



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. 11, July, 1981

S-O-M has changed basketball game!

Fast-break, press, blocked shots among features

"It plays beautifully. It plays very simple and it flows much better," says Harold Richman, sounding like a man who finally struck oil after years of drilling.

What Richman is excited about is a totally new pro basketball game that Strat-O-Matic is soon coming out with. "The game has been totally revised," says S-O-M's creator. "There are a few features from the old game, but we've added so many things that it's really a new game."

Richman, who for years has confided that he wasn't satisfied with the pro version of the hardwood sport as it existed in tabletop form, is excited now. "When I created the original game I was still playing basketball. I was making it as a player, not as a fan would look at it."

Three years of testing have gone into the new basketball game, which is expected to be available in early October (based on the 1980-81 season). Some of S-O-M's employees have already played a couple of seasons worth of games--all part of the testing process.

Why the change? Well, for one thing Richman felt the other game was too cumbersome, took too long to play, and didn't have all the ingredients of pro basketball as it exists today.

The new game will have it all--from the fast-break, blocking shots, the utilization of the press, to the home-team advantage which is so important today also. A player's ability to draw fouls is also included, as

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are such features as steals, turnovers and working on a player on defense. It will now be possible to keep records on such facets of the game as steals, blocked shots (which have made some defensive demons into folk heroes), turnovers and even number of baskets off the fast-break. "The fast-break will speed up the game and a team will take more shots when using it," notes Richman. "But it also runs the risk of more turnovers, plus the fast-breaking team has to have the big guy to start the break with his rebounding [welcome to S-O-M Basketball, Robert Parish!]."

Despite the changes, Richman says the new game will play quicker and be much simpler than the original version. Using the advanced game and keeping complete statistics, it's estimated that a game can be played in an hour to 65 minutes. The basic version will be played in less time, of course. S-O-M employees, playing rapidly, have whipped off a game in 45 minutes.

DECK OF CARDS ACTIVATES PLAY

Dice will not be totally relied on in the new game. Instead, in lieu of dice, a deck of cards will activate play and also serve as the clock. "In that respect the basketball game is modeled after the hockey game," says Richman. "There will be dice rolls, but for shots only."

There will also be a third die, or special die, which will have three blank sides, two "Ds" [for defense] and one "X" [whereby a player's X-column will be referred to].

The close and back defensive feature that slowed the other game down so much has been eliminated. There will be team defense in the form of sag, normal or close, but one card (not a pawn) will activate that. "Everything is done smoothly and won't interrupt the flow of the game," notes Richman.

The price of the new game was not available when Review co-editor Del Newell interviewed Richman by phone as the July issue went to press, but owners of the original game will not have to buy everything.

If a gamer buys all 23 teams then S-O-M will include, free of charge, relics of the charts (new) and also the two decks of cards that will be needed. If one wishes to purchase less than a complete set of teams, then there will be a \$2 surcharge for inclusion of the charts and two decks of cards. And, of course, the whole game can be purchased. The playing board, which will be smaller than the original, will be included among the facsimiles as well.

All of the S-O-M world will be notified soon of the availability of the new cards [for football, basketball and hockey]. And in that mailing will be mention that the basketball game has been changed [rather a new game has been created]. But Review readers are the first to learn about just what that "new" [or changes] really means.

Next month there will be more on the new basketball game. In the meantime you Boston Celtics fans can dream about Robert Parish and Larry Bird (who?) snatching those rebounds, the quick outlet passes to Tiny Archibald, Chris Ford and Cornbread Maxwell and the race down the floor--which will usually end with an easy lay-in goal and two more points!

S-O-M card pattern poll

The poll regarding pitchers' cards concludes this month so be sure to let your feelings be known [see poll on the back page].

What Strat-O-Matic is asking is if gamers want to return to the former card style for pitchers, rather than the four-column set it came out--much to the dismay of many, many gamers--or whether the four-column cards are preferred.

Also, as part of the poll, the Review would like to know whether readers wish to have space in the magazine used for reprinting roster sheets.

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The game company has also interjected another thought regarding card patterns: Does the gaming world wish to see the batters' cards changed? No, they wouldn't be all one-column cards, similar to the pitchers' this year, but rather would be changed from the traditional columns [the No. 1 hitter on a team receiving hit chances in the 1-column, on 2-6 and a portion of the 3-column]. Overall, there are 12-13 card patterns used for hitters, with the type of card received dependent on where the batter ranked as a hitter on the team.

Would gamers want to see this pattern changed [maybe the best hitter would have hits/walks in the 2-column, etc.]? The reaction S-O-M got as a result of the 4-column pitchers' cards has led it to believe that gamers want a return to the old patterns without any change whatsoever.

What do you want?

Two printing mistakes in baseball

There were two printing mistakes on the 1981 baseball cards--with the advanced side of Dave and Dan Ford's cards and the two Cliff Johnson cards all being transposed.

Cliff Johnson's card with Cleveland, basic side, is correct. But the back, or advanced side, has his statistics with the Chicago Cubs. And his basic card with Chicago has stats with Cleveland on the advanced side.

Both were printing mistakes that were soon corrected. But many gamers have the transposed versions of the two cards and may have wondered what was wrong.

Questions & Answers

Editor's note: We apologize for the delay in many of the questions receiving answers. In most cases when there's the slightest doubt regarding an answer, the question is sent to Strat-O-Matic for an official answer. But lately, because of exhaustive testing of the new basketball game, answers to many questions were not forthcoming. But the delay appears over and hopefully all the questions sent in will soon be answered in the Review. Questions regarding individual and team ratings, however, will not be answered unless a mistake has been made on the card.

QUESTION: What is the split number chance for a AAA stealing second base?

ANSWER: The split number chance is 1-17, the same as for a double AA, but a AAA can only be reduced by -1 when being held whereas a AA is reduced -3 when held.

QUESTION: What is the split number chance of a AAA stealing third base? Home? Is it the same as for a AA (1-11, third base; 1-7, home), or what?

ANSWER: Yes it is the same for a AAA, except that again if held a AAA is reduced only -1.

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QUESTION: When using the 3-4 defense, how do you determine the number of blitzing linebackers? Is one linebacker in vacated tackle zone counted as one man blitzing?

ANSWER: To be counted as a blitzing linebacker, the LB must be in the "blitz zone" and the adjacent position must be occupied. The maximum number of linebackers that can blitz is three. The answer to the second part of question posed above is no.

QUESTION: I own the Strat-O-Matic College Football game and on the 1975 Oklahoma Blind-Draw Wrong Lineback column it reads: "+5: +6-yard gain, +3: short gain." What's wrong here?

ANSWER: It should read +16 instead of +6-yard gain.

QUESTION: On the all-time college football teams, what is Penn State's fumble on its punt return. On my team it says fumble 1-4, x 14-20. What happened to numbers 5-13?

ANSWER: It should read fumble 1-13, x 14-20, according to S-O-M.

QUESTION: In football if you're on the 10-yard line, throw a short pass and it results in a long gain, do you get the touchdown, or is it considered incomplete because the ball would have gone out of the end zone?

ANSWER: It's a touchdown. Ignore the length of the play in all such situations.

QUESTION: In S-O-M football is a fumble occurs after a gain of yardage which puts the runner in the end zone, is the runner considered to have possession long enough for a touchdown?

ANSWER: Yes, once the end zone is reached, the touchdown counts, just as it does in real-life.

QUESTION: In baseball a fellow gamer says you can hold a runner on second base and bring the infield in. He says the same is true for first base. Is he right?

ANSWER: You can hold a runner at first, second or even third--but you can't play the infield in at the same time. The infielders cannot be holding runners and playing in, too.

QUESTION: In hockey, with a reading of "opponent takes away puck--possible penalty" with a C-rated penalty intimidator, the Intimidator Chart on the front of the play chart reads 1-12 no penalty, 13-20 2-min. penalty. If you draw a 14 [2-min. penalty] do you refer to the Super Advanced penalty chart for the penalty? What if the reading comes up above the double lines?

ANSWER: According to the rules, on an intimidation penalty you disregard any information appearing above the double lines. This is logical, because an intimidation infraction takes place when a player makes a last ditch attempt to stop a skater from getting past him. It would be illogical for the player carrying the puck to get a penalty in that situation. [Note: This question was answered by Dave Hager, reporter at the Kalamazoo Gazette, Kalamazoo, MI, an avid S-O-M Hockey gamer]

Readers pick MVPs, division winners

According to Review readers it will be Gary Carter of Montreal and Tony Armas of Oakland who will have Most Valuable Player honors bestowed upon them after the 1981 season is history.

And, also according to Review readers, it will be the Los Angeles Dodgers winning the National League West, Montreal capturing the East and Oakland the king of the American League West and the New York Yankees prevailing in the East.

All told, there were 235 ballots cast in the Review's annual Most Valuable Player Contest (the winner will receive a set of the new baseball cards in late January). And, surprisingly, Carter and especially Armas were runaway winners in the voting. Carter was the choice on 45 ballots, with L.A.'s "Big V (for victory)" rookie Fernando Valenzuela a distant second with 29.

The top five in the N.L. included Andre Dawson, who tied with Bob Horner with 26 votes, and Mike Schmidt, who had 20. Thirty-two players received votes.

