Orioles; and 1965, 1966 Los Angeles Dodgers. Contact: Richard Cottrell, 6131 N. Dearling Road, Parma, MI 49269, stating condition and asking price.

WANTED: I need the extra players for the 1979 baseball set. I will pay reasonably for cards in at least playable condition. Please send price and condition to: Paul Saffell, 502 West North St., Ada, OH 45810 (419-634-4370)

WANTED: Roster sheets for the 1977-78 and 1978-79 hockey card sets. I will pay \$2 apiece. Roger Simmons, 84 Luquer Road, Manhasset, NY 11030-1016

For Sale

FOR SALE: Exact schedules and pitching rotations for all major league clubs from each season available in sets, 1900-1983. 1983 sells for just \$8. Write me for quotes on all other seasons. Rich Pray, 7800 LaNain Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514

FOR SALE: Single teams, baseball and football, 1967-1983. Basketball, 1977-1983. Hockey, 1977-1979. All teams complete and in mint condition. Rosters also available. Make offer. No reasonable offer refused and all inquiries answered with SASE. To: Otto Hernandez, 2731 Haven Ave., Ocean City, NJ 08226

FOR SALE: Copyrighted Reports reveal detailed information on how to approximate any S-O-M cards the game company doesn't produce. Also, how to evaluate (continued)

the potential of any player for improved drafting and trading. Send \$20 to: Tom Angel, P.O. Box 55, Astor, FL 32002

FOR SALE: Baseball schedules for entire 1930, 1956, 1961, 1969, 1970 seasons. Great for S-O-M 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

FOR SALE: Baseball seasons. Serious bidders only. Include SASE. Will accept and respond to all bids received within 30 days of this ad. 1966 season; 1976 w/ex. plus expansion players; 1977 w/ex.; 1978 w/ex.; 1979 w/ex.; 1980 w/ex.; 1981 w/ex.; 1982 w/ex.; 1983 w/ex. Also 1956 w/ex. (remakes); 1961 w/ex. (remakes). Football - 1980 pro season. Above cards are all in mint condition. Write: Leonard Melito, Daniel Road, RD#2, North Salem, NY 10560

FOR SALE: Baseball, 36 past-season teams, \$13; '70, \$15; '83, \$16; '83-84 football, \$18; '83-84 basketball, \$14; college football game set, \$12. All prices include postage. Roger Simmons, 84 Luquer Road, Manhasset, NY 11030-1016

FOR SALE: Complete sets, mint condition. Football - 1978 and 1981. Hockey - 1978-79, '79-80, '80-81. Basketball - 1972-73, '73-74, '74-75, '75-76, '76-77, '77-78, '78-79, '79-80. Baseball - 1972, '74, '75, '76, '77, '80. Offers to: Daniel Holecy, 105 Hilltop Circle, Glenshaw, PA 15116 (412-486-0815)

FOR SALE: Super-advanced rules enhance the realism and detail of S-O-M Baseball while preserving the speed of play that makes it fun. Includes easily memorized rules for more realistic base advances on hits, outs and errors; throwing errors and misplayed

hits; trail runners sometimes advancing on throws (or being thrown out on cutoffs); injury chart with rare plays; balks, pickoffs, pickoff errors, run-downs; infielders positioned in or back individually; outfield shallow; suicide squeeze, safety squeeze and sacrifice charts where fielder's ability and runner's speed play a part; hit-and-run method that also takes into account pitcher's abilities and characteristics, fielding, runner's speed; and much more; all blended into the game so as not to disturb statistical accuracy or ease of play. Fully tested and refined in face-to-face league play. \$8, with money-back guarantee. Richard Robb, #305-7100 Gilbert Rd., Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5C3

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: The following teams: Baseball - 1970 season, original, \$50. Football - 1974 season. Player number written on cards, otherwise excellent condition. Also, 1981 and 1982 seasons. Hockey - 1977-78 season, 1978-79. Football - 1968 AFL and NFL. Asking \$100. Good condition. If not satisfied, money returned. I will pay postage. Money orders only. Tom Sherman, 1449 N. 14 Way 202, Hollywood, FL 33020

FOR SALE: Replay Research; guides for replays of any S-O-M Baseball season. Includes standings, team batting, fielding, pitching stats, schedules, All-Star game, World Series records and more. Any season \$6, any two seasons \$11, three seasons \$15. Old-timer teams guide, \$8. Rodney Johnson, 956 W. Lajolla, Tempe, AZ 85282

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FOR SALE: 1978 Pittsburgh Steelers; 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982 football cards. All in good to mint condition. Sold to highest bidder by Feb. 20. Eric Stein, W. 423 Columbia Ave., Sponkane, WA 99205. Send SASE.

