



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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Last on offense...first in the playoffs

Review's Warren Newell reigns as king of draft football league

Warren Newell is a co-editor of the Strat-O-Matic Review. But he doesn't just write about S-O-M's games. He also plays them...and frequently very well.

Take the Otsego Football League's 14th and latest season, based on the 1983 real-life results. Warren finished dead last in the 10-team draft league when it came to offense, producing 4,920 yards in 16 games.

But thanks to a couple of good return men, a solid, turnover-creating defense and a ball-control offense led by Steve Bartkowski, Warren logged a 12-4 regular-season record and qualified for the playoffs.

Warren almost was ousted at the outset of the playoffs, defeating Steve Nuss, 27-24, in overtime. In his second game, against Gery Bentley's explosive offense that had created most of a 14-2 record - tops in the league - Warren avenged two regular-season losses, prevailing 27-23.

And finally, Warren turned on another nemesis, Jim Myers, organizer and chief statistician of the well-run league that operates 22 miles north of Kalamazoo, and defeated him in the Super Bowl, 31-22. Myers had also, like Bentley, inflicted two earlier defeats on Warren's kings-to-be.

"My team stats were not that good," said Warren of his last on offense but first at the finish turnaround. "But I had a control attack and Bartkowski had as high a completion percentage as anybody. Bartkowski completed 223 of 408 passes for 54.7 percent accuracy, 2,523 yards and 20 touchdowns.

"Another key was I had Washington's end run defense card and the advantage of that was you could stop up the middle because you knew they weren't going to try end run too much."

Warren also cited Seattle's return specialists, Zachary Dixon and

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Paul Johns with making a significant impact. Dixon returned 61 kickoffs including taking four back for TDs, the longest a 97-yard dash. And Johns returned 69 punts, getting loose twice for scores, including one of 90 yards.

Del Newell, another co-editor of the Review, once subbed for Warren. He failed to score off a return, however, prompting one of the other league members to say: "You didn't score off a punt or kickoff return? That's because Warren's used up all the luck. There isn't any more left."

AN ALL DRAFT LEAGUE

The Otsego League has an all draft setup, with specialist and defensive/offensive cards also being drafted as well as individual players. Each coach is allowed to protect three players from the previous season's roster - quarterback, running back and receiver - plus one specialty card.

Then a draft is held, in reverse order of finish from the previous season, until all rosters are stocked. Coaches, because passes, rushing attempts and receptions are strictly adhered to, usually try and draft four quarterbacks and three players at each of the other skilled positions.

League members include Myers, Dale Holland, both of whom compile weekly stats for all coaches; Bentley, whose home is the 'stadium' every Sunday night for the league's games; Nuss, Jerry Nowak, Brian Shaw, Gary Dunham, Bob Hoyt and Bill Hill. Most reside in the Otsego area and most go to great lengths studying the cards, including the specialists, before draft time.

A running score is kept for every game, with the team scored upon forced to post the latest score. This, along with making the scored-upon-coach feel even worse, lets the other coaches know how each game is going and adds to the excitement (tension?) late in the season when every game is crucial.

SACKS ARE REDUCED

The Otsego League's hierarchy endorses almost all the changes made in the football game a couple of years ago, although it has toned down the number of sacks.

"When we first tried the new game we had too many sacks," said Myers. "What we did was to use the 'D' reading on the black die as a sack possibility reading. We used that instead of the 'x' and the results have been much more realistic."

Bentley's team was the sack pack as it had a league-high 57. Warren had 30, while three teams recorded under 20 sacks.

Fumbles also were modified by the OFL, although this change had been in effect for many years. In an attempt to cut down on the number of fumbles, if the fumble occurs on the offensive back's card under guessed wrong, then it is ignored. Fumbles on a guessed right call or on the defensive team's card are played as fumbles.

Standings and leaders:

East	W	L	Off.	Def.	West	W	L	Off.	Def.
Dale Holland	12	4	5937	4366	Gery Bentley	14	2	6154	5296
Jerry Nowak	11	5	5686	5241	Warren Newell	12	4	4920	5232
Steve Nuss	10	6	5398	5387	Jim Myers	6	10	5379	5919
Brian Shaw	5	11	5034	6218	Bob Hoyt	4	12	4970	5388
Gary Dunham	5	11	5727	5225	Bill Hill	1	15	4973	6223

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Murray, Murphy are MVP choices

It'll be no contest for National League Most Valuable Player and as far as who the East Division winner will be in the N.L.

Look for the MVP race in the American League to be a little closer and three division races to be tight - at least according to the balloting in the Review's latest MVP Contest.

The readers picked Dale Murphy, who had such a sizzling month of April, by a landslide margin in the N.L. Murphy garnered 128 votes, with Gary Carter of the Mets a distant, distant second with only 39. Surprisingly, Ryne Sandberg, last year's MVP winner but off to a slow start this spring, received only three votes.

Over in the American League, Eddie Murray of Baltimore totaled 54 votes and teammate Cal Ripken had 32. The real-life MVP in the A.L., Willie Hernandez, failed to get even a single vote.

Division champs, according to the voters, are going to be the New York Mets (161 ballots) and Atlanta (94) in the N.L. East and West, respectively, and Toronto (79) and Kansas City (94) in the A.L. East and West. All will be close, however, except for the Mets running away in their division.

Jonathon Levin of Benton Harbor, MI, winner of last year's contest, cast his votes for Harold Baines in the A.L. and Murphy in the N.L. He also went with Detroit and the White Sox and the Cubs and Atlanta.

Remember the winner of the MVP Contest will receive a set of the new baseball cards, when they become available in late January, gratis from the Review.

Top five in the MVP balloting and division forecasts:

American League		National League		N.L. East	
1. Eddie Murray	54	1. Dale Murphy	128	1. NY Mets	161
2. Cal Ripken	32	2. Gary Carter	39	2. Chicago	70
3. Jim Rice	20	3. Darryl Strawberry	12	3. Pittsburgh	8
4. Harold Baines	19	4. Dwight Gooden	11	4. Montreal	5
5. Kent Hrbek	18	5. Keith Hernandez	9	5. Philadelphia	3
				6. St. Louis	1
N.L. West		A.L. East		A.L. West	
1. Atlanta	94	1. Toronto	79	1. Kansas City	94
2. San Diego	93	2. Detroit	76	2. Minnesota	87
3. Los Angeles	35	3. Baltimore	60	3. Chicago	34
4. Houston	19	4. Boston	23	4. California	14
5. Cincinnati	6	5. NY. Yanks	10	5. Seattle	13
6. San Francisco	1			6. Oakland	5
				7. Texas	1

The Review staff

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Readers roll 'em

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VOTE FOR 1915

Among the most fascinating teams in Strat-O-Matic's old-timer set is the pre-1921 era.

The 1906 Cubs are my favorite. Not only did they set a record in winning 116 of 154 games, but in typical Cub fashion they choked and lost to the cross-town White Sox.

The Sox's pitching was no finer than the Cubs, but the "hitless wonders" won the Series and became legendary. S-O-M ought to do the 1906 White Sox. While it is at it, why not the 1903 Red Sox with Cy Young and crew who upended the favored Pirates?

As far as years are concerned, 1915 would be one of the most exciting. Babe Ruth was a good enough pitcher that he probably would've made the Hall of Fame without ever swinging a bat. 1915 was also the year other Hall of Fame rookies like George Sisler and Rogers Hornsby made their splash as well as the finale for vets like Nap Lajoie, Christy Mathewson and Three Finger Brown.

Finally, it was the second and final year of the upstart Federal League. S-O-M would have a built-in three-league winner by doing 1915.

DAVID STAPLES
P.O. Box 333
West Fargo, ND

TRADES CHRONICLED

I thought readers might be interested in the dates of trades for players with no team name on their card. Although the roster gives games played, it does not give the date they left one team and joined another.

Here are the dates:

- * June 30 - Bystrom - Philadelphia to New York Yankees.
- * June 13 (#) - Hassey - Cleveland to Chicago Cubs.
- * July 1 - Speier - Montreal to St. Louis.
- * July 2 - Noles - Cubs to Texas.
- * July 15 - Rainey - Cubs to Oakland.

* Aug. 19 - Speier - St. Louis to Minnesota.

* Aug. 27 - Scherrer - Cincinnati to Detroit.

* Aug. 31 - Lopes - Oakland to Cubs.

* Sept. 6 - Thomas - Montreal to California.

(#) - Rick Sutcliffe also came to Chicago in this deal.

Dates of two other trades are important in that these players had most of their playing time with teams other than those which they were given cards for:

* Aug. 20 - Al Oliver - San Francisco to Philadelphia.