Armas, meanwhile, was an easy winner in the A.L., capturing 58 votes, with Eddie Murray of Baltimore a very distant second with 28. Cecil Cooper of Milwaukee was third with 23, Ken Singleton of Baltimore fourth with 22 and George Brett a surprising fifth with only 21 votes. Twenty-five players in the A.L. received votes, including former National Leaguers Dave Winfield and Ted Simmons, who garnered 12 and 5 votes, respectively.

In the division races (which will be used to break a tie if one should exist for MVP), L.A. had 126 votes, Montreal ran away with the N.L. East with 153, Oakland had 128 and the Yankees 96.

Here's the way the voting went for the division races:

National League

West

1. Los Angeles	126
2. Houston	74
3. Cincinnati	21
4. Atlanta	9
5. San Francisco	3

East

1. Montreal	153
2. Philadelphia	38
3. St. Louis	33
4. Pittsburgh	7
5. N.Y. Mets	2

Top Ten MVP

1. Carter
2. Valenzuela
3. Dawson
Horner
5. Schmidt
6. Hernandez
7. Garvey
8. Foster
9. Parker
Templeton

American League

West

1. Oakland	128
2. Kansas City	73
3. California	20
4. Chicago	8
5. Texas	4

East

1. N.Y. Yankees	96
2. Milwaukee	70
3. Baltimore	61
4. Boston	3
5. Cleveland	1
Detroit	1

Top Ten MVP

1. Armas	6. Lynn
2. Murray	7. Winfield
3. Cooper	8. Henderson
4. Singleton	9. Jackson
5. Brett	10. Rice

Advertisements

Rates per issue will be as follows: First 30 words - 60¢; 31-60 words - \$1.00; 61-100 words - \$1.50; 101-150 words - \$2.00; 151-200 words (maximum length for ad) - \$3.25. When sending in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, LEAGUE FORMING, FOR TRADE, or CONTESTS. And name card sets by the year upon which they were based. Note also that only advertisements for Strat-O-Matic products and related merchandise will be accepted. Merchandise competing with S-O-M products may not be offered for sale, also photo-copied cards. Ads, to be included in the next issue of the Review, must be in by the third of the previous month. Late ads will be held over for inclusion the following month.

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Wanted

WANTED: 1977 complete baseball set with extras. Will pay any reasonable price. Send prices to: Jim Saltza, 544 So. Lincoln, Apt. 24, Bloomington, IN 47401

WANTED: Backup managers for established PBM hockey league (NSHL). A franchise is vacant and will be awarded to anyone who is interested. Contact: Bob Doty, 9 Poplar St., Danvers, MA 01923 [617-774-5338]

WANTED: Baseball teams - 1977 season with extras; all cards must be in good or better condition. Will pay any reasonable price. Or trade or include assorted Topps football cards from 1977 to 1980. Send the condition and price to: D. Steltenpohl, 1920 Russell St., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

WANTED: 1971 Orioles, Cards; '73 Orioles; '74 Orioles, Cards; '75 Orioles; '76 Yanks, Phils; '77 Cards, Yanks, Phils. Plus: 1967 Packers; '68 Packers, Chargers; '69 Packers, Chargers; '70 49ers; '71 49ers; '72 49ers; '75 Oilers; '76 49ers. Will trade for or buy. Will also answer all reasonable offers. For more information, call or write: Frank Borzilleri, 2224 E. Franzen #A, Santa Ana, CA 92706 [714-972-2310]

WANTED: Pre-1975 roster sheets, 1964 and 1965 S-O-M Tiger teams. Also need Tiger yearbooks from 1958 and '59. Super Bowl I program and any baseball memorabilia (cards, yearbooks and guides). I would be willing to trade for your S-O-M wants or pay cash. Please contact: Bill Salter, 31270 Wildwood Apt. 2209, Wixom, MI 48096 [phone: 313-669-4945]

WANTED: Baseball, complete sets, first year cards were issued through 1977. Extras is available. Will pay any reasonable price. Send prices to: M. Hines, 4619 Sunflower Road, Apt. 125, Knoxville, TN 37919

WANTED: Complete baseball seasons 1977 and earlier, with extra players if available. Must be unmarked, in good condition. Also, single teams, especially division champions, desired

[before 1978]. Especially sought are '72 Reds and '73 Braves, plus extras. Need extra players for '75 Reds, '75 Red Sox and '77 Yankees. Contact: Ralph Llamas, 15745 Francisquito J21, Valinda, CA 91744

For Sale

FOR SALE: Hockey, complete with game parts (hardly used). 1978-79 New York Islanders, New York Rangers, Detroit Red Wings, Toronto Maple Leafs, Atlanta Flames, Montreal Canadiens. Best offer as of July 30, 1981 will win. Once bid is outbid I will inform you of the highest bid so include your address. Send bids to: Bob Kourtakis, 28944 W. King William Drive, Farmington Hills, MI 48018

FOR SALE: All in good to very good condition. 1974-75 Suns, Bulls; '77-78 Lakers, Bullets, Jazz, Celtics, Spurs, Nuggets, 76ers, Bulls; '78-79 Jazz, Celtics, Bullets, 76ers, Lakers, Nuggets, Sonics, Suns, Spurs, Bulls. All '79-80 teams. Make offer, either cash or trade. I am looking for baseball or football teams. Dan Verdun, P.O. Box 88, Odell, IL 60460

FOR SALE: 1977 Football, \$12; 1978 baseball, \$10; 1977-78 hockey, \$9. These are minimum bids. However, higher bids will be accepted. First come, first serve. Mail to: Scott Eberle, 5675 Vrooman Road, Jackson, MI 49201

FOR SALE: Baseball, 1977, complete set (no extras); mint condition. Cost: \$30. Michael Hines, 4619 Sunflower Road, Apt. 125, Knoxville, TN 37919

FOR SALE: 1978-1979 hockey cards. All teams in good to excellent condition. I will include a roster sheet. Bidding starts at \$9. If interested, write me: George Lantz, 1010 East Lovejoy St., Buffalo, NY 14206

FOR SALE: 1968, '71, '72 baseball teams and old Reviews -- very good condition. Will accept bids. For complete list write: John Knox, 305 Falles Ct., Madison, WI 53705

FOR SALE: 7000 Topps baseball gum cards, 1964-1978. Majority mint or

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excellent. All others, very good condition. Will fill want lists at 50% of Beckett Price Guide. S-O-M Super Bowl teams: '74 Dolphins, '73 Dolphins, '74 Steelers and Vikes, '75 Steelers, '76 Raiders, '77 Broncos (\$7.50 each). Conference finalists: '70 Raiders, '72 Steelers, '74 Rams, '75 Raiders, '76 Steelers (\$5 each). Last playoff appearance: '71 Chiefs, '72 49ers, '75 Bengals, Cardinals, '77 Colts (\$5 each). Additional playoff teams: '70 Vikings, '71 Browns, '72 Browns, Raiders, '73 Rams, Redskins, Steelers, '74 Bills, Redskins, '75 Colts, Vikings, '77 Bears (\$5 each). John Napier, 62 W. Wolf Apt. 312, Wheeling, IL 60090

FOR SALE: 1975, '76, '77, '78 (real-life season) baseball card sets with extras, excellent condition, \$20 each. '74 10 N.L. and four A.L. teams, \$10. 1950's-60's - 16 all-time great teams, \$15. Barry Shanks, 2006 Milan St., Apt. B, New Orleans, LA 70115

FOR SALE: 1973 baseball cards, complete with extras, excellent condition, no roster sheet, \$30. Bank or postal money order only. SASE assures reply. Larry A. Asbill, 2724 16th St., Sacramento, CA

FOR SALE: Complete set 1970 and 1976 football; 1972 Dolphins; 1973 Giants, Cardinals, Lions, Bears, Packers, Colts, Patriots, Jets, Dolphins, Chiefs; 1967 Packers, Cowboys; 1977 Broncos, Bears. 1968 baseball, Red Sox, Mets, Dodgers. 1977-78 basketball (complete set). All teams in very good condition. Send bids and SASE to: Ron Brammer, 1305 NE 44th St., Kansas City, MO 64116

FOR SALE: Baseball card sets complete, with extra players: 1974 - \$32; 1975 - \$28; 1976 - \$24; 1977 - \$20; 1978 - \$16; 1979 - \$12; 1980 - \$8. Please enclose SASE. Larry Lampsa, Box 20, Midway Mobile Home Park, Virginia, MN 55792. Phone: 218-741-1716.

