



## 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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VOL. 14, January, 1984  
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### Three new card sets coming your way

One, two, three isn't the name of a song or a child's first introduction to the world of numbers. Rather, the numbers represent the three new baseball card sets that will be coming your way at the end of this month or the first of February.

Strat-O-Matic, as everyone knows, will be coming out with two past baseball seasons in addition to the regular 1984 (based on 1983 real-life season) card set.

And, if you haven't already received your notification of the new cards' availability, here are the prices that S-O-M will be charging: For the 1984, new card set - \$13.00 for the 26 teams, plus \$3.85 for the additional players. For the 1970 and 1930 seasons - \$13.00 each. Add in \$2.00 for handling for any order over \$20.00.

A lot of money, perhaps, but also a lot of thrills.

Not much is known about the new card set, except that Lou Whitaker and Alan Trammell, Detroit's double play combination at second and shortstop, respectively, both have "1" ratings on defense.

As far as 1970, which will be replete with advanced features and the new fielding ratings ("e" ratings), S-O-M's creator Harold Richman says: "That year had an excellent balance between batting and pitching."

Richman also notes that the '70 St. Louis Cardinals had both Bob Gibson and Steve Carlton on their pitching staff, but yet finished under

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## MVP Contest winner revealed

Congratulations go out to Brian Rice of Muskegon, MI, winner of the Review's Most Valuable Player Contest in baseball. And a tip of the topper also goes out to Rick Richardson, of Delphos, OH, for coming so very close in the MVP Contest.

Rice and Richardson were two of 21 subscribers who selected one of the MVPs correctly - no one got them both - and the two also named three of the four division winners correctly.

The final criteria for breaking deadlocks - percentage of the division winners - was used, and Rice had a narrow-margin victory over Richardson. Both picked Dale Murphy as MVP in the National League. George Brett was Rice's choice in the A.L. and Richardson selected Robin Yount.

On to the next criteria - picking the division winners. Rice and Richardson both tabbed Baltimore (A.L. East), Philadelphia (N.L. East) and Los Angeles (N.L. West), with Rice going with Kansas, Richardson California, in the A.L. West.

So the deadlock continued. As far as percentages, Rice gave Philadelphia a .568 [.556 real-life], Baltimore .623 [.605] and Los Angeles .630 [.562], for a difference of 98 from the actual percentages. Richardson, meanwhile, went .586 with Baltimore, .617 with Philly and .598 with L.A., a difference of 116. That's mighty close!

Rice will receive a new set of the Strat-O-Matic Baseball cards, 1984 edition, later this month, compliments of the Review.

Incidentally, 19 gamers chose Murphy as MVP in the N.L., while only three dared to go with Cal Ripken in the A.L.

A check of the July, 1983 issue reveals that readers thought George Brett [90 votes] would be the American League's MVP and that Andre Dawson and Pedro Guerrero would tie for National League honors, after both received 69 votes.

As far as Dale Murphy, he finished Fifth in the voting with 18 votes and Ripken - well - he was far down the list, collecting three and winding up in a three-way tie for 11th.

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## Review forced to raise prices

Part of the good news this month was the revealing of the MVP Contest winner. And there was also the news that Strat-O-Matic is on schedule as far as its three new sets of baseball cards going on sale to the public.

There's a little bad news this month, however, as the Review, after almost three years of holding the line, has been forced to raise its subscription rates.

In these days of inflation and high unemployment, particularly in the midwest, we feel the fight has been a valiant one. But the time has come to retreat...and raise prices.

Prices for ads will remain unchanged. Most gamers, we feel, have sincerely tried to limit the wordage and keep within the prescribed limitations.

Subscription rates will go up, however, beginning March 1. The new rates will be: 3 months - \$3.00; 6 months - \$4.50; 12 months - \$7.25. The old rates, in case you can't find a recent Review, were \$2.10 for three months, \$3.50 for six and \$6.25 for one year. The cost does not include first-class mailing (available at an extra cost of 20¢ per month).

Again the by far better buy is one year. Cost per issue is 68.7¢ for a year, 75¢ per issue for six months and \$1 per issue for three. The price in Canada also has increased: 3 months - \$3.60; 6 months - \$5.70 and 12 months - \$9.65. Price in Canada, though, does include first-class mailing.

Hopefully this won't discourage current subscribers from renewing and those about to subscribe from making the plunge. Our costs have increased considerably and we've had to pass them along.



## Strat-O-Matic spotlight

### BIRDS' BODDICKER HAS PLAYED S-O-M

Add Mike Boddicker, Baltimore's newest pitching phenomenon, to the growing list of baseball players who have rolled Strat-O-Matic dice.

It seems that Boddicker, who won key games in both the American League playoffs and World Series, played S-O-M as a youngster while growing up in Iowa.

Boddicker's involvement with S-O-M was revealed in an article that appeared in the Dubuque Telegraph Herald, written by John Rezell. The article pertained mainly to Terry Swails, KQUB-TV's meteorologist, a boyhood chum of Boddicker's who had predicted - far better than he predicts the weather, apparently - a big league career for his friend.

"We'd play all sorts of baseball games like Strat-O-Matic, and he [Boddicker] always said he wanted to be a pro baseball player," Swails related. "I did too, but when he said it he really meant it."

So, make that at least three current major leaguers - the others are Dan Quisenberry and Tony Brizzolara - who have either played S-O-M or are still rolling the dice, as is the case with Brizzolara who is a member in good standing of the National Texas League [see December, 1983 Review].

### WHICH TEAM IS THE GREATEST?

That's a question that has been answered in baseball by a multitude of tournaments, most of which were won by the 1927 Yankees and most of which were short in duration.

Rodney Johnson, a full-time student at Arizona State University and a Strat-O-Matic player since 1969, has decided to expand the usual format and play a Super League, replete with qualifying mini-seasons, to determine the greatest of them all.

What Johnson has done is divide all the old-timer teams, grouping them by eras, into eight four or six-team leagues, including one league comprised of modern-day teams.

Only one of each team was in a league (i.e. only one New York Yankee team), which played a 30-game mini schedule. The winners of each league, plus the winner of a second-place teams' tournament, would qualify for the Super League, which would play a full 162-game schedule.

Early qualifiers, after the completion of three leagues, have been the '53 Dodgers, '67 Red Sox and '60 Pirates. The Dodgers and Red Sox each had 19-11 records and the Pirates went 21-9. The expected powerhouse performance of the '61 Yankees turned to dust, however, as the Yanks finished a lowly fourth out of six teams with a 14-16 record.

Standouts for the Pirates were Roberto Clemente (.350, 7 home runs), Bill Mazeroski (.351, 5 home runs) and Bob Friend (5-1, 2.02 ERA). The '67 Red Sox won their last two games from second-place '65 Dodgers to win that title, as George Scott batted .417 with 26 RBI. Sandy Koufax was 5-1 with a 1.76 ERA and 68 strikeouts for the second-place Dodgers.

### SHORT SHAKES

...A tip of the topper to Steve Olson, Dubuque, IA, for sending along the clipping on Mike Boddicker... Len Sakata is far from the most famous of the Baltimore Orioles, but he was the hero of a seven-game series between the 1970 and 1982 Orioles conducted by Rick Goldman, Los Angeles, CA. Sakata hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the eighth to win game five, 2-1, and wound up going 10-for-19 with two roundtrippers and seven RBI. Gary Roenicke slugged three homers for the '82 Birds, including a three-run shot in the ninth inning that decided game seven, 10-7. The first five games, incidentally, were all decided by one run... The Sacramento Strat-O-Matic Association has a 20-coach football league that meets in the McKinley Library for six hours every other Tuesday during the season, according to league member Don Jones... Look for Lefty Grove's card based on the 1930 season to be almost devoid of home run chances. Grove hurled 291 innings that year, and gave up only nine roundtrippers.



# Readers roll 'em

## S-O-M RULES COME FIRST...

In the Nov., 1983 issue the Review reported an apparent conflict between NFL and S-O-M football rules. The incident involved a touchback on a kickoff with 15 seconds left. Should the clock stand still [NFL] or move [S-O-M]?

Without question, the clock moves.

First, and foremost, both coaches were aware of the game rules prior to playing. The rules are clearly spelled out in the instruction booklet. The coaches involved were not playing a NFL football game.

Rather, they were playing a table-top game that simulates NFL action. The game rules take precedence.

In real life, we pay a capital gains tax when selling real estate. Do you pay that same tax in Monopoly? While not an exact analogy, it underscores the point taken.

Secondly, the 15-second intervals on the S-O-M clock do not represent exact movements of time. They may, in fact, range from zero to 29 seconds. They only serve to approximate the time elapsed.

Let's examine the most extreme example. Suppose the Jets kicked a field goal with 15 seconds remaining on the S-O-M clock. This could actually represent only one second remaining. Then the Kansas City back takes the kickoff deep in the end zone, starts to run, then decides to down the ball, not realizing that time had expired.

Is that not a touchback? Yet, the clock advances, under both NFL and S-O-M rules. Clearly the Kansas City coach assumed what happened, preferring to not consider all the possibilities.

This, actually, is the real beauty of S-O-M Football. It accurately simulates real-life action while leaving details to the imagination.

The Kansas City coach should accept the loss as prescribed in the S-O-M rules. Andy deviating

from those rules must be clearly spelled out and agreed to before starting play.