* Aug. 28 - Ray Knight - Houston to New York Mets.

In addition, the following players cards are based entirely on their performances with one team and are not a composite of both teams for which they played: (stats are AB/IP, BA/ERA and team name)

* Lopes - Oakland only (17, .235 Cubs).

* Scherrer - Cincinnati only (19, 1.89, Detroit).

* Bystrom - Philadelphia only (39 2.97, Yankees)

* Hassey - Cleveland only (33, .333, Cubs).

* Speier - Montreal and St. Louis only (33, .212, Minnesota).

* Rainey - Chicago only (30 2/3, 6.75, Oakland).

* Thomas - Montreal only (29, .138, California).

Also, Pete Rose had most of his at-bats with Montreal and Dan Driessen had most of his with Cincinnati.

One would be well advised to keep these things in mind when replaying '84 season. Part of achieving an accurate replay depends on the realistic use of a team's players.

I realize S-O-M tries to give cards for a player to represent the team at the close of a season, but I feel it is more realistic to make "split players" rather than short a team.

RODNEY JOHNSON
Tempe, AZ

WANTS COLLEGE BASKETBALL

My friend and I are avid fans of Strat-O-Matic games. Together we have purchased pro football, college football, baseball, pro basketball and hockey.

I think it would add an extra touch to S-O-M's high class operation if it came up with college basketball.

It could be like college football, having the best teams from the last 40 years.

Examples of this would be 1952 Kansas, 1956 San Francisco with Bill Russell, 1962 Cincinnati, 1969 UCLA, 1974 North Carolina State, 1979 Michigan State and Indiana State, 1982 North Carolina and 1984 Georgetown.

I'm sure there are more excellent teams, but this would be a start.

KEVIN LOOS.

CHRIS EUBANKS

ANGEL DEFENDS ARTICLE

I would like to answer Pete Shelly's letter in the April S-O-M Review concerning my article in the March issue studying the minor league history of major league rookies. My article pertained to rookies receiving their first S-O-M cards and projecting what they will do in the majors based on what they have done in the minors.

Through my article I hoped to reveal which players are apt to not only become superstars, but which players are likely to become stars, above average, average and below average players.

Also, Pete Shelly is wrong when he says anybody can tell who the future superstars of the league will be. It is an art which requires careful research.

I am a former member of the GKSLM (Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League) which includes Review co-editors Warren and Del Newell.

If predictions were so easy, how was I able to slip Jack Morris,

Lou Whitaker, Lance Parrish, Alan Trammell, Carney Lansford, Jim Beattie, Rick Honecutt, Gorman Thomas and Paul Molitor, in the 1979 American League draft, by other members of the GKSM?

THOMAS ANGEL
Astor, FL

Editor's note: The Review editors would also like to know how he slipped all that talent past them in that "infamous draft." But, seriously, Thomas Angel does know his baseball, and he does spend countless hours researching and checking the progress of minor leaguers, much of it for use in his S-O-M gaming endeavors. The only year he was in the GKSM (he returned to Florida because of family commitments), Angel finished last in the standings. But the next year, his teams, now guided by current GKSM member Jeff Green, were vastly improved. His American League team, in fact, captured the championship.

24 PLAYERS NOT ENOUGH

My name is Jeff Schwarze. I am commissioner of the SOMFBL II and I think I speak for all commissioners when I say that 24 players per team (in baseball) is not enough.

Everyone knows that any respectable league has some kind of at-bat and innings pitched limitations, so don't use the excuse "the manager will overuse some players and get unrealistic stats."

It seems this has been the topic of controversy over the past few months. So, let's see how readers feel by having a poll to decide what Strat-O-Matic should do.

I would be willing to bet that the response will be heavily favored toward needing more players. Anyone who votes "no" has obviously never been involved in a full-season, straight-teams league.

JEFF SCHWARZE
Urbana, IL 61801

Fantasy diamond: Gooden, Sutter on same S-O-M team

Tom Fish is one game who doesn't believe that having Dwight Gooden is golden. Even Bruce Sutter, along with Golden, doesn't transform some teams into a power - even over the short haul, such as in a World Series.

Fish, a 20-year Strat-O-Matic gaming veteran who resides in Riverside, CA, tried out a little experimental player shuffling to see if the have-nots could become the haves.

Fish, as far as league activities, has guided the Kansas City Royals for 14 years in the All Sports Conference and is currently a manager in the popular Federal League.

"I have played baseball for a number of years," informs Fish, "playing on a state championship junior college team and later playing behind Paul Molitor (Milwaukee Brewers) at shortstop for the University of Minnesota. I love and am devoted to the game of baseball. My wife and I annually see a large number of major and minor league games."

GOODEN, SUTTER AND...

Fish admits to replaying the World Series when the new cards, replete with Gooden, arrived in the mail. "I will not bore you with yet another account of how my replay of the series went."

Instead Fish took the world champion Detroit Tigers and sent them out to do battle with the lowly San Francisco Giants. A mismatch? Of course. That is until Gooden and Sutter were added to the Giants.

With one great starter with the big 'K' pitch and one of baseball's finest relievers, San Francisco was figured to give Detroit trouble.

In the first game, with Gooden pitching for the Giants against Detroit's ace Jack Morris, Chet Lemon's two-run home run in the eighth provided the Tigers with a 4-2 triumph.

The second game went to the Giants, 4-3, with an error by Kirk Gibson allowing the winning run to score in the bottom of the 10th inning. Earlier, Gibson had homered.

Game three was a walk on the wild side as, after 12 innings, Detroit had a 11-8 victory, following a combined 33 hits and 12 walks being issued by 'Frisco pitchers.

It was time for Gooden vs. Morris in game four, but this time Detroit struck for two runs in the second inning and went on to post a 4-0 win as Morris won the duel again.

The Giants used the big inning - 6-run 6th, 4-run 7th - to subdue Detroit in game five, 10-6. Sutter stifled the Tigers, who had taken a 3-0 lead in the second inning, in the late going to preserve the win.

Detroit, not wanting to face Gooden again, this time in a seventh and deciding game, slaughtered the Giants in game six, 10-1. Mike Krukow got crunched in a starting role, being roughed up for seven runs in the second inning.

SUTTER MORE VALUABLE

Even though Gooden was not rocked in either outing (actually he pitched very well), Sutter was by far more impressive. Sutter shut down Detroit in both Giant victories, relieving starter Bill Laskey in each case.

Gooden, for his part, struck out 10 in each of his route-going performances. But he also walked seven and four, respectively, and was not the beneficiary of much batting support when on the mound.

Gooden is not always golden. But we'll take him anytime!

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. 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: Baseball card sets for 1978, 1980 and 1981 seasons, with roster sheets (and supplementary stealing ratings for '81). Must include additional players and be in very good condition or better. Send asking price to: J.G. Preston, 3220 Levland Trail, Woodbury, MN 55125 (no phone calls, please)

WANTED: Individual ball parks, wind factor and Astroturf rules and/or charts to be used in conjunction with Strat-O-Matic Baseball basic or advanced game. I am willing to pay a reasonable amount for that person who comes up with the best system. Those people with any innovative ideas please write: Steven Minskoff, 1350 Avenue of the Americas - 34th Floor, New York, NY 10019

WANTED: Complete sets for 1971, 1979, 1982 baseball seasons, with extra players. Also, the 1981 Brewers, Reds; 1982 Red Sox, Brewers, Orioles; 1978 extras; 1982 extras. Jeff Mueller, 214 Terrace Apts., Pullman, WA 99163 (509-334-9528). Will pay top dollar for cards in mint condition.

WANTED: 1975 and 1978 seasons. Prefer sets in good condition, with extras. Need extras for 1983 season. Also interested in Boston Red Sox cards. Leon Major, 2313 South Walnut #90, Stillwater, OK 74074

WANTED: Any/all complete

baseball seasons, 1971-earlier. Willing to pay reasonable, but not outlandish price. Will also pay any/all postage. Garry Goetz, 901 South 6th Avenue, Space 257, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

WANTED: Schedules for 1983-84 hockey season. Also looking for a used football or basketball game. Must be in pretty good condition. Also must have everything but teams. I also wish to acquire some baseball teams. Send list and prices to: Paul Murray, 704 Wentworth Ave., Apt. 205; Calumet City, IL 60409

WANTED: Complete baseball seasons (with or without extras) up to 1983. Send descriptions to: W.F. Conner c/o Eras, Box 4114, Youngstown, OH 44515

WANTED: 1977-78 hockey team roster sheet and set of additional players only. Send information to: Don Beaton, 8417 Xylon Circle Bloomington, MN 55438

WANTED: Following NBA teams: 1979-80 Philadelphia, Utah; '74-75 Seattle, Los Angeles, Kansas City, New York; '73-74 New York, Golden State, Los Angeles, Seattle. Send offers to: Gary Traxler, 1444 Laurel Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104

For Sale

FOR SALE: 5000 loose S-O-M base-
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ball cards from 1967-1983. Send your list and include year, team and player's full name to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111 AC 215-745-5247. I've got to get rid of some of these cards.

FOR SALE: Baseball schedules for entire 1930, 1956, 1961, 1969 and 1970 seasons. Great for S-O-M replays. Both AL and NL. Send \$1 per season plus one postage stamp for each order. Specify seasons wanted: Mailed immediately. Send to: Richard Breest, 6 Wren Drive, Hauppauge, NY 11787

FOR SALE: Baseball - complete seasons 1965-present, single teams 1962-present. Football - complete seasons and single teams 1967-present. Hockey - complete seasons and single teams 1977-78-present. Send requests, bids and SASE to: Sal Mangiapane, 239 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, NJ 07011 (201-546-9698)

FOR SALE: Super-advanced rules enhance the realism and detail of S-O-M Baseball while preserving the speed of play that makes it fun. Includes easily memorized rules for more realistic base advances on hits, outs and errors; outfield throwing errors and mis-played hits; trail runners sometimes advancing on throws (or being thrown out on cutoffs); injury chart with rare plays; balks, pickoffs, pickoff errors, rundowns; infielders positioned in or back individually; outfield shallow; suicide squeeze, safety squeeze and sacrifice charts where fielder's ability and runner's speed play a part; hit-and-run method that also takes into account pitcher's abilities and characteristics, fielding, runner's speed; and much more; all blended into the game so as not to disturb statistical accuracy or ease of play. fully tested and refined in face-to-face league play. \$8, with money-back guarantee.

Richard Robb, #305 - 7100 Gilbert Road, Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5C3

FOR SALE: Baseball, complete years: 1967 excellent condition, \$70; 1976 with extras, mint, \$65. Football: 1973 Bills, \$10 (Simpson, 2,003 yards); 1976 Colts, \$5. All postpaid. Ronald Tonti, 234 Clay Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15235

FOR SALE: The 1969 complete baseball series. This set is original and in excellent-mint condition. Make me an offer. Contact: Alex Dell, 98 Greenacres Ave., Scarsdale, NY 10583

FOR SALE: Silent dice. Let sleeping spouses lie. Put an end to the clinking controversy. Silent dice allow you to play S-O-M without distractions and without distracting others. Perfect for home, school or office. Precision made dice are certified accurate and silent. Act today. Play tested for over 500,000 rolls. Set of three, designed for S-O-M play, special introductory offer - \$3 plus SASE. Mail immediately to: Silence Is Golden, 5903 37th Ave. Hyattsville, MD 20782. Cash only, please.

FOR SALE: Complete baseball sets with extras, excellent condition: 1968 - \$75; '69 - \$35; '70 - \$65; '74 - \$60; '75 - \$55; '76 - \$50; '77 - \$50; '78 - \$45; '79 - \$40; '80 - \$35; '81 - \$30; '82 - \$25; include \$3 per set shipping. Money order only. Claude Shull, 4405 Chippewa St., Apt. C, St. Louis, MO 63116 (314-772-5215 after 6 p.m.)

FOR SALE: Baseball, complete sets with extra players: 1975, '76, '77, '78, '79, '80, '81, '82 and '83; most in excellent condition. Sold in complete years only. Also, 38 old-timer teams, mint condition, sold as set. Football, 1975 set including game box and all parts, never used. Send bids and SASE to: Tim Maurice, 875 Prince William Lane,

Westerville, OH 43081

FOR SALE: Hockey, six complete seasons, '77-78 through '82-83 (including extras in years issued), with roster sheets. Cards in mint condition, most never used. Bids start at \$20 per set. Bidding ends 30th of the date of this issue. Winners will be notified by phone the following weekend. Highest bid wins hockey game and box plus scoresheets. I pay postage. Send bids to: Richard Breest, 6 Wren Drive, Hauppauge, NY 11787. Include your phone number.

FOR SALE: Get the facts. Enhance your replay realism for the '84 season with your favorite teams replay guide. Did you know Tony Armas hit 39 of his 43 homers against RHP? That means a HR% of 7.99 per 100 at-bats vs. RHP (3rd in league) while only 2.65 vs. LHP (70th in league). The Phillies hit .271 vs. RHP but only .251 vs. LHP. Like to shuffle your lineup? Play the Giants season. They had 107 different starting combinations, San Diego had only 36. Find out the scores of each game, winning and losing pitchers, record each month and vs. each team, pitcher and more. This information is most comprehensive, compiled from several sources and will enhance your enjoyment of replaying your favorite team's season. Any 1984 team replay guide, \$6, plus 50 cents postage. Please send money order to: Rodney Johnson, 956 W. Lajolla, Tempe, AZ 85282

FOR SALE: Baseball, complete seasons, all teams excellent. 1972 (no extras), \$50; 1976 (with extras and Seattle-Toronto expansion cards), \$35; 1978-79 (with extras), \$30 each; 1980 through 1982 (with extras), \$25 each. Prices postpaid in U.S. Jeff Lowe, P.O. Box 65634, West Des Moines, IA 50265

FOR SALE: Cards for the following:

Baseball - 1970 teams with extras (reprinted version): Tigers, Twins, Chisox, Senators, Phils, Expos, Braves, Padres, Astros. Football - 1982 teams: Rams, 49ers, Pats, Cards, Broncos. Basketball - complete seasons (by individual teams only): 1976-77, '77-78, '78-79, '79-80, '80-81, '81-82, '82-83. 1974-75 season: Buffalo, Boston. 1972-73 season: Boston, Baltimore, New York, Golden State, Atlanta, Chicago. Send bids to: Gary Traxler, 1444 Laurel Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104

FOR SALE: Baseball - all teams complete with extras and most teams in brand new condition; 1978 all National League teams available; 1979 just Pirates available. Hockey - all teams complete and most teams in excellent condition; 1977 all teams available except Canadiens and Blues; 1979 teams available are Kings, Bruins, Flames, Canadiens, Islanders, Flyers, Sabres, North Stars. Football - all teams complete and most teams in excellent condition; 1971 teams available are Bengals, Saints, Broncos, Eagles, Oilers, Cardinals, Bears, Falcons, Giants; 1972 teams are Chargers, Jets, Colts, Saints, Broncos, Patriots, Lions, Eagles, Falcons, Bengals, Cardinals, Bills, Oilers, Giants, Rams, Bears; 1973 Eagles, Giants, Broncos, Packers, Colts, Redskins, Lions; 1974 Browns, Steelers, Falcons, Rams, Bills, Oilers, Colts, Chargers, Broncos, Packers; 1976 all teams available except Steelers, Broncos, Colts, Dolphins, Cowboys, Rams. Basketball - 1976 complete game available with all teams and is in brand new condition. Send bids for all teams and/or basketball game to: David Allen, 8 Chadwick Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5P 1Z8

FOR SALE: The 1985 edition of Playbooks III and IV is here. Playbook III is an easy-to-use weather system for every team used by month or season. Now
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there are rainouts, snowouts, suspended games and rain-shortened games stopped during or after any inning. Ratings are based on exact results from 1970, '83 and '84 seasons, which are \$3 each, or \$6 for all three. Playbook IV allows pitchers to play a complete role with individual ratings for fielding range, stealing, bunt, hit-and-run, running and power. Expanded pitcher's fielding chart included. All pitchers are rated based on official statistics and formulas similar to those used for non-pitchers. 1982, '83 and '84 seasons are \$3 each, or \$6 for all three. Playbooks III-IV complete, \$11. Also available: Playbook I (super advanced strategy) and Playbook II (advanced pitchers' ratings) complete, \$11. Paul Ladewski, 14340 Maple, Midlothian, IL 60445

FOR SALE: Baseball teams. All teams 1980-1983 in good condition. 1979 season in fair condition (all teams except Seattle, San Francisco, Houston, Pittsburgh). 1978 season in good condition (all teams except Cincinnati, Pittsburgh). 1977 season in good condition (all teams). 1976 season in fair condition (all teams). Assorted players from 1972, 1974, 1975. Make offer; no reasonable offer refused. Send to: Curtis Elliott, 2667 Sandpiper Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

FOR SALE: Finally, "E" ratings for 1971-1976. Complete, accurate, detailed. Make those sets compatible with your newer sets. All players over 25 games at position get actual ratings. At positions under 25 games, special estimated ratings based on surrounding years. For your convenience, estimated ratings are marked with asterisks, allowing you to limit playing time at those positions, or downgrade ratings if necessary. My ratings are totally objective, based only on statistics. You decide how to use the players. Special feature: catcher throwing

arms for 1971 and 1972. Enormous amounts of work and research went into this project. \$5 per year, \$25 all six years - postpaid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Write: Tom Yanega, 79-31 260 St., North Floral Park, NY 11004

FOR SALE: Still available. The 16-page S-O-M Baseball Kit, a valuable addition to any gaming situation, but especially designed for solitaire and/or league players. The 'Kit' includes: 1. A complete system for organizing solitaire play; 2. My personalized outline for setting up face-to-face and solitaire leagues and 3. Innovative miscellaneous rules and variations. All rules are explained in detail and printed in convenient booklet form and all charts are printed on a single consolidated chart sheet. Dozens of this new edition have been sold already, so, don't delay, send \$4 plus 50 cents postage to: Jamie Potter, RD-1, Box 89-D, Oneonta, NY 13820. No risk involved; purchase price refunded if you are not satisfied.

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: An experienced S-O-M manager and league commissioner has recently moved to the Washington, DC, area and plans to start a face-to-face and/or play-by-phone league. Draft your AL and NL favorites from the 1984 cards. Flexible 60-game schedule to accommodate professionals, students and other yuppies. No dues; no nonsense; just good, clean fun. I'm also interested in hearing from other DC area S-O-M managers regarding their leagues and possible "inter-league play." Please contact: David Humphrey, 1532-12A Moorings Dr., Reston, VA 22090. Home: 703-689-2672. Office: 703-827-8223.

LEAGUE FORMING: The great "NWS" league is looking for members in the Everett-Seattle-Tacoma area. We play face-to-face, a most
(continued)

advanced version of the baseball game. We play a 54-game regular season schedule. The league is a well-established, rich complement of adults. Two existing managers would like to retire as soon as replacements can be found. Contact: David Stamper, 22425-100th Ave. W., Edmonds, WA 98020 (775-7897, 771-5293)

LEAGUE FORMING: Coaches in West Germany sought for the West German Strat-O-Matic League (WGSOML). I intend to form a PBM baseball league and is possible a face-to-face football league or tournament. All interested write to: SPS Raymond S. Scott, 428-11-1926, D Co. 3/63 Armor, APO NY 09031, or call me in West Germany at: 09383-2272.

LEAGUE FORMING: The United States Baseball League is still in need of some managers to start our first season. We're a 12-team, advanced league using strictly American League cards. We'll never begin before Aug. 1. This league is for those of us who haven't had enough dice-rolling when their other leagues are completed. A \$12 annual fee is all that's required. For more information write to: Steve Olson, 2222 Hoyt St., Dubuque, IA 52001 (319-582-6682)

LEAGUE FORMING: PBM league starting; need managers and backups. Using new cards with extras (actual teams). List three preferences from each league. Teams already picked are: Reds, Mets, Red Sox, A's. Send GASE to: Greg Bryant, Rt. 2 Box 250-C, Ironton, OH

LEAGUE FORMING: The Greater Cincinnati Baseball League (GCBL) is looking for several reliable managers to join our two-division, eight-team face-to-face league. Two current managers would like to retire as soon as replacements can be found. The GCBL plays a 162-game schedule. Teams were

drafted from the 1984 N.L. cards with one A.L. player chosen by each club. This draft format produced eight strong teams, but each team has its share of second-rate players to keep every series interesting. Call tonight and play with the GCBL tomorrow. Contact: Scott Jeggle, 8943-C Harperspoint Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45249

LEAGUE FORMING: Existing S-O-M football league desires new players to replace resigning players and to expand. New players must live in Chicago and its suburbs, north of the Eisenhower expressway. If interested, contact: Robert Peters, 1417 F West Touhy, Chicago, IL 60626 (262-8538)

LEAGUE FORMING: Help wanted. A.C.T.U.A.L. has stumbled leaving the starting gate and we are presently bogged down with only five experienced managers. Would like to get on to finish the 1985 season (3/4 left). 40-man roster of the cream of American League. Super advanced format. Innovations to come in '86. Looking to go to 10 teams in future. PBM. ACTUAL National League, to kick off in Sept., has just seven members and is seriously looking to start with a minimum of 10. Basically the same format as A.L. (above) with no DH. Players are limited to at-bats/innings pitched on their cards. Expansion draft, with enough Class A talent to stock four teams available, to be held in July. Contact me soon: Larry Kidd, 61 Longdale St., Staten Island, NY 10314

LEAGUE FORMING: WHBL, a PBM, straight-team baseball league in its inaugural season, is searching for managers. We are midway through the season and up to seven teams are available. Some teams are pennant contenders. Reply fast to get better choice of teams. Contact: Jeff Turnbull, 603 Sunnycrest Ct., Urbana, IL 61801 (217-367-7679)

(continued)

LEAGUE FORMING: The "Sponge" Miller Memorial Basketball League is looking for 8 to 12 coaches for our first season. This is an advanced PBM draft league. We will play from Oct. to Feb., with a 40-game season plus playoffs. Respond now. Write to either: Kevin Laster, 7608 Cliffbrook, Dallas, TX 75240 or Glen Eason, 7529 Larchview, Dallas, TX 75240

LEAGUE FORMING: The WBL, entering its 10th season, needs several good managers. The WBL is a PBM draft league. Telephone draft. Players available include Don Mattingly, Tony Gwynn, Jim Rice, Dave Stieb, Harold Baines, Dave Winfield and Eddie Murray. If interested, write: Paul Zucker, 5602 E. Edison #22, Tucson, AZ 85712

LEAGUE FORMING: Any interested Phoenix area (Scottsdale, Tempe, Chandler, Mesa, etc.) S-O-M gamers who would like to form a face-to-face baseball, football, basketball or hockey, please contact: Dave Kauper, 4065 E. University Dr. #406, Mesa, AZ 85205 (602-830-9812) or Pat Mitchell, 2211 W. Desiree, Tempe, AZ 85283 (602-431-0460). Pat and I have completed three replays of face-to-face football leagues and have completed five Phoenix Suns replays, plus currently working on National League F/F replay of current baseball year. We are interested in meeting new valley gamers who are bored playing solitaire games and are interested in playing face-to-face.

LEAGUE FORMING: The American Tabletop Basketball League is going to start its first season when the new basketball cards come out this summer. It will be a draft league which runs continuously from year to year. We'll play a 76-game schedule plus playoffs and the all-star game. League fees will be low (covering only postage). Bulletins will come out approximately every 12

games. We use a detailed constitution which covers everything yet leaves the game as playable as ever. Very few changes in S-O-M's game will be used. Trading is allowed at several points during the season and the draft will be held by phone at no extra cost to you. We play the advanced game. Experience isn't necessary, but is obviously helpful. You'll need to own all the new teams plus the extra players. For more information, and a free copy of our constitution, write: Dick Hunt, P.O. Box 543, Ovid, MI 48866

LEAGUE FORMING: The Southern California S-O-M Baseball Federation is looking for two additional managers for its second season of league play. These two new managers will hold a special draft which will consist of all of last year's rookies and players not previously drafted (i.e. Gooden, Mattingly, A. Davis, Lemon and Hershiser, etc.) as well as players from a previous team now defunct (Winfield, Boggs, Raines, Boddicker, etc.). The SCSOMF plans to play five teams this year in a 162-game schedule from August through Nov. Reliable managers who are interested in a perpetual league need only apply. Contact: Dave Wadsworth, P.O. Box 301, Huntington Beach, CA 92648 (714-960-3608)

LEAGUE FORMING: The Florida Gold Coast Hockey Association (FGCHA) will begin its 8th season in the fall and we will have an undetermined number of franchise openings. The FGCHA is a PBM draft league that uses the super advanced rules with other modifications. We are looking for experienced managers who are looking to make a long-term commitment to our league. Our entry fee will be approximately \$12 and our season starts as soon as the cards come out. If interested, please send a resume to: FGCHA, P.O. Box 392, Mt. Vernon, NY 10552

(continued on page 17)

Washington's balance key to Liberty league outcome

13

How good is Dan Fouts, the San Diego Chargers' passmaster?

Well, in real-life pro football he's good enough to eclipse most passing records and keep the Chargers always a threat. Usually, however, San Diego's defense betrays the offense and the Chargers lose by NBA-like scores.

Fouts is enough to make any team a threat and evidence of that fact is found in the Liberty Strat-O-Matic face-to-face, advanced football league. Fouts, according to commissioner Wayne Benton, has been the league's No. 1 draft choice for four straight years and every year has taken his new club - most of them mediocre - to the playoffs.

As far as the Liberty League, it is comprised of six members, all businessmen in their mid to late 30s who reside in Liberty, NY. Each coaches a team in the NFC and AFC plus for the first time a "league" team was added in each to help fill out the schedule and give coaches who were playing ahead of schedule more opportunities to play games.

SEVENTH SEASON BELONGS TO 'SKINS

Washington, coached by Benton, eventually claimed championship honors in the well-organized league. But Washington, which drafted Paul Coffman of Green Bay, got off to a slow start because of an injury to Joe Theismann and almost fell out of the running early.

Theismann missed the first four games and the Redskins lost three of 'em. With him back, however, Washington turned it on offensively and went on to compile an 11-5 record and win the NFC.

Fouts, meanwhile, was drafted by the New York Jets. His passing improved them to 11-5, good enough for second place in the AFC behind Seattle.

The drafting of players was in reverse order of finish from the year before. Players drafted were from the remaining teams not used in the league.

The Liberty League also used a "waiver" pile so that teams could add players

to maintain a roster of three quarterbacks, five running backs, three tight ends and four wide receivers. The "waiver" pile was also from teams not used.

A variety of playing tips has been incorporated into the Liberty League's gaming, including a "two-minute clock," fumble returns, mud games, revised injury charts and linebacker interception returns.

"Let me applaud S-O-M on a few of their changes," adds Benton, "such as the revitalization of the 3-4 defense and two tight end

(continued on next page)



LIBERTY LEAGUE COACHES: (BACK, FROM LEFT) BILL STODDARD, TOM POLEY, TIM SMITH; (FRONT, FROM LEFT) NORM EVANSKY (HOLDING MASCOT, OLIVER), KEVIN MULLEN, WAYNE BENTON.

offense. We'd still like less fumbles and touchdowns on special teams, though."

THE LIBERTY LINEUP

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON - Wayne Benton, 34...Draft pick: Paul Coffman (Green Bay)...Once Theismann returned to lineup, 'Skins were omnipotent as John Riggins rushed for 1,553 yards and 18 TDs to compliment awesome aerial attack...Charley Brown had 75 catches for 11 TDs, Coffman 56 and Joe Washington 52...Defense, although vulnerable to the pass, caused 75 turnovers.

DALLAS - Norman Evansky, 34...Draft pick: William Andrews (Atlanta)...Andrews rushed for 1,005 yards as Dallas was one of three teams to have two 1,000-yard rushers on it. Tony Dorsett chipped in 1,000 yards...Danny White completed 55 percent of passes and threw for 26 scores...Big plus for Dallas was +34 turnover differential.

DETROIT - Bill Stoddard, 30...Draft pick: Steve Bartkowski (Atlanta)...After slow start, Lions racked up 6-2 record in second half...Bartkowski completed 57 percent of passes for 31 TDs, while Billy Sims churned out 1,260 yards and grabbed 69 passes...Qualified for playoffs after defeating Rams twice late in the season.

ST. LOUIS - Tim Smith, 30...Draft pick: Earl Campbell (Houston)...Campbell blasted out 1,119 yards and Ottis Anderson 1,048, somewhat offsetting Neil Lomax's sub-par season passing (51%, 14 TDs)...Defense was biggest surprise as it gave up fewest points in league and ranked second overall behind L.A. Raiders.

LOS ANGELES RAMS - Tom Foley, 37...Draft pick: Ken Anderson (Cincinnati)...Two-quarterback system didn't work as Rams had NFC-high 68 turnovers...Eric Dickerson galloped to 1,317 yards.

SAN FRANCISCO - Kevin Mullin, 32...Draft pick: Joe Cribbs (Buffalo)...Shaky defense did in 49ers, who were last defending against the pass...Joe Montana had respectable season (56%, 23 TDs) and Cribbs added 1,075 yards...Ray Werschling's foot accounted for 160 points.

MINNESOTA - League team...Draft pick: James Lofton (Green Bay)...Lofton was super with 100 receptions and 1,622 yards and Tommy Kramer completed league-high 62 percent of passes...0-6 start and defense that gave up 454 points - tops in the league - hurt cause.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

SEATTLE - Norm Evansky...Draft pick: Curtis Dickey (Baltimore)...Dickey was great draft choice as he was MVP in AFC, rushed for 1,210 yards, caught passes for 1,091 more and scored 23 touchdowns...Curt Warner added 1,232 yards via ground and Norm Johnson booted for 175 points...Jacob Green had an amazing 28 sacks.

NEW YORK JETS - Kevin Mullin...Draft pick: Dan Fouts...Fouts turned Jets around, completing 54 percent of passes for a staggering 35 TDs...Wes Walker grabbed 75 of Fouts' pitches and totaled 12 TDs...Jets had best pass defense in league.

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS - Tom Foley...Draft pick: George Rogers (New Orleans)...Turnovers, 59 of them, hurt Raiders and led to six defeats...Rogers ripped off 1,467 yards, Jim Plunkett passed for 24 TDs and Todd Christensen grabbed 93 passes...Defense was also league's best.

MIAMI - Bill Stoddard...Draft pick: Gary Ellis (Green Bay)...Defending league champs had mediocre season...Dan Marino was sub-par, completing 52 percent of passes and throwing for 24 TDs, Ellis had only 629 yards rushing, but Mark Duper was super with 73 catches, 14 TDs.

(continued on next page)

PITTSBURGH - Wayne Benton...Draft pick: Lynn Dickey (Green Bay)...League-high 78 turnovers destroyed Steelers, as Dickey threw 42 interceptions...Dickey redeemed himself somewhat by amassing league-high 4,219 yards with completions...Franco Harris made last season a success by rushing for 940 yards...Lucky to finish at .500, considering the miscues.

DENVER - Tim Smith...Draft pick: Walter Payton (Chicago)...Broncos were playoff contenders entire season until three losses wrecked chances...Payton got loose for 1,147 yards and Steve Watson was on receiving end of 65 passes for league-high 22-yard average.

CLEVELAND - Another "league" team...Draft pick: Anthony Collins (New England)...Collins churned out league-high 5.1 rushing average off 1,182 yards...Browns had worst defense in league.

RAIDERS ROCKED IN PLAYOFFS

The top four teams in each conference qualified for the playoffs, with the format consisting of the fourth and third-place teams playing, with the winner meeting the second-place team and the winner of that the No. 1.

In the first round, Neil Lomax had the best game by a quarterback in the playoffs, throwing for 336 yards and three TDs off 31 of 38 accuracy as St. Louis edged Detroit, 35-31. Over in the AFC, the LA Raiders rolled up 507 yards in offense and held Marino to 9 completions in 33 attempts to maul Miami, 31-3.

Dallas then took advantage of six Cardinal miscues to oust St. Louis, 33-14, with Washington outlasting Dallas in a 40-27 shootout for the NFC title. Theismann was 23 of 40 for 296 yards in the passing department, while White brought the Cowboys back from a 20-0 deficit to make it close on 26 of 45 accuracy that was worth 202 aerial yards.

Fouts couldn't save the Jets in the AFC semifinals as the Raiders won a 23-21 thriller - thanks mainly to holding Fouts in check on the last two Jets' possessions. Fouts ended with 22 completions in 39 throws for 312 yards. Jim Plunkett, meanwhile, was a workmanlike 20 of 29 for 187 yards for the Raiders.

Seattle avenged two regular-season losses to the Raiders by stopping L.A. in the AFC championship game, 30-21. A quick start (20-0) and Dave Kreig's passing (23-45, 284 yards) were too much for the Raiders. Plunkett was again on-target for L.A., hitting on 25 of 42 for 354 yards.

Defense and ball control were the keys unlocking success for the Redskins in the championship game against Seattle. Ahead only 9-7 entering the final quarter, the 'Skins ate up 12 minutes with two long scoring drives and claimed a 23-7 triumph. Riggins bulled his way to 109 yards in 36 carries and Joe Washington added 105 on 13 cracks. Seattle's offense, on the other hand, gained a total of only 237 yards as Redskin defenders picked off six passes.

Standings and leaders:

Standings and leaders:									
NFC	W	L	PF	PA	AFC	W	L	PF	PA
Washington	11	5	433-393		Seattle	12	4	499-380	
Dallas	9	7	394-387		NY Jets	11	5	406-387	
Detroit	9	7	415-419		LA Raiders	10	6	416-358	
St. Louis	8	8	311-296		Miami	8	8	409-374	
LA Rams	7	9	351-384		Pittsburgh	8	8	383-448	
San Francisco	5	11	388-418		Denver	6	10	428-413	
Minnesota	5	11	373-454		Cleveland	3	13	344-434	
Rushing	Att	Yds.	ID	Avg.		Att	Yds.	ID	Avg.
Riggins WASH	438	1553	18	3.6	Sims DET	279	1260	10	4.5
Rogers RAID	323	1467	12	4.5	Warner SEA	263	1232	7	4.7
Dickerson RAMS	318	1317	8	4.1	C.Dickey SEA	310	1210	14	3.9

Passing	Att-Comp	Pct.	Yds.	Int-TD	Avg.	Rating
Fouts NYJ	538-291	54.1	4085	15-35	7.59	88.8
Theismann WASH	442-247	55.9	3529	11-21	7.98	87.5
Bartkowski DET	497-285	57.3	3746	19-31	7.54	86.1
White DAL	538-298	55.4	3560	16-26	6.62	79.3
DeBerg DEN	241-122	50.6	1677	3-12	6.96	76.6
Montana SF	553-311	56.2	3670	19-23	6.64	76.4

Receiving	No.-Yds.	TD	Avg.	Sacks	
Lofton MIN	100-1622	8	16.2	Green SEA	28
Christensen RAID	93-1272	11	13.7	Bettters MIA	22
Green SL	89-1324	11	14.9	Greer SL	20
C.Dickey SEA	88-1091	9	12.4	GastineauNYJ	20
Branch RAID	87-1349	8	15.5		
Cosbie DAL	87-1034	9	11.9		
Kickoff Returns	No.	TD	Avg.	Punt Returns	No. TD Avg.
Walker MIA	56	0	27.2	Ellard RAMS	33 3 15.5
Nelson MIN	27	0	25.6	Thomas DEN	62 6 13.3

Football playing tip

2-MINUTE CLOCK TIMING

Here is the two-minute clock timing system used by the Liberty S-O-M Football League:

2:00	1:53	1:45	1:38	1:30	1:23	1:15	1:08	1:00
:53	:45	:38	:30	:23	:15	:08	:01	

Hurry Up Offense

3 Spaces

Lineback
Off-Tackle
Complete Long Pass
Complete Short Pass
(15 yards or more)

"

2 Spaces

End Run with Gain
(4 yards or more)
Complete Short Pass
(Less than 15 yards)
Complete Flat Pass
(8 yards or more)

"

Normal Offense

4 Spaces

See Above

3 Spaces

See Above

1 Space

Complete Flat Pass
(Less than 8 yards)
QB Sack (2 spaces)
Must Run
End Run with Gain of
Less than 4 Yards

"

Timing for below is the same for both regular and hurry up:

Any Measurement Play	Penalty	
Kickoff Return	Any Incomplete Pass	= 1 Space
On-Side Kick	Change of Possession	
Field Goal Try		

Injury	Punt and Return	QB Sack	= 2 Spaces
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Timeout: All plays go 1 space if timeout is used by either team.

(continued from page 2)

Pushing	Att-Yds.	Avg.	ID	Receiving	No.-Yds.	Avg.	ID
Warner GD	331-1941	5.9	7	Winslow DH	86 1202	14.0	10
Payton JM	292-1487	5.1	16	Newsome SN	77 797	10.4	7
Andrews GB	263-1370	5.2	12	Green BHO	71 1312	18.5	3
Cribbs SN	253-1325	5.2	6	Clark BHI	65 767	11.8	2
Dorsett JB	236-1248	5.3	6	Quick JM	62 1374	22.2	3
Dickerson GB	198-1188	6.0	6	Brown JM	62 957	15.4	3
Sims JN	201- 901	4.5	4	Christensen GD	61 791	13.0	1

Passing	Att-Comp.	Pct.	Yds.	TD-Int.	Yds.Sack	Sacks	Rating
Fouts GB	334-177	53.0	2597	32-18	-171	19	88.1
Marino SN	296-150	50.7	1939	22-6	-72	8	87.9
Plunkett JN	379-178	47.0	3225	38-27	-153	17	83.8
Theismann DH	459-223	48.6	3084	27-14	-153	17	77.7
Ferguson GD	199-103	51.8	1339	12-8	-63	7	76.7
Lomax JB	350-176	50.3	2535	17-14	-270	30	73.8
Bartkowski WN	408-223	54.7	2523	20-17	-198	22	72.2

Interceptions	No.	Yds.	ID	Kickoff Ret.	No.	Yds.	ID
Teal JN	11	167	1	Walker JN	63-1616	0	
Wright DH	11	139	0	Punt Ret.			
				Martin GB	19-302	3	

Playoffs

Warren Newell d. Steve Nuss, 27-24, OT
 Jim Myers d. Jerry Nowak, 39-38
 Warren Newell d. Gerv Bentley, 27-23
 Jim Myers d. Dale Holland, 40-7
 Warren Newell d. Jim Myers, 31-22

Note: George Rogers rushed for 162 yards on 19 carries and scored twice for Warren in Super Bowl. Steve Bartkowski was held to 8-of-26 passing for only 120 yards. Bill Kenney was 10-of-25 but for 208 yards passing for Myers, while Payton had 87 yards on 14 carries.

Defensive Sacks	No.-Yds.
1. Gerv Bentley	57 513
2. Jerry Nowak	45 405
3. Dale Holland	37 333
4. Warren Newell	30 270
5. Jim Myers	25 225
6. Bob Hoyt	25 225
7. Bill Hill	21 189
8. Gary Dunham	19 171
9. Brian Shaw	16 144
10. Steve Nuss	11 99

Advertisements

(continued from page 12.)

Contests

CONTESTS: First annual "Big Apple West" baseball tournament will be held in North Jersey/New York area in late September. Advanced and basic baseball cards will be used. Send SASE for more information. Write: Big Apple West, P.O. Box 793, Clifton, NJ 07015-0793

Editor's note: The longer ads, especially those that relate to Strat-O-Matic games in only a very indirect way, were cut down in this issue of the Review. That was the plea last month and the Review thanks the subscribers who did cut down on the wordage.

Pitchers hitting cards accurate for '84 season

BY RODNEY JOHNSON, Tempe, AZ

If you will remember my article published in the August, 1984 Review on pitchers hitting cards, the results of several seasons of replays and 3,775 at-bats yielded the following results or test averages:

No. 1 - .133	No. 3 - .187
No. 2 - .163	No. 4 - .229

I wanted to find out how accurate these averages were and what affect they had on overall team performance.

I went through 1984's actual hitting statistics for each individual pitcher who has a card. I multiplied his at-bats by his corresponding "test average" to create a projected average. I then computed projected team averages for each National League team and compared them with the actual team batting averages for pitchers in 1984. The results are amazing.

For the league the difference in the projection and the actual averages is a meager +.007 for the projection. St. Louis, Pittsburgh and San Francisco were the only teams that the projection varied more than .010.

San Francisco, which finished last in the league at .115, was last again, but at .137 (.133 would be the lowest possible projection under this formula) in the projection.

St. Louis was the biggest surprise at a projected .148 (.032 higher than actual) and moved from an actual 11th place to 8th in the league. If you moved St. Louis to the 11th spot and moved Montreal, Houston and Philadelphia up one spot, every team would finish within one spot of their actual finish in the team pitchers' hitting standings.

While each individual pitcher may not achieve his actual average, it appears that there is little affect on team averages. For 1984, at least, one need not worry about pitchers' hitting cards. They are accurate. My findings are listed below:

Team	Actual At-Bats	Projected Hits	Projected Average	Actual Average	Difference
San Diego	393	73	.186	.180	+.006
Pittsburgh	407	70	.172	.183	-.011
Atlanta	345	54	.157	.160	-.003
NY Mets	341	53	.1554	.165	-.010
Los Angeles	354	55	.1553	.146	+.009
Chicago	364	56	.154	.145	+.009
Cincinnati	301	45	.150	.147	+.003
St. Louis	311	46	.148	.116	+.032
Montreal	342	49	.143	.136	+.007
Houston	338	48	.142	.137	+.005
Philadelphia	313	44	.141	.139	+.002
San Francisco	307	42	.137	.115	+.022
	4116	635	.154	.147	+.007

Baseball

playing tip

Stephen Bauer, Herndon, VA, has a playing tip that will eliminate memorizing the split cards. He suggest putting the cards in a lunch-sized plastic or paper bag and always shaking it vigorously before picking a split card. Any markings on the cards are concealed via the bag...and also nervous energy, hostility, anxiety, etc., can be relieved or taken out shaking the bag.

S-O-M league, replay scene

1970 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE REPLAY - Solitaire venture conducted by Dave Shane, a writer for the Midland Daily News, Midland, MI...Took 14 months to complete, with St. Louis defeating Kansas City in Super Bowl, 34-20, as MacArthur Lane rushed for 196 yards and four touchdowns and was named game's MVP...Shane was convinced that Dallas, Super Bowl opponent of Baltimore in real-life, was not that good "on paper" and that at least four other teams were better, including Minnesota, Los Angeles, Detroit and the Cards. The latter three proved Shane right, but Minnesota suffered because some of the changes in S-O-M Football that would reflect opportunistic defense and blocked punts had not been incorporated into game...Minnesota, for instance, lost to Dallas (13-9), L.A. (27-26), Detroit (10-6) and Houston (20-17)...One statistical oddity was Detroit's Bobby Williams intercepting 10 passes filling in for injured defensive backs Lem Barney and Dick LeBeau.

Standings, playoff results and leaders:

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Central	W	L	T	West	W	L	T
St. Louis	9	5	0	Detroit	11	2	1	Los Angeles	11	1	2
Dallas	8	6	0	Minnesota	7	7	0	San Francisco	8	8	0
Washington	8	6	0	Green Bay	5	8	1	Atlanta	5	9	0
NY Giants	5	7	2	Chicago	4	10	0	New Orleans	3	9	2
Philadelphia	5	9	0								

Passing	Yds.	Rushing	Receiving
Tarkenton NYG	2,738	L.Brown WAS	1,146
Kilmer NO	2,653	D.Thomas DAL	1,108
Gabriel LA	2,611	R.Johnson NYG	1,057
		G.Washington SF	58

Pts.	Cox. MIN	113	Playoffs:
Int.	B.Williams DET	10	Dallas d. Detroit, 20-17
PR:	Roland SL	16.7	St. Louis d. Los Angeles, 19-13
KOR:	Turner CHI	33.3	St. Louis d. Dallas, 23-7

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Central	W	L	T	West	W	L	T
Baltimore	12	1	1	Cincinnati	8	5	1	Kansas City	10	4	0
Miami	9	4	1	Cleveland	7	7	0	Oakland	7	6	1
Buffalo	6	6	2	Pittsburgh	5	8	1	Denver	6	7	1
NY Jets	4	10	0	Houston	4	9	1	San Diego	4	8	2
Boston	3	10	1								

Passing	Yds.	Rushing	Receiving
Shaw BUF	3,277	F.Little DEN	1,043
Hadl SD	2,931	Podolak KC	977
Nelsen CLE	2,622	Dixon OAK	932
		Moses BUF	53

Pts.	Stenerud KC	144	Playoffs:
Int.	Marsalis KC	12	Kansas City d. Miami, 18-17
PR:	Wvatt OAK	14.9	Cincinnati d. Baltimore, 24-21
KOR:	Duncan BAL	40.2	Kansas City d. Cincinnati, 27-17

Note: Cleveland and the NY Jets had same records as in real-life. Also, that MacArthur Lane, the Super Bowl hero, had 973 yards rushing.

SLOW POKE SPORTS ASSOCIATION - Perhaps name comes from fact 1978-79 National Hockey League replay was completed in 1981...Straight teams (continued on next page)

were used, with no trading...Philadelphia, coached by Jim Feld, captured SPFA championship by whipping Montreal in Stanley Cup finals, 4 games to 1...Phil Ledesma, who guided Colorado to a 32-point improvement over real-life, was named Coach of Year...MVP was Wilf Paiement of Colorado, who had most goals (71)...League has been renamed Wild West Hockey Association for second replay, which is close to being completed with eight in coaching lineup, including, according to Ledesma, "A Russian Orthodox Apprentice Monk, two construction workers and two women, Patricia Ledesma and Dee Young...Stanley Cup co-MVPs were Bill Barber (4 short-handed goals) and Bernie Parent (93.5 save percentage and 2.20 goals-against-average) of winning Flyers...Players were kept within 10 percent of games played...Keith Hesson guided Montreal...Guy Lafleur of Montreal led in scoring with 141 points, while Bryan Trottier of Islanders was tops in assists with 80...Montreal netminder Ken Dryden had lowest GAA (2.39).

Standings (points) and playoff results:

	Pts.		Pts.		Pts.
Montreal	109	Boston	98	Colorado	74
Pittsburgh	82	Buffalo	93	Chicago	72
Los Angeles	81	Toronto	78	Vancouver	55
Detroit	66	Minnesota	62	St. Louis	42
Washington	57				

Atlanta 109
 NY Islanders 107
 Philadelphia 95
 NY Rangers 80

Playoffs (First-round): Islanders d. Chicago, 3-0;
 Philadelphia d. Toronto, 3-1; Rangers d. Buffalo, 3-1;
 3-1; Pittsburgh d. Los Angeles, 3-1.
 (Quarterfinals): Montreal d. Colorado, 4-1;
 Rangers d. Atlanta, 4-3; Islanders d. Pittsburgh, 4-1;
 Philadelphia d. Boston, 4-3.
 (Semifinals): Montreal d. Rangers, 4-0; Philadelphia d. Islanders, 4-3

STRATO LEAGUE OF TURLOCK, CA - No. 1 tried harder and made it pay off with a championship in this four-year-old face-to-face draft league that plays 162-game schedule...Nelson Wilhite was the runnerup during the regular-season who tried harder in the playoffs. Wilhite featured a lineup that included Lonnie Smith, Cecil Cooper, Robin Yount and a bullpen of Dan Quisenberry and Steve Howe. He had a 97-65 record, six games behind pennant-winning Bill Atwood (Eddie Murray, Cal Ripken, Jim Rice, Bob Horner, Gary Carter, Lee Smith and Alejandro Pena)...Third place belonged to John Vercammen (Carlton Fisk, Dave Winfield, George Brett, Ken Hrbek, Lloyd Moseby, LaMarr Hoyt, Goose Gossage and Jesse Orosco), while Jim Dupre was fourth (MVP Andre Dawson, Rickey Henderson, Wade Boggs and Bill Madlock). Vercammen was 87-75, Dupre 85-77... Dawson led in most statistical categories: Home runs (44), RBI (144), triples (19) and was second in runs scored (107) and hits (200)...Boggs was No. 1 on the hit parade with a .367 average, while Madlock was a distant runnerup at .324...Henderson swiped 111 bases, Pena, Bob Welch of Wilhite's team and Quisenberry each won 22 games, Jose DeLeon was rookie of year along with striking out league-high 314 and Lee Smith had the most saves (37), with Gossage second with 26...In the playoffs, Dupre surprised Atwood, winning 3 games to 1, and Wilhite took advantage of injuries to Moseby and Winfield to oust Vercammen, 3-1...The World Series belonged to Wilhite, who turned back Dupre in seven games.

REPLAY OF 1982 MILWAUKEE BREWERS & BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Edward Caylor of Hampton, NH, was on the dice-rollin' end of this exciting (continued on next page)

replay that marked Earl Weaver's last season as manager and wasn't decided until last series...Birds, thanks to good pitching early in season and Eddie Murray's great hitting down the stretch, ended up 99-63 in replay, winning the East over fading Milwaukee (91-71). Baltimore won six of seven games in a last-series showdown with the Brewers... Murray was sensational from Sept. 8 on, batting .450 with 10 doubles, 9 home runs and 31 RBI. Murray finished with a .295 average, 41 homers (9 more than real-life) and 106 RBI...John Lowenstein was another Sept. phenom, batting .403 with 6 homers and 22 RBI...But it was really Baltimore's pitching that was the difference as the staff ERA was 3.52, almost half a run lower than real-life (3.99). Jim Palmer was the ace, going 21-8 with a 2.38 ERA (real-life: 15-5, 3.13), while five other pitchers won 10 or more games and reliever Tim Stoddard was 7-0 and 1.92...Offensively, Cal Ripken chipped in 26 homers and 94 RBI while Lowenstein clouted 23 roundtrippers and hit .317 in 312 at-bats...End of the season was sour, however, as California swept the suddenly punchless Birds, 3-0. Baltimore batted only .198 and had a mere five runs. Murray did hit .455 with a homer, but Reggie Jackson of the Angels batted .500 with two homers and four RBI. A two-hitter by Bruce Kison further hurt Baltimore's cause...Caylor said that all advanced rules were used and that starting lineups were all taken from The Sporting News...As far as Milwaukee, Brewer bats almost carried it all the way to a division title. Six players drove in over 89 runs, six had 21 or more homers and three scored 106 runs or more. Milwaukee batted .280, averaged over five runs a game and cracked 232 homers...Cecil Cooper did everything, hitting .344 with 37 homers and 140 RBI. Robin Yount batted .356 with 27 homers, 107 RBI and 142 runs scored. Paul Molitor batted .308. Gorman Thomas crashed 47 homers. Ben Oglivie had 38 and 111 RBI and Ted Simmons 26 and 93 numbers. Wow!...But the pitching, which had been about average going into September, collapsed completely, having a 4.80 ERA the last six weeks. Mike Caldwell was typical of the fate that befell the pitching staff as he was 16-6 on August 22 - and then went 1-6 with a 5.77 ERA the rest of the way...Don Sutton, acquired late in the season to 'clinch' the division, was 0-4 with a 10.10 ERA...The loss of Rollie Fingers (injury) for the last month hurt immensely, too...Milwaukee's record was 18-22 in Sept. and 4-10 the last two weeks.

INTERCONTINENTAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE - What has Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Alex English, World B. Free, Buck Williams and Johnny Moore? The answer is the Richmond Rebels, coached by Jeff Schnakenberg, who won the playoffs in the IBL's sixth season...The league, which is commissioned by Bill Vargus, Philadelphia, PA, is closing in on completion of season number seven. Vargus said that a preseason deal sent Kevin Feeney's No. 1 draft pick (in other words, Ralph Sampson) to brother Chris in a swap involving a number of players and draft choices...The Rebels, reports Vargus, played below their card ability during the regular-season, but rode a great offense to a championship in the playoffs...Victim of the Rebels was Doug Winslow's Toronto Thunderbirds, who also rose up out of the pack to reach the finals. Thunderbird stars were Sidney Moncreif, Marques Johnson, Robert Parish, Dan Roundfield and Dennis Johnson. The Rebels won the last three games in a seven-game championship playoff... Best teams during the regular-season were Terry Ringen's Byron (Nebraska) Harvesters, led by Magic Johnson, Gus Williams, Mychal Thompson and Calvin Natt, and Vargus' Philadelphia Fantastico, sparked by Moses Malone, Jeff Ruland, Clark Kellogg, Walter Davis and Jim Paxson...Both lost in the first round of the playoffs, however, with Willis Ringen (Kansas Kings) ousting his son's Harvesters.

The 'Fate of Fergie'

BY ROD PELTONEN, Thunder Bay, Ontario

The accomplishments and contributions of individual players to their respective teams' success is not always reflected in the replays printed in the Review.

While I have not been able to submit any full season replays, I wish to share the misfortunes of Fergie Jenkins of the 1970 Chicago Cubs. In a solitaire tournament, Fergie received my version of the Tough Luck Award despite pitching three shutouts in five starts.

After blanking the 1970 Pirates on just four hits, 6-0, Fergie and his teammates destroyed Gaylord Perry and the 1970 Giants, 10-0. Jenkins entered the ninth inning of that game with a no-hitter and struck out Bobby Bonds for his 12th whiff to move two outs away from S-O-M immortality.

But Ken Henderson, who was moved from the No. 5 spot to second in the batting order for this game, drilled a single to break up the no-hitter. Jenkins promptly retired Willie Mays and Willie McCovey to end the game. But the damage had been done by the lesserlight of the order.

This would have represented my sixth no-hitter in 19 years of dice-rolling. I told myself that there would be another no-hitter somewhere down the road to ease my disappointment.

SEAVER VS. JENKINS

Well, the 1970 Cubs continued in the tournament and found themselves matched against the 1977 Reds. Jenkins was on the mound and was opposed by none other than Tom Seaver. The Reds had lost only once in 10 games and were chasing the 1930 A's for first place at that point.

The Cubs scored two runs in the fourth inning to grab a 2-0 lead, but were held hitless the balance of the game by Seaver. Although Seaver was pitching as well as expected, Jenkins was almost perfect. Through eight innings, he gave up only two base on balls while striking out four.

The Reds pinch-hit for Seaver with Ray Knight and he struck out to lead off the ninth. Pete Rose popped out and only Joe Morgan separated Jenkins from a no-hitter. It was then that my adrenalin started flowing.

I rolled the dice and found a groundball to 2B (X) prolonging the outcome. This should be a routine play for Glenn Beckert ("2"). I drew the split number and almost fell out of my chair when I saw the result: a "2" which gave Morgan a single!

How could this happen a second time? Jenkins promptly mowed down Ken Griffey on strikes to end the game as another brilliant performance ended in disappointment.

A'S ELIMINATE CUBBIES

The Cubs made it to the playoff round of the tournament and were finally eliminated by the '30 A's in a three-game series. Jenkins pitched the final game of the series but no longer was in the game when Philadelphia scored twice on an Al Simmons home run in the bottom of the ninth for a 7-5 victory by the A's.

Philadelphia went on to win the tournament by sweeping the 1977 Reds in a best-of-five championship series, 3-0. The A's finished with a glittering 16-2 record - but it was Jenkins who made this my best tournament ever.

Strat-O-Matic spotlight

23

A 'limited' no-hitter

The Greater Dubuque Strat-O-Matic League of Dubuque, IA, had one of the most unusual no-hitters recently.

A little background on the league is that it is a 12-team, face-to-face draft league. One of its main playing rules is that at-bats and innings pitched are strictly adhered to - right down to the last inning pitched and at-bat. No exceptions...not even a bid for a no-hitter!

Late in the season, Arnie Fritsch's team sent Fernando Valenzuela out to pitch what we probably be his last game. Valenzuela had 10 innings left. His opponent was Curt Duehr's team. After 10 innings, the score was 0-0 - and Valenzuela had a no-hitter going.

Fritsch's team scored in the top of the 11th to take a 1-0 lead. But Valenzuela wasn't allowed another inning - remember he had only 10 innings left - and so Jeff Reardon was brought out of the bullpen to protect the 1-0 advantage, as well as no-hitter.

A rare two-pitcher no-hitter and certainly the first to result from a limitation on innings and removal of the starting hurler when he had a no-hitter riding.

ANOTHER RARE NO-HITTER

Another no-hitter, this one of the route-going variety, was recorded by Atlee Hammaker in a face-to-face draft league. Hammaker, pitching for the Wrecks in an S-O-M league that is part of the recreation program of Montgomery Township in Belle Mead, NJ, bested Larry McWilliams in a pitchers duel, 1-0.

Hammaker worked through a lineup that included Lonnie Smith, Cliff Johnson, Willie Upshaw and Tony Pena. McWilliams, for his part, gave up only two hits.

"It is believed to be the only government sponsored S-O-M league," says Jim Dunwiddie, Montgomery's recreation director and a 20-year gaming veteran.

For Dunwiddie it was his second no-hitter while directing 'recreation,' with the first occurring in 1983 and being tossed by the Wrecks' Nolan Ryan.

WHO IS THAT GUY?

Bill Schroeder is still an unknown baseball player to most people. But he ranks right up with Babe Ruth, Hank Aaron and other great sluggers as far as Chris Sinatra, Gretna, LA, is concerned.

Sinatra watched Schroeder crank out a Ripley-like feat of five home runs in one Strat-O-Matic league game. All told, Schroeder went 5-for-7 and drove in nine runs as the Braves walloped the Yankees (draft teams), 27-4. Ironically, Tom Paciorek's grand-slam homer in the first gave the Yanks a big early lead.

Schroeder would have had more RBI if Tony Armas hadn't been hitting in front of him. Armas crashed two roundtrippers, one a grand-slam and totaled eight RBI.

SHORT SHAKES

The North-South Strat-O-Matic League will have another summer fun bash in Houston, TX, with Steve Schumacher, the stadium-builder par excellence, in charge of the itinerary. Among those making the trip will be the Willnus brothers, Bob and Andy, from Ann Arbor, MI. Two Dodger-Astro games will be viewed plus a trip to New Braunfels to visit
(continued on back page)

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Strat-O-Matic spotlight

(continued from page 23)

the "Schlitterbahn" is also on the agenda. "It promises, as usual, to be the highlight of the NSSML's season," enthuses Schumacher...Stephen Thomas of North Miami, FL, one of the movers behind the formation of a eight-team, face-to-face baseball league in southern Florida, says that trading is allowed, but with restrictions. Twenty out of the 25-player roster must belong to the actual real-life team. If you have Baltimore, for example, you must have at least 20 Orioles. The league also had a one-time only "equalizing draft" in which Cincinnati got three draft picks, all the first pick each round, while Detroit got only the last pick in the first round or one draft choice...Michael Lynch, a sophomore-to-be at Franklin Lakes, NJ, High School, likes to draft basketball teams and stage mini replays. Best team he's assembled had Gus Williams, Dennis Johnson, Jack Sikma, Kiki Vandeweghe and Calvin Natt.