FOR SALE: Super-advanced rules for S-O-M Baseball. These simple rules and charts will give your S-O-M game all the details and

rare plays of real baseball while maintaining speed, ease and accuracy of play. Your \$5 (cash or money order) cheerfully refunded if not satisfied. Richard Robb, #1004-1395 Beach Ave., Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6E 1V7

FOR SALE: 1977-79 football teams: '77 Steelers, Chargers, Eagles, Bills, Chiefs, Lions, Bengals, Redskins, 49ers; 1978 Redskins, Vikings, Packers, Cardinals, Giants, Falcons; '79 Broncos, Redskins, Colts, 49ers, Chiefs, Packers, Lions, Bills, Dolphins. Also, 1975-76 basketball teams (18. Celtics were NBA champs that season. Teams sold as complete set only. All bids must be in by end of the month. Send bids to: Melvin Waits, 6622 Briar Glade, Houston, TX 77072

FOR SALE: 1965 Dodgers, Twins; 1967 Dodgers, Twins; 1969 White Sox; 1974 extras, Steelers, Bills, Patriots, Jets; Royals, Rangers, Angels; 1975 Oilers, Colts, Cards; 1976 49ers, Rams; 1977 Dolphins, Bears. D.M. Corry, 320 Vernon St. Gaffney, SC 29340

FOR SALE: Complete 1977-78 hockey season, all teams and game parts (never been used), \$22. 1977 complete football season, \$23; 1976 complete football season, \$25. 1978 complete baseball season with extras, \$24. 1969 Cubs, Baltimore, San Francisco, Pirates, Red Sox, Cincinnati, Mets, \$3.50 each; 1970 Cincinnati, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Cubs, \$3.50 each. All items postpaid. I also have a list of over 100 teams for sale. All inquiries please include SASE. Items sold on first come, first serve basis. Bill Salter, 31270 Wildwood Apt. 2209, Wixom, MI 48096

FOR SALE: Baseball and football teams, all complete. Baseball - 1963 White Sox; 1966 Pirates, Indians, Senators, A's, White Sox; 1967 Cardinals; 1969 Braves, Expos, Cardinals, Tigers; 1971 Twins, Angels, Tigers, Indians, Brewers, Senators, Red Sox, Padres, Expos, Phillies, Cubs, Reds; 1973 Padres. Football - Atlanta 1968-75, Boston '69-75, Baltimore '70-75, Buffalo '69-75, Chicago '70-75, Cincinnati '70-75, Cleveland '69-75, Detroit '70-75, Dallas '69-75, Denver '69-75,

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Kansas City '70-75, Houston '70-75, Los Angeles '70-75, Green Bay '69-75, Miami '69-75, Minnesota '70-75, New Orleans '68-75, Giants '69-75, Jets '69-75, Oakland '69-75, Philadelphia '68-75, Pittsburgh '67, '69-75, San Diego '69-75, San Francisco '69-75, Cardinals '67, '69-75, Washington '70-75. Send bids to: Mark Rubin, 100 Market St. #1, Potsdam, NY 13676. All winning bidders will be notified by phone (315-265-6165).

FOR SALE: Many teams, 1971-74, some with players missing. Also, some miscellaneous odds and ends such as a mix of '70 players. Most cards marked with "total changes" totals, games played per position, etc. Send SASE for list of particulars. Also, bids on complete Topps 1976-78 baseball cards; some books. Robert Schellhaas, 13 Anderson St., Ft. Stewart, GA 31313

FOR SALE: All football playoff teams from 1967 to '77 and 1973 Bills. Super Bowl teams and 1973 Bills for \$7.50 each, all other teams sell for \$5 each. Have doubles of most teams. John Napier, 62 S. Wolf, Apt. 312, Wheeling, IL 60090

For Trade

FOR TRADE: I will trade new, unplayed LPs [your choice] for Strat-O-Matic Baseball teams from 1971 to 1977. Wide selection available. For details, contact: Jerry Micco, 2639 Dodd Rd., Willoughby Hills, OH 44091 [phone: 216-942-7266]

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: PBM basketball league. Basic version will be used. Schedule will depend on number of teams. I have contacted the NBA and have a lot of information from it. Please call or write me at: Anthony Giacobbe, 15 Welles Ct., Staten Island, NY 10301 (212-273-5355)

LEAGUE FORMING: Need adult S-O-M baseball managers for face-to-face league in the Lehigh Valley, PA, area. Call Frank (215-776-1697) evenings.

LEAGUE FORMING: A new basic PBM hockey league starting. Will be continuous draft league with rookie drafts every year. Send for information to: Cliff Dolgins, 67 Old Country Road, New Rochelle, NY 10804

LEAGUE FORMING: Sixteen-team PBM league forming. All 16 teams have been chosen in a random draw. No teams have been drafted. Managers needed to fill a few more vacancies. Current S-O-M Baseball cards with additional players will be used. Season will last three months; 104-game season plus playoffs and World Series. Honest, dependable managers will be chosen. If interested, please contact: Richard Grimes, 8812 Cedar Ave. S.#1, Bloomington, MN 55420 [phone: 612-854-2732]

LEAGUE FORMING: Need 12 managers for a draft hockey league, using the new cards when they are released. An 80-game schedule is planned, using the super advanced version. Experience is not required but reliability is. It may seem early to plan a new league with the new cards, but early organization will help make any league a success. If you are interested in hockey and want to help start a competitive league, call or write: Rick Foster, Rt. 7, Box 552, Salisbury, NC 28144

Contests

CONTESTS: A unique double-elimination PBM baseball tournament. There will be \$200 in prize money awarded and a \$6.50 entry fee. For all rules and additional information, write to: Jeff Williams, 8052 Westcamp Road, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

CONTESTS: Attention all S-O-M gamers. This is an all sports contest [hockey, baseball, football and basketball]. To be held on August 8-9 in the Phoenix area. Trophies and other prizes will be awarded. For more information, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: S-O-M All Sports Tournament, 1104 W. Palo Verde Dr., Chandler, AZ 85224 or 2600 E. 7th Avenue, Apt. 7, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

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CONTESTS: There will be a face-to-face advanced baseball and super advanced football tournament held in Gary, IN, Saturday, Aug. 8 [note change from Aug. 1 as in the June Review]. It will be the Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament. Actual teams will be used and chosen on a first-apply, first-choose basis. Football will be single-game double-elimination and baseball best-of-seven double-elimination. Trophies will be awarded to winners and runners-up. I have rented a nice place (seating: 150). If you enjoy playing face-to-face and rarely have the chance, this is an opportunity to meet other gamers, test your skills and play with a competitive team. If interested, write or call. The sooner you apply the better your chances are of competing with a team of your choice. I own most teams. James Sanders, 5806 Kennedy Terrace, Apt. 103, Gary, IN 46403 [phone: 4-249-938-6137]

CONTESTS: Gold Cup IV! \$600 in cash prizes! The Gold Cup Challenge Series is S-O-M's answer to the World Series, Super Bowl and Stanley Cup. It's the original and unique play-by-mail, advanced baseball tournament, with a special system devised to give all participants a fair chance to "win the gold." The next world Strat-O-Matic champion will be awarded \$528. Don't miss out on this innovative tournament. For information and rules about participating, write: Gold Cup IV, c/o Steve Beren, 34-30 78th St., Apt. 6A, Jackson Heights, NY 11372. Phone: 212-458-8867. Be bold--go for the gold!

****What's available**** at S-O-M?

If you're looking for a gift item for birthday, graduation, etc., the special offer that Strat-O-Matic is offering may be just what you're looking for.

S-O-M, in an attempt to clear out some of its inventory, is offering the 1979 season [real-life] set of cards, game

box and all components for only \$14.25. The game box is the same colorful one that is sold retail and has not been offered previously via mail order. The four old timer teams that come with the retail-sold game are not included, but all other cards, parts and components are.

It's a \$6 savings--and a good introductory to tabletop baseball, S-O-M-style.

To purchase the special baseball game, write: Strat-O-Matic Game Co., Inc., 46 Railroad Plaza, Glen Head, NY 11545

Looking for back issues of Review?

The following back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review are still available. To order, write to: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

1981

June, May [very limited],
April, March, Feb. Cost: 70¢ each.

1980

Dec., Nov., October, Sept.,
July, April [limited], Feb. Cost:
60¢ each.

1979

Dec., Oct., Sept., August
[limited], June, May [very limited],
April, Feb. [very limited]. Cost: 60¢.

1978

Dec., Nov., Oct., Sept.,
August, July [limited], June, May,
April, March, Feb., Jan. Cost:
Dec.-August sell for 60¢ each; all
other months for 50¢ each.

1977

Dec., Nov., Oct., Sept.
Cost: 50¢ each.

1976

Dec., Nov., Oct. [limited],
Jan. [very limited]. Cost: 50¢
each.

1975

August, July, Jan. Cost:
50¢ each.

When ordering, please list a second or third choice, especially for "very limited" editions. Note also that Jan., 1981, is a complete sellout.

Now you can draft football players, too

With Strat-O-Matic Pro Football about to kick off another table-top season, it's time to choose your teams. Right?

Nope. Not necessarily. True, most grid gamers play either solitaire or in leagues whereby teams are used. But seldom do you find a league that's of the draft variety.

Biggest problem with draft football leagues, or play-by-mail, is that the defense is not realistically provided for. Some leagues draft defensive cards, too, but the next question is do you draft all three team defensive cards, one, two, or what?

The Trumbull County Football League from Warren, OH, has solved this longtime flaw in attempting to play something other than actual teams in football. After five years of drafting stock teams, the TCFL decided to draft players two years ago. And to circumvent the problem of team defensive cards the TCFL made up its own cards--standard team defensive cards, if you will--and the league has enjoyed its greatest success as a result.

"Our only real problem," writes Gary Stishan of Warren, "was the short pass. It was very hard to consistently complete short passes if the defender was a '6.' It wasn't too bad; our top quarterback ratings were still very close to the stats we got playing stock teams in the past." The TCFL did make some additional adjustments on the short pass card, however, and Stishan says "these cards seem to bring out the NFL's new passing style quite nicely."