DON SCHENCK  
313 Brook Lane  
Wrightsville, PA

Editor's note: Schenck is a 10-year S-O-M Football veteran...and a "loyal Jets fan." It should be noted that the S-O-M Game Company agrees with reader Schenck in that when game rules and NFL rules are in conflict - and hopefully that will happen rarely - that S-O-M rules have precedence.

## SLOW AND EASY...

Good for you, Ken Kalfus, in your November letter noting your 90-minute games.

I, too, prefer a slow and easy game of tabletop baseball, whether it be PBM or face-to-face. I guess I realize you can go nine innings in 15-30 minutes, but I'd rather not, thank you.

I'd rather take the time to let the imagination roam over the diamond even as the players do, and relish those moments of high drama and crisis as the dice reveal them.

If I have to be in a race to rack up stats as fast as can possibly be done, I'd rather play the tortoise, not the hare.

To be truthful, it's the "too-much-too-fast" pace that has discouraged me in the past from PBM play but, like you, I'd enjoy future articles on PBM baseball and how others view it.

Perhaps what makes baseball the marvelous sport/game that it is, is the very thing that makes it so difficult to play via the mails: all the variables in all the potential situations, the intangibles and the myriad unpredictables.

That's baseball - and ain't it grand?

JACK KETTLES  
St. Paul, MN

## ROSTERS NEED TO BE ENLARGED

Since Strat-O-Matic has changed its football game, the roster makeup should come next.

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The present setup of three wide receivers, four running backs and two tight ends can no longer do justice to certain teams offensively.

Certain teams will require more or less men in certain areas. I believe the present nine offensive cards will have to be increased. Too many valuable players have not been given cards in the past and today's wide-open offense requires more personnel than these nine.

The problem will only get worse looking at present offensive trends.

D.M. CORRY  
320 Vernon St.  
Gaffney, SC

#### AN AMBITIOUS PROJECT

I am a 29-year-old super-market manager and play S-O-M Baseball in my spare time as a hobby.

I play the best teams in baseball history against one another in eight-team leagues. My rules match teams from the same era against one another using a round-robin, 154-game schedule, as was done in both major leagues until expansion in the early 1960s.

I do not allow teams from the same franchise to play in the same eight-team league and try to place natural rivals, such as World Series opponents, in the same league. This being a very ambitious project, I do not expect to finish until retirement in 30 years.

My joy comes in playing the game and I have had quite a few good performances. I have not experienced a no-hitter, however, since I was a boy playing the game with my brother Phil.

Since I returned to playing the game three years ago, I have played a World Series playoff using 48 of my top teams in a pure chance playoff. The 1927 New York Yankees defeated the 1921 Yankees, 4 games to 1.

Since I started my league play, the closest I have come to a major league record is Cleon Jones' 11 consecutive hits for the 1969 New York Mets which was stopped by Milt Pappas of the 1969 Atlanta Braves. Jones had

four consecutive hits off Pappas before being retired by Milt in the ninth.

I thoroughly enjoy each issue of the Review and wish you continued and greater success.

MICHAEL SEGREST  
630 N. 11th  
Eunice, LA

#### READER THANKS REVIEW

I'd like to personally thank everyone at the Review. The time and effort of this publication has to be enormous.

Even though your love of S-O-M is obvious, the time factor, or more preciously, lack of it, for your personal lives has to be annoying.

On top of that, you take flak from readers, complaints on the games and, most recently, shots at your flyer (greasy kids have to live, too!).

JOHN McTERNAN  
Belleville, IL

Editor's note: Thanks for the kind words.

#### CRITICAL OF HOCKEY CARDS

This was the first time I have ever laughed out loud at an S-O-M card set of any kind. This year's hockey cards were S-O-M's poorest ever effort.

How can Mike Bossy be rated a "4" defensively? This guy doesn't know where his own end zone is. To put him on the same level of the likes of Gainey, Trottier and Middleton is laughable.

Brian Bellows had the second worst plus/minus rating on Minnesota last year (-12); he was rated a "3" defensively. Steve Larnier had the best plus/minus rating on Chicago (+44); he was rated a "2" defensively. I'd like to know how S-O-M figured that one out.

Another in the "oops" department: Gary Lupul of Vancouver (40 games, 18 goals, 10 assists) did not get a card, while Crawford of Vancouver (41 games, 4 goals, 5 assists) did receive a card.

But the biggest travesty was the undeserved poor goalie ratings. Bob Suave had a splendid season (3.45 GAA in 54 games) but was rated a miserable 1-10 goal. That's the same rating Michel Dion received

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while posting a 4.26 average. Almost every goalie should have had a much better rating. Watch the stats for hockey leagues this year: the goals against is going to skyrocket.

If the game company is trying to say that more emphasis will be placed on the team than the goalie, fine.

But a complete redesign of the game would have to accompany such a move. The new game would have to emphasize team defense much more than is presently done.

Please spend a little more time researching the players, S-O-M.

BILL MODELSKI  
15178 Hanfor  
Allen Park, MI

Editor's note: Strat-O-Matic was contacted in regards to Modelski's letter, and a similar letter by Kurt Smeby of Las Vegas, and Steve Barkan of S-O-M has provided the following answers: In regards to Bossy's rating - "He received Selke Award votes and that's significant because the award is for the best defensive forward. Also, the Islanders gave up the fewest goals in the NHL." Brian Bellows - "He was used on a checking line that usually went up against the other teams' No. 1 line." Larmer played on Chicago's No. 1 line and thus the plus-minus rating is somewhat deceiving. "The (S-O-M) rating has to blend in with team defensive ratings," says Barkan. As far as Lupul being left out from the card set, Barkan says that Vancouver would have been too strong if he had been included. "If Lupul was used, especially if used for more than 40 games, Vancouver's performance would have been much better than it should have been. We agonized over that one," admits Barkan. And, as far as goalie ratings, Barkan says: "They are based more on save percentage than goals-against average. Some goalies have to make a lot of saves, and give up more goals as a result, while another goalie may give up fewer goals, because of a better defense, but actually stop a lower percentage of shots."

Regarding research and the amount of work that goes into creating the hockey cards, Barkan notes that he reads the Hockey News from cover to cover, plus newspapers and any other source of hockey information. While reading, Barkan also takes notes (notes for the 1983-84 set of cards ran 80 pages). The awards voting is checked closely, especially those like the Selke. The official stats are not available until late summer, however, according to Barkan, at that is why the hockey cards are so late coming out. "It takes about five weeks, after we have everything, to prepare the cards," says Barkan. "We'd love to get them early - it would make our job a lot easier."

EXTRA, EXTRA

I realize this may be a late response to the October article, but I feel strongly in favor of extra cards. I agree with the idea of adding 113 more players to the baseball card set.

As a play-by-mail manager in my first year with the Michigan Majors, I realize what kind of role these players would play and how important they are.

There is also a great injustice done every year to some teams which don't have enough room for a player with 50 at-bats, but a few teams get players like Brian Harper and Julio Valdez, '83, with less than 30 at-bats.

The article really inspired my thoughts on the subject and I could not help agreeing with every word.

RICHARD MOLINO  
45 Teresa Ave.  
Yonkers, NY

WHERE ARE YOU, GARY LUPUL?

As an avid Vancouver Canuck fan, I can't see why the game company gave Gerry Minor and Tony Tanti cards, rather than giving Gary Lupul one. I watched Lupul play quite a few games for the Fredericton Express last year, prior to his call by the parent club, and believe me he belongs in the NHL.

DON BELL, Fredericton, Can.  
Editor's note: See answer in next column as to why no card for Lupul.



## Football league completes eighth season

The TCFL continues to roll successfully along in its Strat-O-Matic Football endeavors. Remembered for producing standardized defensive cards for play-by-mail gaming, the TCFL has continued to prosper as well as incorporate the latest changes in S-O-M Football.

Eight Super Bowls are history now for the TCFL, which has grown from an actual teams league into a 16-franchise, draft league currently. The TCFL even runs an experimental league in the spring for new members plus trying out new rules or changes in the game, such as the penalty system last spring.

The new penalty system is used by the TCFL, with the penalty cards being drafted, too.

### TCFL LOOKS AT CHANGES

As far as the revised pro football game, Gary Stishan, coach of the Winnipeg Bluebomb and native of Niles, OH, says: "As a whole the TCFL congratulates S-O-M on a fine job with the new football system.

"The Pass Rush system is really different and adds more strategy on defense. As a whole the TCFL has accepted the pass rush system. Unfortunately some coaches didn't understand the concept enough to take advantage of it, like drafting '7' pass blockers or '10' pass rushers.

"The lay out of the Offensive and Defensive cards are okay except the receiving cards should have been printed in the same direction as the other offensive cards. If you hold all the offensive cards in your hand, you have a hard time turning the cards around to read them."

### A LEAGUE 'FIRST'

The latest completed season in the TCFL had a First - with Tim Waltemire's Cincinnati Cobras winning the Super Bowl, marking the second time a Waltemire-coached team had accomplished the feat.

No other TCFL coach had ever won more than one Super Bowl. A First was in the works this time, however, as both Waltemire and his Super Bowl foe, the Yosemite Sams, coached by John Armstrong, had won the big event before.

Cincinnati had won the East division of the three-division TCFL, with a 10-3 record, while Yosemite won the West by a one-game margin with an 8-5 mark.