FOR SALE: 1982 baseball cards with extra players and 5 and 6 pitchers' hitting cards all in very good condition, only \$15. 1981-82 complete basketball set in excellent condition for \$12. 1981 complete football set in excellent condition for \$15. Will trade for 1982-83 hockey cards with additional players. Will trade all three of above sets if the hockey cards are in mint condition. Write: Phillip Ledesma, 3626 W. 139th Street, Hawthorne, CA 90250

FOR SALE (or TRADE): Hockey game with all game parts and 10 teams from 1982-83 season (NY Islanders, NY Rangers, St. Louis, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Montreal, Quebec, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg), \$15. Basketball game with all parts and all teams from 1982-83 season, \$15. I will trade either set for a complete set of 1981 season baseball cards w/extras or any complete football set except 1982 season. John Lee, 4412 Ellysee Way, Pensacola, FL 32505. I will pay postage.

FOR SALE: Now available for the second year. On-base, batting and slugging averages for both sides of the 1985 advanced baseball cards. For example: Dale Murphy's 1984 card reflected a .306 on-base percentage, a .235 batting average and a .409 slugging percentage against left-handed pitching. Against right-handers, he had a .517 OBP, batted .401 and slugged .837. These averages are derived from data off the advanced side of the card. Very useful for drafting, trading, platooning and tournaments. \$10 gets you about 12 pages of computer output developed after over 30 hours of input. Includes the extras, both hitters and pitchers, arranged by position, alphabetically. Avail-

able about mid-February. Data for 1984 baseball cards still available. Roger Johnson, 16338 Chadsford, Baton Rouge, LA 70817

FOR SALE: Pro football game with all game parts, entire 1982 season teams and 1983 Raiders, Washington, Miami, Detroit. \$25. Jeff Zwicker, 13113 Rustic Dr., Pickerington, OH 43147

FOR SALE: 1969 season S-O-M Baseball supplementary stealing ratings. 1970, 1961 and 1930 seasons also available. Increase your replay realism and enjoyment. Orders sent within 24 hours. Send \$2.25 per season (please specify) to: Scott Fetterman, 3140 Skylight Dr. West, York, PA 17402

FOR SALE: Complete baseball seasons 1966 and 1965. Highest bid at end of month gets it. Over 10,000 teams, 1962-present. Send requests, bids and SASE to: Sal Mangiapane, 239 Ackerman Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07011 (201-546-9698)

FOR SALE: Football teams - 1977 Cowboys, Broncos; 1978 Steelers, \$8 each. 1978 Cowboys, \$7. 1968 Packers; 1974 Redskins; 1976 Cowboys; 1977 Rams, Bears, \$5 each. 1968 Bears, Vikings, 49ers; 1970 Broncos, Falcons; 1971 Steelers; 1977 Dolphins, Oilers; 1978 Seahawks; 1979 Eagles, Bucs, \$4 each. 1979 49ers; 1981 Jets, \$3 each. First check takes teams. Losers returned. All teams mint or excellent except 1968 (good-very good). John Hoffman, 14 Lincoln, Mill Valley, CA 94941

FOR SALE: "Talkin" baseball. Full seasons. No individual clubs. For the serious bidders only. Include SASE. Will respond to all bids within 30 days of this ad. Top bids get 'em. Must sell. 1966 season no/ex. (Strato's 6th year); 1976 w/ex.; 1979 w/ex.; 1980 w/ex.; 1981 w/ex. (strike year); 1982 w/ex. All in mint shape. Write: Leonard Melito, Daniel Road RD#2, North
(continued)

Salem, NY 10560

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Louisiana - would like to start face-to-face baseball league in Baton Rouge-New Orleans area. If interested, contact: Roger Johnson, 16338 Chadsford, Baton Rouge, LA 70817 (504-292-0844). Are there any Strat fans in Cajun-land?

LEAGUE FORMING: The Cincinnati Baseball League is looking for reliable managers for a face-to-face total draft league. Draft conducted by rounds from all AL and NL players. For more information, contact: Scott Jeggles, 2705 E. Towers Dr. #401, Cincinnati, OH 45238

LEAGUE FORMING: The 15-year-old ASC is in need of new and backup managers that are reliable and serious about baseball. The ASC is a PBM, draft baseball league using 24 teams. We're a mature and very fun group. Write: Tom Fish, 11211 Campbell Avenue, Riverside, CA 92505

LEAGUE FORMING: Chicago-area face-to-face advanced baseball league looking for managers to take over existing teams or expansion teams for the coming season; 162-game schedule with two divisions. Detailed league constitution, with trophies awarded to divisional and World Series winners. For more information, contact: Steve Gersch, 4504 N. Meade, Chicago, IL 60630 (312-736-8617)