SHORT PASS ZONE SUBDIVIDED

One very noticeable change by the TCFL was the subdividing of the Short Pass zone into three zones--short pass, and two Down and Out zones. The headings are now 0 Men, 1 Man, 2 Men. The three zones are treated like the flat and look-in zones. The Down and Out pass comes in when you want the receiver to go out of bounds to conserve the clock. If such a pass comes up Receiver, and he catches the pass, it is considered an out of bounds play and the clock only moves half of the 30 seconds.

As a result of the creation of the two Down and Out zones--right and left--and the possibility of having up to two defenders in each, the short pass zones can now hold up to six defensive backs.

"Most of the results on the standard defensive cards are the same as the S-O-M cards," continues Stishan, except the "cards just have more chances for the defensive ratings to come into play.

If a Pass Rush reading comes up, a "6" lineman is rated a "2" and a "5" lineman a "4" and the new ratings added for the linemen.

On fumble and interception chances, you take the number of "6s" (when a fumble) and add +3 to it for the recovery chance. For example: if a five is rolled on the defensive card, the defense has five "6s" in the lineup, you would add 3 to 5 thus creating a fumble chance of occurring of 2-8, and a 9-12 chance of no fumble.

Interceptions work the same way, except you use the defensive player's rating and then a modifier (found at the bottom of the defensive cards) is added.

Other readings on the team defensive cards that may need explanation are: "8 -LB (Behind)" - which means take the linebacker behind the zone you run at and use that rating. For example, if the LB is a "5" the result would be 8-5 = 3 yards.

"LB (Behind) S. Gain or M. Gain" - Means take the linebacker behind the zone you run at and use normal S-O-M rules for obtaining results. A "M. Gain" (medium gain) is a Short Gain + 10 yards.

On the next page you will find the team defensive cards used by the 13-member TCFL. All have played S-O-M Football for at least four years and the ages range from 17 to 40.

LINEBUCK ZONE

LINEBUCK ZONE

1 Man		2 Men		3 Men	
2	LB (Behind) S. Gain or M. Gain	LB (Behind) S. Gain or M. Gain	LB (in zone) +2 or +4	2	
3	S. Gain -LB (Behind)	S. Gain -LB (Behind)	7 -Right Tackle	3	
4	S. Gain -LB (Behind)	9 -LB (Behind)	LB (in zone) -2 or +2	4	
5	Fumble +3%	Fumble +2%	Fumble +1%	5	
6	6-Lineman	Right Tackle +0 or +5	Left Tackle 0 or +2	6	
7	+4	Left Tackle +3 or +5	0	7	
8	Lineman +4 or +7	Left Tackle +0 or +5	LB (in zone) 0 or +3	8	
9	Lineman +2 or +5	Right Tackle +1 or +4	LB (in zone) 0 or +4	9	
10	LB (Behind) +4 or +7	7 -LB (Behind)	Right Tackle -1 or +1	10	
11	8 -LB (Behind)	Right Tackle +2 or +7	LB (in zone) -1 or +2	11	
12	Short Gain	S. Gain -LB (Behind)	4 -LB (in zone)	12	
* 3+ all 6s					

OFF TACKLE ZONE

OFF TACKLE ZONE

0 Men		1 Man		2 Men	
2	Free Safety M. Gain or L. Gain	Free Safety M. Gain or L. Gain	6 -Tackle	2	
3	LB (Behind zone) S. Gain or M. Gain	LB (Behind zone) S. Gain or M. Gain	6 - LB (in zone)	3	
4	12 -LB (Behind zone)	8 -LB (Behind)	LB (in zone) 0 or +1	4	
5	Fumble +4%	Fumble +2%	Fumble +0%	5	
6	9 -LB (Behind)	9 -tackle	5 -LB (in zone)	6	
7	LB (Behind) +1 or +2	Tackle +1 or +2	-1	7	
8	10 -LB (Behind)	Tackle 0 or +5	LB (in zone) -1 or +2	8	
9	10 -LB (Behind)	Tackle +1 or +6	LB (in zone) -2 or +5	9	
10	LB (Behind) +3 or +7	8 -Tackle	Tackle 0 or +3	10	
11	8 -LB (Behind)	6 -Tackle	4 -LB (in zone)	11	
12	Short Gain	LB (Behind) +8 or S. Gain	-3	12	
* 3+ all 6s					

END RUN ZONE

END RUN ZONE

0 Men		1 Man		2 Men	
2	FS M. Gain or L. Gain	FS M. Gain or L. Gain	LB (in zone) 0 or +2	2	
3	LB (Behind) S. Gain or M. Gain	S. Gain -LB (Behind)	LB (in zone) -1 or +1	3	
4	Short Gain	LB (Behind) +5 or S. Gain	4 -End	4	
5	Fumble +6%	Fumble +2%	Fumble -2%	5	
6	LB (Behind) +2 or +5	7 -End	-4	6	
7	10 -LB (Behind)	9 -End	End -2 or 0	7	
8	11 -LB (Behind)	End -1 or +5	LB (in zone) 0 or +5	8	
9	10 -LB (Behind)	End -1 or +6	LB (in zone) -2 or +4	9	

(Con't)

END RUN ZONE con't

	0 Men	1 Man	2 Men	
10	0	0	0	10
11	11 -LB (behind) D	11 -End D	LB (in zone) -1 or +4	11
12	Short Gain	S.Gain -LB (behind)	3 -End	12

* 3 + all Gs

FLAT PASS/LOOK-IN ZONE

FLAT PASS/LOOK-IN ZONE

	0 Men	1 Man	2 Men	
2	FS M.Gain or L.Gain	+5 or X*		2
3	Receiver	Int. +3*	Int. +2	3
4	Receiver	LB (in zone) X or +3		4
5	+9	LB (in zone) +1 or +3		5
6	+10	LB (in zone) X or Rec.		6
7	Receiver	LB (in zone) X or Rec.		7
8	Receiver	Receiver	Receiver	8
9	Receiver	Receiver		9
10	+23	5 -LB (in zone)		10
11	Short Gain	Receiver		11
12	Medium Gain	X or Receiver	Int. +4	12

* 4 +LB rating

SHORT PASS

SHORT PASS

	0 Men	1 Man	2 Men	
2	Receiver	Back in zone X or Receiver	Int. +17	2
3	Defender +12 or Rec.	Back in zone X or Rec.	Extra def. back in zone X or S.Gain	3
4	Pass Rush	Pass Rush		4
5	Def. +15 or Rec.	Def. +10 or Rec.-	-9 ▲	5
6	Short Gain	Receiver		6
7	Def. X or S.Gain	Def. back in zone X or Receiver		7
8	Receiver (+)	Receiver (+)	Receiver (+)	8
9	Int. +12*	Int. +15*	Int. +19	9
10	Receiver	Receiver	Pass Rush	10
11	FS Rec. or L.Gain	Back in zone S.Gain or Receiver	-9 ▲	11
12	M. Gain	Must Run or Pass Rush	Must Run or -8 ▲	12

* 2 + Def. rating

* 3 + Def. back rating

LONG PASS

LONG PASS

	0 Men	1 Man	2 Men	
2	Long Gain	Medium Gain	Receiver	2
3	Receiver or L.Gain*	X or M.Gain*	Must Run or -10 ▲	3
4	Long Gain	X or Receiver*	-7 ▲	4
5	Pass Rush	Pass Rush	Pass Rush	5
6	Receiver (+)	Receiver (+)		6
7	Int. +30*	Int. +35*	Int. +27*	7
8	Defender	Defender		8
9	Receiver or L.Gain	X or Receiver		9
	Defender	Def. Back in zone	Extra Def. Back in zone X or M.Gain	
	X or M.Gain	X or M.Gain		
10	Receiver	Receiver	Receiver (+)	10
11	Def. Rec. or L.Gain	Pass Rush	-8 ▲	11
12	Pass Rush	Def. back in zone M.Gain or Receiver	-9 ▲	12

* 3 + Defender
rating* 4 + Defensive back
rating

GKSML has memorable games on Memorial Day

13

The eve before Memorial Day was a memorable time for the Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League (GKSML). The long-running face-to-face baseball league had two records set on the evening of Sunday, May 24.

What started out as a routine gathering of the 10-member league which is in its 22nd full-season replay, finished up in the "That's Incredible!" category instead.

One of the memorable (or to the victim perhaps forgettable game would be more apropos) contests involved Todd Newell, a senior in high school and at 17 youngest member of the GKSML, and Warren Newell, Todd's uncle and Review co-editor. The two were finishing up a six-game series in the second week of the National League season. Warren had won four of the first five games, including a 5-1 triumph behind Dick Ruthven.

It was Ruthven that started the memorable game--only this time he didn't get past one inning. Todd jumped on him for three runs in the first and struck for five more in the second. Ruthven was long gone midway through the second inning. But Todd, who had scored 28 runs in his last 10 games and had been lamenting his lack of hitting, was far from through.

Three more runs scored in the third and seven runners crossed the plate in the fourth. It was 18-0 after four innings!

After two scoreless innings, Todd touched Warren's pitching for a six-spot in the seventh, added four more in the eighth and two in the ninth. The carnage: 30 runs, 33 hits, 7 walks. It was easily the most runs and hits by one team ever in a GKSML game. Todd hammered 12 extra base blows bff four pitchers and four home runs were walloped.