In the Super Bowl, Cincinnati roared out to a 17-10 halftime lead and, behind MVP Ken Anderson, went on to a 41-24 triumph. Anderson completed 15 of 23 passes for 233 yards and one touchdown, plus he ran for two other scores. Teammate George Rodgers rushed for 96 yards on 19 carries and scored once. For Yosemite, which trailed 34-10 entering the final quarter, Tony Dorsett led all rushers with 170 yards and one TD, although he lost the ball twice via fumbles.

The Cobras' Isaac Curtis was the top receiver with four catches for 124 yards. Jim Zorn was the quarterback of the Sams and he was 13-of-19 passing for 172 yards. He had one TD toss and no interceptions.

### WHO ARE THOSE GUYS?

All of the coaches in the TCFL live in Ohio, most in Niles or Warren. The 14 that participated in the 1982-83 season are all back, plus there are two new coaches in season No. 9.

The coaching roster, in addition to Armstrong's (who lives in Warren) Yosemite Sams and Waltemire's (he also resides in Warren) Cobras, consists of: Mark Stishan, Warren (New York Muggers); Gary Mansell, Cortland (Cortland Invaders); Ed Collins, Warren (Wichita Wombats); Don Babuka, Niles (Niles Nuggets); John Strong, Warren (Front Street); Tim Downs, Warren (Warren Alouettes); Al Aikins, Southington (Canton Bulldogs); Dave Harness, Niles (North Carlisle Panthers); Dick Morgan, Youngstown (Cleveland Browns); Thurmond Henry (Leavittsburg (Leavittsburg River Rats); Dave Sekerak, Niles (West Chester); and Gary Stishan, Niles (Winnipeg

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Bluebomb).

The TCFL turns out a newsletter on a regular basis plus at the end of the season prints up a mammoth yearbook, loaded with results and individual and team statistics.

Here are the standings and leaders for the TCFL's 1982-83 season (remember the TCFL only plays a 13-game regular season):

East	W	L	Central	W	L	West	W	L
Cincinnati	10	3	Cortland	8	5	Yosemite	8	5
New York	9	4	Warren	7	6	Winnipeg	7	6
New Carlisle	7	6	Wichita	7	6	Niles	7	6
Front St.	5	8	Cleveland	5	8	Canton	6	7
Leavittsburg	0	13	West Chester	5	8			

  

Rushing	Att.-Yds.	Avg.	TD	Receiving	No.-Yds.	Avg.	TD
Rodgers CIN	293 1741	5.9	21	Newsome CLE	143 1014	7.0	6
Sims COAT	308 1537	4.9	10	Winslow FRON	100 769	7.6	5
Dorsett YOS	319 1533	4.8	13	Stallworth WICH	95 1748	18.4	14
K.King NC	257 1509	5.8	2	Giles WC	84 895	10.6	3
Muncie FRON	296 1437	4.8	6	Hasselbeck WARR	83 821	9.8	7
Montgomery WICH	276 1422	5.1	9	Ross CIN	70 960	13.7	6

  

Passing	Att.-Comp	Pct.	Yds.	TD-Int	Rating	Playoffs
Anderson CIN	341-211	61.8	2808	14-11	88.20	Winnipeg 26,
Simms COAT	323-171	52.9	2609	20-17	78.57	Wichita 24
Bartkowski NIL	302-145	48.0	2676	23-24	71.29	Warren 34, Niles 26
Zorn YOS	226-121	53.5	1305	8-8	67.81	New York 28,
Fouts FRON	389-201	51.6	2451	17-17	67.75	Winnipeg 23
Nielsen CLEV	412-242	50.7	2049	13-15	67.75	Warren 28, Cortland 21
						Cincinnati 30

  

KD Returns	No.-Yds.	Avg.	Intercept.	No.	
Nelms NY	51	1419	27.8	Cromwell CANT	12

  

Punt Returns	No.-Yds.	Avg.	MVP: George Rodgers	
Brooks NIL	44	663	15.07	Warren 14

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### 1958 Colts are 'best' of the best

## Another football tournament is history

James Sanders, the policeman from Gary, IN, and organizer of the popular Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournaments, plays a pretty fair brand of Strat-O-Matic Football when he's not busy being a good host.

Sanders had a chance to show his expertise in the gridiron game recently in the Third Annual Central Michigan Football League Fall Invitational Tournament held at Edmore, MI.

The tournament field included 11 participants, from four different states, and was double-elimination and played super-advanced. Of course, the new football teams, which are incompatible with all the older sets, were not used.

Jim Perkins of Edmore again organized the tourney and Sanders and his football-playing buddy, Joe Craig, joined in the dice rollin'. Sanders guided the 1958 Colts and Craig the '71 Cowboys.

Motoring in from Missouri were Ron Brammer ('72 Dolphins), Ray Perry ('73 Steelers) and a third gamer - name unknown - ('70 Lions), all from St. Louis.

Gary (Ming the Merciless) Peck came in from Fairfield, OH ('67 Rams), Ken Donnelly from South Bend, IN ('72 Steelers) while Michigan was represented by Perkins and the Bigelow brothers, Randy ('69 Chiefs) and Roger ('80 San Diego), both from Stanton.

The riders from Missouri stopped off in Gary on their northward trek and played in a six-team "warmup tournament," with Sanders' '58 Colts edging Peck's '73 Steelers in the final, 24-16.

Then it was on to Michigan. The tourney got under way at 5 p.m. Saturday at Perkins' home, lasted until 11 that evening, and then resumed Sunday morning at a nearby Township (Day) Firehall.

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Sanders and the '58 Colts were almost unstoppable as, after again edging Peck's '67 L.A. Rams, this time 28-27 in the tourney opener, the Colts won their last three games, including defeating '71 Dallas (27-17) and '72 Miami twice (17-12 and 27-17).

The '72 Dolphins were runnersup, with both defeats inflicted by the '58 Colts. The Dolphins were guided by Ron Brammer. Craig's '71 Cowboys captured third place. Most of the games were close, with '71 Dallas' 35-13 rout of '75 Pittsburgh the most lopsided.

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## James Sanders' 'Top 10'

With the football old-timers now obsolete, as far as Strat-O-Matic's revised pro football game, as well as all past-season card sets, the cry is going to grow louder for more teams from the past.

And while S-O-M is pondering which direction to take as far as 'old-ies,' whether it be teams (the more likely happening) or entire seasons (less likely to occur at this time or near future), James Sanders' top 10 toughest teams list might be worth considering.

Sanders, a veteran of many tournaments and scores of face-to-face encounters, says: "I consider myself halfway qualified to make the following evaluation: (note that Sanders' favorite team, the '58 Baltimore Colts, does not appear on the list)

1. 1973 PITTSBURGH STEELERS - Perhaps best defensive team of the "Steel Curtain" squads. This team has more interception chances on defense than any S-O-M team. This team was always the toughest for me to play against in any crucial game.
2. 1977 DENVER BRONCOS - Very stingy defense, although turnover frequency is not as good as some others. Rick Upchurch is a big threat with his returns, both as a scorer and giving the Broncos good field position.
3. 1971 DALLAS COWBOYS - Great offense with extra dimension of running quarterback (Roger Staubach), plus deep threat in Bob Hayes.
4. 1972 MIAMI DOLPHINS - Perhaps best team on paper. Great defense that causes turnovers and good offense. Garo Yepremian is the most consistent field goal kicker in S-O-M. But don't play for field position or field goal with this team - go for the touchdown!
5. 1975 PITTSBURGH STEELERS - Another with good offense and running quarterback (Terry Bradshaw). Excellent linebackers and overall defense; tough to run against.
6. 1973 MIAMI DOLPHINS - Pass defense is exceptionally good. Not much for forcing fumbles, though. Good balance on offense as far as passing and running.
7. 1972 PITTSBURGH STEELERS - The original "Steel Curtain."
8. 1968 NEW YORK JETS - Joe Namath's passing and an excellent corps of receivers make the Jets an exciting team. Jim Turner's foot helps, too. And defense, seldom noticed, has an excellent rating against the run.
9. 1962 GREEN BAY PACKERS - Great ball-control team with Bart Starr at quarterback and Jim Taylor, Paul Hornung in backfield. Have patience with this team and it will score, plus eat up the clock and frustrate rival teams. Defense can be run against...but does create sacks and turnovers.
10. 1963 CHICAGO BEARS - A surprise choice. But this team does have good receivers, although lacking a top-flight quarterback. Defense is exceptionally tough. This team gets tougher if it is ahead, because over-anxious offenses are more likely to commit a turnover.

Sanders admits that his list left off a lot of good teams, many of them Super Bowl finalists or winners. But these teams represent his cream of the crop from playing Strat-O-Matic and are not necessarily the best teams on paper, or in real-life.

One question to James Sanders? Why not your beloved '58 Colts in the top 10? What an offense!