LEAGUE FORMING: You have read about us and if you're a mature, reliable individual who has always wanted to join a competitive face-to-face draft baseball league that stresses camaraderie and fair play, your opportunity is now. The Greater Boston Baseball Association is set to begin its eighth campaign and is seeking new members to join as a semi-autonomous, compatible

sister league with limited inter-league play and post-season play-off format. Members play a super-advanced version of the game, meeting once weekly, rotating play between members' homes. Managers range in age from 28-34 and in playing experience from 3-12 years. Interested applicants should write: Norman Shacat, 81 Woburn St., Medford, MA 02155 or call 391-5726. Please enclose a SASE.

LEAGUE FORMING: SOMMBL, an advance baseball league, is looking for managers and backup managers for the 1985 season. Twenty teams are in the league and every one is looking forward to SOMMBL's sixth season. For more information, contact: Harold Tellefsen, 4722 Buckingham Dr., Warren, MI 48092 or call 313-573-4442.

LEAGUE FORMING: Do you live in the San Francisco/Oakland Bay area? If so why not join the East Bay Strat-O-Matic Baseball League? Our managers range from beginners to advanced and there's no league night for flexible scheduling. It's a 162-game, face-to-face league with no league draft. Instead, we bid on our players. With high player salaries and contracts, you too can complain just like Calvin Griffith. Serious players only. Contact: Kevin Kataoka (415-276-3740) or Tom Simpson (415-487-0632) after 7 p.m.

LEAGUE FORMING: The Coast to Coast American League, an established PBM baseball organization using mostly AL cards, has openings available for the upcoming June-September season. Though we stress punctuality and neatness, ample time is allotted for game playing and statistics. To take part in our annual late winter draft, send for complete details as soon as possible. Remember: this is a well-organized league with established (and good) teams available, so don't miss out. Robert Gebeloff, 9 Evergreen Rd.,
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West Caldwell, NJ 07006 (201-228-2765). S-O-M experience gets preference, but no PBM experience necessary.

LEAGUE FORMING: The Penn-Jersey Strat-O-Matic League is looking for competent, reliable managers to compete in their 1985 season. League consists of 162 games, two divisions and is primarily National League with a limit on American League drafting. We meet once a week, alternating Mondays and Wednesdays, and play in Clinton, NJ. Statistics are required. Play is competitive, interesting and, above all, fun! More information can be had by calling or writing. Contact: Jim Jurgensen, 319 West St., Bethlehem, PA 18018 (call 215-867-4239 after 6 p.m.)

LEAGUE FORMING: The Strat-O-Matic Fanatic Baseball League (SOMFBL; see 'Fanatic League' Aug., 1984 S-O-M Review, p. 24), is starting its 4th season and is looking for responsible managers. Experience is preferred and reliability is a must. The basic side is used, but all other aspects are as realistic as possible, including injuries, the cutoff rule, supplementary stealing system and strict at-bat and innings pitched limitations. The \$15 entry fee covers monthly newsletters, a massive yearbook and trophies. The new season starts approximately June 15 and runs until late December, but call or write now to get a better choice of teams available. This league has the possibility of being the best-run PBM basic baseball ever. Be a part of it. Contact: Jeff Schwarze, URH 1202 Oglesby Hall, 1001 College Ct., Urbana, IL 61801 (217-332-5384)

LEAGUE FORMING: The Lou Gehrig Memorial League is still seeking quality managers as charter members for our first season. We seek only adult managers, with prior PBM experience. If you want a fresh start and desire to be a part of the best, send your name and address to: J. Biggars, c/o K. Sherlin, 184th Ord Co., APO

09175 New York, NY. Some of the features of the LGML are: Blind drafts, rare plays and increased strategy options. Hurry! The draft is just around the corner.

LEAGUE FORMING: Now entering its second season, the Chicago Suburban Baseball League of Park Ridge has openings for a few managers. It is a face-to-face continuous ownership draft league consisting of two six-team divisions using a 162-game schedule. For more information, call Ken at 678-8228 (after 8 p.m. weeknights) or John at 635-6747.

LEAGUE FORMING: The Michigan Majors Advanced Baseball League is entering its 4th year. We play both AL and NL; most managers have a team in each league. We play a 162-game schedule and will be having our rookie draft in April. We need a couple of managers for the new season, one of which might have a chance at drafting Dwight Gooden. Our newsletters average about 8 pages, with plenty of stats and stories. If interested, write to: Don Miron Jr., 5500 N. Elms Road., Flushing, MI 48433. All replies will be given equal opportunity.