Everybody except for Ken Griffey in the starting lineup collected at least two RBI and all 11 of the players that Todd utilized scored at least once. Dale Murphy went four-for-six and had two homers, six RBI and scored five times. Bake McBride was five-of-eight with five RBI, Warren Cromartie five-of-seven with two doubles, four RBI and five runs scored, Bill Russell homered, went four-for-eight and had five RBI and Ken Griffey scored four times. Larry Parrish had the other home run.

Warren waved the white flag of surrender late in the game, but Todd didn't notice it. Dickie Noles, the third pitcher sent to the battle-front by Warren, wound up pitching four and one-third innings, giving up 14 hits and 13 runs, all of 'em earned. And Grant Jackson, the last in line, got cuffed for 10 hits and seven earned runs in only two and two-thirds innings.

LONGEST GAME GOES 27 INNINGS!

The GKSML has had many memorable moments over the years. Dave Kingman's walloping 60 home runs in a National League replay was among the best remembered. There have been no-hitters and many individual feats of glory that managers will never forget.

But to have two "once-in-a-lifetime" feats occur the same evening is truly astonishing. Most members of the GKSML were aware of the 33-hit, 30-run explosion, but only the participants and Todd Newell (waiting for a ride home) were witnessed to the second all-time GKSML record.

The game, matching Jeff Green against Del Newell, was routine for the first nine innings. But it certainly wasn't for the next 17!

Yes, the game lasted 27 innings. It wasn't until Ken Oberkfell blooped a single with the bases loaded in the bottom of the 27th with one out that the marathon game finally came to an end. Del won the game, 6-5, but not until six pitchers had seen action and the last one, Vern Ruhle, had hurled 11 scoreless innings. Green, defending GKSML champion, used three pitchers, with Bobby Castillo going the last 17 1/3 innings and finally being nicked for the winning run.

When the war of attrition was over, both the victor and vanquished were heard to bemoan the at-bats and innings pitched that had been used
(continued on next page)

in the never-ending struggle.

Del had tied the game with three runs in the bottom of the ninth and then, inning after inning, the scoreless beat went on. There weren't even many serious scoring threats along the way. Garry Matthews tried to score on a two-out single [running chance: 1-15], only to be cut down when a "19" was the split number. That happened in the 16th inning--or early in the game!

Here are the line scores on those memorable games:

Todd Newell 353 700 642 - 30 33 2
Warren Newell 000 000 110 - 2 7 2

Leibrandt and Trevino; Ruthven, Price [2], Noles [3], Jackson [7] and Benedict. WP - Leibrandt. LP - Ruthven. HR - Murphy 2, Russell, Parrish.

Jeff Green 021 020 000 000 000 000 000 000 000 - 5 22 1
Del Newell 011 000 003 000 000 000 000 000 001 - 6 27 2

B. Forsch, Robinson [9], Castillo [10] and Kennedy, Foote [8]; K. Forsch, Bradford [7], Littlefield [8], Camp [10], D. Smith [11], Ruhle [17]. WP - Ruhle. LP - Castillo. HR - Easler, Jeff Green. Oberkfell singled in Dawson with winning run in bottom of 27th.

'Horner at the Bat'

With apologies to Ernest L. Thayer, creator of the classic baseball poem, "Casey at the Bat," here is an S-O-M-version with Atlanta's "Blond Bomber," Bob Horner, playing the immortal role of Casey.

The adaptation is the work of Larry Hayes of San Francisco, CA, an avid fan of Horner, S-O-M and poems, and not necessarily in that order. Anyway, here we go with "Horner at the Bat."

The outlook wasn't brilliant for the Georgia nine that day,
The score was four to two with but one inning more to play.
And so when Matthews died a first and Murphy did the same,
A hollow silence fell upon the players of the game.

The pilot who was leading started putting on his hat,
For he knew this game was in the bag, if Horner didn't bat.
The trailing skipper crossed his fingers, and glanced down at the
scoresheet,
But when he saw the order, he also crossed his feet.

Because Frias preceded Horner, as did Larvell Blanks,
And the former was a turkey, and the latter was of the lower ranks.
To see Horner bat would take wishing aplenty,
Since the odds on it were roughly one in twenty.

But Frias scratched out a single, to the wonderment of all,
And Blanks, the seldom used, tore the cover off the ball.
And when the dust had lifted, and they saw what had occurred,
There was Larvell safe at second, and Frias a 'hugging third.

The tabletop shook as the rivals voiced both anger and glee,
For what was to follow, was something we'd all pay to see.
The pitching ace had weakened but had a rally to stop,
As Horner's imposing card was shuffled to the top.

One peek at the card and anyone could tell,
That the pitcher was destined for a hot place called hell.
For the one column was laden with homers on the five, six and seven,
Which the manager honestly compared to a better place named Heaven.

The look on the manager's face wasn't just a smile,
But a full-fledged beacon that shone for a mile.
For in his hand was the card that could turn gloom inside out,
And with stats like Horner's, there was very little doubt.

[continued]

Now the dice were grabbed for the game-ending blow,
That was sure to come with a last deciding throw.
A quick puff into cupped hands while the dice rattle around,
Make for a roll that's sure to end up "downtown."

The cubes were tossed and when they were done,
The red die halted, and showed the number one.
A white die, also a one, slid to a stop,
As the deciding third die continued to spin like a top.

Oh, somewhere in this favored land the sun is shining bright,
Somewhere bands are playing, and somewhere hearts are light.
And somewhere kids are shouting, and somewhere men relax,
But there's no joy in Atlanta, for mighty Horner,
had rolled triple snake eyes,
for a lineout max!

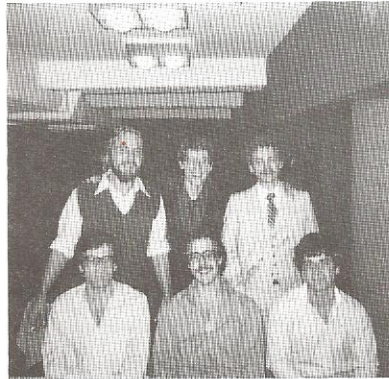
Mini conventions are big success

Play-by-mail leagues may be the most popular fad in the table-gaming world today--but face-to-face tournaments aren't far behind!

Two such memorable tournaments were held in recent months, one at the Ramada Inn Hotel in Montreal, and the other Gambit IX (Great Arm-chair Managers Baseball Invitation Tournament), which was hosted by Jeff Dirgo of Verona, NJ.

Louis Rakita, president of the McGill [University] Association of Strat-O-Matic Heroes [M.A.S.H.], organized the gathering in Montreal that attracted 23 gamers representing his club, the Concordia University Tabletop League and the Montreal Tabletop Baseball League.

One gamer, Roy Snyder, brought along a "bat rack" that included a hundred dice, another, Robert Jadah,



MONTREAL'S GAMING LEADERSHIP - (STANDING, L TO R) ROBERT JADAH, MTBL PRESIDENT; LOUIS RAKITA; MICHAEL GENEIELE, CONCORDIA PRESIDENT. SEATED (FROM LEFT): BRIAN SCHNEIDMAN, JEFF SACKS, ERLE SCHNEIDMAN.

president of the MTBL, had his hand-constructed Lyman Bostock Memorial Stadium, replete with Bostock's card "buried" in a box, while some of the gamers brought their wives and girlfriends.

Action began at 10 a.m. and by 1 a.m. the field had been narrowed to six teams, who then adjourned to Rakita's home to finish play.



Finally, at 4:45 a.m. the Kadets I, a team co-managed by Brian Schneidman and Jeff Sacks, had defeated Erle Schneidman's team (both division winners in MASH) and pocketed the top prize of \$50.

Rakita, although somewhat dazed from lack of sleep and the whirlwind of activity that had taken place, said that a good time was had by all and that another such tournament was in the works for next year. "I can honestly say," enthused Rakita, "that never have so many gathered for so long to see so few win so little while playing so often!"

Meanwhile, in another tournament setting, Thomas Swank of Bloomfield, NJ, put on his semi-annual Gambit, with Dirgo playing the role of host par excellence.

Sixteen gamers took part, including such familiar dice-rollers as Steve Beren, organizer of the Gold Cup Challenge Series; Larry King, commissioner of the Empire State S-O-M League, last year's champion Ray Vanderhoff, and many others.

Each manager took four teams from 1971-1980 and the early rounds were single-elimination, with the semifinals and finals best-of-three affairs. Play consumed 12 hours and when the final die had been cast it was Russ Caporelli of West Paterson, NJ, manager of the '78 Dodgers, who won it all, including a glittering trophy and a check for \$100.

Ironically, Swank had predicted Caporelli's coup when introducing the managerial lineup before the tourney opened. Last year the '78 Dodgers



AWARDS CEREMONY - THOMAS SWANK (LEFT) AND JEFF DIRGO, HOST FOR GAMBIT IX, PRESENT TROPHIES TO (L-R IN MIDDLE) RUNNERUP JESSE SEEGBILLER, GOOSE GORGA, WHO TOOK THIRD, AND NEW GAMBIT KING RUSS CAPORELLI.



SIEVE BEREN OF GOLD CUP FAME SEEMS TO BE DESCRIBING A FISH THAT GOT AWAY--OR HOW FAR HE CAME FROM WINNING GAMBIT IX. BEREN DID WIN SEVEN OF ELEVEN GAMES.