# 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: Will buy all types of S-O-M cards, i.e. baseball, basketball, football and hockey. Send offers to: Sports Games Association, P.O. Box 60062, Oklahoma City, OK 73103

WANTED: Baseball - 1963 Clendenon; 1964 Law, Gibbon; 1965 C. Boyer, Kubek, S. Miller, Satriano, Davalillo, McDowell, Briggs, Tsitouris, B. Williams, Bolling, H. Aaron, Groat, Francona, Klaus; 1966 Aker, Beckert, R. Allen, Hoerner, Woodeshick, Rose, Koufax, Regan, McCovey, Hart; 1970 Blefary; 1971 Jose Cruz; 1972 H. Pina, L. Allen. Any help in completing my collection will be appreciated. Have older S-O-M baseball cards to trade, or will buy. Tom Meyers, 5 N. Allen Ave., Richmond, VA 23220

WANTED: Football teams - 1967 Raiders, Rams, Colts; 1968 Jets, Cowboys, Browns, Colts, Rams; 1969 Jets, Raiders, Chiefs, Cowboys, Vikings, Rams; 1970 Colts, Bengals, Cowboys, Giants, Lions, Vikings, 49ers; 1971 Colts, Cowboys, Chiefs, Vikings; 1972 Steelers, Browns, Cowboys, Giants, Packers; 1974 Steelers, Raiders; 1975 Colts, Bengals, Raiders, Rams, Cardinals. All teams must be complete and without writing on them. Darrel Sureft, 401 E. Apache Blvd., Tempe, AZ 85281 (602-965-8622)

WANTED: 1968 Football set. Prefer just National, but will settle for National and American. Will pay top dollar and more for the set. Contact: Larry Vieira, 153 Bull Hill Lane S-9, West Haven, CT 06516 (or call collect, 934-1440).

WANTED: Following football teams: 1975, '76, '77 Vikings; '73 Bills; '72 Dolphins; '76 Bucs; '77 Broncos. Baseball teams: 1975, '76, '77 Reds; '77, '78 Yankees. Must be at least playable. Will take first reasonable offers. Send SASE to: Kevin Laster, 7608 Cliffbrook, Dallas, TX 75240

WANTED: Complete baseball sets for 1975, 1976, 1977 (including extra players if possible); extra players for 1972, 1973 and 1974. Send prices and terms to: Steve Gersch, 4131 N. Parkside, Chicago, IL 60634 or call (312-283-3700).

WANTED: 1976, '77, '78, '79 and '80 S-O-M 26-team baseball rosters and additional player rosters. Need them ASAP. Please contact: Billy Awe, 20093 White Cloud Circle, West Linn, OR 97068 (503-657-9217)

WANTED: I want to be part of a draft baseball league in Chicago area: city, northern or western suburbs. Call Bill Krichbaum, 465-4772, 1930 W. Estes, Chicago, IL 60602

## For Sale

FOR SALE: Football fans. Complete and in mint condition, 1974, '75, '76, '77, '78, '79 and 1980 teams. Every team's record and playoff scores included. Must sell. Asking \$15 per season set plus \$3 postage and handling insurance. First come, first served. I will not sell individual teams but I will consider selling separate conferences. Write or call: Jeff Dirgo 44 Center Grove Road Gateways R-5, Randolph, NJ 07869 (201-327-1717). Send SASE.

(continued on next page)



FOR SALE: Football punting strategy is expanded with 1982 season edition punter ratings/statistically derived yardage chart for punting coffin corner kicks. For newly revised S-O-M Pro Football game. No increase in price from last year's advertised edition. Enclose \$1.95. Larry Duisberg, 2712 Tomoka Avenue, Titusville, FL 32780

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

FOR SALE: Join the many S-O-M fanatics who have accepted the challenge. Playbook I can be used solitaire or head-to-head and involves super advanced strategy where managing makes the difference. Play results include pickoffs, rundowns, interference, balks and more. Playbook II gives you advanced hit-and-run, sacrifice/squeeze play, outfield/infield drawn in and injury charts that emphasize speed and defense and give you more options. Now there's hit-and-run homers, misplayed bunts and a wider variety of injuries and realistic results. Professionally type-written playbooks are \$6.00 each, or \$10 for both. Paul Ladewski, 14340 Maple Lane, Midlothian, IL 60445

FOR SALE: Baseball fans. Complete and in very good to excellent condition, 1976, '77, '78, '79 and 1980 baseball teams with additional players. Asking \$15 per season plus \$3 postage and handling and insurance. First come, first served. I will not sell individual teams but I will consider selling separate leagues. Write or call: Jeff Virgo, 44 Center Grove Road Gateways R-5, Randolph, NJ 07869 (201-328-1717). Send SASE.

FOR SALE: Strat-O-Matic, the best game available, is even better with Backgammon-style precision dice. Ideal for gamers who demand the best. \$12 for 3 dice, \$8 pair and 75¢ postage.

Send to: E. Corwin, 828 S. Holt #3, Los Angeles, CA 90035. Specify white, red, green. Initials added free (3 maximum).

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1979 complete with extras, good condition, \$17; 1980 (original "4 column" pitcher cards) complete with extras, excellent condition, \$20; 1981 (strike year) complete set with extras, excellent condition, \$20. Also, 1975 missing Dodgers, Pirates, Mariners and Blue Jays, 20 players per team, fair to good condition, a few cards have marks, all 22 remaining teams \$8, or 50¢ per team. Hockey - 1980-81 season, excellent condition, \$15 complete set. First come, first serve orders. All replies answered. Carson Riley, Route 1, Butlerville, IN 47223 (812-873-6475)

FOR SALE: Football - Complete sets 1972 and 1967. Will sell 1972 complete set for \$70 or offer, and the 1967 set for \$90 or offer, or both sets for \$140. I may sell individual teams for \$5.50 or offer for 1967 and \$4.50 or offer for 1972. Bulk orders will receive priority. All offers will be seriously considered. Call: James Klein, evenings, at 319-354-7296, or write: 1545 Aber Ave. #3, Iowa City, IA 52240

FOR SALE: 1970 Orioles, White Sox; 1971 Brewers, Expos; 1972 Mets; 1980 Red Sox; 1981 American League. 1973 Redskins; '74 Chargers; '76 Bears, Browns, Cowboys, Dolphins, Falcons, Giants, Eagles, Saints, Packers, Lions. 1974-75 basketball, complete. John P. Walsh, 453 Cornell Ave., Pemberton, NJ 08068

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

FOR SALE: Two 2-sided number 5 and 6 pitchers' hitting cards printed on heavy stock paper for those hard hitting pitchers. Furthermore, you will receive a list of all pitchers from old-timer teams and from 1977-present whose ratings should be adjusted. All for \$3.75. A self addressed stamped envelope will speed delivery. Joe D'Aniello, 31-D Brookwood Drive, Rocky Hill, (continued)

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FOR SALE: Football - 1969 Cowboys, Vikings, Chiefs, Browns, Packers, Oilers, Raiders, Rams, Jets, Lions, Colts; 1970 Rams, Vikings, Chiefs, Dolphins, Cardinals, Bengals, Giants, Cowboys, Raiders, 49ers, Colts, Jets, Lions; 1971 Rams, Vikings, Broncos, Packers, Chiefs, Redskins, Dolphins, Colts, 49ers, Cowboys, Raiders, Jets, Steelers, Bengals, Lions; 1972-1977 and 1979-80 all teams. Prefer to sell as set for \$225 (including postage). Also baseball, 1971 Pirates; 1972-73 all teams; 1974 Reds, Twins; 1975 Reds, Twins; 1976 Reds [2], Tigers, A's, Cubs, Indians, Braves, Astros, Orioles, Angels, White Sox, Royals, Giants, Expos, Cardinals, Red Sox, Brewers, Dodgers, Mets, Pirates, Twins; \$65 for set. Basketball - 1972 Hawks, Warriors, Bullets, Lakers, Bulls, Suns, Celtics, Bucks, Knicks; best offer. Hockey - 1978 all teams (best offer). College Football, 1977, all 24 teams (best offer). Mike Olszewski, 7199 144th Ct. W., Apple Valley, MN 55124 or 612-431-6750.

FOR SALE: Football - 1970 Jets, Giants, Cardinals, Saints, Packers, Redskins, Chargers, Bears, Lions, Oilers, Eagles, Broncos, Falcons, Bills, Browns, Steelers, Patriots, Bengals; 1973 Raiders, Redskins, Cowboys, Dolphins, Vikings, Bengals, Steelers. Basketball - 1972-73 Bullets, Lakers, Knicks, Bucks, Celtics. Highest bidder. P.O. Box 128, Chambersburg, PA 17201

FOR SALE: 1966 - Giants, Cubs, Phillies, Mets, Astros, Cards, Pirates, Orioles, Twins, Indians, Yankees, Tigers, Senators, Red Sox (missing 2); good condition. 1967 - full set; good condition. 1968 - Tigers, Red Sox, Orioles, White Sox, Senators, Yankees, Twins, A's, Angels, Dodgers, Phillies, Pirates, Cubs, Reds, Giants. Most cards good, some fair. 1969 - Royals, A's, Orioles, Tigers, Twins, Indians, Senators, Angels, Yankees, White Sox, Mets, Cubs, Pirates, Reds, Cards, Expos, Braves, Padres, Phillies, Dodgers; good condition. 1970 - full set (Baltimore missing 2); very good

condition. 1972 - Red Sox, Dodgers, Royals, Giants, Rangers, White Sox, Padres. Highlights - 1966, Frank Robinson triple crown; 1967, Yaz' triple crown; 1968, McLain's 31 victories (Gibson's card available); 1969, "Miracle Mets"; 1970, powerhouse Reds; 1971, Clemente's last year. \$5 each team. All 125 teams, \$400 or highest bidder. Contact: Joseph Fonte, 124 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, NY 11201

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

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

FOR SALE: 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: Complete baseball sets with extras - 1977, 1979, 1980, 1981. 1978 baseball set without extras. 1982 N.L. only with extras. Hockey - complete sets, 1977-78 [no extras], '78-79 [no extras], '79-80, '80-81, '81-82 all complete with extras. All teams in very good to excellent condition. Sets sold by complete years only - no individual teams sold. Send bids to: Keith Edwards, 6111 Rickwood Drive, Huntsville, AL 35810 (205-859-0869).