LEAGUE FORMING: Draft baseball league. Will use new cards when available. Let's get started now so we can get going when the new cards are released. Write for details to: Roger Simmons, 84 Luquer Road, Manhasset, NY 11030-1016

LEAGUE FORMING: We are looking for three managers to join the GGBL face-to-face, advanced baseball league in the Philadelphia area. We are entering our 12th 162-game season and have three good teams available (two in NL, one in AL). We start play as soon as cards become available. If interested, contact: Jim Battista Lansdowne, PA (215-622-6347)

LEAGUE FORMING: The Entertainment Baseball Association (EBA)
(continued)

is looking for reliable managers for the 1985 season to begin in April. Entering its fifth season, the EBA is a 14-team, advanced PBM league. Dues are \$12/season. Regular features include: phone draft, mid-season free agent draft, 142-game schedule, regular newsletters and lots of trading. Dedication, honesty and reliability are the only requirements. One or two established teams may be available, so please respond by the 15th to: Robert Dyer, P.O. Box 1264, Clinton, OK 73601. All inquiries will be answered.

LEAGUE FORMING: Would like to meet people in the Champaign-Urbana and nearby area interested in playing S-O-M Baseball. At the present time, I have 50 teams ranging from the 1927 New York Yankees to the 1983 Baltimore Orioles, including all 26 baseball teams. Your teams are encouraged to be used also. Draft type playing is preferred but not necessary. Elementary or advanced playing. Possible league forming if enough people in the area are interested. Please respond to: Jay Seuss, 1709 B James Cherry Dr., Urbana, IL 61801 (217-367-6200)

LEAGUE FORMING: Nation-Wide Baseball League is seeking 8 managers for its first season to start in April or May, 1985. This will be a unique basic play-by-mail league. Each manager must send two separate lists of top 10 teams. One American and one National list. Will get one team from each league to make his team from. The season will be 120 games. Another unique thing is we will be using the 1985 cards, based on the 1984 season, for the first five years of the league. The draft for the second season will include players not protected and the two teams not used in the first season. Each team protects 15 players each year. Call or write: Dennis Kaxvold, Chateau Village, 2020 West Glendale Ave. #2042, Phoenix, AZ 85021 (602-995-7024)

LEAGUE FORMING: The Central Queens

New York Strato Baseball League in its eighth year seeks reliable and responsible managers who are up to the challenge of playing in a spirited and competitive league. Open draft and face-to-face sessions. All metropolitan area players welcome to inquire. If interested, contact: Bob, after 8 p.m. at 212-441-3175 or Mark at 516-379-6953.

LEAGUE FORMING: The prestigious Federal League is looking for a few good men. We are an 8th-year league run by ultra-experienced commissioners and league presidents that has enjoyed considerable success due to skilled managers. Trading, drafting and a well-written instruction manual contribute to a challenging PBM, advanced baseball, competitive situation. We are in need of backups at this time and you must send a resume of S-O-M experience. If you want to take part in a premium league, and have the time to give it your all, send your resume to: Sky O'Callahan, 3227 Lewis Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807

LEAGUE FORMING: Managers and backups needed for CCBA, a 24-team PBM advanced baseball league just finishing its 7th season. Rookie draft with continuous ownership of players. At least one opening exists. Write or call: Steve Klein, 23016 Osage Ridge Road, Valencia, CA 91355 (805-259-1753)

LEAGUE FORMING: Calcan National League looking for a couple experienced managers and backups. We are entering our third exciting season. We play PBM, have a unique draft and format. Those interested, contact: Tom Millard, 111 Cleaveland Rd. #151, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 (415-939-5214)

LEAGUE FORMING: The Ries Baseball League (RBL) is pleased to announce that it will soon begin its inaugural season. Only honest managers, please. We'll be starting
(continued)

ing soon after the new cards arrive. This will be an advanced, full-featured, play-by-mail league. Send a list of 10 teams in order of preference to: RBL, c/o Jim & Larry Ries, R-1, Bunceton, MD 65237

LEAGUE FORMING: Here's a chance to join an enjoyable and well-established baseball league. The Mid-Atlantic Table Sports Association (MATSA) will be starting its 6th season in April. We are a 10-team, continuous draft league using National League cards only and play a comfortable, yet exciting, 126-game schedule. We are looking for three mature, dependable people who will enjoy the challenge of building a team over a period of years. For more information, please contact: Rick Southeimer, 808 Rollingwood Trail, Columbia, SC 29210 (803-772-4052)

LEAGUE FORMING: Tradewater II is going into its second season this summer and has good teams available. This is a big league requiring skilled and reliable managers. For information on this advanced baseball organization, call or write: Dean Monson, 3503 W. 4400 So., West Valley City, UT 84119 (801-967-7182)

