



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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S-O-M cards will have new look

Game company makes internal and external changes

The Strat-O-Matic Game Company, like everything else on this planet, wants to be and look its best. S-O-M's history,, if you trace its roots, goes back to the outset of the '60s. And true, plenty of changes have occurred in the games and the cards.

S-O-M is currently undergoing a facelift, if you want to call it that, both internally and externally; internally, referring to its office operation, and externally, referring to the product it puts out, namely the cards.

"We have a new computer system that will make our filing much easier and less time-consuming," says Harold Richman, the creator of S-O-M's gaming line. "Orders should be filled much quicker and it will be easier to locate an order if a question regarding the order is needed."

Along with the internal changes, the appearance of the new cards that will be coming your way will also undergo some changes.

"The cards themselves will be perforated," says Richman. "That's the negative feature (gamers will have to separate the perforated cards)."

But the good features are that the new cards will be more colorful - future football cards, perhaps this year's NFL set, could have as many as four colors, two on the basic side and two on the advanced - the cutting of the cards will be even (which is especially important to collectors) and the cards could be ready for shipping much earlier than in the past.

"The second color will make a tremendous impact," enthuses Richman. "The cards will look much, much nicer. We've changed printers and we're very excited about many of the things we will be able to do."

"The card stock will be as good or better than what it is now."

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After the initial delay in separating the (perforated) cards, people will find an improved and much better looking card."

Some unusual delays and problems with the printing of this year's baseball cards were the main reasons for S-O-M making the switch and giving the cards a facelift at the same time.

Another process that will be pretty much eliminated by the new system of perforated cards will be collating, which was tremendously time-consuming. Cards came into S-O-M from the printer in individual lots (500 Don Mattinglys, for instance) and then had to be collated in- to teams.

"Collating errors will be eliminated, too," stresses Richman. Did you ever wonder why you had two of a certain player and none of another? A collating snafu most likely. S-O-M always quickly supplied any missing cards, but it was still an annoyance to customers.

And irregular cutting will be eliminated also, Richman hopes.

"Because of the size of the press used by the printer we have now, the extra players will automatically come with the teams in pro football," says Richman. "Each team will have two extras, for a total of 13 player cards per team, and 56 total extra players for the 28 teams. The price last year was \$16.10 for the regular set and \$3.25 for the extras. This year it will be \$18.35."

The price of the new basketball and hockey cards will be increased about seven percent, according to Richman, and the extra players for both those games will continue to be sold separately.

One significant change in hockey - which many gamers have clamored for ever since the game's inception - is that goalies will have separate cards. No more cards with a different goalie on each side, which made it difficult to draft goalies for league play.

"Only 17 hockey cards could be handled on the old printing press," says Richman. "The new printer will be able to handle more."

GOING BY THE COLORS...

The availability of different color schemes will make the new cards look nice and hopefully, according to folks at S-O-M, offset any misgivings about the perforated cards.

The football cards, as previously mentioned, could have a total of four colors. The basketball cards could have - all the color schemes were not decided as of this writing - two colors on the advanced side and one on the basic. Hockey will most likely have two colors and the baseball cards for 1988 (based on '87) could have as many as three colors on the advanced side.

As far as perforated cards, it simply means gamers will have to separate their cards (break them loose). Most likely they will come in the form of team sheets. Individual teams will still be sold, however.

"This system should save a lot of time and allow us to fill orders much more quickly," says Steve Barkan, who's been with S-O-M since its early days and has always performed a myriad of duties, including being in charge of shipping.

"We're thrilled about the new computer system, too. If somebody calls us and asks a question about their order, we can just call up the name on the computer and find the order, as well as all past orders."

As far as customers, and the inconvenience of separating the perforated cards aside, the biggest long-range plus looming is earlier delivery of the new cards, particularly the baseball.

Many times in past years, all the computer printouts of the cards were at the printer's by the middle of or in late December. If everything was running smoothly with the printer and the cards could be delivered quickly, there was still the collating process to go through

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before enough teams were available to begin shipping. Any problems with the printer - this year there was a two-week span during which the printing press was broken down - and the whole timetable was in limbo.

So, scratch the collating process and save perhaps as much as two weeks. New baseball cards in early, or mid, January? It very well could happen.

Touching all the bases with S-O-M

While conversing with Harold Richman and Steve Barkan about the new-look Strat-O-Matic cards, some other gaming subjects were mentioned, including:

* The new college football game will be out in the fall and the individual ratings (for the different positions, i.e. quarterback, tailback, flanker, etc.) are going to be a composite. "No names will be on the cards," says Richman, "but if one fullback carried the ball 85 percent of the time you're going to know that it's him carrying the ball and associate the position with a certain name player."

* Lenny Dykstra's quote referring to Strat-O-Matic is mentioned in the New York Mets' 1987 team guide. After his game-winning home run off Dave Smith in the National League playoffs, Dykstra said: "The last time I hit a home run in the bottom of the ninth to win a game was in Strat-O-Matic against my brother."

* While on the topic of major leaguers who play S-O-M Baseball, Rick Mahler and Jeff Dedmon, both pitchers with Atlanta, are on the 'active list' as far as dice-rollers. And teammate Dale Murphy also plays S-O-M.

* Look for S-O-M to redo its instruction booklet for the baseball game in the near future. Some of the hazy areas will be cleared up and some optional rules, such as "outoffs," will be included for the first time.

Computer disks should be arriving

What happened to the computer game?

Many gamers have been asking that question the last few months.

And the answer from Strat-O-Matic is that the new game and team disks should be in your hands very soon, most likely before the end of May.

The fact that S-O-M will have the computer game for not only the Apple, but also IBM and Commodore, has delayed delivery longer than first anticipated.

"The last step has been a problem," says Harold Richman. "We want everything to be as close to 100 percent as possible before we begin shipping."

One of the last tests - the tests are conducted for the most part by Steve Barkan - was surveying the results of 50,000 'dice' rolls. And another was Barkan playing, and keeping complete statistics, for 162 games, all done in a span of a little over a week.

"Steve Barkan has been working seven days a week running tests," says Richman. "We've had to put the college football game on hold. It is very upsetting to us to have all the delays. But so much of it is outside our control."

On the bright side, the creation of disks for IBM and Commodore computers has, overall, gone smoothly. Some of the problems did not

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pertain to the game itself. IBM, for instance, proved to be easily adaptable to S-O-M.

Computer questions answered

Two questions came up in the May issue of the Review referring to the computer baseball game, namely the manual Stat Compiler and creation of boxscores. The questions were raised by Stan Watson (Sacramento, CA).

One question referred to a situation where, with two outs and a runner on first, the runner stole second, moved to third on a throwing error by the catcher, and then scored when the next batter doubled. Watson says it should have been an earned run, since the runner would have scored from second on the double. But the Stat Compiler, he says, called it unearned.

The other question referred to Watson's use of a pitcher as a pinch-hitter. The pitcher did not enter the game as a pitcher. The Stat Compiler, however, listed the pitcher's cumulative statistics, including the pinch-hit at-bat as another game, under the pitchers' statistics. The pinch-hit at-bat was also listed in the hitting section.

We mentioned that the questions were sent to the game company. And Steve Barkan, S-O-M's resident computer expert, called soon after to explain what he thinks may have happened.

"I went through the same situation (as described in the first question) 30 times, and every time the game did handle it correctly," says Barkan. "It should have been an earned run and that's what I always got. The only other thing I can think of is that maybe there was a run scored earlier in the game that was unearned and he (Watson) may have forgotten about it."

As far as the second question, Barkan says he tested that scenario also and found no problem. A pitcher can be used as a pinch-hitter by going into the batters section of the team disk and inserting him in the lineup. The result should be listed only among batters' stats.

Barkan did raise the question as to what player, or position in the batting order, the pitcher pinch-hit for. The listing should have been PH when the player in question entered the game. If the player pinch-hit for the pitcher, and then was typed in as replacing player No. 9 in the lineup, that would show up in the pitching statistics, even though he didn't pitch, since that name is also listed among the pitchers.

Both situations were unusual, but Barkan did take the time to test both extensively to see if there might be a flaw. Barkan also promised to speedily answer any other questions pertaining to either the first computer version or the soon-to-be-released new versions.

Why two-base errors and 'gbC'?

One problem that did come up when talking with Barkan was that two-base errors for infielders were occurring and that "1" infielders were having "gbC" fielding plays.

"We had to change our fielding system somewhat for the computer game," says Barkan. "Actually, we had been working on the computer game for a couple of years and a change in the fielding was made back then. We had forgotten about it until we read about some of the questions.