FOR SALE: Baseball teams, average to good condition. 1969 Braves, Mets; 1970 Reds, Pirates; 1971 Pirates; 1972 Cubs, Reds, Tigers, Dodgers, Pirates, Yankees; 1973

(continued)



A's; 1974 A's, Dodgers, Pirates, Orioles; 1976 Reds; 1975 complete, no extras; 1977 complete plus extras; 1978 complete plus extras. Send bids to: Mike Bordelon, 5445 Braesvalley, #724, Houston, TX 77096 [713-721-5465]

## For Trade

FOR TRADE: Complete 1981-82 season basketball cards, excellent condition. Want baseball game plus any four different teams of recent seasons in excellent condition. Phil Grabar, P.O. Box 176, Burgess, VA 22432

## League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: The SOMMBL, a PBM league, is looking for managers to take over a few teams and expansion teams. The league is going into its 5th year. For more information, write [SASE please] or call me at: Harold Tellefsen, 4722 Buckingham Dr., Warren, MI 48042 [313-573-4442 Tues., Thurs., Sun. 8-10 p.m.]

LEAGUE FORMING: New advanced, PBM baseball league. Yearly National League replay beginning April, 1984. No trades, no draft; reasonable player limits. Contact: Bill Richardson, 40 Balfour Lane, Willingboro, NJ 08046

LEAGUE FORMING: Tri-City S-O-M, in its fifth season, is expanding. Need 8 experienced managers to play super-advanced rules. Newsletters, stats, team highlights, draft results, yearbooks all delivered free of charge. I pay postage on everything. One of New York's best run and serious leagues, managers should be reliable and honest, cheating is a no-no. Please respond quickly as draft will be held on January 10. All responses will be answered and a profile of each manager in our league as well as entry forms will be sent to you. Interested? Contact: Steve Perry, c/o Tri-City Strato, 18 Paul-Art Lane, Troy, NY 12150. Please respond quickly, this league is free, no unnecessary expenses.

LEAGUE FORMING: A few spots open in the RBI League. We are a PBM league in its second season, using all additional players and advanced rules. Get in now and you can decide which 15 players you want to keep and who you want to draft. 16 teams, 8 A.L., 8 N.L. Rookie draft to take place in December or January, regular draft to follow. We'll start playing right after new cards are out. Drop me a line now or call for faster results: Dave Owens, 13208 Lamplight Village, Austin, TX 78758 (512-255-7174)

LEAGUE FORMING: The New Republic Tabletop Baseball Association is a modified, actual team league with eight American League teams going into its second season. Managers protect 12 players and draft the rest. Play will begin when the 1983-season S-O-M cards are available. Teams without managers include the Brewers, Tigers, Yankees, Blue Jays, and Orioles. Send \$15 deposit and receive constitution/league format. Include S-O-M experience and list of teams you are willing to play. Patrick Almond Curtis, Ph.D., Apt. 2315, 3950 North Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60613

LEAGUE FORMING: PBM basketball draft league forming for serious and experienced players. No dues and you receive weekly newsletters. All inquiries will be answered. Send draft list with top 35 picks to: Jim Lucier, 19419 Scottsdale, Shaker Heights, OH 44122

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for two dependable managers to pick up two good teams in ongoing play-by-mail leagues. If interested, call or write: Charles Pugsley Jr., 25 Hackfeld Road, Worchester, MA 01609 [617-752-1454]

LEAGUE FORMING: Successful PBM football league needs expansion managers and reliable backups. We are proud to say that the Lombardi Football League is a very sound PBM football league looking to expand. PBM football has failed constantly in the past so we developed a better [fair] system which has all games played by neutral managers. We want managers who are willing to give 100 percent at all times. Experience is not required, (continued)



just reliability. Send SASE to: Larry Scotti, 638 Woodrow Road, Staten Island, NY 10312

LEAGUE FORMING: Openings are still available for the creation of the 1984 Tradewater II Summer PBM advanced draft baseball league using the 1983 cards. NL and/or AL positions open. No experience needed, just reliable. Write or call: Dean Monson, 3540 W. 4700 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84118 (801-968-5390)

LEAGUE FORMING: The CGMHL PBM hockey league is looking for managers for its next season, starting in January. It is a 14-team league with three teams that need managers. Backups are also needed for possible expansion. Reply to: Kevin Koban, 2510 Tomlinson Crescent, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada S7L-3N2 (phone: 306-382-1419)

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

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

LEAGUE FORMING: The Strat-O-Matic Computer Baseball League is beginning its second season. We are a PBM league, which plays a 160-game schedule and have honest results. We are in need of six managers for the 1984 season and reserve managers. We are a computer drafted league with a great chance to have your club make the playoffs. If inter-

ested, write: SOMCBL, Drawer - K, Whitman, WV 25652, or phone 304-239-2067 and ask for Don.

LEAGUE FORMING: I would like to start a face-to-face league in the Metro Detroit area. I need 10 managers. I took the best players from different years and put them on the team. Teams taken already are the Yankees, Dodgers, Cardinals, Brewers and Tigers. You can pick one AL team and one NL team. All 26 teams will be used. We can use ourselves in this with unlimited useage. If interested, contact: Greg Bucurestean, 6625 Kirkwood Apt. 2, Detroit, MI 48210 or call at 313-361-3077 after 6 p.m.

LEAGUE FORMING: Forming a face-to-face baseball league in south Jersey area, near Philadelphia. Teams used will be based on 1983 season and statistics. Each player will take one National and one American League team. We would like to form a six-man league, meeting once a week. If interested, write to: Bill Dahms, 308 Blueberry Court, Marlton, NJ 08053 or call 609-983-3340. Serious players 18 or over please.

LEAGUE FORMING: New league forming or current league expanding. Want 8-12 teams for FTF league in Bergen County, NJ, and surrounding area. Will play full season (150+ games) starting in March. Will use advanced rules and modified draft. Special rules to be decided by managers. Serious and dedicated players only. No warm bodies need apply. Contact: Tim Purdy, 127 Grand Ave., Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660 (201-440-1589), or Alan Rowland, 5 E. Fourth St., Moonachie, NJ 07074 (201-939-6348)

LEAGUE FORMING: The United States Indoor Baseball league is about to open its inaugural season and is looking for managers and backup managers. The USIBL is a 12-team league using a 168-game schedule. This is a PBM draft league using players from all 26 teams plus extras with players being retained from year to year. The USIBL will be a well run and organized league with the help of two commissioners that have previous PBM experience. The league will use the advanced version with a few modifications. There will be trading, monthly  
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newsletters and trophies for playoff winners. The USIBL is looking for dependable and responsible managers, no experience necessary. The league will start in April. For more information, contact: Jeff Dangel, 14110 El Dolore Way, Poway, CA 92064 (619-748-6760) or Tony Krause, 3 Edith Ct., Dayton Center, Dayton, NJ 08840 (201-329-3778). All replies answered.

**FOR FREE:** Bob Lopeck, creator and commissioner of the Florida Gold Coast Hockey Association, would like to offer, at no charge, the FGCHA Penalty Chart System for your consideration. After analyzing the 1680 boxscores of the past two NHL seasons, I have been able to derive the most factual penalty combinations and tendencies (including misconducts, bench minors, goalie and multiple-player penalties) and set them down on three easy-to-read charts. The FGCHA Penalty Chart System uses the five S-O-M penalty ratings and is as easy to use as S-O-M's penalty chart (in most cases, only one split card to draw). Over 110 requests for the system last winter, with the FGCHA Penalty Chart System rating an 8.81 (on a scale of 1 to 10 from the questionnaires returned). For those interested, please write to: Bob Lopeck, P.O. Box 380824, Miami, FL 33238-0824.

**Editor's note:** Since the Review is not going to be able to publish Lopeck and the FGCHA's Penalty Chart System, because of lack of space, we are urging all interested gamers to take advantage of his free offer. The charts (there are three) and instructions add up to too much space for the Review to print in their entirety. We appreciate Lopeck sending along a copy of the Penalty Chart System, however, and urge him to continue to send along his innovative ideas regarding all of S-O-M's games.

## T-Shirts are brighter

Strat-O-Matic has made another

change in one of its products. This change has nothing to do with one of the games, however.

Latest change adds some glitter to S-O-M by making the T-shirts a lot brighter.

"They will be a lot more lively," says Harold Richman, creator of the Strat-O-Matic games. "They will be royal blue with maize yellow and red inside."

The cost has been increased only slightly for the new-style T-shirt, with it selling for \$6, plus \$1.25 for handling.

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## Looking for back issues of Review?

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

### 1983

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

### 1982

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

### 1981

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

### 1980

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

### 1979

April, June, August, Sept., Oct., Dec. Cost: 70¢ each.

### 1978

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

### 1977

Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec. Cost: 70¢ each.

### 1976

Nov, Dec. Cost: 70¢ each.

To order, send to: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078. List a second choice for any month(s) marked limited or very limited.



# Hockey playing tips

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The Review will not be able to reprint Bob Lopeck's penalty chart system for Strat-O-Matic Hockey as had been promised. Length of the instructions and the three charts that are necessary for using the system make the printing of it all prohibitive.

There's simply not enough space.

The chart, used by the Florida Gold Coast Hockey Association, of which Lopeck is commissioner and organizer, as well as creator of many invaluable playing tips for most of S-O-M's games, is still available. Anyone desiring a copy - and the accolades are many - can do so by writing: Bob Lopeck, P.O. Box 380824, Miami, FL 33238-0824 (see FOR FREE section of the advertisements this month).

Since the Review is unable to reprint the penalty chart, it would at least like to print a couple of other playing tips used by the FGCHA.

## FGCHA PENETRATION CHART

		<u>Defensive Rating</u>			
		<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
Dice	4	1-8	1-9	1-11	1-14
	3	1-6	1-7	1-9	1-12
Roll	2	1-3	1-5	1-6	1-7
	1	1-2	1-3	1-4	1-5

## Adjustments To Above Chart

- 5 against 5 alignment: Increase by 2
- 5 against 3 alignment: Increase by 4
- 4 against 4 alignment: Increase by 1
- 4 against 3 alignment: Increase by 3
- 3 against 3 alignment: Increase by 2
- 4 against 5 alignment: Decrease by 4
- 3 against 5 alignment: Decrease by 5
- 3 against 4 alignment: Decrease by 3

## Other Rules

1. No adjusted penetration rating will be allowed to fall below 1-1.
2. If the center wishes to penetrate, and he has no opponent, take the average of the two defensemen's DEFENSE RATINGS (as the defensive rating to be used in that situation).
3. If the left wing (or right wing) wishes to penetrate, and he has no opponent, take the DEFENSE RATING of the other team's RD (or LD for the right wing). Subtract 1 from that rating before using the above chart.

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## Guest columnist

## Frankfort takes look at S-O-M Hockey

Editor's note: The following guest columnist is a 39-year-old "house-husband" who lives with his wife in Gillette, WY. He plays S-O-M Hockey, football and baseball (occasionally his wife has played baseball), mostly solitaire. He currently has numerous replays going ("The 1971 football replay has only two more weeks left to the season - and has for the past 10 years!"). All of his replay projects, to be completed, would mean Frankfort would have to be allowed "an extra 622 years on this planet." He's worked, along with his wife who currently is a school librarian/media specialist, as National Park Rangers in the Black Hills of South Dakota for the past 16 summers and has also taught geology at the college

[continued on next page]



level, for many years in the City University System of New York. Some of his questions about S-O-M Hockey, he admits, have been answered by Harold Coleman (May, 1983 Review, pages 22-24), or that Coleman has addressed his concerns. For instance, Frankfort writes: "He [Coleman] had written, at least six months ago, about negative effects of using low-scoring, good defensemen." Frankfort, in fact, says that he ran across Coleman's article after sending the following to the Review. As far as penalties, and Frankfort's concerns, Bob Lopeck's system for a more realistic distribution of penalties might be the answer.

By DONALD FRANKFORT

There it was, midway through the third period, and the Atlanta Flames held a 2-0 lead over [my beloved] New York Rangers in the opening round of the quarterfinals of the Stanley Cup playoffs. Suddenly, Steve Vickers winds up from the blue line and sends home a blazing slap shot, a blue dart! After the game (which the Rangers lost, 3-2), I thought to myself: Steve Vickers? A goal from the outside? A blue line slapper? Nonsense.

I would like to take an opportunity to express myself about the Strat-O-Matic Hockey Game, and the little story above is an important part of this article. I have some suggestions and ideas for thought that I would hope other readers, and perhaps the game company itself, would like to consider.

I had season tickets to watch the New York Rangers for nine seasons and saw Steve Vickers play during the last five of those seasons. Seeing Steve play in person and on TV, I saw perhaps 100-150 of his goals. I never saw him score from anywhere but right in front of the net. The fact that he scored in an S-O-M game on an outside shot just seems so unrealistic.

I realize that the hockey game, as well as all of the S-O-M games, is a very complex interweave of action, strategy, results, etc., but I think a few changes should be suggested. I realize that changes in some aspects of the hockey game, or in any other game, for that matter, will have to affect the other aspects, too (such as changing penetration ratings, offense ratings, results on the advanced action cards, results on the split cards, for instance).

Let's take away the outside shot goal scoring opportunity from a player like a Steve Vickers. Or make it very minimal, such as on the dice rolls of 2 and/or 12. In my replay, he scored on a dice roll of 4: Goalie rating. The more inside type shooter (dare I say "garbage goal" scorer?) should have more opportunities for inside or rebound goals. In a case like this, the penetration rating might have to be lowered and/or the offense rating lowered: make it harder to get inside, or to pick up that rebound. Do this to compensate for fewer outside scoring attempts and more close-in shots.

Just the opposite, I think, is needed for the high-scoring defensemen whom shoot cannons from the blue line. I think players like Ray Bourque, Doug Wilson and Denis Potvin need to have their outside shots sweetened. Many of their goals are scored from the point on power plays, yet the outside shooting column doesn't reflect this. Obviously, the outside shot column cannot be made so good that these defensemen would not attempt to pass to a teammate or penetrate for an inside shot.

#### PENALTIES IN REALISTIC NUMBERS

The next thought I direct more toward the readers, than to the game company. Has anyone devised a more realistic way of assessing the proper numbers of penalties to players? Obviously, there is a great variance in penalty minutes for one penalty rating letter.

Here is an example: the 1982-83 Jari Kurri, of the Edmonton Oilers, had 22 minutes in penalties in 80 games. He is rated a D. Teammate Wayne Gretzky played in the same number of games, had 59 minutes in penalties, and is also a D. Some may say that Gretzky is on the ice more than Kurri, so his D rating (or the #11 in his defense column) will still get him

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more penalties.

I have another thought concerning penalties. The intimidation factor is tied to penalty minutes, or so it seems. Perhaps in the 1982-83 cards the adherence is not as strict. It seems to me that too often poor defensive players who have high intimidation ratings, are making good defensive plays by taking away that inside shot. I think of many of the Nick Fotiu cards or the 1982-83 Dave Williams card. These players have very high intimidation ratings, yet are only rated a 1 on defense.

Is the high intimidation rating realistic or is it inflated? Are the defensive ratings kept low to compensate for high intimidation ratings, or what? In other words, is the high intimidation rating the game company's way of giving some of these players a defensive ability?

#### DEFENSEMEN - AND PASSING

The final issue I would like to bring up is a bit more complex. I remember reading in an earlier Review an article about whom one should draft in hockey. I am sorry that I do not remember the contributor's name (Larry Scotti, Staten Island, NY), but I commend him for his article. The one comment that sticks in my mind was "draft defensemen who can pass."

I have been noticing more and more that defensemen are not good passers, except those with high scoring records. Here is a major problem, I feel: the defensive defenseman who scored one goal, had 16 assists and is rated a 4 on defense, as an example. A Dave Langevin or a Ken Morrow are good examples. Their defensive contribution is somewhat clouded.

What happens when a good defenseman, who is not a good scorer, takes away the puck on a reading in his own defense column? It will either be an inside shot for himself, with intimidation, or an outside shot. And what usually happens when one of these good defensive defensemen takes away the puck with good defensive play? His inside shot results in an X (save) with an opposing player gaining control, or the defenseman just loses the puck to the opposition. Of course, there is X-Reb., but everyone has one of those. The good defenseman's play is immediately negated by his lack of offense.

If the defenseman took away the puck and had a resulting outside shot, he can either shoot, attempt a pass for an inside shot or attempt to penetrate. If he attempts to pass to a teammate for the inside shot, the pass may or may not be successful, according to the results on the split cards.

Of the 40 split cards, there are 12 (30 percent) that have the result passing J, K, or L. Inevitably, these passes are lost to the opposition. The same result will hold true when using the advanced action cards: Passing A, B or C when employing Offense 3, passing D, E or F for Offense 2, and passing G, H or I for Offense 1.

In all of the above passing plays, the puck will be lost by a low-scoring defenseman, often with an inside shot opportunity by the opposition. These good defensive defensemen may not be good scorers, but they should be able to control the puck, control the game for their team.

Therefore, what I offer for consideration, for both the defense and passing columns of the good defensive players who are low scoring (and this can apply to forwards of the same category, too), are some "minor" changes. In the defense column, how about readings such as "takes away puck, pick action card," or "takes away puck, pass to LW (or C, or RW, or other defenseman)"?

This latter play would then be followed by a draw from the advanced action deck. In neither case does the good defensive player take a shot (which is lost to the opposition) and in neither case does the play result directly in a shot for a teammate. Play just goes on and the good defensive player has maintained some semblance of puck control for his team. Of course, with the draw from the advanced action deck, a shot could be taken, the puck passed further along, the puck lost, etc.

For the passing column, the changes would be similar. Readings like "pass to C (or to whomever)" could be followed by a draw from the advanced

[continued on page 19]



action deck. Play just goes on, the good defensive player has not lost the puck away to either an inside or outside shot by the opposition, and his team is in control of the puck.

Please understand that I am not recommending these changes for every passing situation from A to L or for every defensive situation from 1 through 6 (or even through the higher numbers). Otherwise, assist statistics might be overly inflated. Just enough to add a little variety and to make the game more realistic.

I have some other suggestions for the hockey game, but I think I will save them for a future letter. As it is, this one is almost encyclopedic in proportions. I would like to assure everyone, especially the Strat-O-Matic Game Company, that I love the hockey game. I have every hockey card ever produced and will certainly be buying many more. I am just making constructive suggestions for improvements.

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## No-Hitters

With the new baseball season, as far as Strat-O-Matic, just around the corner, the Review thought it would be a good time to clear off the spindle regarding no-hitters.

One of the more interesting ones to cross the desk of the Review recently was submitted by Mike Custer of Lyndhurst, NJ. Actually, it was a combined no-hitter - Custer combined with his girlfriend Linda (last name was never identified in his letter) - to roll one with Strat-O-Matic dice.

It was Custer's second no-hitter in his 1977 replay and fifth overall, while for Linda it was a milestone event. The no-hitter took place after a Sunday dinner at Custer's home (he lives with his parents). He wanted to play a game of S-O-M, his girlfriend wanted him to put the game away...and they compromised (or perhaps Custer connived) by having Linda roll the dice for both teams and Mike record the results.

The result was a no-hitter by Wayne Twitchell of the Expos, who shut down the hard-hitting Cincinnati Reds, 6-0. Twitchell struck out 10 and walked four. The final out was a strikeout of George Foster, who was leading the league with 29 home runs in 97 games at the time. Closest call occurred in the top of the ninth inning when Dave Concepcion rolled a single 1-2. But Linda rolled a "3" with 20-sided dice and the no-hitter was preserved.

Linda and Mike have been a twosome for close to five years now, while Mike and S-O-M have been together for well over a decade.

Incidentally, Mike's other no-hitter replaying the 1977 season was by Nolan Ryan, who stopped the Cleveland Indians. Ryan's record at the time was a sub-par 3-13 and he had a 4.07 ERA, although leading the league with 175 strikeouts. In this game he struck out 16, lost his perfect game by walking two in the eighth inning and finished with a 1-0 victory.

Other no-hitters reported in the last few months included:

\* Geoff Zahn, 1983 card set, hurled a no-hitter for Danny Bress, an eighth-grader at Heizenstein Middle School in Pittsburgh, PA. It was a draft league operated by Mark Rogalsky, a youth worker at the Pittsburgh Jewish Community Center. "I have been running a Strat-O-Matic league here at the center since October, 1980. It has been a very successful program," says Rogalsky. Brees had the first no-hitter in the four years of the program, thanks to Zahn, who struck out three, walked two and was backed by a defense that committed only one error.

\* A no-hitter north of the border was recorded when Erik Anderson, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, watched Joaquin Andujar of the 1982 St. Louis Cardinals set down the San Diego Padres, guided by Paul Marasen and Erik's brother, Chris. Andujar came one walk away from a perfect.

\* Two unique no-hitters were experienced by veteran gamers Rob Wagner, Albert Lea, MN, a policeman by profession, and Greg Sorensen, also of Albert Lea and an assistant manager of a large men's clothing  
(continued on page )



## Here again is split-number dice system

It wouldn't seem like the baseball season if the Review didn't reprint Bryan Baker's split-number dice system. One of the most popular playing tips ever, if not the most popular, Baker's dice system does away with the split deck and makes it possible for numbers 1-20 to occur on any roll of the dice.

Most of the veteran gamers use it now, so the reprinting of the playing tip is mainly for new subscribers to the Review.

Checking the split-number chart below, note that it is subdivided: columns 1, 2, and 3 always refer to split numbers 1-10, and columns 4, 5, and 6 always to numbers 11-20. Always roll three dice when using the chart. Numbers along the sides refer to two-dice totals (red dice usually) and numbers across the top refer to one-die total (white die).

No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	No.
2	- *	*	*	*	*	*	- 2
3	- *	4	7	11	14	17	- 3
4	- 1	4	8	11	15	18	- 4
5	- 1	5	8	12	14	18	- 5
6	- 2	6	9	11	15	19	- 6
7	- 3	5	10	12	16	20	- 7
8	- 2	6	9	13	17	19	- 8
9	- 3	7	10	14	16	20	- 9
10	- 1	4	8	13	17	18	- 10
11	- 4	7	7	13	15	*	- 11
12	- *	*	*	*	*	*	- 12

\* Roll dice again. This is necessary so that each split number will have the same probability of occurring.

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### Relievers must 'warm up'

Timothy Arthur of Portsmouth, OH, is another gamer who thinks that "relief" should be more than just reaching for the next S-O-M card in the so-called bullpen. In other words, relief pitchers shouldn't be brought in cold--there must be some warmup time in between.

What Arthur and his gaming friends do is provide for relievers warming up. The relief pitchers have to be announced when they start throwing and they must "warm up" the equivalent of two batters. If a reliever enters the game and only one batter has been pitched to while he was warming up, then the reliever enters the game with his dots as SINGLES\*\* for one more batter. If no warmup, then the dots are singles for two batters.

Arthur also curtails the amount of warming up a reliever may do. A reliever is allowed one full inning (three outs) of warming up. After that tiredness sets in and, for every inning beyond one that he warms up, his endurance factor is reduced one inning. Thus if a pitcher warms up for two innings and has an endurance factor of "3," then the endurance is reduced to "2" because he warmed up more than one inning.

A reliever can warm up for an inning, rest an inning, and then warm up again, with no penalty regarding endurance when he enters the game. But if the warmup-rest routine is repeated a third time, then the endurance factor is again reduced one inning.

Another rule Arthur uses is: "A strict starter may relieve only if there are no relievers available to pitch and he must have at least two days or 18 innings of rest. A strict starter takes at least five batters

[continued on next page]



to have batted before he has sufficiently warmed up and has an endurance factor of "3" innings. Relievers, as far as rest, can appear in two consecutive games without penalty as long as they do not pitch beyond their endurance factor.

But, anytime a pitcher pitches on four consecutive days, regardless of the number of innings pitched, the fourth day his dots are "SINGLES\*\*."

In the case of doubleheaders, a relief pitcher's endurance factor is the total of innings he can pitch in a day, rather than the innings he can pitch in a game.

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## No-Hitters

(continued from page 19).

store. Both are 27 and, between 'em, have played over 9,000 games of Strat-O-Matic Baseball, many of 'em head-to-head.

Both have been "fanatics" since 1972 and during that time the duo had never experienced a no-hitter - that is until recently.

The two are currently engaged in a best players replay of cards used from the 1972-81 seasons. Each team has a 32-player roster and it's all-star caliber all the way.

That's why a no-hitter was considered such a rarity [they all are, aren't they?]. These were lineups of the best against the best.

The first no-hitter occurred in a game matching the Oakland A's, with Catfish Hunter on the mound, versus the Boston Red Sox best. Wagner was piloting Oakland and Sorensen used Boston. Both gamers, incidentally, are 27 years old, longtime friends...and longtime S-O-M Baseball rivals who like nothing more than whipping each other and then bragging about the accomplishment for days afterwards.

Hunter was the main man in this encounter, however, as he came one batter - a walk to Rick Miller in the third inning - from pitching a perfect game. Hunter fanned seven en route to the first no-hitter ever between the two rivals.

Two days later, the two rivals went at it again, this time Rob had the New York Yankees and Sorensen the Los Angeles Dodgers. Fernando Valenzuela was pitching for the Dodgers and Sorensen got his revenge as Valenzuela hurled a no-hitter.

"Fate was playing the game beside me throughout," enthused Sorensen. In the first inning, Willie Randolph has a SI 1-11 chance - and Rob rolls a 19.

The no-hitter was seriously threatened in the third inning when Bucky Dent rolled a SI 1-19. But the luck of the draw was all good, at least for Sorensen, as a 20 was drawn. Later, Bobby Murcer rolled a HR 1-3 - and a 10 was picked.

In the bottom of the eighth, meanwhile, Bill Russell homers to stake L.A. to the only runs it will need in a 2-0 victory.

"Our second no-hitter in two days! We still find it our biggest thrills in Strat-O-Matic Baseball to this day," says Sorensen.

\* One near-miss no-hitter was also reported recently, by Paul Wooden of Tulsa, OK. This was a playoff matchup between Houston (Don Sutton) and Los Angeles (Fernando Valenzuela) for the strike-shortened season. Fernando pitched to only 27 batters, the minimum, but unfortunately for the no-hit bid, Gary Woods, a pinch-hitter, singled in the ninth inning after two outs. Woods was subsequently cut down stealing as Valenzuela struck out seven and walked nary a batter for a near-miss perfect game, too.

Wooden, although disappointed, has experienced the joys of a no-hitter before. Both were by Dodger pitchers, too. The first was by Don Sutton, the losing pitcher in the game above, against the Oakland A's in a matchup of 1974 teams. And later, in a play-by-mail game, Bob Welch, 1980 vintage, notched the no-hitter. Neither was perfect, though.



## S-O-M league, replay scene

THURMAN MUNSON MEMORIAL LEAGUE - Now an eight-team PBM league that has as commissioner C.J. Shull, 36, married and the father of three children, whose occupation is credit manager at a firm in St. Louis, MO...Originally, TMML was a 13-team league, but five managers dropped out after first season (based on 1979 real-life) and Shull picked up the reins as commissioner and helped the league complete its second season (based on 1980)...Other managers in the draft league are: Don Nelson, 14, a student (Rolling Prairie Cubs); John Pearson, 27, policeman (Portland Sabres); Kevin Frick, 23, produce manager in South Bend, IN (Council Oak); Tom Pearson, 30, salesman in Chicago area, brother of John (Hawaii So's); Mike Spagnola, 26, works for AT & T (Morristown Colonials); Tom Hill, 22, actuarial trainee for Fireman's Fund Insurance in San Francisco (Marin County Swingers); and John Tsuchitani, 22, college student (Walnut Creek Lakers)...Portland, featuring a league-high 220 home runs, including 44 from the bat of Reggie Jackson and 30 by Ron Cey, powered its way to the league title. The pitching staff, although it didn't include any big winners, had Jerry Reuss (17-9), Bob Welch (15-6) and Moose Haas (14-6), plus Goose Gossage coming out of the bullpen for 22 saves.

### Standings and leaders:

	W	L	GB	Avg.	ERA	HR	Batting	
Portland	91	63	-	.262	3.53	220	Brett CO	.331
Walnut Creek	88	66	3	.267	3.28	217	W.Wilson SC	.330
Marin County	85	69	6	.255	3.66	182	Bell MOR	.329
Morristown	85	69	6	.289	2.55	192	Easler MC	.329
Hawaii	75	79	16	.249	3.94	160		
Council Oak	74	80	17	.265	4.04	149		
St.Charles	70	84	21	.268	3.96	134		
Rolling Prairie	49	105	42	.237	4.49	110		
							<u>RBI</u>	
							Schmidt HAW	130
							E.Murray MOR	126
							R.Jackson POR	115
Home Runs				<u>GWRBI</u>				
Schmidt HAW	52			Schmidt HAW	19	<u>38:</u>	Buckner SC	41
E.Murray MOR	52			Bell MOR	18	<u>38:</u>	Cedeno MOR	15
R.Jackson POR	44			E.Murray MOR	17	<u>98:</u>	W.Wilson SC	94/36
Oglivie WC	39			Oglivie WC	17		R.Henderson MC	85/30
<u>ERA (based on 162 IP)</u>				<u>Wins</u>			<u>Strikeouts</u>	
J.Niekro MOR	2.62			Palmer MOR	21		Carlton WC	245
M.Norris WC	2.77			M. Norris WC	20		Norris WC	167
Palmer MOR	2.81			Rogers SC	19		Ryan SC	164
Sutton MC	2.81			Carlton WC	17			
McGregor MOR	2.88			Reuss POR	17		<u>SH:</u>	Norris WC 8
							<u>CG:</u>	Norris WC 20
							<u>IP:</u>	Norris WC 276

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JOE DELANEY MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT - Football tournament held in Kansas City in memory of Chiefs' running back Joe Delaney who died in a swimming mishap...Nine coaches participated, with Ron Brammer and the 1972 Miami Dolphins emerging as victors...Most thrilling game of the tournament, however, was between Rick Rice's 1970 Detroit Lions and Ray Perry's 1968 Kansas City Chiefs. Finally, after six quarters (two of which were sudden-death overtime), the Lions kicked a field goal to win the marathon thriller. Both Rice and Perry are from Kansas City... The Super Bowl, or final, was a different story as the Dolphins, with Garo Yepremian booting six field goals, won easily, 32-3.

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1961 NEW YORK YANKEES REPLAY - Thomas Swank, Bloomfield, NJ, undertook the project, one of many he's been involved with, and reports the statistical results were amazing...The Yanks batted .265 as a team in S-O-M and .263 in real-life, while the pitching ERA was 3.52 (S-O-M and 3.46 [real-life])...Swank does note that the '61 Yanks did not play all

(continued on next page)



162 games against teams from that year; instead 54 were played against '61 teams, 78 against 1982 teams and 30 vs. the 1982 American League champs, the Milwaukee Brewers...The final record was 103-59, contrasting with 109-53 in real-life...Examples of real-life being duplicated, in the statistical department, were Mickey Mantle batting .317 and hitting 49 home runs in S-O-M, with .317 and 54 his real-life marks; Yogi Berra batting .276 (.271 real); Clete Boyer hitting exactly 11 homers; Elston Howard hitting 22 (21 real); Bill Skowron clubbing exactly 28 homers; and Roger Maris slugging 62 homers (61% in real-life)...Among the pitchers, Whitey Ford had a 22-10 record, 2.86 ERA in 283 innings, while Ralph Terry (13-4, 3.40) and Bill Stafford (13-6, 2.77) were other big winners on a balanced staff...Luis Arroyo had the lowest ERA, 1.97, pitching 119 innings and giving up 93 hits in relief...This was Swank's first complete replay after a number of false starts in an S-O-M career that dates back to 1968..."I have found the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow," says Swank. "The game is actually what it says it is: an accurate re-creation of the team and individuals' performance."

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1982-83 NBA FINALS REPLAY - Greg Schwartz, a student and dice-shaker from Shaker Heights, NY, couldn't believe the Los Angeles Lakers could be swept in four games by the Philadelphia 76ers...It almost happened, though, as Philly won the first three games of the best-of-seven series before the Lakers fought back to extend events to six games...Here are game-by-game reports of that series...Game 1 - Julius (Dr. J) Erving poured in 45 points and grabbed 14 rebounds and Moses Malone had 27 points and 16 rebounds, leading the 76ers to a 150-142 victory. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar paced the Lakers, who were ahead 72-70 at halftime, with 29 points while Magic Johnson and Norm Nixon combined for 33 assists...Game 2 - Again L.A. led at the half, 71-66, only to be wiped out in the third quarter, 47-20, with Malone scoring 16 of his game-high 35 points. Malone also grabbed a game-high 16 rebounds. Jabbar had 25, Magic 23 points for L.A., with Magic also claiming 16 rebounds...Game 3 - The Lakers appeared to have this game wrapped up, holding a commanding 77-55 advantage at halftime. But the 76ers whittled away and, after outscoring L.A. 33-24 in the fourth quarter, pulled out a 129-125 triumph to take a 3-0 lead. "This was the most amazing comeback I've ever seen in S-O-M Basketball," enthused Schwartz. Erving had the hot hand for the 76ers with 37 points, with Andrew Toney scoring 26 and Bobby Jones coming off the bench and supplying 22, 18 in the second half. Jones had an outstanding game as he also had 12 rebounds, 8 assists, 2 steals and 4 blocked shots. Malone, although scoring only 19 points - bad for him? - had 17 rebounds. Jabbar led the Lakers with 34 tallies...Game 4 - This time, after blowing a 15-point halftime lead, L.A. battled back to claw out a 141-138 victory and keep the series alive. Magic had a game-high 36 points, grabbed 17 rebounds and had 8 assists, with Jabbar chipping in with 26 points and 18 retrieves. Malone led the 76ers with 32 points and 16 rebounds...Game 5 - Bob McAdoo came off the bench to fire in 28 points, Magic had 30 points to go with 14 rebounds and Jabbar 25 points as L.A., after leading 70-59 at halftime, held on at the end for a 145-142 victory. Erving and Toney had 36 and 32 points, respectively, for the 76ers, who were hurt by the departure, via fouls, of Malone with six minutes to go. Malone had 22 points and 14 rebounds before exiting...Game 6 - This time it was the 76ers with the big halftime lead, 79-63, and L.A. spent the second half trying to catch up, once drawing within two points, but eventually succumbing 140-130. Erving again led the 76ers, with 36 points, while Toney had 31 and Malone 25 to go with 24 rebounds. Malone and Dr. J tied for MVP honors. Jabbar paced the Lakers in the finale with 33 points... Schwartz did not mention in his account of the playoffs whether he played the game advanced or basic. If advanced, it would have been worth noting how much each team used the fast-break, which is a big part of both teams' offensive arsenal...For the record, Erving averaged 34.7 points, 9.7 rebounds, 3.5 assists, 1.7 blocks and shot 55.6 percent from the field, and Malone averaged 26.7 points, 17.2 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 1.3 blocks, while shooting at a 60.6 percent clin.



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The Review's new subscription prices (mentioned elsewhere in this issue) will take effect March 1, 1984. So this is the last month for renewals at the old rates, which are listed below. If the number before your name reads 1/84, this is the last issue of your current subscription. When renewing, check the number of months below and enclose proper amount (check, money order, U.S. funds, but please no coins). First-class mailing is available for an additional 20¢ per month. Also, when renewing, please list your subscription expiration date as it expedites the process.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3 months, \$2.10; \_\_\_\_\_ 6 months, \$3.50; \_\_\_\_\_ 1 year, \$6.25.

Note that the cost in Canada is as follows: \$2.50 (3 months), \$4.50 (6 months) and \$8.25 (1 year). Prices include first-class mailing.

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## 1930 and 1970 baseball are extra treats

[continued from page 1]

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The next likely past season to be reprinted (with advanced features) would be 1969, according to S-O-M, depending on the popularity of the 1970 set.

The 1930 season is a breakthrough for S-O-M and the gaming world in general in that many of the statistics were the result of painstaking efforts by S-O-M employees, particularly Steve Barkan and Bob Yonke.

"This is a first for us," says Richman. "All our statistics were taken from boxscores and research. Many things, such as home runs given up by pitchers, were not even kept then. Hundreds of hours were spent on this." Close to 800 hours alone were spent researching the boxscores.

"If we wanted to come out with a past season, and to do it quickly, we could easily do it in a couple of weeks," says Richman. "But this set is completely realistic. No other game company can make that claim.

"The 1930 season was a great one for hitting. It's going to be wild. There was also power then, too (Hack Wilson had 56 home runs, Ruth 49). And Lefty Grove (Philadelphia A's) was an outstanding pitcher (28-5 record with 2.54 ERA, 2.10 below the league's average)."