Contests

CONTEST: The third annual Super Bowl Tournament will be held Feb. 16-17 at the Swansea Improvement Association Hall in Belleville. Among the entrants will be last year's finalists, Paul Friederich and James Sanders, along with Paul's wife Kathy, this year's Lyman Bostock Memorial football champion. Entry fee is \$7. Trophies for first, second and third will be awarded. Teams from 1967-1981 will be used with a random draw for the order of picks and the divisions. A round-robin format will be used Saturday, with playoffs Sunday. Super-advanced rules are used. A super-advanced consolation tournament on Sunday

will be held for those not qualifying for the playoffs. Teams used will be from 1982-1983 seasons. Call: Al Skidmore at 618-235-8287 or Paul Friederich at 618-234-1929 for more information, or send a SASE to: Al Skidmore, 1600 N. Church St., Belleville, IL 62221

ADDITIONAL WANTED ADS

WANTED: Complete baseball seasons, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1968. Also bulk quantities of cards, any teams, any year, for quick cash. Top dollar paid. Steve Mengi, P.O. Box 793, Clifton, NJ 07015-0793

WANTED: Responsible, experienced managers for SOMFBL II, starting its fourth season. Best PBM basic baseball league ever? Could be. See League Forming ad in this issue of Review for more details. Jeff Schwarze, URH 1202 Oglesby Hall, 1001 College Ct., Urbana, IL 61801 (217-332-5384)

Looking for back issues of Review?

The following back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review are available: (To order, write: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box Otsego, MI 49078)

1984

Jan., Feb., March, May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Cost: \$1 per issue.

1983

Feb., March, April, May, July, Oct., Nov., Dec. Cost: \$1 per issue.

1982

March, April, Aug., Sept., Nov., Dec. Cost: 75 cents per issue.

1981

Feb., March, April, June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Cost: 75 cents per issue.

S-O-M Basketball critiqued

BY DICK HUNT, Ovid, MI

Since Strat-O-Matic made the major overhaul in its basketball game back in 1981 (first affecting the '80-'81 cards), I have been a basketball junkie. Although S-O-M Baseball is probably still tops on my list, the basketball game is moving up quickly.

I have noticed a definite lack of coverage of the hardwood sport in the Review. From this I make two assumptions: one, that you folks at the Review are not great basketball fans; two, that the fans of the game who do exist in Strato-land do not write to you very often.

I think it's about time someone did. There seem to be several play-by-mail basketball leagues flourishing out there, judging from the ads I see every month. I'm surprised none of them have written about their accomplishments.

I suppose you could call the following a critique of Strat-O-Matic Pro Basketball.

PLENTY OF POSITIVE POINTS

Before I start pointing out the game's faults, let's take a quick run through its good points:

- * The rebounding system is excellent. The old game just featured "key" rebounds (although many weren't "key" at all) and you were required to double or triple a guy's actual rebounds to get a realistic total. Now the rebounding takes care of itself in a quick, realistic way.

- * The shooting frequency system (with replays, etc.) is a great improvement over the former version of the game. Formerly, coaches picked the shooter too often; let's face it, in real life a basketball coach does not stand on the sidelines calling every shot. He mostly watches and suffers, like the rest of the fans.

- * The passing system has been greatly improved by the "position-shot-with-a-dot" play. It keeps the bum passers from throwing dazzlers every which way while at the same time letting the John Longs and T.R. Dunns of the world keep their turnovers down.

- * Individual defense is great. Between the defense column on each player's card and the x-column, I feel individual defense is well taken care of.

- * The block man setup is a great idea. Where would guys with Mark Eaton and Tree Rollins be without it?

- * The Open versus position shot is an excellent renovation. The difference between an X and an O can be crucial. As evidence, look at the outside shooting ability of any big guy like Sampson, Laimbeer, Dawkins, etc.

- * The foul system is so much better since the game's overhaul that there is almost no comparison. Prior to 1981, every player's card drew fouls on the same numbers. Now a World Free or a George Gervin can really put your guards to work.

Okay, enough of patting Strat-O-Matic on the back. The new basketball game beats the older version(s) hands down. I don't think anyone would argue that point. But if a few suggestions could make it even better...

A LOOK AT THE DEFENSE

First, let's look at something that affects all teams - the defense cards. I would like to know why they are all patterned the same? Why

(continued on next page)

does every team foul on D-4 rolls; why does every team draw the charging fouls on D-9 and D-11 rolls? If Strato can give baseball pitchers 12 or 13 different card patterns, why not make up four or five for basketball team defense cards?