"The computer game does not have the advanced fielding chart. The fielding is built into the game. The frequency of errors and batting

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averages are exactly the same, but there are slightly more two-base errors and a few groundball C situations, which don't occur with the advanced fielding chart.

"What happened was that there was not enough memory (on the disks) for all of the advanced fielding chart. So, Hal (Richman) created another advanced fielding system for the computer game. That was actually done a couple of years ago when we first began to test the computer game.

"It is statistically correct. We should have told you about it before, but the truth is, because the change was made so long ago, we had forgotten it."

This explains why two-base errors have occurred more frequently than the advanced fielding chart provided for. And also it should ease the concerns of gamers who might otherwise have thought their disks were breaking down.

Three more TBA tournaments held

Latest stops were in Philadelphia, Chicago, Toronto

Three more Table Baseball Association tournaments are history and the list of qualifiers for next year's World Tournament in Chicago continues to grow.

Latest tournaments conducted by John Kreuz of Glenview, IL, included TBA stops in Philadelphia, Chicago and Toronto, all of which were held in late April or early May.

At Philadelphia, Jim Battista (Yeadon, PA) defeated Jeff Watson (Upper Darby, PA) for the championship in the first-ever meeting of two members of the same league in the finals. "Both belong to the Yeadon League," points out Kreuz.

Bill Meinhardt of Malden, MA, winner of last year's tournament in Philadelphia and featured in the January, 1987, issue of the Review, finished third. Meinhardt was involved in a memorable game against Steve Meyerson in the quarterfinals. With the score tied, Meyerson had runners on second and third with no outs in both the bottom of the 10th and 11th innings - and couldn't score! "Six rolls of the dice to beat Meinhardt, and he couldn't do it," said Kreuz in disbelief.

Finally, in the 12th inning and with Meyerson's relief staff down to a lefty, Mike Schmidt homered to win the game for Meinhardt.

"The Philadelphia tournament was also unique in that the first woman to actually draft a team was in the tournament," says Kreuz. "Her name is Clare Davis and she's from Cape May, NJ. She had an 8-10 record and didn't make the playoffs, but she understood the game, did her own drafting and overall did very well."

Davis' fiance, Steve McGuire, also of Cape May, also participated in the tournament. He made the playoffs and finished 10-8, losing to Battista in the second round.

Another well-known S-O-M gamer in attendance was Glenn Guzzo, a frequent contributor to the Review and executive sports editor of The Inquirer in Philadelphia. "Guzzo played in the tournament - 6-12 record - and did a first-person story on his experiences," says Kreuz. "He had a good time. Now if we could just get one of the Review's editors to play in a tournament..."

Jeff Schwarze of Palantine, IL, won the TBA's Chicago tourney. Schwarze compiled a 22-7 record, including going 10-1 in the playoffs. He also had a 12-1 record in one-run games. "He had Ryne Sandberg and Ozzie Smith up the middle and having them helped him win close games,"

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says Kreuz.

Dan Lord, a TBA rookie from Niles, IL, was the runner-up. In the second game of the final series, Lord three times tried to score runners on 1-18 chances...and each time was thrown out.

The odds of that happening are mind-boggling, to say the least. Oh, Schwarze eventually scored in the 13th inning and won the game.

An unusual happening in Chicago was a no-hitter by Nolan Ryan. John Gedwill (Tinley Park, IL) was the manager and the no-hitter happened in his first TBA game.

TORONTO IS FIRST FOREIGN TBA VENTURE

The tournament in Toronto was the first ever in Canada and Kreuz described the turnout as "light but very enthusiastic. We had hoped for more people to show up. But everyone there seemed to have a good time and most indicated they would return for the next tournament in Toronto (Aug. 21-23)," according to Kreuz.

Gerard Carlse of Scarborough, Ontario, won the Toronto tournament, with Nick Oshukany, Kitchener, Ontario, claiming second place. Oshukany is the best friend of Randy Metzloff, the winner of the TBA's World Championship tourney in Chicago in late March. Metzloff was on the scene Friday night and he and Oshukany drafted a team together.

"They had an amazing draft," marveled Kreuz. "They had the last, or eighth pick, in the first round and got Jesse Barfield. Their next pick was Eric Davis (Nos. 8 and 9 as the draft was reversed every other round). With their 24th and 25th picks they got Mattingly and Schmidt. Can you imagine picking up players like that so late in the draft?"

Metzloff bowed out after the draft, however, because of work commitments, and Oshukany guided the team Saturday and Sunday.

The Toronto tourney also saw a no-hitter. This time it was Mike Witt, hurling for Murray Zabitsky (Thornhill, Ontario), who notched the no-hitter. The no-hitter came in an unlikely park for such a feat - Chicago's Wrigley Field.

Rick Waddington, Oshawa, Ontario, lost to Carlse, 4-2, in the semifinals. Before that Waddington reserved himself a place in the TBA's Most Memorable Moments Hall of Fame by coming up with two triple plays in the same game.

WHAT'S AHEAD FOR TBA?

Kreuz took the weekend of Mother's Day off, but planned on jumping back into the tournament swing of things on May 15 with a TBA gathering in Boston.

Then, after taking Memorial Day weekend off, it will be back home to Chicago for a tournament May 29-31. Sacramento, CA, is on tap for June 5-7. And then it's Detroit (actually Ann Arbor will be the site) for a June 12-14 tournament.

Kreuz also reports that James Sander, the organizer of the Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournaments in the midwest each summer, will be at the Chicago TBA tourney.

"Each of us will be at the other's tournament this summer," relates Kreuz. "He'll be in Chicago for the May 29-31 tournament and he will be playing, even though football's his favorite game.

"And I'll be at Sanders' tournament (June 20-21 at the Gary Works Supervisory Club, Hobart, IN). I plan on using my 1956 Braves in the baseball tournament."

TBA'S NATIONAL RANKINGS

Every sport has its rankings. There's a top 10, or top 20, for (continued on next page)

just about everything - whether it be football, baseball, basketball, or Himalayan mountain climbing.

The Table Baseball Association also has national rankings, based on how gamers have done in TBA tournaments during the year.

"The rankings are sanctioned and endorsed by the Strat-O-Matic Game Company," says Kreuz. "The basis of the system is the National Ranking Point (NRP). A NRP may be earned in three different ways:

- (1) One NRP for each TBA tournament win.
- (2) One NRP for the number of games over .500 that you finished in the tournament.
- (3) If you win a tournament, one NRP for the number of entrants in the tournament.
 - If you finish second, one NRP for the number of entrants divided by two.
 - If you finish third or fourth, one NRP for the number of entrants divided by four.
 - If you finish fifth through eighth, one NRP for the number of entrants divided by eight.
 - If you finish ninth through 16th, one NRP for the number of entrants divided by 16.

Fractions are rounded off to the nearest whole number.

For example: Jim Battista, who won the Philadelphia tournament, has 74 NRPs. He had 20 NRPs for his 20 wins, 14 more for the wins over .500 (20-6) and, finally, 40 more NRPs for winning a 40-entry tournament.

Top 10 based on tournaments played through May 15:

1. Jim Battista, Yeadon, PA	- 74 NRP
2. Keith Desposito, La Habra, CA	- 70 "
3. Jeff Schwarze, Palatine, IL	- 67 "
4. Dana Perlstein, Hollywood, CA	- 50 "
5. Gerard Carlse, Scarborough, Ont.	- 45 "
6. Jeff Watson, Upper Darby, PA	- 40 "
7. Dan Lord, Niles, IL	- 38 "
8. Keith Shiraki, Culver City, CA	- 35 "
9. Bill Meinhardt, Malden, MA	- 32 "
David Odabashian, Philadelphia, PA	- 32 "

Kreuz, Sanders 'exchange' gamers

After a little gaming R & R in the form of participating in John Kreuz's TBA tournament in Chicago, May 29-31, James Sanders will return home to Gary, IN, and gear up for the upcoming Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament.

This will be the seventh LBMT staged by Sanders, the policeman who was among the first on the scene after Bostock was shot to death on the streets of Gary.

The site will be the Gary Works Supervisory Club in nearby Hobart, IN, and the starting time for the two-day tournament will be Saturday morning at 8 (CST). Entry fee is \$13.

Although Sanders has 'retired' from tourney football gaming (because of the tremendous work load of running such a tournament), he expects last year's champions to all be in attendance.

Among them are Rich Newman (advanced baseball), Seth Sherman (old-style football), John Stewart (hockey) and Eric Lathrop (new-style football). Late entries will still be accepted. Just write: James Sanders, Tournament Director, 5806 Kennedy Terrace #103, Gary, IN 46403 (or call 1-219-938-6137), and enclose the \$13 entry fee.