5-10 off Charlie Hough's card (HR 1-12, Fly Out 13-20) and Swank this time picked a "16." Then he hit the floor!

In the finals, matching Jesse Seegmiller of Brooklyn, NY, and his '77 Rangers against the '78 Dodgers, it was L.A. winning by scores of 4-3 and then in a breeze, 15-1.

Meanwhile, Swank was revived plans were already under way for the next Gambit invitational tournament.

hammered seven home runs in one game against the '77 Rangers and Swank remembered that awesome display.

Swank's '77 Reds, in fact, fell to the Dodgers in the quarter-finals, dropping a heartbreaking (and almost backbreaking, as Swank toppled to the floor, screaming and kicking over his ill luck with the dice. Caporelli won the game, 9-8, in 11 innings, as pinch-hitter Teddy Martinez homered off Dale Murray (6-9, HR 1-2, Double 3-20) by drawing a "2" split number.

Swank earlier had a chance to take the lead when, in the top of the 11th, Johnny Bench rolled a 1-8 (HR 1-18, Double 19-20). Swank drew a "19." The next batter rolled a

Readers roll 'em

NAMES, TEAMS WANTED

I enjoy your magazine and I feel it will enable me to speak out and be heard all the way to Glen Head, NY (home of S-O-M).

I would like to make a suggestion concerning S-O-M Football. I have a tendency to intermix my years and teams. When I put the teams back I sometimes have trouble finding what teams go where because some of the cards don't have years marked on them. I wish S-O-M would put the team names and years on all cards like it does for baseball.

Also, if S-O-M ever makes any more baseball teams of the past, I wish it would consider the 1950 Boston Red Sox. This has to be one of the most explosive teams of all time [scored 1027 runs in 154 games]

Bill Salter
31270 Wildwood
Apt. 2209
Wixom, MI

UNHAPPY WITH HERNANDEZ

As commissioner of the three-year-old MISOMOPBL (Major Indoor Strat-O-Matic Orchard Park Baseball League), I feel that I can speak for my fellow managers in expressing a certain degree of dismay regarding the 1980 cards.

While the majority of the cards are acceptable, I must say I am disgusted with Keith Hernandez's card. He not only led the National League in runs scored (111), but also finished second in batting (.321), had a good double percentage (one every 15 at-bats) and a considerable number of walks (83).

I selected him in our draft and structured my team around this outstanding first baseman. I was shocked to see his pitiful card. Against right-handers, he's an easy out. The 1 column contains two walks (7 and 8) and one hit (10), while the 3 column has hits from 2-6 and 9-10. I find this irritating and unacceptable coming from such a fine game manufacturer.

I have no quarrel with the card against left-handers, but I find it hard to believe this card can even come close to the "actual" production of Hernandez. He has since become a platoon player on my team. I realize the cards must change from year to year, and new formats attempted, but these should be conducted with appropriate thought and cautiousness.

In retrospect, I would like to commend the company for the continuity among pitching cards, as this aids in rating the pitchers. I realize that "you can't please everyone," but come on Strat-O-Matic, I don't want to pay dearly for a .260 hitter's card--I want a super-star!

Ken Liszewski
123 Sielak Road
Orchard Park, NY

Editor's note: Statistically, Keith Hernandez's card is correct. S-O-M has to abide by statistics when the cards are created. It appears that Hernandez was one of those players who, although he bats left, fared better against the same type of pitching.

DOES RICHMAN PLAY HIS GAMES?

In all the years I've been subscribing to the Review, I'm surprised to see that no one has ever asked whether or not Hal Richman plays his own brainchild.

Of course he plays them, I'm sure, but why don't we ask him to send in a replay result to the Review? Everyone in the S-O-M world would be interested in seeing how good the creator is at his own games.

With all he has to do, it wouldn't surprise me if he doesn't have much time to play a full season or even a single-team replay. It would be terrible to think that the game company keeps him so busy he doesn't have time to dally in his own league.

Dick Hunt
104½ W. Steel St.
St. Johns, MI

Editor's note: S-O-M's creator admits that creating new products and testing them occupy the bulk of his time--both at home and at the office.

Computer handles all statistical chores

Armed with his trusty computer, Brian Webster turned a mountain of statistics into a well-packaged, highly readable yearbook for the North American Baseball League. The yearbook's cover paid tribute to the 1980 league champion, Oak Bay Delicious, by recreating "Delicious Stadium," and overall the booklet was a work of art.

Webster, who calls Victoria, British Columbia home and is a student, studying urban geography, says the NABL was born in 1976 through an ad in the Review and has since evolved into a two-league, eight teams in each, model of stability.

Each of the managers is profiled (with Stewart Arneil assisting Webster in compiling the summaries), there's a section listing trades and transactions, another for the draft, plus all team statistics as well as individual league leaders are also part of the package.

One interesting section is devoted to a list of suspensions and draft forfeitures, whereby players were suspended for being overused or improperly used during the season. Typical violation was using a starting pitcher four times in a week. In such cases, the fourth start resulted in that game being forfeited, although all stats were kept.

Ted Simmons was overused to the zenith degree--with his manager being penalized by having Simmons suspended for a whopping 33 games.

Another interesting facet to the yearbook was a statistical category entitled "Stolen Base Defense." Each team had its stolen base attempts and successes listed, both for home and away games, and a percentage for number of times caught. The Stratford Festivals, for instance, were caught only 28.4 percent of the time, stealing 164 bases in 229 attempts. Manager Barry Willmore's roadrunners swiped 47 of 58 attempts successfully playing at home, and ran wild on the road, swiping 117 times and being cut down only 54.

HERE'S THE NABL MANAGERIAL LINEUP

Most of the members of the NABL are students. There's also a strong Canadian connection as well as west coast. Rick Helwig of Hanover, Ontario is the oldest member at 23. He has an honors degree in business administration from Wilfrid Laurier University and Webster credits Helwig with helping pilot the NABL through trying times that afflict all PBM leagues at some time or another.

Along with being well-organized, Helwig is also the league's number one collector of draft picks, frequently trading away players for the cherished draft choices. Helwig, who joined the NABL in 1977, manages the Hanover Jays in the American League and Hanover Roadrunners in the National.

Webster, who founded the league when 16 years old, has had the Victoria Shamrocks in the N.L. and co-manages, with Stewart Arneil, the Vancouver Island Totems in the A.L. Arneil, another student, also guided the Oak Bay Delicious to the league's championship. He also resides in Victoria.

Here's the rest of the NABL managerial lineup and the teams managed: John Botting, student (Neustadt Cardinals, A.L.); Brian Cheffins, history student (Canadian Club, N.L.); Jim Dewey, student, lives in Spokane, WA (Spokane Fat Cats, A.L.); Wayne Irving, student, perhaps NABL's most enthusiastic manager (Victoria Scouts, A.L.); Jeff Lewis, physics major at U. of California-Davis, has George Brett (Fresno Stars, N.L.; Fresno Reds, A.L.); Jeff Moritz (Spokane Mets, N.L.); John Salem, student (Hanover A's, A.L.); and Rob Norris, who managed the Hanover Barons last season but did not return.

OAK BAY SURPRISES IN PLAYOFFS

Five teams won 90 or more games in the NABL's 1980 season (based on 1979 S-O-M cards)--but eventual champion Oak Bay was not one of them. In fact, Oak Bay finished a distant second in the West Division of the N.L.

(continued on next page)

and was a whopping 16 games under .500, 73-89. But Oak Bay turned on division champ Victoria in the first round of the playoffs, sweeping the Shamrocks, 4-3, 8-4 and 5-3, as Gary Carter went 5-for-12 and drove in eight runs. Next it was the Spokane Mets, winners of 102 games in the regular-season, who bit the dust, with Oak Bay winning in six games after clubbing 12 home runs.

Jeff Lewis' Fresno Reds, A.L. kingpins, awaited Oak Bay in the championship series. The Reds saw red, however, as Oak Bay swept the series in four straight games as Phil Niekro won MVP honors after notching two of the wins and giving up only nine hits in two complete-game efforts. Deciding game, and the most exciting playoff game in NABL history, was the second when Oak Bay pulled out a 6-5 victory in an 18-inning thriller. That broke Fresno's back and Oak Bay's rage to riches story was almost complete.

Niekro, incidentally, had five complete games in the playoffs. A total of 69 home runs were hit in 32 playoff games. But the most interesting statistic of all was the timing on Oak Bay's record: if it had been in any other division the Delicious would not have even qualified for the playoffs, the record was that bad.