One idea might be to give a foul happy team - New Jersey, for instance - the foul(2) reading on a D-5 or D-6 roll. Of course, I suppose that would mean reducing the individual players' foul numbers in their individual defense columns.

Another point about defense cards that I feel needs changing: should not a team using a close defense commit more fouls (conversely drawing fewer charges)? And shouldn't a team which is sagging commit fewer? Sometimes teams will sag to avoid foul trouble.

One last thing about the defense cards. Why doesn't S-O-M put any "O" results in the penetration or outside shot columns?

A LOOK AT THE X-COLUMN DEFENSE

Now for X-column defense. If guys who swing between LF and C can have split X-column results (on their inside shots), why don't guys who play RF and G have that problem?

Wouldn't Larry Bird defend against a driving Clark Kellogg a little better than he might against a smaller, faster Gus Williams.

One more defensive note: the BL reading on everyone's inside and penetration 9 roll. What's the point? It seems like a lot of hassle for a block stat that means nothing. Whether blocked or not, the shot is missed. Better to make it so that if the shot isn't blocked, it is good. This would make the great shot-blocker a little more important.

NOW FOR THE OFFENSE...

Now let's look at the "Denver Doug (Moe) Defense" - mainly the offense.

The passing aspect of S-O-M Basketball raises a few questions. Even so, I must repeat my belief that the present system beats the jelly beans out of the previous system.

My biggest complaint is about the "point," or right guard passing. In the fastbreak offense, the RG does his job just fine. The difference between Brad Davis and Walter Davis is very apparent, as it should be.

But in the normal offense these two guys are interchangeable. Each position (C, LF, RF, LG, RG) in the normal offense gets four passing readings - one to each of the other four guys on the floor. The readings are the ones on the action cards. In the fastbreak offense, the RG gets 20 readings for a FB pass. That's one third of the deck. But in the normal offense, Strato says Moses Malone dishes the ball off as much as Mo Cheeks, albeit with fewer assists.

I say this is terribly unrealistic when S-O-M gives each guy's passing ability equal importance in the normal offense. One, because the RG won't control the offense enough to get his assists, especially guys that run a patterned offense.

The second problem with the normal offense is that too many of a RG's assists are going to have to come from his assist rating (RG-1, RG-2, etc.), assuming he even gets one. But with or without a big assist rating, someone like Ennis Whatley will never get his 662 assists. First off, those assists are garbage assists - they're never credited until after the basket is scored. They are therefore worthless, since they don't reflect a guy's passing ability at all. They just hand out freebie assists.

The assist rating doesn't come up often enough to even help a Whatley get his assists. In the normal offense, the RG's assist rating

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only comes up on a successful switch.

One more small passing note: why don't centers and left forwards ever get to throw a FB pass? Do they pass that seldom in the FB in real-life? I notice that they do shoot a fastbreak shot now and then. If they manage to get downcourt for the occasional fastbreak slam, it seems like they'd be in on pass now and then. As it is, all those poor devils can do is turn the ball over.

ADJUSTING 'REST IN MINUTES'

An easily corrected problem presents itself in S-O-M's "rest in minutes" situation. Presently, a guy is one of four things: an 18-minute rest, 12-minute rest, 6-minute rest or an ultra rare (usually one guy per card set) 2-minute rest.

The problem comes up with the borderline cases. A guy who averages zero to 27 minutes per game in real-life is an 18-minute rest in S-O-M. But a guy who averages 28 minutes per real contest is a 12-minute rest player. This means that Eddie Johnson and Johnny Davis of the Hawks can conceivably play 36 minutes per game, a full eight minutes above their real-life averages of 28.

The difference between how much S-O-M lets you play a 27-minute man and how much you play a 28-minute man is way too large. Also the difference between a 33-minute player (12-minute rest) and a 34-minute (6-minute), is way too large.

The answer to the whole problem of minutes of rest is to make the rest increments smaller. Instead of jumping from 6 to 12 to 18, go from 3 to 6 to 9 to 12 to 15 to 18, etc. All this would call for is a little more action card counting on the coach's part.

An even easier method would be for S-O-M to recommend playing no player more than 6 minutes over his real-life average minutes per game. The following chart is the schedule I'd like to see. It gives you more latitude for the in-betweeners and lets no one play more than six minutes over his average:

REAL LIFE MINUTES PER GAME		MUST REST		COULD PLAY
0-12	-	30 minutes	-	18 minutes
13-15	-	27 "	-	21 "
16-18	-	24 "	-	24 "
19-21	-	21 "	-	27 "
22-24	-	18 "	-	30 "
25-27	-	15 "	-	33 "
28-30	-	12 "	-	36 "
31-33	-	9 "	-	39 "
34-36	-	6 "	-	42 "
37-39	-	3 "	-	45 "
40	-	2 "	-	46 "
41	-	1 "	-	47 "
42+	-	0 "	-	48 "

Another quick problem: it would be nice to see the following statistics on the players' cards (although I don't see where S-O-M would put 'em): turnovers, fouls committed, foul disqualifications, offensive and defensive rebounds and three-point shot statistics.

Editor's note: Dick Hunt is 24 years old, married and the father of one. He's employed at Oldsmobile in the Lansing area. He's also a frequent contributor to the Review, with his critiques of S-O-M products being especially insightful. As far as S-O-M Basketball, the Review only wishes more gamers (or leagues) would write with their exploits.

S-O-M league, replay scene

FOUR FAVORITES REPLAY - Jay Melnarik of Culver City, CA, again has taken his four favorite baseball teams and replayed a 162-game season using the basic S-O-M game...His favorites include Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Chicago White Sox and Houston, with the Orioles, just as in real-life, winning it all. Baltimore edged Pittsburgh by one game, however...As far as Melnarik's background, he's been playing S-O-M for 13 years and has rolled dice for over 4,000 games...Previous champs of his "foursome" league have been Houston ('79), Baltimore ('80), Chicago ('82) and Pittsburgh ('81 and '83). That's for the playoffs, not just regular-season...Pittsburgh defeated Baltimore in the '83 playoffs, 3-1...Highlights included: Jose DeLeon of Pittsburgh striking out 10 or more in 19 games, including fanning 19; Floyd Bannister of the Chisox had 23 whiffs in a 2-1, 14-inning loss to Pittsburgh; the Bucs bashing Baltimore, 13-0; Scott McGregor tossing a one-hitter against the Astros; Mike Easler going 4-for-5 and driving in eight runs for Pittsburgh against the Orioles; and the White Sox scoring 11 runs in the top of the ninth inning in a 17-4 romp over Baltimore.

Standings and leaders:

	Won-Lost	GB	Avg.	ERA	Batting	Home Runs
Baltimore	96 66	-	.243	2.94	Puhl HOU	.311 Luzinski CHI 38
Pittsburgh	95 67	1	.261	3.04	Parker PIT	.300 Murray BAL 30
Chicago	70 92	26	.234	3.27	Knight HOU	.300 Roenicke BAL 28
Houston	63 99	33	.236	3.39		

	RBI	Wins	ERA
Murray BAL	98	J.DeLeon PIT	26
Madlock PIT	84	Boddicker BAL	23
Roenicke BAL	81	Flanagan BAL	23
		S.Davis BAL	2.41

<u>Strikeouts</u>		<u>CG:</u>	DeLeon PIT 30	<u>H:</u>	Parker PIT 184
DeLeon PIT	367	<u>SH:</u>	DeLeon PIT 9	<u>2B:</u>	D.Ford BAL 45
Bannister CHI	293		Boddicker BAL 9	<u>3B:</u>	Thon HOU 12
Ryan HOU	293			<u>R:</u>	D.Ford BAL 99
				<u>SB:</u>	R.Law CHI 89

SIXTIES FOOTBALL - Nelson Fong of Livermore, CA, spent almost five years on the project of pitting the best football teams of the 1960s against each other...Teams were selected on basis of minimum of .700 winning percentage or being a Super Bowl champ...AFL teams, of course, were not available for the early years of the '60s...The 1968 Colts emerged as the best during a 10-game regular-season, winning seven times. The '67 Rams and '69 Chiefs tied for second at 6-4...Baltimore had best passing attack (2107 yards), scored the most points (224) and had the league's No. 1 kickoff returner (Preston Pearson: 28-988 yards and four TDs)...The '67 L.A. Rams were first in rushing (1491 yards) and had the best defense overall as well as against the rush...1962 Green Bay was disappointing 5-3-2, although Jim Taylor led the ground troops with 1,035 yards in 227 carries for 4.6 average plus he had five 100-yard-plus games...1963 Chicago got off to a 3-0 start, had the league's top pass defense, but staggered in 5-4-1... '67 Raiders had league-high 39 sacks for 323 yards in losses...Jim Brown gained 865 yards in 174 attempts, but '65 Browns were so inept in all other phases that he wasn't utilized to max...Highlight of season for '60 Eagles was Norm VanBrocklin throwing for 341 yards and one TD against '68 Dallas..Weak running attack slowed '68 Jets; conversely, weak passing game

(continued on next page)

hindered '69 Chiefs, who had explosive attack overland... '68 Cowboys were hampered by turnovers: 19 interceptions and 22 lost fumbles... a weak offense slowed '69 Minnesota, although the defense against the rush was among the best.

Standings and leaders:

	Won	Lost	Tied		Rushing	Att-Yds.	Avg.	ID
'68 Baltimore	7	3	0		Taylor GB	227 1035	4.6	9
'69 Kansas City	6	4	0		Brown CLE	174 865	5.0	4
'67 Los Angeles	6	4	0		Josephson LA	131 720	5.5	0
'62 Green Bay	5	3	2		Bass LA	155 628	4.1	0
'63 Chicago	5	4	1					
'67 Oakland	5	4	1		Receiving	No.-Yds.	ID	Avg.
'68 NY Jets	5	5	0		Sauer NYJ	42 769	3	18
'68 Dallas	4	5	1		Rentzel DAL	38 695	4	18
'69 Minnesota	4	5	1		Richardson BAL	33 725	4	22
'60 Philadelphia	3	7	0		Collins BAL	33 679	1	21
'65 Cleveland	2	8	0					

	Passing	Att-Comp	Yds.	ID-Int.	Rating	Interceptions
Morrall BAL	233	133	2089	13 14	94.0	Whitsell CHI 9
Gabriel LA	237	104	1523	11 8	89.0	
Starr GB	186	114	1390	8 8	81.0	
Livingston KC	110	58	688	4 3	73.0	

	Punt Ret.	No.-Yds.	ID	Avg.	Kickoff Ret.	No.-Yds.	ID
Kelly CLE	14	536	5	38	Pearson BAL	28 988	4

1970 BALTIMORE ORIOLES REPLAY - The results were amazingly close to real-life for this full-season replay conducted by Gregory Johnson of Washington, D.C... Johnson didn't replay the Birds against the 1970 teams, however, opting instead to send them against the 1982 teams... "I was very amazed by the results," said Johnson, who's been playing S-O-M since 1967... The record of the Orioles was 108-54 - the exact mark posted in 1970... Runs-batted-in totals were higher than real-life, but many of the averages and home run statistics were almost exact... Frank Robinson, for instance, batted .302 in S-O-M with 25 home runs and 105 RBI (real-life: .306, 25, 78). Boog Powell's S-O-M totals were 49 (35) homers, 136 RBI (114) and a .361 average (.297)... Brooks Robinson's numbers were 24-122-.265 (18-94-.276), while Paul Blair's were 19-102-.263 (18-65-.267)... Pitching was just as close as Mike Cuellar went 23-12 with a 3.52 ERA (24-8, 3.47). Dave McNally and Jim Palmer were close behind as McNally was 28-8 (24-9) with a 3.08 ERA (3.22), while Palmer was 19-12 (20-10) with a 3.00 (2.71).

1975 NEW YORK YANKEE REPLAY - Joseph Tura of Maspeth, NY, took the '75 Yankees through a full-season 162-game replay and watched with amazement as New York posted a fantastic 97-65 record, including an amazing 20-game win streak... Thurman Munson led the Yanks in hitting with a .321 average as three regulars batted over .300. Munson also led in RBI with 91, hits with 193, plus tied with Graig Nettles for game-winning RBI with 16... Bobby Bonds paced the Yanks in runs scored (109), triples (6), home runs (31), walks (89) and stolen bases (37)... Catfish Hunter (22-11, 3.19 ERA) and Rudy May (21-8, 2.58) were the big two of the pitching staff, with Doc Medich chipping in with an 18-13 record... Hunter had 23 complete games, May 20 and May had a team-high 193.

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S-O-M league, replay scene

(continued from page 23)

strikeouts. May also hurled the most innings, 283, and issued the most walks, 113. Hunter topped the team in shutouts with seven...A nameless player card was used for Bob Oliver, otherwise no additional were used for the replay...May won his last nine games, including tossing two three-hitters and a 10-strikeout, one-hitter during the success span... Hunter, meanwhile, got off to a 6-0 start and then struggled down the stretch. The Catfish did best Jim Palmer in a duel in the season's finale, hurling a shutout against the Birds...As a team the Yanks swiped 88 bases and were thrown out only 16 times...Nettles, who finished with 22 home runs, went one stretch of 31 games before connecting for a roundtripper...Four of Nettles' homers came off Joe Coleman...Bullpen was seldom used as Yanks had 86 complete games! Sparky Lyle had nine saves...It's a good thing relief corps didn't have to rescue New York in the late innings because Dick Tidrow gave up 12 homers and sported a 5.39 ERA in only 75 innings of tumultuous toil...Yanks clouted 138 home runs, but gave up 154. Pat Dobson served up 36, Medich 32 and Hunter 29...Munson and Chris Chambliss were most consistent players, while Bonds and Nettles were very streaky.