Guest columnist

Baseball changes evaluated

BY STEVEN EDELL, JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

I would like to react to some of the most recent changes in Strat-O-Matic Baseball and also to some of the things not (yet?) changed:

* Accolades for the extra players, no injury on some cards and new pitchers' hitting cards.

Two more areas that are lacking are the wild pitch-passed ball situation and the hit-by-pitch ratings. I can understand that a large part of a catcher's defense rating has to do with the amount of passed balls and can even understand that a better catcher stops more wild pitches than a worse catcher. But there simply are some pitchers who have more WPs than others (and balks and pickoffs).

The WPs should be incorporated onto the pitcher's card, maybe even as part of Pitcher X. For example: When you get the 'X', look on the pitcher's card for his WP rating. Roll the single die and, if the number is within his rating, he had a WP. Then continue for his normal 'X' play.

As for hit-by-pitch, S-O-M should get HBPs broken up to reflect lefty-righty percentages, as it is plainly obvious that this is not true now.

* We now need at least four charts to play with: the e-chart, advanced stealing, bunting, hit-and-run; super advanced stealing chart and the ball park chart. This is not including any charts that might be used in a replay season, either.

I am requesting, along with many others, that Strat-O-Matic put the super-advanced stealing numbers on the individual cards. I realize this might mean slight changes in card design, but changes were made for the ball park and clutch hitting, the four-column pitchers' cards and other things.

Four-plus charts are a lot. I have a feeling that S-O-M will realize, as it has consistently in the past, that this is really something that we all need and will put them on the cards. After all, the company usually complies with fan requests - eventually - and that's the mark of a good consumer company.

CARD PATTERNS SHOULD BE VARIED

* Another point returns to varying card patterns. As has been pointed out in the past, S-O-M has quite a few 'set' patterns and every team has the same pattern frequency; i.e., the best batting average on each team has the 1-5 through 1-10 pattern on the advanced side, the lowest ERA pitcher the 4-4 home run pattern, etc.

My suggestion is to vary the patterns, with each team starting with a different pattern. This way all the teams' No. 3 and 4 batters won't look more or less alike, and when you match two No. 1 pitchers, it won't look like they're twins.

Also, the extra players on each team start with the same pattern as the regular players. Usually this means the No. 1 RP and the No. 1 extra RP have the same pattern and it's frustrating trying to relieve one for the other when they look the same.

It would not be difficult to change the programming so where the patterns start varies from team to team.

* One more item that's been bothering me is Fly B(?). First of all do instructions say to add two each time (as they do on my instruction box), or just if there's one out before the flyball? Second, in an actual game, if the ball is thrown in on a flyball to try and get the runner, no matter if he's safe or out, all other runners move up. There is

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no such stipulation in S-O-M.

Finally, I wonder why we add two on a Flyball B(?) at all. In an actual game a runner with two outs runs with contact - sometimes even before then - since it doesn't matter if it's a flyball or not. It makes sense that he gets the extra two in running.

However, when a runner attempts to tag up on a flyball, the runner must wait until the ball is caught, with his foot on the bag, and then start to run after the catch. This seems a disadvantage, even more so than a regular hit, where runners usually take leads of at least a few steps. Why then do they get this extra 'bonus' for Flyball B(?)?

* I would finally like to reflect on the Review's comment over a half-year ago that not enough people send articles to the Review. Just looking on the ad pages shows why - they prefer to sell these articles than to have them printed in the Review for free.

Maybe some of these entrepreneurs can send part of their information to the Review. In this way, not only will we all be enlightened, but some of us may be interested in buying their products.

I want to again emphasize that I enjoy S-O-M and the S-O-M Review very much and am mentioning these things just to help make a super game even better.

Editor's note: Steven Edell is a frequent long-distance contributor to the Review. He's a computer programmer who's originally from New York city, 34 years old, married and the father of two young girls. He's been playing S-O-M since 1973. Regarding Flyball B(?), you always add two and take into consideration the runner's rating and arm of the outfielder. Why add two? The ball is assumed to be hit deeper than a Flyball C, but not deep enough for a straight Flyball B, or A. In other words, it's a question-mark play. The manager of the team at bat has to decide whether to send the runner on what could be (even with the extra two) a close play. The play adds more excitement to the game, even though a slight bit of realism is lost when other runners cannot advance on the play.

1927 Yankees greatest S-O-M team

Bronx Bombers have .637 winning percentage in replays

BY JAMES OVERMEYER, ISLIP, NY

One of the things I love most about Strat-O-Matic Baseball is that we can try to determine which is the greatest team of all time. If it is not the 1927 Yankees, then who? The 1931 A's? 1906 Cubs? 1961 Yankees? How do they rank?

I was considering doing a full-season replay, but a 160-game season of 42 teams would take me at least three years (probably twice that at my past rate of play slowed by extensive statistic keeping).

But then I got to thinking - what have all other gamers found in their replays? So, I went through 17 years of compiling "S-O-M Review" season won-lost records. Some seasons were only 50 games, others were 162 games. The teams were ranked 1 to 42 on won-lost percentage.

This ranking is not perfect. Various replays had different teams. The quality of the competition may vary and some records should be asterisked. There is no way of knowing if all the replays followed actual player use (was Dusty Rhodes of the 1954 Giants used as a regular?). But the result is still interesting.

I also listed a team's finish in the standings under four categories: first place, first division (not including first), second division (continued on next page)

(not including last) and last place.

The best team of all time? The 1927 Yankees. In 17 seasons, their percentage was .637 (that's 103 wins in a 162-game schedule). They finished first 15 times, second the other two. The second-best team? Would you believe the 1927 Pirates? Well, I don't either. The Pirates were only in two replays. This should be asterisked.

The most popular team? The 1961 Yankees were in 20, 1953 Dodgers 19 and the '27 Yankees in 17 (being excluded from several replays "because of greatness"). The least popular? The 1927 Pirates (two seasons) and 1933 Giants (three seasons) came into existence in 1976.

For the team that has been around longer than the Review and in the fewest replays is: 1940 Reds (three seasons). Surprisingly, the Reds rank 12th with a .535 percentage. But they seem to lack star appeal (what does anybody really know about Bucky Walters or Frank McCormick?).

The worst? Besides the 1962 Mets (.260)*, the 1967 Red Sox (.382).

'48 INDIANS ARE SURPRISE

There were a number of surprises to me. The 1948 Indians finished fourth. They came in first once and second place eight times. Few teams were consistently that good. I would not have expected them to do that well. The 1953 Dodgers were third (expected), but in two seasons (one of which was only 54 games), they came in last.

Another season that should be asterisked is the 1967 Cardinals. Few people would feel they are the seventh-best team. Unfortunately when compiling these records, I didn't record the date they were published so I can't check their competition.

SOME DISAPPOINTMENTS, TOO

Some teams were disappointing, at least to me. I felt the '34 Cardinals might finish around fifth; they were 14th (.532). One team that has never performed as well as I think it should is the 1931 A's (19th, .510).

I was interested in how the "deadball era" teams (1905-1919) would do. They were spread out. The 1905 Giants were 11th, '09 Pirates 10th, but the '06 Cubs (winningest team in history) were 33rd (.474) and the '19 White Sox were 35th (.470). Just how good the '19 White Sox actually were when honest is up for dispute. They did have two of the all-time greats in Collins and Jackson, but only two real starters. The '19 Reds came out of nowhere to have the best record in years and consequently have been under-rated.

One team that I noticed over the years that has been denigrated is the 1924 Senators. Many letters have said the 1933 Senators should have been printed. But the 1924 team was the only champion Washington ever had and its record in replays was .511, good enough for 18th.

Another interesting comparison is teams of the same year. The '27 Yankees and Pirates finished first and second. The '67 Cards were seventh, '67 Red Sox 41st. The 1950 Yankees finished 30th, the Phillies 31st. The 1954 Indians were fifth, way ahead of their World Series conquerors, the Giants, who were 29th. The '41 Dodgers (ninth, .542) finished ahead of the Yankees (20th, .507) of that year.

But history repeated for the 1961, '09, '34 and '65 teams. But not for 1946, as the Cards were very bad (38th, .448).

Finally, a word for the 1962 Mets (42nd, .260, six last-place finishes out of six replays). One thing I've always noted about the Mets is they don't lose quite as many in replays as they did in '62 (40-120, .250). Perhaps this is due to the cards that were printed were of their

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better players and this distorted their performance. But .260 is not really doing that much better.