Standings and leaders: (note that leaders are overall; both leagues)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	W	L	GB	Avg.	ERA	Batting	Home Runs
Fresno Reds	94	68	-	.276	3.64	Rice SFC	.386 Rice SFC 55
Hanover A's	87	75	7	.277	3.88	Hernandez HB	.346 Thomas OBD 53
Neustadt Cards	79	83	15	.257	3.53	Madlock SF	.346 Kingman HB 52
Hanover Jays	66	96	28	.270	4.55	Molitor SF	.337 Schmidt HB 44
West						North SFC	.334 Winfield SM 37
Vancouver Totems	94	68	-	.268	3.57	AB1	
Spokane Fat Cats	92	70	2	.296	3.97	Rice SFC	177 H: Rice SFC 238
Victoria Scouts	78	84	16	.272	4.15	Kemp SFC	127 Hernandez HB 225
Oak Bay Lancers	58	104	36	.246	3.84	Thomas OBD	124 2B: Rice SFC 52
						Schmidt HB	123 Brett FR 46
						Jackson VS	112 3B: Templeton HB 24
							Hernandez HB 24

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	W	L	GB	Avg.	ERA	ERA	
Hanover Barons	105	57	-	.262	3.21	Seaver SM	1.61 Winfield SM 121
Spokane Mets	102	60	3	.279	3.37	Bibby OBL	2.35 SB: Wilson HA 89
Stratford Fest.	80	82	25	.283	4.33	Fulgham NC	2.37 North SFC 82
Fresno Stars	74	88	31	.288	3.96	Solomon VS	2.84 CG: Niekro OBD 30
West						Sutcliffe NC	2.91 Comer FS 25
Victoria Shamr.	84	78	-	.277	4.01		SH: Seaver SM 8
Oak Bay Delic.	73	89	11	.258	4.50		SA: Kern HB 29
Canadian Club	68	94	15	.269	4.55		Palmer HRR 26
Hanover Road.	62	100	22	.257	4.26		

Wins	Strikeouts	
Niekro OBD	22	Richard CC 326
Seaver SM	22	Ryan HJ 210
Martinez FR	20	Carlton VS 191
John SM	19	Guidry VIT 182
Langford HA	19	Niekro OBD 182
J. Palmer SFC	19	

MVP - Hernandez [NL], Brett [AL]
Cy Young - Seaver [NL],
Sutcliffe [AL]

Playoffs

Fresno Reds d. Hanover A's, 3-0
Vancouver Totems d. Spokane Fat Cats, 3-0
Oak Bay Delicious d. Victoria Shamrocks, 3-0
Spokane Mets d. Hanover Barons, 3-0
AL - Fresno Reds d. Vancouver Island Totems, 4-3
NL - Oak Bay Delicious d. Spokane Mets, 4-2

The Review staff

Editors: Warren Newell [Otsego, MI], Del Newell [Kalamazoo, MI].
Production: Karen Newell.
Printing: Oliver S Tobias [Kalamazoo, MI].
Correspondence: Should all be sent to: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078

S-O-M Baseball trivia quiz

Attention, students! Here is your next S-O-M Trivia quiz.
Instructor Marc Jacobson is dealing with the topic: "Expansion teams and players" this month.

Jacobson, who calls Philadelphia, PA, home, has a baseball card collection that rivals Robert Henry, the former trivia master. Jacobson, in fact, has become literally Henry's designated replacement for S-O-M baseball trivia. The two are friends and recently even had adjacent seats for a Philadelphia Flyers' playoff game.

Jacobson, as far as his background, is a graduate of Temple University with a B.A. in mathematics. He will teach math at Drexel University next semester. He's lectured on the mathematical aspects of S-O-M before, most recently before Temple's Math Majors Association.

He's also found time to prepare a series of trivia quizzes for the Review. And so without further fanfare, here is instructor Marc Jacobson with his latest trivia quiz:

- QUESTION 1: Which team received the most "expansion compensation" players?
- QUESTION 2: How did "post-expansion" 1968 Angels wind up with only 19 players?
- QUESTION 3: How did "post-expansion" 1968 Indians wind up with 21 players?
- QUESTION 4: Which players had to be transferred from one non-expansion team to another?
- QUESTION 5: Which expansion players were based on more than one season of data?
- QUESTION 6: Which expansion card was based on 1966, yet picked up two additional positions?
- QUESTION 7: Which player bearing the name of his expansion team on the card, had the most at-bats on that card?
- QUESTION 8: Which player assigned to an expansion team had the highest earned run average?
-
- ANSWER 1: The 1968 Dodgers received four "compensation players": Alcaraz, Sudakis, Aguirre and Purdin.
- ANSWER 2: The 1968 Angels gave up Kirkpatrick, Schaal, Mincher and Pattin to expansion; received Murphy and Morton, and had Wilhelm transferred from the White Sox, leaving 19 players.
- ANSWER 3: The 1968 Dodgers transferred Versailles to the Indians, giving them 21 players.
- ANSWER 4: Besides Versailles and Wilhelm, 1968 Guisti is transferred from the Astros to Cardinals and 1976 Fitzmorris is transferred from Royals to Indians.
- ANSWER 5: 1976 Lis of Seattle is based on 1974-75-76, 1976 Roberts of Toronto is based on 1974-75 and 1968 Sutherland of Montreal is based on 1967-68.
- ANSWER 6: Lee Elia's 1968 Cubs card is his 1966 White Sox card, with second base and third base added.
- ANSWER 7: 1968 Whitaker has "Seattle" on his card, yet also batted 441 times.
- ANSWER 8: 1976 Jefferson of the Blue Jays has a whopping 8.56 earned run average.

S-O-M league, replay scene

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CANAM STRAT-O-MATIC LEAGUE - Ten-member baseball league that is comprised of eight Canadiens and is currently in its seventh full-season replay...Commissioner is Gary Fell, a financial analyst who resides in Saint John, New Brunswick...Five of league's members spent 3½ days on Prince Edward Island last summer, sharing good times in gaming...CanAm puts out comprehensive recordbook, with an interesting section on all-time batting and pitching records, in S-O-M, for current players...recent season was highlighted by two pennant races that went down to final day, with Gary Fell's Stampeders and Coach of the Year Clark Baglolo's Maroons tying in the East Division, with the Stampeders winning a one-game playoff game that was played face-to-face. And in the West it was Ken Risner of Delton, MI, not far from Kalamazoo, that edged Linda Fell's Pirates by a game for the pennant. Linda is the wife of Ron Fell, a traffic consultant, and they make their home in Toronto...Ron Fell, at 31, is the oldest member of the CanAm, while Risner, a 19-year-old college student, is the youngest...the rest of the 1979-80 CanAm managerial lineup was: Kevin Conrad [Banditos], Bridgewater, Nova Scotia; Steve Wilson [Bearcats], Amherst, Nova Scotia; Hugh Caie [Gryphons], Bathurst, New Brunswick; Dick Silvernail [Highlanders], Hopkins, SC; Baglolo, who lives on Prince Edward Island; and Don Bell [Swifties], Saint John, New Brunswick...Two new managers have been added for the current season as Rev. William Lewis, 31, of Jersey City, NJ, a Baptist minister, has replaced Silvernail, who had to retire because of his basketball coaching duties at University of South Carolina, and Mike Regimbal of Toronto has taken over for Linda Fell as skipper of the Pirates...The Stampeders defeated the Maroons in the one game playoff, 4-2, and then stamped the Wolverines in the World Series, winning in four straight games. Ed Halicki, acquired in a risky trade with the Gryphons in which George Brett was given up, was the pitching hero of the playoffs, winning the tiebreaker and then two Series games...Jack Clark of the Maroons was MVP after batting .325, setting a league record with 61 doubles and driving in 129 runs...And Maroons' manager Baglolo was Manager of the Year after guiding his team to a 100-61 record--a 42-game improvement over the previous year's sorry 58-102 mark...The Maroons also had the Cy Young winner in Phil Niekro, who became the first CanAm pitcher to win 30 games (30-8), plus he also had a 2.55 ERA... There was one no-hitter, by Kevin Kobel of the Maroons, who slowed the Stampeders to a walk...one of league's lowlights was expected "Big Three" of Nolan Ryan (12-14, 3.38), Dennis Eckersley (13-20, 3.86) and Steve Carlton (15-18, 4.27) having sad-sack seasons for the Tigers, who again finished under .500.

League standings and leaders:

East	W	L	GB	Avg.	ERA	Batting	Home Runs
Stampeders	101	60	-	.275	3.21	Brett GRAY .337	Foster PIR 56
Maroons	100	61	1	.280	3.46	Yount BEA .332	Rice BAND 43
Banditos	87	73	13½	.246	3.65	Clark MAR .325	Thornton WOL 43
Bearcats	75	85	25½	.281	3.59	Parker STA .317	Luzinski BEA 41
Gryphons	56	104	44½	.242	4.71		
West						RBI	ERA
Wolverines	93	67	-	.254	3.34	Foster PIR 142	Swan PIR 2.42
Pirates	92	68	1	.256	3.37	Clark MAR 129	Guidry WOL 2.47
Highlanders	74	86	19	.257	4.25	Winfield STA 122	Halick STA 2.48
Tigers	64	96	29	.244	4.35	Rice BAN 117	P.NiekroMAR 2.55
Swifties	59	101	34	.241	3.84		Palmer PIR 2.76
Wins			Strikeouts			SB:	
P.Niekro MAR	30-8		Richard BEA	373		2B:	Clark MAR 61
Guidry WOL	25-9		Guidry WOL	327		3B:	Parker STA 20
Richard BEA	24-12		Ryan TIG	275		H:	Parker STA 203
Palmer PIR	22-13					R:	Parker STA 102
Blue MAR	22-14					SA:	Gossage BEA 31
Knepper STA	21-7						

(continued)

WESTERN CANADA SUMMER HOCKEY LEAGUE - A 12-team draft league that played a 76-game regular season plus playoffs...PBM and uses super-advanced rules...11 of 12 coaches completed initial season with Stephen Herring, the league's commissioner as well as statistician, defeating Sioux in the championship playoff, three games to one...WCSHL may be only hockey league to keep all statistics on computer (Herring sent the Review a six-foot printout sheet with team and individual results)... league members include, in addition to Herring who lives in Calgary, Alberta: Neal Walters (Sycamores), St. Albert, Alberta; Chris Manfredi (Rebels), Calgary; Bill Poillitt (Spitfires), Calgary; Tom Mills, Santa Maria, CA (Condors); Bob Jinkerson (Vikings), DeSoto, MO; Bruce Shaw (Outlaws), Calgary; Chuck Vogel (Bears), Florissant, MO; Allan Patterson (Spearshakers), Calgary; Craig Cameron (Crusaders), Toronto; and Chris Donnelly (Hounds), St. Albert...Mustangs led WCSHL in goals scored (320), fewest goals allowed (192) and had best percentage on power-play conversions (27.0)...Mustangs were also least penalized, going to the "box" for only 653 minutes. The Crusaders, meanwhile, were penalized 1,086 minutes.

