

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

* VOL. 17, FEBRUARY, 1988 *

Here's sneak peak at baseball cards

If all goes well, and provided you've already ordered your cards through the Review's early notice that appeared in last month's issue, you should soon have the new baseball cards.

Shipping was expected to start at the end of January, if not sooner, and that means the twain could meet as far as the arrival of this issue and your new Strat-O-Matic Baseball cards.

Some samples of the new baseball cards are found on this page and the next. Only the tri-colored feature is missing. You will notice that the supplementary stealing rating is now found on the card.

Two changes should be made as far as fielding ratings and prices that appeared in the January Review. One fielding rating, that belonging to Pittsburgh's second baseman Jose Lind, was incorrectly listed. Lind should be a "2" rather than a "4."

S OZZIE SMITH			stealing-(AA)	*5-6- (19-13)	bunting-A	hit & run-B
ss-1 #10						running 1-17
37% AGAINST LEFT-HAND PITCHER			Power-W	63% AGAINST RIGHT-HAND PITCHER		
1	2	3		1	2	3
2-4o(3b) max	2-fly (lf) B ?	2-popout (2b)		2-4o(2b) max	2-fly (cf) B ?	2-gb (1b) B
plus injury	3-gb (ss) A	3-lineout (3b)		plus injury	3-gb (1b) B	3-lineout (1b)
3-fly (cf) B ?	4-lineout (1b)	4-popout (2b)		3-gb (p) A	4-gb (2b) A	4-gb (1b) B
4-popout (2b)	5-gb (ss) B	5-WALK		4-WALK	5-gb (ss) A	5-S*
5-DOUBLE(H)	6-WALK	6-WALK		5-TR 1-6	6-SINGLE**	6-WALK
6-DO** 1-14	7-gb (ss) A	7-gb (ss) A+		DO 7-20	7-fly (rf) B ?	7-WALK
7-SINGLE 15-20	8-gb (ss) B	8-gb (ss) B		6-DO** 1-17	8-gb (2b) A+	8-WALK
8-S* 1-7	9-popout (3b)	9-fly (cf) B ?		7-SINGLE (lf)	9-gb (3b) B	9-WALK
9-ss 8-20	10-popout (3b)	10-fly (lf) B ?		8-SINGLE (rf)	10-gb (1b) B	10-fly (rf) B ?
10-WALK	11-gb (3b) B	11-SINGLE (lf)		9-SINGLE**	11-popout (3b)	11-SINGLE (cf)
11-fly (lf) B ?	12-gb (3b) A	12-SINGLE (lf)		10-SINGLE**	12-gb (ss) A+	12-SINGLE**
12-foulout (c)		12-SINGLE (lf)		11-gb (3b) B		12-foulout (c)
		12-foulout (c)				

And also a price was changed by the game company after the Review had been printed. It's for the computer game disk and should be \$30 instead of \$25. Price of the cards (replete with additionals) is still \$24 (\$21 for the card set and \$3 for handling).

R JACK CLARK			stealing-(E)	4/10 (13-3)	bunting-D	hit & run-D
1b 4 e19 r13(0) e3						running 1-13
33% AGAINST LEFT-HAND PITCHER			Power: N	67% AGAINST RIGHT-HAND PITCHER		
1	2	3		1	2	3
△2-SINGLE (cf)	2-strikeout	2-lo(3b) max		△2-SINGLE (cf)	2-lo(ss) max	2-fly (cf) A
S/* 1:10	plus injury	3-strikeout		S/* 1:2	plus injury	3-fly (cf) B
lo(ss) 1:20	3-strikeout	4-strikeout		lo(ss) 3:20	3-strikeout	4-strikeout
3-strikeout	4-strikeout	5-WALK		3-strikeout	4-strikeout	5-WALK
4-WALK	◆5-fly (lf) B †	6-WALK		4-strikeout	◆5-fly (lf) B †	6-WALK
5-HOMERUN	6-WALK	7-WALK		5-HOMERUN	6-DO** 1:4	7-WALK
6-HR 1:7	7-WALK	8-WALK		6-HOMERUN	S/* 5:20	8-WALK
DO 8:20	8-WALK	9-strikeout		7-HR 1	7-strikeout	9-strikeout
7-DO 1:6	9-strikeout	10-strikeout		fly(lf)B 2:20	8-WALK	10-strikeout
fly(cf)B 7:20	10-strikeout	11-strikeout		8-WALK	9-WALK	11-SINGLE (cf)
8-WALK	11-strikeout	◆12-fly (lf) B †		9-WALK	10-TR 1	◆12-fly (lf) B †
◆10-HR 1:17	12-fly (lf) A			◆10-HR 1:17	DO 2:20	
fly(lf)B 18:20				fly(lf)B 18:20	11-SINGLE (lf)	
11-strikeout				11-strikeout	12-SINGLE (cf)	
112-strikeout				112-strikeout		

R BENITO SANTIAGO			stealing-(B)	*2-B/- (15-13)	bunting-C	hit & run-D
c2(3) 67,1-1-14						running 1-14
33% AGAINST LEFT-HAND PITCHER			Power: N	67% AGAINST RIGHT-HAND PITCHER		
1	2	3		1	2	3
2-fly (cf) B †	12-SINGLE (cf)	▽2-foulout (c)		2-gb (3b) A	12-SINGLE**	▽2-foulout (c)
▽3-gb (ss) B	3-HBP	3-gb (3b) A+		3-gb (ss) B	3-strikeout	3-fly (cf) B †
4-strikeout	4-gb (ss) A	4-gb (3b) A		4-fly (cf) B †	4-gb (3b) A	4-gb (3b) A
△5-fly (lf) B †	5-gb (ss) A+	5-TR 1:2		5-fly (lf) B †	5-gb (ss) A	15-SINGLE (cf)
S/* 1:7	6-fly (cf) B †	DO 5:20		6-strikeout	6-gb (ss) A+	6-S/* 1:4
lo(ss) 8:20	7-strikeout	6-SINGLE**		7-strikeout	7-strikeout	lo(ss) 5:20
6-strikeout	8-DOUBLE(cf)	7-SINGLE*		8-HR 1:6	8-SINGLE (lf)	7-strikeout
7-strikeout	9-gb (ss) A	8-DO** 1:10		DO 7:20	9-gb (ss) A	8-SINGLE**
8-HR 1:11	10-gb (3b) A	S/* 11:20		9-DO** 1:4	10-gb (3b) A	9-SINGLE (cf)
DO 12:20	11-fly (rf) B †	10-SINGLE (lf)		S/* 5:20	11-HBP	△10-fly (lf) B †
◆9-HR 1:17	12-lo(3b) max	10-S/* 1:13		10-fly (cf) B †	12-lo(3b) max	S/* 1:9
fly(lf)B 18:20	plus injury	lo(ss) 14:20		▽11-SINGLE*	plus injury	lo(ss) 10:20
10-gb (ss) A		11-gb (3b) A		◆12-HOMERUN		▽11-gb (ss) B
▽11-SINGLE (rf)		12-fly (lf) B †				12-gb (ss) A+
◆12-fly (lf) B †						

STEVE BEDROSIAN			throws RIGHT	e0	±1WR	pitcher-relief(2)●
			hold +1			
58% AGAINST LEFT-HAND BATTER			42% AGAINST RIGHT-HAND BATTER			
4	5	6	4	5	6	
▽2-gb (p) B	2-fly (rf) B	2-WALK	2-gb (1b) C	2-gb (p) B	△2-SINGLE (rf)	
3-FLY (lf) X	▽3-gb (1b) C	3-GB (p) X	3-FLY (lf) X	3-strikeout	S/* 1:8	
4-CATCH-X	4-FLY (cf) X	4-N-HR	4-FLY (lf) X	4-lineout (3b)	lo(ss) 9:20	
5-gb (2b) C	5-strikeout	5-N-HR 1:4	5-fly (cf) B	5-gb (2b) C	2-GB (p) X	
6-strikeout	6-strikeout ●	fly(lf)B 5:20	6-strikeout	6-strikeout ●	4-N-HR 1:7	
7-GB (ss) X	7-GB (2b) X	6-SINGLE (rf)	7-GB (ss) X	7-GB (2b) X	TR 8:20	
8-strikeout	8-strikeout	7-S/* 1:14	8-fly (lf) B	8-strikeout	S/* 1:2	
9-fly (cf) C	9-strikeout	lo(2b) 15:20	9-fly (rf) B	9-fly (cf) C	S/* 3:20	
10-GB (3b) X	◆10-N-HR 1:14	8-WALK	▽10-popout (2b)	10-CATCH-X	6-SINGLE (cf)	
11-FLY (rf) X	fly(rf)B 15:20	9-strikeout ●	11-FLY (rf) X	▽11-SINGLE (lf)	7-S/* 1	
12-gb (p) B ●	▽11-SINGLE (lf)	◆10-fly (rf) B	12-gb (1b) C	◆12-N-HR 1:4	lo(ss) 2:20	
	△12-SINGLE (cf)	11-GB (1b) X		fly(lf)B 5:20	8-strikeout ●	
	S/* 7:8	12-GB (ss) X			9-WALK	
	lo(2b) 9:20				10-GB (3b) X	
					11-GB (1b) X	
					12-GB (ss) X	

(continued on back page)

Bostock to be staged June 25-26

Sanders to again host eighth annual midwest tourney

James Sanders is back on the tournament beat again. In other words, the policeman from Gary, IN, is putting the final touches on plans for the 1988 Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament.

This year's tournament, named in memory of the former major league player who was shot to death (Sanders helped pull Bostock's body out of a car) in Gary, will be the eighth, although the site has been moved from a college campus to a Holiday Inn in Portage, IN.

"The Pavillion and Gigi rooms will be used," says Sanders of the gathering that is planned for the weekend of June 25-26.

"It will again feature advanced and elementary baseball, super advanced hockey and super advanced football (old and modern version). Trophies (compliments of S-O-M) will be awarded to the winners and runners-up of each event.

Starting time is 8 a.m. (CST) on Saturday and the entry fee will be \$18.50.

"Meet fellow gamers from all over the country and experience the pressure of tournament play," adds Sanders, who almost single handedly has organized and conducted the tournament over the years. Occasionally he even plays in the tournament, but that's not likely this summer.

For those seeking additional information, write (include a large SASE) or call:

James Sanders
1068 Van Buren St.
Gary, IN 46402
(1-219-882-2938)

BOSTOCK TOURNAMENT HIGHLIGHTS

A lot of thrilling moments have occurred in tournament play in the seven years, as can be imagined. Among those memorable moments are the following:

- * Rich Newman had a perfect 12-0 record in 1986 mini league play and went on to win the advanced baseball playoffs and world series. He also won the 1985 elementary baseball tournament, thus becoming the first LBMT participant to win more than one event.

- * Frank Luisi won the 1985 tournament and was runner-up the next year.

- * John Patton won the 1983 and '84 tournaments with the '61 New York Yankees (elementary baseball) and thus became the first gamer to repeat as champion in any event.

- * Mike Beeson was on the rolling end as Dave McNally, hurling for the '69 Orioles, no-hit the '06 Chicago Cubs.

- * Kevin Clark won the '87 elementary baseball tourney with the '36 Yankees by winning his last 16 games - the longest success skein in LBMT history.

- * Jan Nalborczyk became the first female LBMT baseball participant in 1987 and guided the '70 Giants to a 6-6 record using the advanced game.

- * Kathy Friederick was the first woman to play in a super advanced football tournament. She won the '84 LBMT with the '70 Detroit Lions.

- * Sanders, trailing 35-14 with two minutes left in the third quarter, stormed back with his beloved '58 Colts to defeat the '71 Cowboys in the '85 super advanced Super Bowl, 42-35.

- * Paul Friederick, Kathy's husband, won back-to-back super advanced football (modern version) championships. He directed the '82 Saints in 1985 and '83 Rams in 1984 to titles, becoming the first LBMT participant to repeat as champion in football.

Readers roll roll

LIKES PERFORATED CARDS

When my new hockey card set arrived, I was very satisfied with the new perforated sheets.

When I remember days gone by when I had to wait for weeks for the game company to send me the missing cards that did not make it on the original shipment, the time spent separating the cards is no big deal.

And once the cards are separated, I find the perforated edges are virtually unnoticed.

PHIL LEDESMA
Hawthorne, CA

ELIMINATING SOME X'S

How about eliminating in the baseball game Flyball (x) readings which result in dropped flyballs which are not a common occurrence in major league baseball?

Instead I think S-O-M should go to a system that could produce throwing errors similar to that used with the catcher's "T" rating.

Also, how about Single (x) readings on the pitcher's card where outfielders can boot base hits? Throwing errors and fielding errors on hits are much more common than dropped flyballs.

SCOTT MIDDLETON
Indian Head Park, IL

PLEASED WITH COMPUTER GAME

I am very pleased with my IBM S-O-M Computer Baseball game. The playing time of a game is now 1/3 of what it used to be (using the board game).

This gives me the opportunity to play many more games. As for the stats, not enough can be said. My stats are now compiled in a micro-fraction of the time it used to take me.

On top of that, in that small amount of time I get all the regular stats plus others that I never even considered when playing the board game.

What I'd like to know in

closing, and being not only a baseball fan, is do the people at S-O-M have any plans for now, or in the future, of introducing computer football? Or even basketball or hockey?

ROBERT MCBRIDE
96 Crest Dr.
Tarrytown, NY

Editor's note: S-O-M has no plans at this time to reproduce any of its other sports games for computer use. But, as we've been saying for years, if the public wants something, write and express your views. The game company is always listening and, in the case of the Review, reading.

GAMES FOR HOSTAGES?

As a sports fan who avidly follows the political scene, I have thought up a way to combine the two.

We live in an age of terrorist kidnappings. Perhaps a fund could be established to provide American hostages with S-O-M games. The highest priority hostage recipients would be S-O-M Review subscribers, of course.

If you are willing to be the custodian of this charity fund, please print an appeal for donations in the Review.

I do not know the names of any Americans currently held hostage.

You may start the hostage S-O-M game fund with the \$7 balance from the bank draft I have enclosed.

JEFF BEJACH
c/o A.K. Shrestha
Pasupati Soap Factory
Lazimpat, Ranibari
Kathmandu, Nepal

Editor's note: If one becomes a hostage, we guess that S-O-M games would be a great way to pass the time - that's provided their captors don't become captivated with the games and seize them for their own use.

SOLITAIRE CHART

What issue of the Review had Frank Kastelic's solitaire defensive chart for the football game?

Could you either reprint the chart or send me the copy of the Review that contained it?

MARK TURSKI
4240 Duke Ct.
Brunswick, OH

Editor's note: The last time Frank Kastelic's chart was reprinted was November, 1979. A very limited supply of that issue is still available at a cost of \$1.

NEW OLD-TIMER TEAMS

Last year I sent in my plea for a Hall of Fame C set along with my nominations for the same. It has been encouraging to see other letters in the "Readers roll 'em" section since then also asking for the HOF C set.

Meanwhile, while we are all waiting for the new past-season sets to come out, I feel there are some teams that should be released as old-timer teams.

The development of these teams would not be that difficult as they would be basic side only and not involve a great deal of research.

I have compiled a list of 12 teams I would like to see released as Old-Timer teams. Not all of them are great teams, or even pennant winners, but all are teams of interest. I tried to choose teams that won't be released in past season fashion in the near future (except the '27 A's).

1. 1916 Red Sox (91-63); 2. 1916 Dodgers (94-60); 3. 1923 Yankees (98-54); 4. 1919 Red Sox (96-44); 5. 1927 A's (91-63); 6. 1941 Red Sox (84-70); 7. 1944 St. Louis Browns (89-65); 8. 1944 Cardinals (105-49); 9. 1940 Tigers (90-64); 10. 1945 Cubs (98-56); 11. 1955 Dodgers (98-55); 12. 1955 Yankees (96-58).

Hopefully we can see these teams and others in the near future.

RODNEY JOHNSON

956 W. Lajolla
Tempe, AZ

Editor's note: According to the game company, no past season or old-timer set of teams will be released this year. But, plans are under way to have the 1962 past-season available in 1989.

HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE?

I've really enjoyed your monthly Review. Please include more information on super-advanced football subjects, such as:

Does S-O-M plan on a computer super-advanced football game? Does it have plans to re-create a game with an astro turf vs. grass conditions; or a clear and sunny day vs. a rainy or snowing conditions; or wind affects?

Does S-O-M plan on coming out with a "home-field" chart? There is a big difference between playing in December in the New York Giants' outdoor stadium, compared to New Orleans' indoor stadium.

And how about a "home-field fan" affect? A quarterback's receivers can't hear the signals in Seattle's dome, or Ray Wersching can only get a missed field goal replayed in Denver's Mile High Stadium.

P.J. Conti
376 Joan Vista
El Sebrante, CA

THREE STRIKES AND YOU'RE OUT

I have been playing S-O-M since 1973. Recently I have held baseball tournaments in the Montreal area and attended the first TBA tournament in Toronto.

Through my tournaments here I've had the pleasure of meeting many more S-O-M fanatics than I imagined possible, even though our Montreal TBA tournament was canceled by John Kreuz on account of lack of support.

Anyway, in one of my tournaments this situation came up: The leadoff batter reached base. Manager Jeff Rosenstein elected to

(continued on page 6)

hit-and-run. The batter missed the pitch and the baserunner stole second base. Jeff then elected to hit-and-run again and once more the batter missed the pitch and the baserunner stole third.

Jeff's next move was to squeeze the runner home. The batter again missed the pitch and the runner was out stealing home. My question is this: does that batter continue to bat, or is he out on three missed pitches?

If anybody out there wants to calculate the odds of this happening, I'd love to hear about it. The stealer was an A and the batter's hit-and-run rating a B and sacrifice an A.

GIL BOURKE

Editor's note: As in real baseball, it's also three strikes and you're out in S-O-M. The batter is out; credit the pitcher with a strikeout.

HOCKEY 'ADJUSTMENTS'

In regards to Robert Winberry's letter in the Nov., 1987 issue of the Review, I agree with some of the points brought up.

Being a member of a play-by-mail hockey league, there are certain adjustments that could be made in the game, like icing, offsides, penalty shots and the like.

But the biggest change would be in the expansion of the hockey cards available. Strat-O-Matic has always been an innovator in the world of games. Why not, as Robert suggests, a set of international teams? In no other sport (except basketball, to an extent) is this possible.

It would be great to match the Soviets against the Oilers. Certainly five or six of these teams would be easier to research than an entire past baseball season.

Or how about the original six NHL teams (using their best Stanley Cup champions)?

I love the baseball game's ability to match different teams from different eras and would like

to see this expanded to include the hockey game. Think about it - another chance for S-O-M to take a bold, new step forward.

Also one little suggestion to the Review: It would be nice if you printed zip codes with other contributors addresses. This would make it easier for other gamers to reply directly to the writers.

CHRIS CHARRON
6411 53rd Ave. Ct.
West Apt. A
Tacoma, WA 98467

Editor's note: If gamers want to be contacted by others, they should include a zip code. But not all contributors to "Readers roll 'em" want a direct response. Many want to express, or vent, their feelings without any hassle from those who may disagree.

BATTING LINEUPS

I have been playing Strat-O-Matic Baseball for over four years and each year the game company perpetually improves the baseball game.

I want to know why it does not include most oftenly used batting lineups for the new seasons as it does for the re-issued seasons?

I also wonder how the stamina for pitchers is determined and also how is the column determined for hitters and pitchers?

MATTHEW PODBER
43 Cohasset Lane
Cherry Hill, NJ

Editor's note: Lack of space on the roster sheet is the No. 1 reason, according to S-O-M, for not listing the most frequently used lineups. The information is available to S-O-M (the computer game has such lineups). For past seasons (when there were less teams) lineups are listed. Now, with the supplementary stealing ratings on the new cards, the stolen bases/caught stealing will be on the roster sheet. As far as pitchers' endurance, S-O-M cannot reveal its formula to the public.

Questions & Answers

Editor's note: Questions pertaining to 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: I received the new football cards and have one major complaint (besides having to tear apart the sheets). Why did S-O-M eliminate the team nicknames from the cards? This cheapens the look of the cards and detracts from an otherwise great product. Is this practice going to be in effect for other card sets in baseball, hockey, etc.? (Bob Johnston, Saginaw, MI)

ANSWER: Yes, the team nicknames have been, or will be, eliminated on all future card sets. The reason is because the professional teams have demanded a royalty be paid to them for use of the nicknames, similar to the royalty paid to the various player associations for use of the players' names. The professional teams and player associations seem to have forgotten that without sports simulation games such as Strat-O-Matic, many fans would not have the knowledge of the real-life sport and players they now possess. Playing S-O-M gives a fan an "inside" look at a team's and a player's strengths and weaknesses. Many "basement" game companies have gone out of business, or taken to court, for failure to pay royalties. S-O-M has always paid the players' associations for using names. But nicknames? S-O-M would rather scratch 'em than pay for that right.

QUESTION: S-O-M said (Sept., 1987 Review) that the reason Jerry Koosman didn't get an asterisk with the 1970 New York Mets is because he didn't meet the criteria of a minimum of 30 starts and minimum of 200 innings. Koosman had 30 games, but had just 29 starts. But the following are examples in which S-O-M didn't follow the criteria in the 1970 set:

Player	G	GS	IP	*	Meets Criteria
Jerry Koosman (NYM)	30	29	212	No	No
Jim Rooker (KC)	38	29	204	Yes	No
Joe Coleman (Wash.)	39	29	219	Yes	No
Bob Johnson (KC)	40	26	214	Yes	No
Chris Short (Phil.)	36	34	199	Yes	No
Alan Foster (LA)	33	33	199	No	No
George Stone (Atl.)	35	30	207	No	Yes
Bill Stoneman (Mont.)	40	30	208	Yes	Yes

Stone and Stoneman both met the criteria, but only Stoneman got an * on the roster sheet, despite pitching more in relief than Stone. Short got an * while Foster didn't. Both pitched 199 innings and had an even 30 starts. According to the criteria, neither should have gotten an * as both missed by one inning. Either both should have received an * or neither. Johnson and Coleman received an *, but neither had 30 starts. (Rodney Johnson, Tempe, AZ)

ANSWER: The 30 starts/200 innings criteria is not set in concrete. It (continued on next page)

Also depends on the number of pitchers that exceed those so-called games started/innings pitched minimums. Koosman, for example, was the second-leading pitcher for the Mets in '70 with 212 innings, although with only 29 starts. But he was 79 innings behind No. 1 Tom Seaver. Three Mets' pitchers, in fact, had between 184-212 innings. S-O-M made only Seaver, as a result, an *. Rooker also didn't meet the starts criteria - but according to the roster sheet he did not have an asterisk. Rooker was also No. 3 on Kansas City as far as innings. Coleman had 29 starts, but he was No. 2 on team in innings, as was Johnson, another who got an * but didn't have 30 starts. Short was one inning short, but was only 20 innings behind the No. 2 Phillies' hurler. Stone, despite meeting both criteria, was only No. 4 on Atlanta in innings pitched. Stoneman, on the other hand, was No. 3 on Montreal, with 77 more innings than No. 4. Stoneman and Stone had almost identical numbers, though. "What effect it has on the team is also important," adds Steve Barkan, a game company spokesman. "It's usually cut and dry. The few exceptions are made by Hal (Richman, S-O-M's creator and owner)."

QUESTION: I have a question regarding the IBM version of the computer baseball game. How many teams can I put on a manual version team disk, or auto version draft team disk? I have put 45 on a manual version thus far and wonder how many more can go on a disk? (Marv Westendorp, Lake Odessa, MI)

ANSWER: The game company says 50 is the maximum.

QUESTION: When is S-O-M planning on coming out with old-timer football teams that are compatible with the new type of NFL cards? When does S-O-M plan on issuing all-time NBA and NHL cards compatible with the current game? And when will the 1962 baseball season be reprinted, and will it and future reprinted seasons contain more extra cards, like the 1986 set does? (Alan Cohen, Arlington, VA)

ANSWER: There are no plans for all-time NFL, NBA and NHL teams or cards at this time. Regarding the 1962 baseball season, it will be reprinted, with advanced features, in the spring of 1989. The number of extra cards, if any, has not been determined as yet by the game company.

QUESTION: Correct me if I missed this, but I don't recall the Review printing any letters about Ken Griffey not receiving a card (with his stats) with the '86 Atlanta Braves. (Phil Ledesma Hawthorne, CA)

ANSWER: Ken Griffey's stats at the bottom of the card are for 292 at-bats, 12 home runs and a .308 batting average, his totals with Atlanta. He also batted .303 with the Yankees in 198 at-bats. S-O-M, in retrospect, said he should have, even though the stats were so close, received two cards.

Checking out the defensive card

Should you penetrate or shoot the jumper in basketball?

By GARY GRABER, Peoria, AZ

To shoot or not to shoot is not the question: it's whether to penetrate or take the jumper that most of us worry about. By noting a few basic features about the defense card and its structure, your knowledge and understanding of Strat-O-Matic Basketball might dramatically improve.

In order to keep things simple, let's assume we are dealing with a typical shooter that has 18 of his 36 shooting column chances (O, P and I) filled with positive results (X, F(2), or X+F(1)).

Imagine that this player is shooting against a typical defender (2-5, 11 O, P and I defense ratings), with a typical shot-blocker (1-10) playing inside defensively. What can we expect, versus the average defense card in the normal mode, to occur in the long run?

Outside, our typical shooter will get positive results .405 of the time. Penetrating, the percentage is .448, while inside it would be up to .462. Note that these percentages are for position shots only; the waters really get muddy when you start considering open shots, rebound shots, dazzlers and where the inside defensive man is located. To keep things simple, we will deal with only the standard position shots for now.

POWER OF 'POSITIVE' SHOOTING

First,, every shooting point above (or below) 18 results in a plus/minus of about 1.5 percent (to be technical, it's actually 1.39%). That is, a player with 20 positive results in a shooting column is two 1.39% 'steps' more likely to roll a successful result when shooting than an 18 shooter.

In other words, a 20 shooter will, other things being equal, roll a positive result 2.78% more often than an 18 shooter.

Interestingly enough, defense ratings are tied into these same 1.39% 'steps.' Each defensive level will give a 2.78% better chance of stopping a shot than the next lower rating (i.e., two 'steps'). So, an 18 shooter versus a 2-5, 11 defender has a 2.78% better chance of getting a successful result than the same shooter versus a 2-4 defender, and so on.

As for blockers, each plus/minus of five in an inside block rating results in a single 'step' difference; a man shooting with a 1-15 blocker inside will connect on 1.39% (one 'step') less than against a 1-10 blocker.

BEST PERCENTAGE SHOT

To determine what is the best percentage shot in any given situation, simply add (or subtract) the 1.39% 'steps' involved to the base percentage for each particular shot. Using this formula, you'll be able to weigh the merits of good defenders and blockers when deciding how to shoot.

For example, let's say you have a shooter who is a 17 outside and 19 penetrating. He is defended by a 2-6, 10 (outside) and 2-4 (penetrating) defender, with a 1-20 blocker to deal with. Using the average of defense cards as our base, our shooter will get a positive result .419 of the time shooting outside (.405 outside base, minus one 'step,' plus two 'steps' for a net change of plus one), while his penetrating percentage would be .406 (.448 penetrating base, plus one 'step,' minus four 'steps').

(continued on next page)

We have not dealt with the natural advantages of driving to the hoop (more fouls, three-point plays), nor with different modes or other complications present in the game. Nevertheless, knowing the basics about the structure of the game system should help you in making wiser choices when it comes to shot selection.

SBA's longest running basketball league **Thirteen years of replays and counting**

Gary Graber, the author of the article dealing with the structure of the defensive card, is a member of the Strat-O-Matic Basketball Association (SBA), which has to be the longest running S-O-M Basketball league in existence.

The SBA has now completed 13 years worth of replays and 39 seasons with the first replay year dating back to the beginning of S-O-M Basketball, in 1974 (based on '73).

"We play the advanced version, still operate under a salary cap system (which has appeared in the Review before) and are mostly (though not entirely) play-by-mail," says Graber.

Every year the SBA puts out a yearbook, replete with voluminous records of teams and individual players (the Shamrocks, for example, hold the record for points, scoring 180 in a single game, 66 in a quarter and also producing the fewest points in a game, 56, and quarter, 9). The Shamrocks have had five different coaches over the span of 35 replay seasons, and obviously with a mixed bag of results.

Another cursory check of the SBA Guide reveals Kareem Abdul-Jabbar is the all-time leading scorer with 13,615 points (27.5) and also the No. 1 rebounder (5,110).

Current members of the SBA are: Graber (Hussars), Kirk Summers (Shamrocks), Doug Falls (Virginia), Paul O'Connor (New England), Brian Nichols (86ers) and Jim Schlapkohl (Copper State), with one team open and operated by the league.

POWER PREVAILS IN 1986-87

The SBA plays a 36-game regular season plus playoffs. The 86ers were the '86-87 champs, compiling a 26-10 record with a lineup geared for the power game.

SBA veterans have described three systems of play - with, of course, much overlapping - and they are: fastbreaking, power and finesse. The two years previous, fastbreaking teams captured honors.

But not the latest season (the SBA is currently embarked on campaign No. 14, featuring Michael Jordan, making his full-season debut) as power won out. The 86ers featured Moses Malone (25-point average and 11.8 free throw attempts per game), Charles Barkley (24.5) and Adrian Dantley (26.0). Barkley led the league with a .609 field goal shooting percentage.

Running the attack was Maurice Cheeks (16.3 points, 8.3 assists), with 'replay artists' Rodney McCray and A.C. Green splitting playing time at the other forward spot. A 13-5 start made it easy for the 86ers.

Magic Johnson of the Hussars was named MVP, however, as he led the league in assists (12.9), averaged 21.8 points and was the best rebounding guard with a 7.6 average.

Larry Bird performed for the Shamrocks - naturally - and led the SBA in scoring for the first time (26.7), free throw shooting (.919)

(continued on next page)

and 3-point field goals (42). He also averaged 9.5 rebounds, 6.6 assists and 2.25 steals.

Other notes gleaned from the SBA Guide:

* 86ers were the only bona fide power team, with Pellets, Copper State, New England and the Hussars mainly fastbreaking (relying on speed/passing game).

* Paul Pressey of Copper State was the unsung star of the league with a 22.1 scoring average and SBA-high 2.42 steals. Pressey was third in assists with 9.4.

* Alton Lister of the same Copper State team led in disqualifications, fouling out 17 times.

* Jabbar, the all-time scoring leader, played the last part of the season with the Shamrocks and averaged 20 points a game. But even a lineup of Bird, Jabbar, Kevin McHale, Walter Davis and Danny Ainge couldn't produce any better than a 19-17 record.

* Pellets had best fastbreak (30.3 points per game) and passing game (30.8 assists). Pellets also featured Akeem Olajuwon (23.3 points, 11.7 rebounds and league-high 2.86 blocks). But his one-man show only produced a 15-21 record.

* Norm Nixon and John Lucas of the Pellets, the "Dazzle Boys," averaged 16 assists each game.

* Shamrocks, featuring Bird, Ainge and Kyle Macy, swished the most 3-pointers (118/284).

SBA PLAYING RULES

Here are the basic rules used by the SBA:

- In all play-by-mail games, the home and visitor sides of the action deck are reversed. That is, the home team's results are read from the visitor's side of the card and vice versa.
- Injuries are not used. Players who have been issued a card and who averaged 19 minutes or less must rest 24 minutes per game. These players are called "supplemental players" and should not be confused with the supplemental set of extra player cards issued by S-O-M, which are not used.
- Shoot all F(1) results; there are no penalty or bonus situations.
- Press defense: While in the press defense, all F(1) results are considered F(2) results. A team may employ the press defense anytime in the game when trailing by more than 10 points and anytime in the fourth quarter, but never more than 12 minutes in any single match.
- Shooting limits: Once a player comes within four field goal attempts (FGA) of his FGA per 48 minutes rating, his shooting rating drops to zero. And he may not be selected for "pass to choice" cards, though he may continue to shoot normally when specifically directed to by the deck. Round off to the nearest whole number when determining when a player's rating is affected by this rule, rounding .5 up.
- Three-point field goal limits: Each player may attempt two 3-point field goals per game in the regular way (unless allowed more: if S-O-M says he may attempt two, then he may attempt three; three, then he may attempt four, etc.). A player may attempt more 3-pointers than his limit, but on these tries he must observe the following penalty: his 3-point rating on his own card is reduced to zero (it's only possible to score off the defense card).
- Defense cards: Only the "normal" defense card is allowed; no "sag" or "close" options are permitted.
- "Conditional Hatchet" defense (double-teaming): Up to one player may have this defense applied to him at any one time. The defensive coach decides if he wants to double-team ("hatchet") a player; if so,

(continued on next page)

	<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Scoring</u>	<u>Rebounding</u>	
86ers	26	10	-	Bird SHAM 26.7	Malone 86 12.6
Hussars	23	13	3	Moncrief CS 26.1	Barkley 86 11.9
Copper State	20	16	6	Dantley 86 26.0	Olajuwon PELL 11.1
Shamrocks	19	17	7	M.Malone 86 25.3	B.Williams NE 10.0
Pellets	15	21	11		
Virginia	12	24	14	<u>Assists</u>	<u>Field Goal%</u>
New England	11	25	15	M.Johnson 12.9	Barkley 86 .609
			Thomas NE 10.2	Worthy HUSS .600	
			Pressey CS 9.4	Lister CS .582	
			Nixon PELL 8.4	Sparrow NE .578	
<u>Steals</u>				<u>Free Throw%</u>	
Pressey CS 2.42				Bird SHAM .919	
Cheeks 86 2.39	<u>Blocks</u>			M.Johnson HUSS .900	
Barkley 86 2.39	Olajuwon PELL 2.86			Moncrief CS .876	
Thomas NE 2.25	Rollins NE 2.33			Sikma VIRG .874	
Bird SHAM 2.25	Sampson PELL 1.86				
	Ewing CS 1.81				
<u>3-Point FG</u>					
Bird SHAM 42/101	Grunfeld SHAM 26/55				
Nixon PELL 27/84	McGee CS 24/63				

Super-advanced options can be used

BY RICHARD RONZONE, Joliet, IL

I have been playing Strat-O-Matic Hockey for eight years and using these simple, but effective rules, allows me to use all the options available in super-advanced play when there's no one to play face-to-face against.

And there's no need for additional dice rolls and it is random enough, in regard to intimidations, to bring some uncertainty to that situation.

I've played over 5,000 games to date.

PENETRATION ATTEMPTS: Players breakaway/penetration is 3 or 4, always attempt inside shot. 1 or 2 rating, outside shot.

INTIMIDATION ATTEMPTS: I utilize a single die reading, even or odd possible. Even die reading - go for intimidation; odd die reading - resolve play as indicated.

PASSING ATTEMPTS/SH SKATING ATTEMPTS: Create passing cards. I use three. Mark them as above, then shuffle them into action deck.

PRESSURE OFFENSE (automatic): Forward line has 2 or 3 players rated 4 offense.

Advertisements

Rates per issue are as follows: 25 words or less - \$1.00; 26-50 words - \$2.00; 51-75 words - \$3.00; 76-100 words - \$4.00. When sending in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR TRADE, LEAGUE FORMING, or CONTEST. 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. 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: 1962, 1963, 1965, 1971 and 1973 baseball seasons, in reasonably fair condition. Complete sets with extras (when available) and original roster sheets only. Mack Smith, P.O. Box 128, 200 East Pottawatomie, Silver Lake, KS 66539-0128 or call 913-582-4353.

WANTED: 1975 Jets and Giants; 1968 Mets and Yankees (both with extras and two-sided reprinted teams only); 1971 Mets and Yankees (two-sided, both with extras); 1965 Reds, Cubs, Braves, Astros, Phillies, Cardinals. Contact: Alan Cohen, 5907 North 5th Road, Arlington, VA 22203

WANTED: 1967-1976 football teams. I need complete seasons for these years. Send price and condition to: John Lee, 4412 Ellysee Way, Pensacola, FL 32505. Seasons don't need to be in mint condition, just playable.

WANTED: 1972, 1974 Orioles; 1971, 1973 Pirates; 1971, 1973 Mets; 1971-1975 A's; 1972-1976 Reds; 1974--1976 Phillies; 1971-1976 Dodgers; 1971-1976 Yankees; 1975 Red Sox; 1971 Giants; 1972, 1976 Tigers; 1972 White Sox; 1974 Pirates; 1972 Phillies. I may also be interested in buying complete season sets, 1971-1976. Please write or call with offer: Sean Bramble, 3301 St. Paul St., Apt. 502, Baltimore, MD 21218 (301-889-0318)

WANTED: Baseball - Advanced

version only - 1961 Yankees; 1968 Tigers; 1969 Mets; 1970 Orioles; 1979 Reds; 1976 Reds; 1982 Cardinals; 1985 Royals. Call or write to: Kraig Beverly, 832 Century St., Hampstead, MO 21074 (301-239-6855)

WANTED: Football - 1974 Dolphins, Bills, Oilers, Bengals, Browns, Packers, Lions, Broncos. Complete 1977 season, minus the Steelers. Send reasonable offers to: Jeff Wilson, 1929 Coronado Drive, Riviera, AZ 86442 (home phone: 758-4584)

WANTED: Player(s) needed to play games for established PEM league. Due to ownership problems the following seasons are incomplete: 1981 National League, 1984 National League (second half) and 1985 National League. You must have complete card sets (A.L. and N.L.) for years in question. Schedule and rosters provided with suggested lineups. Stats will be compiled for you and a newsletter made up. All you have to do is play the games. For complete information, write to: IBA, 18 Cottage Place, Trenton, NJ 08618 or call Bob at 609-392-0710.

WANTED: Baseball - 1982 Milwaukee St. Louis, California, Atlanta. Extras should be included. James I. Marshall, 202 Bartram Lane, Ocean City, NJ 08226 (1-609-398-6924, or 9 to 3 p.m. 1-800-345-7863.

WANTED: Football - 1982, 1983 complete seasons. 1981 Bengals (continued)

new version. Baseball - 1978 Red Sox; 1983 Blue Jays; 1984 Cubs. Please no cards that are written on. Send me your bid prices airmail. Include the weight of the teams as I will want them sent to me airmail. I believe the overseas airmail rate is \$7.35. We are probably talking about at least \$50 for postage. Please allow at least five weeks from when you send me your bid before expecting a reply. All letters received will be replied to. Jeff Bejach, c/o A.K. Shrestha, Pasupati Soap Factory, Lazimpat, Ranibari, Kathmandu, Nepal.

WANTED: Cardinal baseball teams. Any year, minimum good condition, must include extras. Provide complete description, prices, SASE to: Rick Lepley, 4204 Burnham, Portsmouth, VA 23703

WANTED: 1980 or 1982 baseball seasons. You set a price. Write: Nic Kolding, 18 Tubbs Spring Drive, Weston, CT 06883, or call 203-227-4466.

For Sale

FOR SALE: S-O-M card sets. All sets mint and \$20 each with postage paid. Football - 1982. Hockey - 1977-78, 1978-79, 1979-80, 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85. Basketball - 1974-75, 1976-77, 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83. First come basis. Gary Wnek, P.O. Box 132, Cromwell, CT 06416 (203-346-6328)

FOR SALE: Over 300 individual S-O-M baseball teams from 1930-1986. Over 12,000 assorted baseball cards from 1930-1986. Over 2000 baseball extras from 1969-1986, all inventoried on an IBM PC. Send a SASE with 39 cents postage for my large teams list and/or send your list of assorted cards you need to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen, Philadelphia, PA 19111 (215-745-5247). Complete inventory printouts are available for \$1 per team.

FOR SALE: Unbreakable 20-sided dice in red, white, blue, black, yellow, green, orange, purple, brown. Choose numbering from 1-20 or 0-9. Also 6-sided dice available. Only \$2 each, postage included. Specials: three for \$5 or seven for \$10. David de la Fuente, 56 Oakdale Ave., Apt. 2, Akron, OH 44302

FOR SALE: Football -1970 fair to good (\$70); 1971 good (\$60); 1972 excellent, some writing (\$50); 1973 mint (\$40). Will sell as complete years only - buy all four for \$180. Baseball - 1982 season, no extra players, mint (\$20). Basketball - 1972-1973, first year of issue, mint (\$50). Buy all six sets for \$240 and get 1927 Yankees, 1962 San Francisco Giants, 1972 Oakland A's and 1961 Detroit Tigers free. I will pay postage. Joe Grills, 149 Canal St., Westerly, RI 02891

FOR SALE: Baseball (original sets) - 1967, 1969-1976. Football - 1967-1976. Most sets complete, many duplicate teams. Basketball - many complete sets, 1970s. Hockey - some complete sets, late 1970s, most teams excellent to mint condition. Send SASE for list of available teams to: Steve Forester, 7441 Windsor Woods, Apt. 2-D, Canton, MI 48187

FOR SALE: Have your league forms and strategy sheets typeset for copying. Desktop Publishing makes it all possible. \$4 for first page, \$2 for second page and \$1 for each additional page. Send SASE for sample, or your rough draft, to: Joe Hornback, D.C., 4707 East McDowell Road #1179, Phoenix, AZ 85008

FOR SALE: Hockey teams - all excellent condition, 1978-79, 1979-80 NHL teams only with extras, 1980-81 with extras. Football - in excellent condition, 1976 Cowboys, Steelers; 1977 Broncos, Jets, Giants, Seahawks, Rams. Baseball - good condition, 1969 Twins, Royals, Red Sox,

Cubs; 1973 A's, Reds, Dodgers, Mets, Orioles, very good condition. 1977 American League; 1985 National League with extras. Looking to sell or trade; will sell as sets (preferred) or individually. Send bids to: Steve Pyatt, 2667 Shirley Lane, Bellmore, NY 11710

FOR SALE: Accuracy - at last, easy-to-use systems to improve S-O-M hit-and-run and Catcher's Card. Both systems add realism and strategy without increasing play time. Hit-and-run uses results directly from player cards, giving each player truly individual H&R ability. Catcher's Card incorporates individual wild pitch ratings for pitchers, passed ball ratings for catchers. Statistically accurate for all '87 pitchers and catchers. Works equally well playing stock teams or draft leagues. Just \$3 for each system, \$5 for both. Check or money order to: Glenn Guzzo, 317-21 N. Broad St. #835, Philadelphia, PA 19107

FOR SALE: New college football supplement. Includes 1986 season schedule, standings, game scores, bowl game results and final top 20 ratings. Also included to help your replay are special numerical ratings for 96 teams that enable you to get realistic game scores instantly. Send \$3.50 to: Mike Keeley, 2524 Stillwater Road, Maplewood, MN 55119

FOR SALE: Defensive ratings comparison chart. Is a 3 e12 at first base better than a 4 e4? This chart allows you to easily compare defensive ratings such as these. Good year after year. Only \$3. By the way, a 4 e4 is better than a 3 e12. Rohn Morin, 2510 Hotel Road, Auburn, ME 04210

FOR SALE: Improve the realism and detail of S-O-M Baseball with my super-advanced rules, which preserve the game's speed of play and fun. Included are easily memorized rules for more realistic base advances on hits, outs and

errors; outfield throwing errors and misplayed hits; trail runners 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 fielding ability and the runner's speed play a part; hit-and-run system that also takes into account the pitcher's abilities and characteristics, fielding and the 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. Over 200 satisfied customers. \$8, with money-back guarantee. Richard Robb, #305-7100 Gilbert Road, Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5C3

FOR SALE: Baseball complete sets with extras: 1930, 1950, 1956, 1961, 1969 (reprint) and 1970 (reprint). Excellent condition. 36 reduced-size teams, Hall of Famers and 42 old-timer teams. \$50 plus \$5 postage buys all. Leon Majer, 2313 S. Walnut #90, Stillwater, OK 74074 (405-743-0172)

FOR SALE: Baseball seasons, 1980, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1986. Football season, 1982. Send best offer and SASE to: Kevin Hickey, 209 Holiday Road #319, Coralville, IA 52241 (319-351-9078)

FOR SALE: Complete football sets from 1972-82. Individual teams from 1967 to 1978. Hockey sets 1977-78 to '79-80. 1979 baseball set. 1976 college football set. Great college football teams set. All in excellent to mint condition. Will accept best offer. Robert Kondracki, 237 N. 6th Street, Reading, PA 19601

FOR SALE: Fanatics - Make your season more realistic with Baseball Replay '87. Exact day-to-day 1987 schedules and actual starting pitchers; comprehensive list (continued)

of roster changes (not just trades, but disabled players and minor-league callups); plus a unique lineup guide to assure realistic player use. Ideal for playing one team's season or a whole league. More than 100 hours of research at your fingertips for only \$6 for A.L. or N.L., \$10 for all 26 teams. Also available: Baseball Replay '68, Baseball Replay '61, Baseball Replay '86 and Baseball Replay '85 - \$10 each (roster changes for '61 and '68 are trades only). Order now and have your replay ready when the new cards arrive. Check or money order to: Glenn Guzzo, 317-21 N. Broad St. #835, Philadelphia, PA 19107

FOR SALE: 1971 football league - 26 teams, 16 cards each, excellent to mint condition. 1973 baseball league - 24 teams, 24 players, fair to mint; 1976 baseball league - 24 teams, 20 players, excellent to mint. Call 201-764-1485, or write Peter Williams, P.O. Box 849, Highland Lakes, NJ 07422. Best offer will be accepted.

FOR SALE: Football teams - 1967 (\$6 each) Giants, Colts, Rams; 1968 Jets (\$8), Raiders (\$7), Dolphins (\$6); 1969 (\$6 each) Chiefs, Jets, Rams; 1970 (\$5 each/\$45 set) Cowboys, Dolphins, Giants, Redskins, Saints, Falcons, Bengals, Browns, Bills, Steelers, Patriots, Eagles, Oilers, Broncos, Cardinals; 1971 complete season (good condition), best offer; 1972 (\$6) Steelers; 1976 (\$5 each), Colts, Redskins; 1978 (\$4 each/\$25 set) Steelers, Cowboys, Patriots, Rams, Giants, Dolphins, Oilers, Seahawks, Chiefs, Eagles; 1981 (\$3.50 each) 49ers, Bengals, Cowboys, Giants, Chargers, Colts. I pay postage. Stewart Kelly, R.R. 4, Box 350, Minot, ND 58701 (701-839-7726)

FOR SALE: 1988 edition card analysis for super advanced baseball. Includes OBP, power percentages and diamond chances for both batters and pitchers. Also, gBA and clutch hitting percentages for batters. All this plus additional

card information condensed into a quick-reference format. Great for drafting or setting up lineups against certain pitchers. Improves chance of winning. I'm an 11-year gamer with a bachelor's degree in math. I've enjoyed many World Series appearances using this analysis. Many satisfied customers. Only \$7. Why not get the edge this season? Rohn Morin, 2510 Hotel Road, Auburn, ME 04210

FOR SALE: Baseball - full sets for 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 seasons, including extras, rosters, stealing charts. Light use; some pencil marks. Bid by season or full package. Roger Johnson, 9509 Horton Avenue, Urbandale, IA 50322

FOR SALE: Complete advanced game ratings for all 1987 real-season player cards (latest set of cards). Available two months after I receive cards. These ratings were instrumental in my second-place TBA finish in Kansas City and have led me to many PBM championships. I factor in HR, 3B, 2B, 1B, BB, gb(a), steal and running ratings, N or W ratings, defensive position and defensive skill including throwing arm. Each player receives an on-base, slugging, total offense and overall rating against both righties and lefties. 1961, 1969, 1984, 1985 and 1986 season ratings also available. For your easy-to-read printout, send \$8 per season to: Paul Patrick, 3 Shenandoah, Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2353)

FOR SALE: Baseball clearance sale. Over 200 teams must go, and all are reasonably priced. Teams include old-timer teams, teams from 1930, 1950, 1956, 1961, 1969, 1970, 1975 Reds, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1985, 1986 and 32 mini teams (for \$10). Prices range from 50 cents (old-timer and one-sided teams) to \$2.50 (with one exception). You pay postage. All letters answered if you send SASE. Stewart Kelly, (continued)

R.R. 4, Box 350, Minot, ND
58701 (701-839-7726)

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1984 w/x \$20; 1985 w/x \$15; 1986 w/x \$15; 1980-82-83 A.L. w/x \$10 each; 42 old-timer teams, \$15; 1956, 1961, 1969, \$10 each. All of above, \$100. S-O-M Review, 56 assorted, 1979-86, \$20. Basketball - 1984-85 complete, \$10; 1985-86 Detroit, Atlanta, Los Angeles Lakers, Milwaukee, Dallas, Boston, Houston, Philadelphia, Denver, \$5. Please call before ordering. Mark Fishell, P.O. Box 157, Lima, NY 14485 (phone: 716-582-1176 after 6).

FOR SALE: Tired of counting ratings? I have a program that will read the computer team disks and compute all advanced game ratings (excluding ball park). Computes all the basic stats (SI, DO, TR, HR, BB, HP) plus total hits, on-base, GB, GB(a), FB, SO, LO/PO and clutch hitting in seconds. Handles ratings for lefties and righties. Reports all miscellaneous players ratings (running, stealing, fielding, etc.) and even computes advanced stealing percentages. Send the output to screen, printer, or disk (great for spreadsheets). Do individual teams (screen, printer, or disk) or entire league (disk only). Works on any season disk. Can use against automatic drafted leagues/teams. On-line help. Color displays. Available only for the IBM. Package includes set of 1-2-3 skelton spreadsheets to handle disk output files. Price: \$10 (includes shipping and handling). Send to: Jim Murphy, 3057 Cheryllyn Lane, Anaheim, CA 92804

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: The WCBA, a PBM baseball league now finishing its second season, has had several managers go on strike. Those managers have been locked out and will not be invited back. We are looking for experienced gamers, 21 or older, who are willing to

cross the picket line. We are considering expansion, so let me know if you prefer an existing or expansion team. This is a draft league, using all of the cards in both leagues. Write or call: Mark Panagos, 3602 Livorno Ct., Chino, CA 91709 (714-597-5844 or 213-942-5044)

LEAGUE FORMING: American Texas League. Head-to-head Houston draft baseball league looking for qualified and interested managers. We play February to October every other Tuesday night at rotating homes. Age of current managers is 25-37. We are currently in seventh season. Seven of eight teams have made playoffs in the past. We have three teams make the playoffs yearly. If interested and knowledgeable about baseball, call us. If you don't know baseball well, you will get beat like a drum. We have a lot of fun with regular in-depth computerized stat reports. If you want the best and have the time and interest, call me today: John Blomstrom (855-4735)

LEAGUE FORMING: New managers needed for an established 15-team play-by-mail league. Super-advanced rules, 144-game schedule and ability to turn around a franchise in one season are some features of the MSBL. For information, write or call: Darren Becker, 10 Jonlyn Lane, Collegeville, PA 19426 (215-489-2639)

LEAGUE FORMING: Players wanted - Serious Strat-O-Matic players are needed for a face-to-face baseball league in north/central New Jersey. Our league, entering its fifth season, needs to replace two managers. If interested, please call: Bill Clark, 201-297-6131, after 7:30 p.m.

LEAGUE FORMING: Two reliable owners needed immediately for established PBM league. We will finish the 1985-based National League before playing the 1986-based American League with the new
(continued)

cards. We play 162 games with advanced rules and modifications (including unique rotation chart). Illustrated "Norting Spews" newsletter and super end of year year-book. We even keep your stats for you. Write: Bob Dormer, 18 Cottage Place, Trenton, NJ 08618

LEAGUE FORMING: Experienced adult players wanted for face-to-face, super-advanced football league in the Boston area. The league will use 1986 cards and whole teams will be picked in order determined by lottery. This is a brand new league, so if you are willing to help begin an institution please write to: Sem Aykanian, 74 Main Street, Marlborough, MA 01752

LEAGUE FORMING: The South Shore Stratosaurus Baseball League, a face-to-face draft league, is seeking new managers. For information, call or write: Joe Trudeau (617-826-6906), P.O. Box 77, Hanover, MA 02339

LEAGUE FORMING: N.T.L., an all National League draft beginning 13th season, is a unique combination head-to-head/play-by-mail league looking for one immediate manager and two backups. Must live in one of these cities or close proximity: Austin, TX; St. Louis, MO; Atlanta, GA. Ages of current managers: 24-38. Five of 10 teams have managers with, at least, seven consecutive years in this league. Available team has Guerrero, Billy Hatcher, Tony Pena, Worrell, Welch, Kevin Mitchell and others, as well as second pick in upcoming draft. Convention and draft of new cards will be Feb. 12, so respond quickly to: John Blomstrom, 4931 Whispering Falls, Houston, TX 77084 (713-855-4735)

LEAGUE FORMING: My name is Donald Parkinson and I live in Boston, MA. I am looking for a league to join or members to join a league I would create. I am looking for people with experience and dedication. I have played more than 500 games. Any interested parties

please contact me at 617-742-3568

LEAGUE FORMING: Break up the Colorado Cougars. Fresh off their fourth league championship in the eight-year history of the Mid-Atlantic Table Sports Association our league is looking for a dynasty breaker. Are you the man to build a team over a period of years and ultimately challenge manager Ron Helsel's awesome bunch? If so, write for more information on our very fun, very stable, 10-team continuous N.L. draft league playing from March to September. Ed Grand, 3000-B Woodchase Lane, Marietta, GA 30067

LEAGUE FORMING: I am 44 and a veteran (1968-present) of Strat-O-Matic Baseball. I would like to start a face-to-face National League using the soon-to-arrive 1988 ('87 season) advanced cards. If you have access by car to Route 80 East-West, or Garden State Parkway North-South, I'd like to hear from you. The league will be draft, using all super-advanced rules. First item of business to get eight to 11 managers who would like to get in on ground-floor league. Second step: Select your National League ball park. If interested, call or write: Tom Swank, 11 Kingston Road, Lake Parsippany, NJ 07054 (201-515-0307)

LEAGUE FORMING: Experienced adult players wanted to expand a face-to-face, 10-team, advanced, draft baseball league in Chicagoland western suburbs (Naperville, Aurora area). This will be our fourth season. Draft to be held in early March. Season runs April-October. For information, call: Jim at 231-3057.

LEAGUE FORMING: The ASC Baseball League (see Oct. issue of Review) is looking for a few enthusiastic knowledgeable, reliable and mature hobbyists as managers and backup managers. We're a 24-team draft league entering its 18th
(continued)

season. We play a 162-game schedule using the advanced version with liberal player restrictions and feature a monthly newsletter. We also conduct a unique "second league" to keep our backups involved until they are awarded a team. Take that first step towards a long and rewarding career in one of the most stable and enjoyable leagues around. Write to: Tom Fish, 1275 Date St. #100, San Bernardino, CA 92404

Contests

CONTEST: Attention gamers. The first annual Great Southwest Strat-O-Matic Shootout will be held May 20-22, 1988, in Longview, TX. There will be a baseball tournament played under TBA (Table Baseball Association) rules. There is a good possibility that this tournament will be sanctioned by John Kreuz as an official TBA tournament. There will also be a sports trivia contest, with a possibility of a college football tournament and/or a pro football tournament. Entry fee is only \$10. For more information, write or call: Allen Pliler, Rt. 1 Box 588, Longview, TX 75602 (214-753-3442)

CONTEST: Eighth annual Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament will be held the weekend of June 25-26, 1988, in Portage, IN, at the Holiday Inn in the Pavillion and Gigi rooms. Featuring advanced and elementary baseball, super-advanced hockey and super-advanced football (old and modern versions). Trophies will be awarded to the winners and runners-up of each event. Meet fellow gamers from all over the country and experience the pressure of tournament play. Starting time is 8 a.m. (CST) and the entry fee is \$18.50. For further information, write or call (if writing, please enclose a large SASE): James Sanders, 1068 VanBuren Street, Gary, IN 46402 (1-219-882-2938)

Here's a playing tip, contributed by Dennis Seybold of Greensburg, PA, that revises the longest run on a player's card in football.

"First roll for long gain. Then roll for short gain and add yardage to longest play. The total of the longest play and the short gain cannot exceed the long gain.

Second, if touchdown is rolled on the long gain add long gain to longest play (or add short gain and bonus of 10/or 15 yards to longest play).

Example: long gain is rolled for 55 yards and the runner has a longest run of 35 yards. Short gain is rolled for 15 yards. Add 35 and 15 for a 50-yard run.

On a roll of long gain for a touchdown, the bonus long gain is for 38 yards. Add 35 and 38 for a 73-yard play.

These rules are for kickoff and punt returns also."

Baseball playing tip

Also submitted by Dennis Seybold, this playing tip gives weak hitters ("W") a slim chance for a home run (i.e., Ozzie Smith's playoff homer).

If a weak hitter rolls a HR 1-15 or higher on pitcher's card, pick split number and if a "1" is drawn, it's a home run.

Coming next month...

The March issue of the Review will include a listing, using the new baseball cards, of the best-to-worst at each position in both leagues...the TBA's World Championship, matching S-O-M's best gamers, will be featured...and there will be a look at the new, optional pitchers' holding on ratings...plus 'Readers roll 'em,' Questions and Answers and much more.

S-O-M league, replay scene

NORTH AMERICAN CORRESPONDENCE BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (NACBA) - Year-round league that plays American League from April-September, National from October-March...12-manager league was formed entirely from ad that ran in July-Sept. 1986 issues of Review...162-game schedule...Two replays are now history with the completion of A.L. for '87 (based on '86 real-life season)...Super advanced rules are used and draft is held in May of all new players and "free agents" released by their teams...Founded in Oct., 1986, the NACBA has lost only one manager...Managerial lineup for PEM league includes: Scott Hapner (Findlay Redskins), commissioner and founder of the NACBA; Paul Minor (Philadelphia Phenoms), Bill Krolikowski (Vienna), Reese Fesmire (Erie Hawks), Matt Allen (Clio Tigers), Doug Campbell (Grand Blanc Gamblers), Al Telgenhof (Novi Esquires), Chad O'Kelly (Iowa City Aeros), Jerry Banko (Erie Sailors), Olaf McDavid (New Orleans Ragin' Cajuns), Jim Gramke (Cincinnati Copperers and Dennis Schimmel (Minnesota Generals)...MVP in latest season was George Bell (.328, 38 homers, 127 RBI) of Grand Blanc, with Roger Clemens (23 wins, 2.13 ERA, 228 strikeouts, 19 complete games) voted Cy Young winner...It's interesting to note that Wade Boggs (.356) and Gary Gaetti (45 home runs) had the same exact numbers in the GKSML (Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League) as they did in the NACBA...Gramke's Cincinnati team won the A.L. title, despite having only the fifth-best record in the well balanced league. Grand Blanc and Philadelphia, the teams with the best records, both fell in the semifinals.

Standings, playoffs and leaders:

Standings, players and leaders.								
Eastern	Won-Lost	GB	Central	Won-Lost	GB	Playoffs		
Philadelphia	90	72	-	Grand Blanc	90	72	-	Erie Sailors d.
Vienna	89	73	1	Novi	84	78	6	Vienna, 2-0;
Erie Hawks	78	84	12	Cincinnati	83	79	7	Cincinnati d.
Clio	67	95	23	Findlay	81	81	9	Novi, 2-1.
Western	Won-Lost	GB						Cincinnati d. Erie, 2-1
Iowa City	81	81	-	Batting				Cincinnati d. Grand
Erie Sailors	80	82	1	Boggs VIE	.356			Blanc, 3-1; Iowa City
New Orleans	79	83	2	Matttingly NOV	.335			d. Philadelphia, 3-1.
Minnesota	70	92	11	Tabler ES	.330			Cincinnati d. Iowa City,
				Yount ES	.330			4-3.
				G.Bell GB	.328			
				Fernandez PHI	.328			
Home Runs								
Gaetti MIN	45			R:	R.Henderson IC	134		
Barfield NO	43			2B:	G.Bell GB	56		
Canseco PHI	40			3B:	Sierra VIE	19		
G.Bell GB	38			H:	T.Fernandez PHI	244		
Wins								
Clemens EH	23			SB:	Pettis NO	78		
Blyleven CIN	23			IP:	Blyleven CIN	298		
Key GB	21			SA:	Eichorn CIN	27		
M.Witt NOV	20			SH:	Clemens EH	9		
Boyd NOV	18							
ERA								
Clemens EH	2.13							
Correa NO	3.33							
Candiotti NO	3.43							
M.Witt NOV	3.44							
Strikeouts								
				Langston IC	257	Morris FIND	239	
				Blyleven CIN	244	M.Witt NOV	230	
				Higuera CLIO	242			

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS 1986 REPLAY - Another project of Cardinal superfan Mike Craney, Loogootee, IN, who was greatly disappointed with his favorite baseball team after a 69-93 (79-82 real-life) record...
(continued on next page)

A late-season slump in which the Cards lost seven straight prevented them from matching the real-life record...Replay took eight months... Advanced features were used, with St. Louis suffering bad luck with ballpark home runs: "It was unbelievable how everytime one occurred in St. Louis (1-4 chance) a 1, 2 or 3 was drawn," groaned Craney. Todd Worrell, for example, gave up 13 homers, including eight at Busch Stadium, with six of the ballpark variety (another happened in the Astro-dome)...Batters and pitchers were used realistically...Only highlight was Tim Conroy outdueling Mike Scott at Busch Stadium, allowing only two hits and winning 1-0...Los Angeles was St. Louis's "cousin" with the Cards winning nine of 12. Conversely, Philadelphia and Montreal whipped the Cards 27 times in 36 meetings...Poor hitting was a constant problem with the '86 Cards, just as for real, with Vince Coleman batting only .200. Coleman, the igniter of the offense, did manage to steal 110 bases (107 actual)...As a team the Cards batted .233 (.236 real)... Many of the individual stats were extremely close or exact, including: Terry Pendleton batting .235 (.239 actual), Willie McGee .257 (.256), Ozzie Smith .284 (.280), Pendleton stealing exactly 24 bases, the Cards walking 566 times (568), Rick Horton's 2.21 ERA (2.24), Ray Burris giving up exactly 13 homers and Bob Forsch losing 10 games and allowing 83 earned runs, both exact figures.

ACWORTH FACE-TO-FACE BASEBALL LEAGUE - A replay of the 1983 season was latest venture by this four-member face-to-face league in Georgia.. Most of the managers had three teams, one guided four... Stock teams were used, with no trading... Baltimore and Chicago won in the A.L., just as in real-life, while it was Philadelphia and Atlanta (rather than Los Angeles) winning divisions in the N.L... The Phillies easily disposed of the Braves in the playoffs. But in the A.L., Chicago got a two-out last inning homer from Ron Kittle off Tippy Martinez to tie the final playoff game, with the Chisox going on to victory... In the World Series, however, it was all Philadelphia as it won 4-1... Here is the Acworth league's managerial lineup: Murl McCall - County health department employee; games are played at his home; guided White Sox, Dodgers and Braves. Allen Skinner - Commissioner and stat-keeping wizard, also manager of year; employed by Lockheed; known for turning out overachiever teams; guided Houston, Detroit and Minnesota. Jeff Skinner - Brother of Allen; electrician and most vocal and excitable member of league; also turns out overachiever teams; guided St. Louis, San Francisco and Milwaukee. Bill Hayes - Employed by Cobb Fire Department; main contribution was converting all stats over to computer; guided Baltimore, San Diego, Cubs and Philadelphia.

Standings and leaders:

A.L. East	Won-Lost	GB	A.L. West	Won-Lost	GB	Batting
Baltimore	95 67	-	Chicago	96 66	-	Boggs BOS .389
Detroit	92 70	3	Milwaukee *	89 73	7	Paciorek CHI .350
Boston	73 89	22	Kansas City	71 91	25	Moseby TOR .338
Toronto	70 92	25	Minnesota	62 100	34	Trammell DET .320

* Note Milwaukee was put in West to balance divisions.

<u>N.L. East</u>	<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>N.L. West</u>	<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Batting</u>			
Philadelphia	88	75	-	Atlanta	96	66	-	Horner ATL	.356
St. Louis *	87	76	1	Houston	93	69	3	Madlock PIT	.354
Pittsburgh	75	87	12.5	Los Angeles	91	71	5	YoungbloodSF	.338
Montreal	73	89	14.5	San Francisco	89	73	7	Herr SL	.337
Chicago	51	111	36.5	San Diego	68	94	28		

* Lost one game playoff to Philadelphia.

(continued on next page)

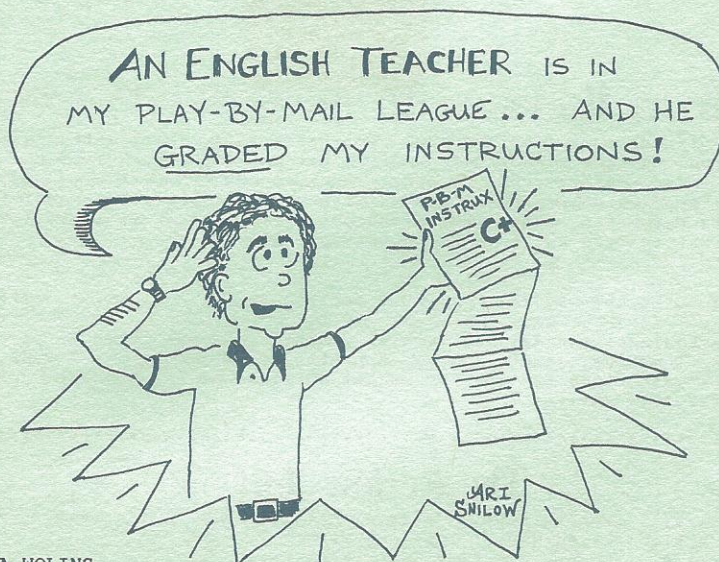
<u>Home Runs</u>		<u>RBI</u>			
Rice BOS	43	Rice BOS	127	R: Whitaker DET	127;
Barfield TOR	39	Cooper MIL	121	Murphy ATL	117
Ripken BAL	38	Ripken BAL	121	H: Boggs BOS	239
Armas BOS	38	Murray BAL	120	McGee SL	227
Brett KC	38			2B: Baines CHI	60
<u>Home Runs</u>		<u>RBI</u>		Lefebvre PHI	49
Schmidt PHI	43	Murphy ATL	131	3B: Fletcher CHI	16
D.Evans SF	43	Dawson MON	116	Wilson KC	16
Murphy ATL	39	Thon HOU	116	Lefebvre PHI	17
YoungbloodSF	39	Guerrero LA	115	SB: Collins TOR	73
				Raines MON	113
<u>Wins</u>		<u>ERA</u>		<u>Strikeouts</u>	
Hoyt CHI	24	Boddicker BAL	2.16	Bannister CHI	277
Boddicker BAL	22	Berenguer DET	2.87	Morris DET	241
Haas MIL	22	Haas MIL	3.07	Berenguer DET	223
Morris DET	20	Dotson CHI	3.22	Boddicker BAL	197
<u>Wins</u>		<u>ERA</u>		<u>Strikeouts</u>	
A.Pena LA	20	Hammaker SF	2.61	Ryan HOU	253
Denny PHI	19	Rogers MON	2.65	Candelaria PIT	215
McMurtry ATL	18	Denny PHI	2.92	McWilliams PIT	211
Ryan HOU	18	Ryan HOU	2.95	Carlton PHI	209
<u>CG:</u> Hoyt CHI 31		<u>SA:</u> Quisenberry KC 22, Barojas CHI 18			
Rogers MON 17		Holland PHI 25, Dipino HOU 22			
Denny PHI 17		<u>W%:</u> Boddicker BAL .733, Haas MIL .733			
HammakerSF17		Bedrosian ATL .750, Lahti SL .750			

STRATO LEAGUE OF TURLOCK - Steadily growing face-to-face baseball league that includes nine managers that live in Turlock, CA, and remainder in nearby towns...Has completed seven 162-game seasons and expanded from 10 teams in 1981 to 16 currently...League runs from March to October...Draft teams, with advanced rules utilized...Six of founding managers are still active...Managerial lineup (and home town if not Turlock): Bill Atwood (A's), 34, electrician, 7th year; John Stuart (Angels), 28, chicken hatchery supervisor, 3rd year; Lee Running (Brewers), 35, personnel manager for manufacturing firm, 4th year; Joel Turner (Indians), 26, manages sandwich shop, 3rd year; Jim Dupre (Red Sox), 27, painter, 7th year, assistant commissioner; Kevin Hochstatter (Royals), 31, Red Bluff, CA, engineering technician, 3rd year; Nolan Miles (White Sox), 40, school teacher, 2nd year; Bryan Manley (Yankees), 36, branch manager Savings & Loan, 6th year; Steve Hellum (Astros), 48, Richmond, CA, salesman for liquor distributor, 2nd year; Ben Hetrick (Braves), 40, accountant, 7th year; Nelson Wilhite (Cardinals), 27, San Leandro, CA, heating and sheet metal salesman, 7th year; John Vercammen (Cubs), 39, bank loan officer, 7th year, commissioner; John Jauregui (Dodgers), 28, partner in paint store, 7th year; Robert Martell (Expos), 31, Hughson, CA, real estate salesman and kiwi farmer, 1st year; Jim Parola (Giants), 39, Oakdale, CA, grain broker, 6th year; Ed Christensen (Mets), 40, Oakdale, CA, city parks and recreation director, 3rd year...Angels edged Cubs in seven-game World Series, with Jesse Barfield's eighth inning single driving in winning run in 2-1 victory in finale. Roger McDowell struck out Eric Davis with the bases loaded in the bottom of eighth to help preserve win...Barfield (Angels) and Kirby Puckett (Giants) were MVPs in their divisions, while Mike Scott (A's) and Mike Krukow (Giants) were Cy Young choices.

Standings, leaders and playoff results:
(continued on next page)

American	Won-Lost	GB	National	Won-Lost	GB	Playoffs
A's	96 66	-	Cubs	96 66	-	Angels d. Yanks, 4-0;
Brewers	95 67	1	Giants	91 71	5	Angels d. Brewers, 4-2;
Angels	94 68	2	Dodgers	90 72	6	Angels d. A's, 4-2;
Yankees	90 72	6	Braves	85 77	11	Cubs d. Giants, 4-0.
Red Sox	86 76	10	Cardinals	84 78	12	
White Sox	70 92	26	Astros	70 92	26	<u>RBI</u>
Royals	68 94	28	Mets	68 94	28	Barfield ANG 119
Indians	65 97	31	Expos	48 114	48	Brooks CARD 117
						Schmidt BREW 113
						Murray A's 111
<u>Batting</u>			<u>Home Runs</u>			
Puckett GIA .339			Barfield ANG 46			R: Raines A's 124
Brooks CARD .319			Ln. Parrish GIA 46			H: Puckett GIA 226
Gwynn A'S .318			Gibson CARD 40			2B: Maldonado IND 53
Mattingly YANK .315			Schmidt BREW 40			3B: Raines A's 17
						SB: Dykstra CUB 55
<u>ERA</u>			<u>Wins</u>			<u>Strikeouts</u>
Scott A's 2.52			Scott A's 25			Ryan A's 340
McGaffigan DOD 2.73			Valenzuela BREW 23			Scott A's 318
DeShales ANG 2.77			Hershiser ANG 22			Clemens AST 276
Krukow GIA 2.77			Krukow GIA 21			Valenzuela BREW 273
			M. Witt RS 21			Gubicza BREW .739 (17-6)
SH: Scott A's 6, Youmans CUB 6						Blyleven IND 49, Hough CARD 49
IP: Scott A's 322						Schrom MET 49
SA: McDowell ANG 32, Henke MET 30						

S-O-M humor



--IRA WOLINS
Philadelphia, PA

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OTSEGO, MI 49078

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Editors: Warren Newell (Otsego, MI); Del Newell (Kalamazoo, MI).
Production: Karen Newell (Otsego, MI).
Printing: Oliver & Tobias (Kalamazoo, MI).
Mailing: The Review is mailed monthly, third-class, from (P.O. Box 27) from Otsego, MI. First-class mailing is available at an additional 22 cents per month cost.

* Note that some areas of the country received the January issue later than normal. First-class mailing was on time, in most cases, but third-class was late in a few areas, primarily because of the holidays. Third-class mailing is unpredictable as far as delivery time, but everyone should have had their January issue long before now.