OLD-TIMER TEAM RECORDS FROM S-O-M REPLAYS

Team	Wins-Losses	Pct.	Seasons	First	First Division
1. 1927 Yankees	1537-877	.637	17	15	17
2. 1927 Pirates	189-127	.598	2	0	2
3. 1953 Dodgers	1555-1107	.584	19	10	17
4. 1948 Indians	768-564	.577	9	1	9
5. 1954 Indians	1082-800	.575	13	4	11
6. 1936 Yankees	439-333	.569	6	1	5
7. 1967 Cardinals	300-243	.552	4	2	3
8. 1920 Indians	204-166	.551	3	2	3
9. 1941 Dodgers	486-410	.542	6	2	4
10. 1909 Pirates	341-292	.539	4	0	2
11. 1905 Giants	393-340	.536	5	1	4
12. 1940 Reds	259-225	.535	3	0	1
13. 1961 Yankees	1520-1324	.534	20	1	14
14. 1934 Cardinals	702-617	.532	9	2	6
15. 1922 Giants	459-427	.518	6	1	5
16. 1929 Cubs	284-266	.516	4	2	2
17. 1911 A's	547-524	.511	7	1	4
18. 1924 Senators	484-464	.511	6	1	4
19. 1931 A's	660-634	.510	9	0	7
20. 1941 Yankees	633-615	.507	8	1	5
21. 1962 Giants	340-340	.500	5	1	3
22. 1935 Cubs	468-469	.499	6	1	3
23. 1921 Yankees	312-320	.494	4	0	2
24. 1965 Dodgers	455-469	.492	7	1	2
25. 1957 Braves	888-916	.492	13	1	4
26. 1922 Browns	272-286	.487	4	0	1
27. 1946 Red Sox	792-846	.484	11	0	3
28. 1934 Tigers	281-303	.481	5	0	1
29. 1954 Giants	694-754	.479	10	0	4
30. 1950 Yankees	831-915	.476	12	0	3
31. 1950 Phillies	492-542	.476	7	0	1
32. 1909 Tigers	478-528	.476	7	0	2
33. 1906 Cubs	439-488	.474	6	0	2
34. 1961 Tigers	483-543	.471	6	0	2
35. 1919 White Sox	439-496	.470	6	0	2
36. 1965 Twins	318-376	.458	5	0	0
37. 1960 Pirates	356-424	.456	6	0	3
38. 1946 Cardinals	363-447	.448	5	0	1
39. 1961 Reds	290-404	.418	5	0	0
40. 1933 Giants	165-251	.397	3	0	0
41. 1967 Red Sox	268-434	.382	5	0	0
42. 1962 Mets	229-651	.260	6	0	0

Ex-Major Leaguer wins S-O-M title

Tony Brizzolara captures NTL championship in seventh season

Tony Brizzolara is a pretty fair baseball player. He's good enough, in fact, to have pitched in the big leagues for the Atlanta Braves. He's also a very good Strat-O-Matic Baseball player.

A seven-year member in good standing in the face-to-face/play-by-
(continued on next page)

mail National Texas League, Brizzolara made the breakthrough to a World Series championship in season No. 11. Brizzolara, who still resides in Atlanta, led the NTL in home runs (171), was second in ERA (3.29) and batted .268, fourth-best in the 10-team all National League replay.

Season No. 11 was not only unique in that an ex-Major League player won the championship, but also that NTL founder and longtime commissioner John Blomstrom, Houston, TX, didn't. Blomstrom's Astros had won five straight NTL titles and made 10 consecutive World Series appearances.

Blomstrom, whose wife Cheryl has been a member of the NTL, did sweep most individual honors: MVP - Dave Parker (.321, 43 home runs, 145 RBI); Cy Young - Fernando Valenzuela (2.04 ERA, 22-9; 219 strikeouts); Fireman of Year - Rich Gossage (8-5, 1.89, 37 saves).

Nevertheless, the Astros lost in the semifinals, to Brent Goodwin's Braves in five games, and the World Series matched Goodwin and Brizzolara's Pirates. The Series was played face-to-face at Blomstrom's abode in Houston as the leadoff event for a weekend of drafting for season No. 12, game-playing and gaming revelry. Nine of the 10 managers made it to the convention, with Dennis Tieymeyer (Dodgers) the only absentee drafter (via telephone hookup).

Craig Becker (Giants) and Blomstrom are the only charter members of the NTL (there's also an ATL that was founded more recently), both in their 11th year. Brizzolara is in his seventh season, Goodwin ninth, Mike Turnis (Cards) his eighth and Rick Blount (Expos) also has played seven years.

The rest of the managerial lineup for the NTL included Rich Weber (Reds), Kirk Gassman (Cubs), Jim Woods (Mets). Three changes were made for season No. 12 with Wade Arnold taking over the Cards, Tim Marshall the Mets and Pete Kelly the Cubs. Seventy percent of the NTL's managers live in Texas and five reside in Houston.

PIRATES, ASTROS BOTH WIN 100

In the playoffs (the top two teams in each division qualify), the Pirates folded the Cards in six games as Tom Browning won two games and Lee Mazzilli batted .625 (10-16) and had seven extra-base hits; and the Braves surprised the Astros, winning the seventh and final game, 6-0, as Comeback Player of the Year Rick Reuschel pitched a three-hitter.

Both the Pirates, winner of the National Division, and the Astros, Texas Division kingpin again, won 100 games.

In the World Series, the Braves won the opener behind Reuschel, 4-2, in 13 innings. But the Pirates prevailed after that, winning by scores of 6-3, 9-8, 4-3 and 4-1. Orel Hershisier was Series MVP, winning the second and fifth games and posting a 2.08 ERA.

MC GEE SETS HITTING RECORDS

Willie McGee of the Reds set NTL records for batting average (.383) and hits (253) - remember the season was based on the 1985 real-life season when McGee hit .353 - and Pedro Guerrero of the Dodgers had the highest runner-up batting average ever, .356.

Other highlights included: Mike Krukow, after seven sub-.500 seasons, posted an eye-opening 24-5 record; the Mets, despite setting a record for losses (47-115), stole 313 bases; Mike Schmidt of the Braves jacked his career home run total to 362 (an average of 33 per season); and Dale Murphy, a two-time MVP winner, didn't win MVP honors but still had his best season ever (.302, 39, 124 RBI, 103 runs).

Lowlights included the Braves getting in the playoffs and overcoming Shane Rawley's lackluster 4-16 year; and Rick Rhoden of the Mets

(continued on next page)

losing 21 out of 27 decisions with a 5.65 ERA.

Standings and leaders:

<u>National</u>	<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Texas</u>	<u>Won-Lost</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>Batting</u>	
Pirates	100 62	-	Astros	100 62	-	McGee RED	.383
Cards	87 75	13	Braves	92 70	8	Guerrero DOD	.356
Reds	82 80	18	Expos	86 76	14	Raines BRAV	.330
Cubs	74 88	26	Giants	76 86	24	Parker AST	.321
Dodgers	66 96	34	Mets	47 115	53		
<u>Home Runs</u>			<u>RBI</u>			<u>SB:</u> Coleman EXP	103
Parker AST	43		Parker AST	145		<u>2B:</u> Parker AST	46
Murphy AST	39		Murphy AST	124		<u>3B:</u> McGee RED	20
Strawberry EXP	37		Schmidt BRAV	124		<u>R:</u> Raines BRAV	119
Carter EXP	35		Marshall PIR	113			

<u>ERA</u>		<u>Won-Lost</u>		<u>Strikeouts</u>	
Valenzuela AST	2.04	Krukow CARD	24-5	Gooden EXP	296
Hershiser PIR	2.30	Gooden EXP	22-9	Ryan AST	222
Reuschel BRAV	2.40	Valenzuela AST	22-9	Valenzuela AST	219
Darling CUB	2.64	Hershiser PIR	20-7	Fernandez CUB	211
Gooden EXP	2.78	Show AST	19-12	<u>Saves</u>	
				Gossage AST	37
				Garrelts CARD	30

Comparing the NTL and GKSMML baseball drafts

As mentioned earlier, the NTL held its annual convention in February at Blomstrom's house. Prior to the convention, 18 trades had already been made. Eleven more were made at the convention, with every team making at least three transactions.

Blomstrom, apparently miffed because his Astros hadn't qualified for the World Series, was involved in 12 trades, the Giants 10 and Reds and Pirates six each.

After the draft (see below), the first pitch was thrown out to launch season No. 12. Mike Scott of the Astros promptly pitched a one-hitter against the Cards.

Soon after, Floyd Youmans of the Giants hurled a no-hitter against the Mets, just missing a perfect game when Tommy Herr committed an error with two outs in the ninth inning. The no-hitter was only the NTL's fifth. "The ninth inning had a room full of Strat guys hanging on every roll," says Blomstrom. "Cheryl even took a couple of pictures."

NTL draft compared with the GKSMML's (May, 1987 Review, page 6):

<u>NTL</u>		<u>GKSMML</u>	
1 - Bob Ojeda (Reds)	-	1 - Will Clark	* Reacquired
2 - Bruce Ruffin (Dodgers)	-	2 - Bob Ojeda *	because of
3 - Will Clark (Reds)	-	3 - Barry Larkin	trade from AL
4 - Rob Thompson (Reds)	-	4 - Todd Worrell	to NL. First-
5 - Rob Murphy (Dodgers)	-	5 - Rob Thompson	round draft
6 - Kal Daniels (Pirates)	-	6 - Rob Murphy	pick was used.
7 - Barry Bonds (Cards)	-	7 - Barry Bonds	
8 - Kevin Mitchell (Dodgers)	-	8 - Lance McCullers	
9 - Lance McCullers (Pirates)	-	9 - Bruce Ruffin	
10 - Andre Galarrraga (Cards)	-	10 - Andre Thomas	
11 - John Kruk (Pirates)	-	11 - Reggie Williams	
12 - Todd Worrell (Dodgers)	-	12 - Ray Knight	
13 - Jim Deshaies (Mets)	-	13 - John Kruk	
14 - Benito Santiago (Astros)	-	14 - Kal Daniels	
15 - Reggie Williams (Expos)	-	15 - Jim Deshaies	
16 - Barry Larkin	-	16 - Mike LaValliere	
17 - Kelly Downs (Mets)	-	17 - Greg Mathews	
18 - Mike LaCoss (Cubs)	-	18 - Kelly Downs	
19 - Bob Sebra (Mets)	-	19 - Paul Assenmacher	
20 - Ken Griffey (Giants)	-	20 - Mike LaCoss	

Baseball playing tip

‘Doubling’ the fatigue factor

Most gamers want to double their fun when they play Strat-O-Matic games. They also want them to be realistic.

Quinn McKenzie of Pittsburgh, PA, has come up with a method best described as "doubling" the fatigue factor for pitchers in S-O-M Baseball - and doing it for the purpose of realism.

"This involves pitchers who often log too many innings when consistently starting over a season, despite the fatigue rule," explains McKenzie.

What McKenzie has done (see chart below) is 'double' the possible fatigue inning by adding the number of batters a pitcher can face prior to the fatigue inning listed on his card. "If a pitcher has faced this amount or more (going into the fatigue inning), then he is fatigued and should be replaced."

<u>FATIGUE INNING</u>	<u>Maximum Batters Pitcher Can Face Before Fatigue</u>
5.....	20
6.....	24
7.....	28
8.....	32
9.....	36

The chart is useful in two ways: (1) It keeps complete games and innings pitched within realistic limits; and (2) It puts more importance on middle relief pitchers.

This rule only applies to starting pitchers. "If a pitcher," adds McKenzie, "is under the limit going into his fatigue inning, pitcher fatigues according to normal S-O-M rules."

This can also be used with the elementary game.

Here are pitchers' on-base chances

Make that No. 5 first...No. 8 second...No. 4 third...and No. 7 fourth.

Say what?

That's the on-base chances when comparing the pitchers' hitting cards, Nos. 1-4 as before and the newcomers, Nos. 5-8.

Steven Edell, an avid S-O-M Baseball gamer from Jerusalem, Israel, sends along a check of the pitchers cards for on-base and home run chances.

The No. 5 card is the .300 average hitter that S-O-M fans have been clamoring for, while Nos. 6, 7 and 8 all are power cards, with each having 2.6 home run chances out of 108.

"Those cards (6, 7, 8) add home run power to pitchers with low batting averages, less-than-average batting averages and about an average BA," says Edell.

"Also it's important to realize that the power rating of cards 6, 7 and 8 is the only one that doesn't change; it remains 'N' all the time. All the other cards could have an 'N' or 'W' rating, depending on what the particular pitcher did during the season."

A No. 5 hitting pitcher has 36.55 on-base chances (hits, walks, (continued on next page)

hit-by-pitch), with No. 8 close behind at 33. No. 4 is a more-distant 24 and No. 7 is 22.6.

At the bottom of the pitchers' on-base listing is No. 1, which has only three chances (3.0) out of a possible 108. Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 all have 0 home run chances.

PITCHERS HITTING CARDS

CARD	NUMBER	ON-BASE	CHANCES	HOME RUN	CHANCES ON CARD
1	-	3.0	-	0	
2	-	9.2	-	0	
3	-	15.6	-	0	
4	-	24.0	-	0	
5	-	36.55	-	0	
6	-	10.8	-	2.6	
7	-	22.6	-	2.6	
8	-	33.0	-	2.6	

Mets win again...in six games

Todd Bouverot of Bergenfield, NJ, is the first to send along a replay of the 1986 World Series. This time the Mets needed one less game to put away Boston as New York won the Series in six games.

But, as in real-life, the Series was a thriller as the Mets won the first three games, the Red Sox the next two and finally New York prevailed in game six, 3-1.

Ex-Red Sox hurler Bob Ojeda was the Series MVP, winning the second and sixth games (1-0 and 3-1), pitching 17 innings, striking out 12 and giving up only one earned run. Ojeda also drove in three runs, including the lone run in game two and knocking in two runs in the finale.

Game 1 - Mets rake Roger Clemens for 10 hits in seven innings and win 6-2. Darryl Strawberry goes 3-for-4 with a double and home run and drives in four runs. Dwight Gooden yields three hits in seven innings.

Game 2 - Bob Ojeda bests Bruce Hurst in a 1-0 pitching duel. Both toss three-hitters and go the distance. Ojeda doubles home Ray Knight for game's only run.

Game 3 - Keith Hernandez hammers two home runs among his four hits and drives in six runs as Mets romp 10-2 to take 3-0 Series lead. Gary Carter also homered for Mets, who got three-hit pitching from Ron Darling, and Wally Backman had three hits. Oil Can Boyd was the loser.

Game 4 - Bill Buckner saves Sox with three-run homer in ninth of a 5-4 outcome. Buckner is 3-for-5, Spike Owen 3-for-4 and Dwight Evans homers. Jesse Orosco serves up the game-winning blast.

Game 5 - Jim Rice homers twice as Red Sox stay alive with 2-1 win in 10 innings. Clemens (3 hits, 12 strikeouts) is winner and Gooden (3 hits, 4 strikeouts) the loser.

Game 6 - Ojeda pitches eight innings and gives up five hits and Orosco strikes out two in one inning of no-hit relief. Ojeda also drives in two of the runs in 3-1 triumph. Ray Knight had three hits and other RBI. Hurst, who gave up five hits in eight innings, was loser.

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 CONTEST. And name card sets by the year upon which they were based. Note also that only advertising for Strat-O-Matic products or closely related merchandise will be accepted and that merchandise competing with S-O-M products may not be offered for sale. Ads, to be included in the next issue, must be in to the Review by the third of the previous month. Late ads will be held over for inclusion the following month.

Wanted

WANTED: Baseball - 1963, 1964 and 1965 New York Mets. Also 1965, 1966 and 1967 New York Yankees and other 1963 teams not found in S-O-M old-timer/past season sets. Contact: Alan Cohen, 5907 North 5th Road, Arlington, VA 22203

WANTED: Would like to know anyone who lives in the south, mainly in the Texas area, who might be interested in entering a TBA tournament in Dallas, TX, sometime in the summer of 1988. Right now there aren't any TBA tournaments scheduled in that region because of a "lack of interest." Right now I'm just trying to see who might be interested in attending a TBA tourney. If there is enough interest, I will contact the head of the TBA to see if he will schedule one for Dallas. Again, all I'm doing is trying to find out who might be interested in attending. No obligation. For information, write to: R.J. Robbins, 6448 Dunstan Lane, Dallas, TX 75214 (or call 214-739-2435). All letters will be answered. At the present, interest has been encouraging.

WANTED: Hockey sets, any year. Must have extra player set if one was available for that year. Also interested in face-to-face hockey league in Detroit downriver area. Call 388-8900 before 5; after 5 call 382-3793 and ask for Jeff Michel. Strato sets only.

WANTED: Baseball set for 1982 season. Preferably with additional players. Send offers to:

Jack Little, 217 Beach Street, Northwood, OH 43619

WANTED: To buy 1977, 1978, 1979 Boston Red Sox and Philadelphia Phillies. Will pay good price. Phone 304-485-6624 and ask for Shane Newland (P.O. Box 2109, Parkersburg, WV 26101)

WANTED: Following baseball teams: 1972 A's, White Sox; '73 Mets, Reds, A's, Orioles, White Sox; '83 complete with extras. Call 219-398-3339. Address is 4722 Euclid Ave., East Chicago, IN 46312

For Sale

FOR SALE: S-O-M clearance sale. Over 400 single baseball teams, 1965-84. Over 200 single football teams, '70-83. \$500 for everything or make deal for other quantities. Send SASE to: Sal Mangiapane, 23 W. Lincoln Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016 (201-276-5457)

FOR SALE: Complete S-O-M sets (including all extra players) for: Baseball - 1978-1985; Football - 1978-1984; Basketball - 1975-76 - 1984-85; Hockey - 1978-79 - 1983-84. Send best offer to: Steve Wright, 792 Hillcrest Dr., Wadsworth, OH 44281 (or call 216-334-1774 after 5 p.m.; absolutely no collect calls accepted).

FOR SALE: Each batter vs. each pitcher, one on one, every possible matchup. Your team vs. any other team. Don't just guess at
(continued)

the percentages, know them. You get the batting averages, on-base averages and slugging percentages, doubles, triples, homers, walks and Bill James' runs created/game vs. each pitcher. Just list your team's players and pitchers and your opponent's players and pitchers and you will receive a professionally printed stat sheet vs. each individual pitcher. All this for \$5. Batter limit per team is 25. Pitcher limit per team is 15. Or you can get your offensive team's statistical matchups vs. every pitcher in the set for \$50. All this is based on the 1986 cards. Send to: Dave Larick, P.O. Box 1792, Hawthorne, CA 90251

FOR SALE: Individual S-O-M Baseball teams from 1950-1986. Loose S-O-M Baseball cards from 1930-1986. Send a SASE for teams list and/or your list for loose cards to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111 (215-745-5247). A lot of new stock.

FOR SALE: Durable, easy to read 20-sided dice. Send \$3.50 to: Richard Breest, 1332 Greenlea Dr., Holiday, FL 33590-6759

FOR SALE: Improve the realism and detail of S-O-M Baseball with my super-advanced rules, which preserve the game's speed of play and fun. Included are easily memorized rules for more realistic base advances on hits, outs and errors; outfield throwing errors and misplayed hits; trail runners advancing on throws (or being thrown out on cutoffs); injury chart with rare plays; balks, pickoffs, pickoff errors, rundowns; infielders positioned in or back individually; outfield shallow; suicide squeeze, safety squeeze and sacrifice charts where fielding ability and the runner's speed play a part; hit-and-run system that also takes into account the pitcher's abilities and characteristics, fielding and the runner's

speed; and much more, all blended into the game so as not to disturb statistical accuracy or ease of play. Fully tested and refined. Over 200 satisfied customers. \$8, with money-back guarantee. Richard Robb, #305-7100 Gilbert Road, Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5C3.

FOR SALE: Strat-O-Matic Sale-O-Rama! Entire warehouse (my closet) of cards must go. Baseball - 1976 Chisox, Indians; 1978 Angels, Rangers, Phillies, Expos, Reds, Orioles; 1979 Cubs, Mets, Braves, Angels, Orioles, Rangers, Twins, Phillies, Brewers, Expos, Yankees, Reds; 1980 Brewers, Mets, Indians, Reds, Orioles, Rangers, A's, Cubs, Phillies, Expos; 1981 Chisox, A's, Rangers, Yankees, Reds, Expos, Brewers, Mets; 1982 Rangers, Reds, A's, Orioles, Chisox, Giants, Tigers, Brewers, Phillies, Mariners, Twins, Indians; all without extras. A few cards marked on, otherwise good condition. \$1 each. Baseball game \$3. 1983, '84, '85 complete sets with extras, \$10 each. Basketball - 1983-84 complete set with extras and game, \$10. Everything for \$50. Write: Kevin Laster, 7608 Cliffbrook, Dallas, TX 75240. I pay postage. Free balloon with \$20 purchase.

FOR SALE: Baseball and football. 1970 through 1979 baseball sets, missing only 1970-72 Giants and '71-72 Angels. All cards in good condition; many mint condition. 1972 and '75 sets include extra players. Prefer selling complete sets, but individual teams if necessary. Football - 1976 through 1978, complete NFL sets, in good or mint condition. Also, 1975 Steelers, Raiders, Colts, Bills, Bengals, Dolphins, Oilers, Cowboys, Vikings, Redskins, Rams, Saints, Cards; 1974 Cowboys, Vikings, Rams, Redskins; 1973 Rams, Oilers; 1972 Dolphins; 1971 Vikings, Chiefs. All cards at least good condition. Send bids to: Keith McHugh, 14040 Foothill, Apt. 341, Sylmar, CA 91342

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FOR SALE: "Mystery" hockey team in demand. League commissioners' inquiries welcome. SASE gets full details. S.N.T., c/o Ira Wolins, 1230 Passmore Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111

FOR SALE: Baseball sets for sale, complete sets only. 1966 through 1979 seasons. All seasons are in very good to excellent condition. Make offer. Lynn Thompson, 342 LaHonda Drive, Valparaiso, IN 46383

FOR SALE: Football - all teams complete and most teams in excellent condition; 1971 teams available are: Bengals, Broncos, Falcons, Eagles, Cardinals; 1972: Chargers, Colts, Saints, Broncos, Patriots, Lions, Eagles, Bengals, Cardinals, Bills, Oilers, Giants, Rams; 1973: Giants, Redskins, Lions; 1974: Browns, Falcons, Rams, Bills, Oilers, Chargers, Packers; 1976: Dolphins, Bengals, Redskins, 49ers, Colts; 1977: all teams available except Raiders, Steelers, Broncos, Colts, Dolphins, Cowboys, Rams. Baseball - all teams complete with extras and most teams in brand new condition; 1978: all National League teams available except Pirates and Expos. Hockey - all teams complete with extras and most teams in excellent condition; 1977-78 all teams available except Canadiens, Blues; 1979-80 teams available are Kings, Canadiens, Bruins, Islanders. Send bids for all teams to: David Allend, 8 Chadwick Ave., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5P 1Z8

FOR SALE: Football - complete sets 1970, 1971, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1978, 1979. Sets missing one card: 1972 (Green Bay, Lane), 1973 (Pittsburgh, R. Shanklin). Following sold as unit or as individual cards/teams: approximately 4/5 complete - 1979, 1981; more than a complete set, may be missing a few cards/some duplicates - 1980. High bid of month receives cards. You pay postage. All letters answered if you enclose SASE. Albert Hartley, 543 Virginia St., Apt. B. El Segundo, CA 90245

FOR SALE: Hockey. Complete set 1981-82 (1 year), including game parts; never been played. High bid of month receives cards. You pay postage. All letters answered if you enclose SASE. Albert Hartley, 543 Virginia St., Apt. B, El Segundo, CA 90245

FOR SALE: Replace that old split deck with totally random, unbreakable 20-sided dice. Also 4-, 6-, 8- 10- and 12-sided dice. Choose red, white, blue or black (no black 20s). Send \$2 (includes postage) for each die or \$5 for three to: David dela Fuente, 471 Dansel, Kent, OH 44240

FOR SALE: Football teams - good condition unless otherwise stated: 1976 Vikings, Cowboys, \$2 each; '76 Bucs, '77 Vikings, '78 Seahawks, Bucs, Bills, Giants, Vikings, '79 Vikings, Broncos (fair), '80 Vikings (fair), Falcons, Broncos, \$1 each; '81 Vikings, Oilers, Falcons, '82 Pats, Cowboys, Chargers, Bengals, Redskins, Dolphins, Seahawks, Packers, Raiders (bad), Saints, Vikings, '83 Cowboys, Pats, Saints, Seahawks, Vikings, Falcons, Chiefs, 2 for \$1 (must buy in pairs). Football game, \$3. Everything for \$20. Hockey - write for list and prices: Kevin Laster, 7608 Cliffbrook, Dallas, TX 75240 I pay postage.

FOR SALE: 1974 football, complete set, excellent condition. \$30. Send SASE to ensure reply. Glenn Reigrod, 66-22 Fleet St., Forest Hills, NY 11375

FOR SALE: Football - 1976 set (missing Minnesota and Oakland), very good condition (year written in upper right-hand corner of some cards). 1978 set (missing Pittsburgh, Dallas, Denver) very good condition. Sold to highest bidder, or will trade for baseball teams. Send bids to: Keith Fosness, 13046 NE 88th, Kirkland, WA 98033

FOR SALE: Basketball - All of (continued)

following sold as a unit or as individual cards/teams: 1972-73 (1 year) - L.A., Chicago, NY Knicks, Detroit, Baltimore, Buffalo, Golden St., Milwaukee. May be missing a few cards, otherwise complete sets: 1973-74, 1974-75, 1975-76, 1977-78, 1978-79, 1979-80, 1980-81, 1981-82. High bid of month receives cards. You pay postage. All letters answered if you enclose SASE. Albert Hartley, 543 Virginia St., Apt. B, El Segundo, CA 90245

FOR SALE: Baseball - complete sets: 1967, 1968 (original cards), 1981, 1979 (Kansas City missing D. Porter). Hundreds of cards from each of following sets, sold as a unit or as individual cards/teams: 1969 (original version), 1970 (new version), 1972, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983; 100-200 cards from 1963 and 1965; 315 cards from 1964. High bid of month receives cards. You pay postage. All letters answered if you enclose SASE. Albert Hartley, 543 Virginia St., Apt. B, El Segundo, CA 90245

FOR SALE: Mint card set, 1985 baseball with extras, \$12.50. Send money order to: Larry Vieira, 14 Herman St. Unit I, West Haven, CT 06516 (203-934-1440)

FOR SALE: Attention, all hockey gamers. To make a great game even greater, send a SASE to: Ira Wolins, Dept. SNT, 1230 Passmore St., Philadelphia, PA 19111

FOR SALE: Best offer. Baseball - 1974, with extras, good condition; 1975; 1976, no extras, mint condition; 1977; 1978; 1979, with extras, mint condition. Football - 1971, 1976 (except Green Bay), 1977 (except Raiders), 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1984, all mint condition. Hockey - 1977-78, 1978-79, mint condition. Basketball - 1973-74, good condition; 1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77, 1977-78, 1978-79, 1979-80, 1981-82, 1984-85, all mint condition. R.K. Tsukamoto. 408 Spinnaker

Sacramento, CA 95831

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking to join a reliable and enjoyable PBM football league? Here is your chance to become a member of the North America Football Association (NAFA). Several openings are available in this league, which features super-advanced S-O-M rules, playing face-to-face, neutral and home games, a special expansion draft and league awards for participation. A personal commitment and a basic knowledge of the game are the only requirements. Don't delay, become a NAFA coach today by contacting Michael Macher, 415 Walnut St., Middlesex, NJ 08846 (201-469-9331)

LEAGUE FORMING: A*C*T*U*A*L* III is preparing to get off the ground with the 1987 S-O-M Baseball cards. We are looking for a few good players. Name of the league tells (almost) all of the story. We will be using the MLBB teams as issued by S-O-M. Many innovative ideas have been incorporated into our rules. Only requirements, now, are that you be at least 18 years of age and have an interest in S-O-M/PBM. Cubs, Dodgers, Giants, Braves, Padres, Orioles, Brewers, White Sox, Royals, Rangers, Mariners, A's and Twins franchises are still available. List available teams in order you would like to own them and include name/address/telephone/experience/age in the reply. You will begin receiving A*C*T*U*A*L* Happenings, our informative, regular newsletter, immediately. League office supplies most forms needed. MLBB supplies the playing schedule. All super-advanced rules are used, with usual PBM adjustments. Ladies very welcome. Larry Kidd, 81 Birch Road, Staten Island, NY 10303. Do it now.

LEAGUE FORMING: The IFL is looking for dependable managers 25 or older for PBM draft football
(continued)

league to take over existing teams. Managers may select a NFC, AFC team, or both. If interested, please write to: George Murphy, 8033 Chase Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045

LEAGUE FORMING: Experienced, adult players wanted for face-to-face, super-advanced, draft baseball league in Philadelphia's western suburbs. Ground floor opportunity. Call: Lee Goldberg (273 Summit House, West Chester, PA 19382) at 431-0549 before 11 p.m.

LEAGUE FORMING: American Texas League - Head-to-head Houston draft baseball league looking for qualified and interested managers. We play February to October every other Tuesday night at rotating homes. Age of current managers: 25-37. We are currently in seventh season. Seven of eight teams have made playoffs in the past. We have three teams make the playoffs yearly. If interested and knowledgeable about baseball, call us. If you don't know baseball well, you will get beat like a drum. We have a lot of fun with regular in-depth computerized stat reports. If you want the best and have the time and interest, call me, today. John Blomstrom (388-4735)

LEAGUE FORMING: Face-to-face in Tampa Bay area. We have six-team N.L. draft league in second season. We are looking for either expansion members or members to start a league from the ground floor. A draft or straight-team league can be discussed and voted upon by all members. So come on, call: Philip A. Lupi, 813-726-6419, after 6 p.m. Monday-Friday.

LEAGUE FORMING: I suspect that many of you didn't respond to a recent ad I placed for MATSA (eighth year play-by-mail, continuous draft, National League only, 132-game schedule, 10 teams) for one or more of the following reasons: (1) want to start a new team from scratch. (2) the short

schedule, (3) limited number of openings, (4) in love with the A.L. If you're in love with the junior circuit, I can't help you, but otherwise consider the following: We play a short schedule because too often leagues linger on endlessly as apathy sets in with the non-contenders. Because of our size, we are able to pick and choose quality people with extensive baseball knowledge who will be a challenge to you. If someone drops out, we are able to pick up the slack with very little anxiety having to be released. That rarely happens - MATSA is a chance to be involved in an intimate little league playing a comfortable yet electric schedule, and make quality friendships, too. Very quickly, what was "someone else's team" comes to feel like very much your own. Ed Grant, 3000-B Woodchase Lane, Marietta, GA 30067

LEAGUE FORMING: Established 16-team PEM draft baseball league, the North American Superstar Baseball League (NASBL) is looking for a manager to assume immediate control of a team including players such as: Valenzuela, Higuera, Ojeda, O. Smith, Henke, K. Hernandez, Gaetti, Barrett, Dawson, Hassey, Coles, Phelps, etc. There are also several back-up spots available. We play a 162-game schedule, April through September, with a monthly newsletter, playoffs and World Series. If interested, contact: Jim Trotter, 11611 Kasba Circle, Moreno Valley, CA 92388 (714-247-4214)

LEAGUE FORMING: S-O-M Football fanatics with just enough time for your weekend ball game, this is your league. We play basic-rule pro football. Bi-weekly schedule and newsletter, home-away schedule. Just basic stats kept. We are PEM, 14-16 games, 8-12 teams league. For more information, contact: Jeff Hale, P.O. Box 9, Buna, TX 77612

(continued)

LEAGUE FORMING: Wanted - two super reliable managers. The ECBA, a 12-year old face-to-face and PEM baseball league, is looking for a manager in the NJ, New York city, Philadelphia area and a manager in the San Diego, CA, area to join our league this fall before our rookie draft. We are a 10-team league with two divisions. Approximately half our 162-game schedule is played FTF within each division. Must be over 21 and able to follow a time-table. Constant newsletters throughout the year. Once a player's yours, he's yours. Franchises continue; it's as close to being a real G.M. as you'll get. Go for youth and build your own team through trades and our rookie draft. Unbelievable talent available. 40-player roster limit. All cards used to 120% of real-life stats. No one-year wonders need apply. Chris Franco, 954 New Dover Road, Edison, NJ 08820 (201-549-4835)

LEAGUE FORMING: Experienced managers sought for a new face-to-face baseball league in the Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, NC, area. The league is continuous ownership with a full-player draft. All super-advanced rules are used. Contact: Jim Pejohl at either 396-7097 (between 1-5), or at 497-6407 (after 5 and on weekends).

LEAGUE FORMING: The Fly-By-Night Baseball Association is seeking five quality managers for backup positions. We are a 20-team draft baseball league using all advanced rules. The league fee is \$20 per year, \$5 for backup managers. If you would like to become a part of one of the top leagues in the country, please send a 4-by-9-inch SASE to receive a questionnaire to: Steven M. Walters, 2349 SE Holland St., Port St. Lucie, FL 33452

LEAGUE FORMING: Want another try with 1985 baseball? N.L. draft

team replay, relaxed schedule, advanced/super-advanced rules, third replay season, constitution and easy PEM rules. Need managers and backups. Fee: \$10 and \$10 deposit. This is for those of us who live in faraway places, or who want a second, less demanding replay. All queries answered; enclose SASE if you're from USA. Send team draft preferences, preference for advanced or new super-advanced, plus short note on experience in PEM, to: Steven Edell, P.O. Box 3231, 91031-Jerusalem, Israel.

LEAGUE FORMING: Expansion manager wanted for existing four-year league in Orange County. Face-to-face excitement and lots of baseball. Dave Wadsworth, P.O. Box 301, Huntington Beach, CA 92648 (714-960-3608)

LEAGUE FORMING: The Any Game Draft League is a continuous ownership PEM league. The league has eight teams, divided into two divisions. Each team plays a 140-game schedule, 10 series of seven games at home. The DH rule is used and player usage is strictly limited. All teams presently use S-O-M. The AGDL is in its 11th year. We have an immediate opening for one manager and may have another opening by October. Contact: Gary Lyndaker, Box 37, Valley Center, KS 67147 (316-755-2481)

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S-O-M league, replay scene

NORTHERN INDIANA STRAT-O-MATIC LEAGUE - Has been in existence since 1979 when it was a four-man, face-to-face baseball league...Now has eight managers who play 102-game schedule...Latest season, in fact, was 102 games and NISL's mammoth yearbook (84 pages) almost matched replay game-for-page...Yearbook includes all the stats, trades, etc., plus informative columns about league's members (sample: "Confessions of a Compulsive Gamer")...Trades were also analyzed (example: Robin Yount being traded even-up for Ozzie Smith in a swap of shortstops)...James Sanders, organizer of the Bostock Memorial, was once a member of the NISL...Managerial lineup: Jeff Bence (STL Crows), 28, carpenter, an avid fan of St. Louis; Don Bence (Tasmanian Devils), 22, United Parcel Service supervisor; Bob Jacobs (Olympia Artesians), 21, four-year vet of S-O-M Hockey and "think it is great;" Doug Jones (Darlington City Destroyers), 24, rookie manager, electronics salesman, coach of two slow-pitch softball teams, longtime Cub fan; Gary Moore (Tuscaloosa Hawks), 27, grocery store employee, graduate of Indiana University Northwest, collects baseball memorabilia; Louis Olivotto Jr. (Waterloo Moccasins), 31, dislikes White Sox; Al Sailors (Delaware Stray Cats), 30, six-year NISL veteran, calls himself "probably the most colorful owner in the league;" and Greg Wiesemann (Dallas Canons), 28, charter member along with Sailors, employed as canon copier/facsimile salesman, big fan of Dallas Cowboys thus team name, lone married member of NISL...Most memorable game was Tuscaloosa's 16-13 win over Dallas in which teams combined for 32 hits. Dale Murphy's three-run homer in the seventh proved to be margin of victory...Joaquin Andujar of St. Louis no-hit Dallas, 1-0, for NISL's first complete-game no-hitter.

Standings and leaders:

	Won-Lost	GB		Won-Lost	GB	Playoffs
Delaware	55 47	-	Dallas	68 34	-	Delaware d. Tusca-
Tasmania	44 58	11	Tuscaloosa	55 47	13	loosa, 3-1;
Waterloo	37 65	18	St. Louis	47 55	21	Dallas d. Delaware,
						4-1 (finals)

ERA	Wins	Batting
Seaver DEL 2.03	Soto DAL 15	Gladden DEL .330
A.Pena DAL 2.63	Andujar STL 14	Boggs DAL .322

Home Runs	RBI	H:	Winfield TAS 131
Schmidt DAL 26	Carter DAL 74	2B:	Durham TAS 23
Murphy DAL 24	Schmidt DAL 71	3B:	Gibson TUS, W.Wilson TUS 11
		SB:	Raines DEL 63/88
		R:	Raines DEL 70
K: Valenzuela TUS 176			
Gooden WAT 173	MVP: G.Carter DAL; Cy Young: Soto DAL		

STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL IVY LEAGUE LEAGUE-ADVANCED (SOMBILLA) - Face-to-face league in Boston that includes husband-and-wife combo of Arni and Robin Pollinger, whose first date was a Boston Red Sox game after which Arni showed Robin how to play S-O-M Baseball...Previously had six managers and is now up to eight, with Matt Phelps (Manilla Folders) and Yitz Magencey (Learned Hands) the newest skipper. Phelps, 22, is a computer serviceman, while Magencey, 31, is a lawyer...Latest season was based on 1984 real-life and included 56-game schedule...Each team has 25-player roster plus 10-player taxi squad...Other managers and their teams: Robin Pollinger (Bay City), 25, assistant editor of publishing company; Arni Pollinger (North Dakota), 27, actuary in Boston; Tsuan Li (Future Wax), 27, works with computers/Andy Nowell (co-

(continued on next page)

manager of Future Wax), 25; Joel Jacobs (Sardukar), 27, works for engineering firm; Eric Robinson (Marakesh Express), 27, works for Boston law firm; and Jed Corman (Tazmanian Devils), 27, works for same computer company as Li and has won two league championships...Original members of league all went to Ivy League colleges - Cornell, Harvard, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Yale - and five of the members grew up in Framingham, MA, and were childhood pals...Uses 20-sided die referred to as the "thing" for all games...In the World Series, the Marakesh Express sweep the Learned Hands in four games as Rick Sutcliffe won game one and four and Dale Murphy had a pair of home runs.

Standings and leaders:

	Won-Lost	GB	Playoffs
Marakesh Express	35 21	-	Marakesh Express d. North Dakota, 4-3.
Learned Hands	32 24	3	Learned Hands d. Future Wax, 4-2.
Future Wax	30 26	5	<u>World Series</u>
North Dakota	28 28	7	Marakesh Express d. Learned Hands, 4-0
Tazmanian Devils	27 29	8	
Sardukar	27 29	8	BA: Leonard LH .354
Bay City	25 31	10	HR: Murphy ME, Armas TD, 14
Manilla Folders	20 36	15	RBI: Baines FW 47
			K: Gooden FW 149
ERA: Sutcliffe FW 2.55			W: Sutcliffe ME 10-1, Gooden FW 9-5

1979 NATIONAL LEAGUE REPLAY - Took Mike Walker, Olney, IL, over three and one-half years to complete..."The season was really exciting, although the stats were somewhat inflated," says Walker, who had to overuse many players...Houston, which lost out to Cincinnati by a game in the West in real-life, edged the Reds by a game in the replay. Chicago surprised by jumping from fifth to the top in the East...Houston won the NL playoff, 3-2, winning the fifth and final game 8-4. J.R. Richard won the first and last games as the home team was the loser in every game...There were seven one-hitters, but nary a no-hitter. Bill Bonhams came the closest, yielding a two-out single to Dave Winfield in the bottom of the ninth...Highlights included Dave Kingman smashing 66 home runs and driving in 174 runs. Kingman had 92 more official at-bats than in real-life when he hit 48 roundtrippers with 115 RBI...Mike Schmidt had 50 homers and 150 RBI and Bob Horner 38-141 numbers...Richard once fanned 18 in a 10-inning game...Highest scoring game was the Giants' 18-17 defeat of Philadelphia in which the two teams combined for 40 hits, 22 by the Phillies. Bob Boone went 6-for-6g, Pete Rose 4-6 for the Phils...Kingman was MVP, Bruce Sutter (1.58 ERA, 49 saves, 99 strikeouts in 85 innings) Cy Young winner...Houston stole 256 bases, including eight in one game against the Giants...Kingman, Willie Stargell and Gary Matthews all hit three homers in a game...Los Angeles had six players with 20 or more home runs (209 total)...Dick Tidrow went 43 consecutive innings without giving up earned run...Real-life co-MVP Stargell had 51 homers, 125 RBI and batted .280 in 493 at-bats.

Standings:

1979 NATIONAL LEAGUE							
East	Won-Lost	GB	(Real)	West	Won-Lost	GB	(Real)
Chicago	93 69	-	(5)	Houston	95 67	-	(2)
Pittsburgh	92 70	1	(1)	Cincinnati	94 68	1	(1)
Montreal	86 75	7	(2)	Los Angeles	89 73	6	(3)
Philadelphia	80 82	13	(4)	San Diego	71 90	23	(5)
St. Louis	76 86	17	(3)	Atlanta	63 99	32	(6)
New York	72 90	21	(6)	San Francisco	60 102	35	(4)

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Coming next month...

...Jeff Bejach, a globetrotting gamer who's been to 47 of the 50 states and visited/or lived in 23 foreign countries and now resides in Nepal, needs a S-O-M 'pal' to help him find lost cards stolen years ago ...Review co-editor Del Newell replays the Boston vs. Houston NBA finals matchup...A lengthy "Readers roll 'em" section...James Sanders tells the 'secret' of his football success - all in the July Review.