Standings and leaders:

Division A	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	Division B	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Sycamores	45	27	3	94	301	245	Mustangs	55	13	8	118	320	192
Rebels	39	26	11	89	266	218	Sioux	34	30	12	80	258	253
Spitfires	30	34	12	72	229	241	Bears	32	28	16	80	282	274
Condors	22	39	15	59	224	289	Spear'kers	36	33	7	79	256	240
Vikings	23	41	12	58	209	262	Crusaders	31	36	9	71	240	257
Outlaws	21	46	9	51	202	298	Hounds	24	39	13	61	254	272

Goals

Lafleur SYC	58
McDonald MUST	54
Taylor SIO	48
Nedomansky SPEA	47
Bossy VIK	47
Dionne SPEA	46

Assists

Salming MUST	84
VanBoxmeer MUST	82
Larson CON	80
Potvin SYC	72
Lafleur SYC	69
Turnbull SPIT	67

Points

Lafleur SYC	127
Potvin SYC	107
Salming MUST	102
MacMillan CRAUS	100
McDonald MUST	99
Taylor SIO	97

GAA

Resch MUST	2.37
Dryden MUST	2.47
Smith REB	2.73
Hanlon SPIT	2.87
Palmateer SPEA	2.90
Cheevers REB	3.03

Power-Play Goals

McDonald MUST	18
Dionne SPEA	16
Lafleur SYC	13
Sargent REB	13
Gardner SPIT	13

Short-Handed Goals

Marcotte HOU	12
Wilson CRAUS	371
O'Reilly SYC	343

Shots

McDonald	MUST 378
Lafleur	SYC 325

1977 CINCINNATI REDS REPLAY - Amazingly realistic replay conducted by John Eigenauer, Provo, UT, who guided the Reds to their exact real-life record of 88-74...a veteran of over 10,000 baseball games, Eigenauer says this is his most realistic replay, statistically, ever...Pete Rose batted .316, five points higher than real-life; Ken Griffey .318 (.311) and Dan Driessen .304 (compared to .300)...George Foster, after hitting 52 home runs in real-life, had 48 via the dice and drove in 149 (145) runs...some of the pitchers on a staff that ranked far from great were roughed up more than real-life, but Tom Seaver came through with a glittering 25-2 record and 2.27 ERA. Of course, Tom Terrific pitched almost 100 innings more than real-life, where injuries curtailed his playing time.

MAINE LINE LEAGUE - Face-to-face baseball league that calls Portland, ME home, and has completed eight seasons of 162 games...both basic and advanced versions of game are used--each for half a season...10 players are protected from roster each year and then draft is held...last season saw Maine Line expand from eight to 12 teams...Henry Vance's Red Sox won American League title and fourth straight Maine Line League crown, edging Dana Feuantee's Braves in the World Series, 4-3...Tom Seaver of the Red

(continued)

Sox tossed a no-hitter--which was his fifth, a league record, and the Maine Line's 17th overall...Seaver and Steve Carlton of the Braves were Cy Young winners, George Brett (Royals) and Bob Horner (Braves) MVPs... charter members of the league include Ron Dionne, Kevin Malia, James Vance and Steve Meeslawski.

Standings and overall batting/pitching leaders:

<u>American</u>			<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Batting</u>	<u>Home Runs</u>
Red Sox (Henry Vance)	109	53	-			Brett ROY .373	Horner BRA 57
Royals (Hank Hartman)	93	69	16			Carew RS .357	Murphy BRA 54
Angels (Steve Meeslawski)	81	81	28			Dilone TWI .357	Thomas REDS 54
Rangers (Ron Dionne)	73	89	36			Puhl REDS .322	Jackson RAN 43
Yankees (Charlie Hartman)	71	91	38				
Twins (Kevin Malia)	59	103	50			<u>RBI</u>	<u>2B:</u> Yount
<u>National</u>						Horner BRA 153	RS 52
Braves (Dana Fawantee)	88	74	-			Murphy BRA 140	<u>3B:</u> Wilson
Reds (Rene Custeau)	87	75	1			Garvey DOD 126	RAN 18
Mets (Tim Smith)	84	78	4			Yount RS 122	<u>SB:</u> LeFlore
Dodgers (Jim Vance)	80	82	8				MET 6
Phillies (Bob McMillan)	76	86	12			<u>R:</u> Moreno MET	Moreno
Cubs (Bob Tevanian)	71	91	17			134	MET 106
						<u>BB:</u> Morgan RED	
						106	<u>SHO:</u> Seaver
<u>ERA</u>		<u>Wins</u>					RS 13
Seaver RS 2.19		Seaver RS 27				<u>Strikeouts</u>	<u>Saves</u>
R. May TWIN 2.24		Carlton BRA 26				Ryan RED 312	Sutter RED 35
McGregor MET 2.31		McGregor MET 26				Carlton BRA 307	Burgmeier RS 32
Carlton BRA 2.31		Norris RS 24				Norris RS 277	Guidry ROY 32
Ryan RED 2.36		Stone YANK 24					

TRUMBULL COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE - Face-to-face draft league operating out of Warren, OH, area...13 members, ranging in age from 17 to 40; all have minimum of four years S-O-M experience...league is noteworthy for its use of standard defensive cards...lineup of coaches includes: John Strong (Front St.), Dave Wasser (Harvey St.), Mark Stishan (New York), Tim Waltemire (Cincinnati), Dave Harness (New Carlisle), Gary Mansell (Cortland), Dick Morgan (Cleveland), Dave Sekerak (West Chester), Ed Collins (Wichita), John Armstrong (Yosemite), Gary Stishan (Winnipeg), Al Aikins (Canton) and Don Babuka (Niles)...Yosemite, after winning the West Division, but with a so-so 7-5 record (the TCFL only plays a 12-game schedule), went on to win the Super Bowl, defeating Cortland (8-4), 23-6.

Standings and leaders:

<u>East</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Playoffs</u>
Front St.	9	3	Cortland	8	4	Yosemite	7	5	Winnipeg 21
Harvey St.	8	4	Cleveland	7	5	Winnipeg	6	6	New York 17
New York	5	7	West Chester	4	8	Canton	5	7	Cleveland 31
Cincinnati	5	7	Wichita	4	8	Niles	5	7	Cincinnati 14
New Carlisle	5	7							Harvey St. 32
									Winnipeg 17
<u>Rushing</u>	<u>Att-Yds.</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>TD</u>	<u>Semifinals</u>					
McKnight FST	310-1457	4.7	9	Cortland	30				Yosemite 23
Campbell NIL	340-1432	4.2	12	Harvey St.	14				Cleveland 7
Montgomery WICH	274-1359	5.0	4	Yosemite	21				
Gaines YOS	229-1197	5.2	7	Front St.	6				
Pruitt CLE	234-1140	4.9	4						
<u>Passing</u>	<u>Att-Comp</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>Yds.</u>	<u>Int-TD</u>	<u>Receiving</u>	<u>No.-Yds.</u>	<u>Avg</u>		
Stabler CORT	188-106	56.4	1245	7 11	Washington NIL	132-1255	9.5		
Staubach WIN	307-151	49.2	2048	11 17	Casper NCAR	132-1205	9.1		
Whitehurst NIL	187-108	57.8	1141	9 9	Odums CIN	125- 940	7.5		
Landry NCAR	395-203	51.4	1748	16 16	D.Hill WICH	75- 671	8.9		
Zorn YOS	274-128	46.7	1404	7 7	Barkum YOS	66- 445	6.7		
Bradshaw HARV	300-131	43.7	2242	23 20	Rashad WEST	66- 409	6.2		

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Last call for card pattern poll

Hurry, if you haven't already cast your ballot, there's still time to make your feelings known regarding card patterns used in Strat-O-Matic Baseball.

To do so, fill in the ballot below and send to: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

If you are opposed to the "4-column" pitchers' cards that S-O-M came out with for the first time, but still would like to have the game company deviate from its past card pattern format, for both pitchers and batters, then let your feelings be known in that context also.

Also, if you feel the Review should reprint roster sheets, or should not use already-limited space for the same, then cast your vote accordingly.

_____ S-O-M should go back to its former variety of card patterns for pitchers.
_____ S-O-M should continue to reproduce pitchers' statistics, using one column as the so-called "bad column."

_____ The Review should reprint roster sheets.
_____ The Review should not reprint roster sheets.

Comments: