



STRAT-O-MATIC

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the Strat-O-Matic Game
Fan. The Review is
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REVIEW

* VOL. 14, May, 1983 *

In this corner...the editors

FOOTBALL CHANGES - Everyone is now anxiously awaiting the new Football cards...and the changes Strat-O-Matic has made in the pro game. Some of the changes have been game-tested by avid S-O-M fans, and the changes were met with overwhelming approval. The offensive linemen and defensive linemen/linebacker matchups were especially well received, as were the taking off from the quarterback's card of the pass rush readings. Overall, the game has been "modernized" to keep pace with the offensive-minded style of play in vogue in the NFL today.

WHERE'S 'LEAGUE SCENE?' - In case you haven't thumbed through the May issue, or did and haven't noticed, the "League, replay scene" wasn't anywhere to be found. No, the Review isn't planning on discontinuing it, rather lack of space prevented devoting the normal two/three pages to that section. It will be resumed next month. Hopefully, future league reports will put more emphasis on the managerial makeup of the league, history and other personal notes, rather than volumes of statistics.

We are very much interested in the background of the managers in the various leagues and feel that many others are, too. How did the league happen to be formed? Where do the members live? Age? Occupation? Why did they join a particular league? Was it an ad in the Review?

BREVITY, WHERE ARE YOU? - Also trimmed this month was the "Readers roll 'em" section. We have plenty of letters stockpiled, so that's not a problem. What is a problem, however, is the length of many of the letters. Please, everyone, try to keep them between 250-350 words, at most.

Tale of two 1956 replays

A tale of two replays would be an apt description of the written works turned in by Edward Caylor, Hampton, NH, and Rick Smith, Bakersfield, CA. Both took the 1956 National League teams through a full-season replay...and chronicled the results all along the way.

Both replays were solitaire efforts and both gamers admitted, although only eight teams were used, that many hours were consumed fulfilling the goal of completing the projects.

Caylor, who's been playing S-O-M Baseball since 1976, estimates he put 1,000 hours in playing the games and figuring the statistics. "The replay was tremendously enjoyable, however much work it was," says Caylor. "The bookkeeping was the rub, not the game playing."

Caylor, now 31 years young, is currently a flight engineer for Delta Airlines, with Boston his home base. He spent 10 years in the navy and grew up in Atlanta, hence a special fondness for Milwaukee in '56 because of seeing Aaron and Mathews play in Atlanta later.

Smith, meanwhile, has played S-O-M Baseball since 1969 and has completed an eye-opening 98 full-season replays, 52 face-to-face and 46 solitaire. Smith is 26 years young, married and has a Masters Degree in human communication. He's currently employed by the Seattle Mariners as an assistant general manager of their minor league team in Bakersfield.

BYE BYE BROOKLYN

In neither replay did the real-life National League pennant winners, the Brooklyn Dodgers, capture first-place. In fact, in both of 'em the Bums wound up third, with Cincinnati seizing honors in Caylor's replay and Milwaukee running away with Smith's.

Caylor's replay was begun in March, 1982, and completed in January of this year. S-O-M's advanced rules were used and Caylor used the actual starting lineups for each game (with the lineups culled from the New York Times, via microfilm, which was available at the library at University of New Hampshire).

Voluminous records were kept, with Caylor constantly cross-referencing to ensure accuracy. The league's final batting average was .256, exactly the same as in real-life. The earned-run-average was 3.73 in the replay and 3.77 in real-life. Only triples, which exceeded real-life by 100, seemed to be off. Caylor also played every game, whether postponed or not, thus many of the teams played more than 154 games.

REDS SURPRISE FAVORITES

Caylor prepared team statistical sheets and individual summaries for all eight teams, as well as charting monthly won-and-lost records. Cincinnati, which trailed the leaders by 1½ games on Sept. 5, won it all with a 96-61 record, thanks in large part to a 17-6 log down the stretch. George Crowe, replacing injured Ted Kluszewski, batted .340 and delivered a number of clutch hits in the September charge.

It was Milwaukee, though, that should have won it all. A final-game defeat by St. Louis created a tie at the top and the way the Redbirds did in the Braves led to a 2-0 sweep by Cincinnati in a playoff.

The Braves, finishing with the same number of wins in real-life, had two of the league's best pitchers in Lou Burdette (27-5, 1.88 ERA) and Warren Spahn (22-11, 2.65). Burdette, in fact, got the call against the Cards in what was to be the clinching win. The Braves also featured MVP Hank Aaron (.352, 223 hits), Eddie Mathews (46 home runs) and Joe Adcock (45 HRs), although 31 of Adcock's roundtrippers were solo socks.

All looked good for the Braves when they jumped to an 8-1 lead in the fourth inning. But Hal Smith and Ken Boyer each hit two-run homers and Burdette exited. The Braves hung on and even added to the lead, however, as Aaron went 5-for-5 and tripled in a run in the 8th inning that made it 11-5.

Milwaukee's relief corps failed, though, and St. Louis crept to with-

(continued on next page)

in two runs at 11-9. Another homer by Smith cut it to 11-10 and then, with a runner on second in the 9th, reserve catcher Ray Katt, just acquired in a trade, belted a two-run homer that gave St. Louis the win. In the best two-of-three playoff, Cincinnati downed the depressed Braves, 4-3 and 5-4.

Other highlights, and lowlights, from Caylor's replay included: Duke Snider of Brooklyn leading in home runs (51), runs (123) and RBI (130)...Pittsburgh leading the league with a 3.07 ERA, almost 2/3 of a run better than real-life...Pittsburgh going on a 11-0 tear and winning 16 of 18 games during the same time span...Ken Boyer, during one seven-game stretch, went 22 for 30 (.733), with three homers, 12 RBI and a slugging percentage of 1.167...July belonged to the Cubs' Ernie Banks as he hit .400 with 13 HRs and 33 RBI...

MILWAUKEE HAS NINE-GAME BULGE

Rick Smith's replay, meanwhile, belonged entirely to Milwaukee as the Braves went 97-57, finishing nine games ahead of runnerup Cincinnati. Smith played the basic version of the game. He's a fan of the old-timer teams and mentions that Hank Aaron has been his most frequently used player, with 6,415 at-bats and 390 home runs.

Some of Milwaukee's success was attributable to its domination of the Giants as the Braves won the first 16 games played between the two teams in the replay.

Other highlights included: Vern Law of Pittsburgh hurling a no-hitter against the Cardinals for 10 innings, only to lose 3-0 in 11 after giving up two hits and being betrayed by two errors...Don Drysdale of Brooklyn had the pitching gem of the season, tossing a one-hitter - by Danny O'Connell - against Milwaukee...Carl Furillo of Brooklyn had three homers and 9 RBI against the Braves...The Dodgers once scored 13 runs in one inning - all off Harvey Haddix...Philadelphia's big moment to cheer occurred when Stan Lopata, Andy Semineck, Jim Greengrass and Robin Roberts all homered in the same inning against the Reds...The Cubs lost 11-2 to Cincinnati - with all runs being unearned after five errors and a passed ball...Cincinnati had three pinch-hit homers in one game, yet lost to the Phillies, 7-6...Red Schoendienst of the Braves collected seven hits and drew three walks in 10 at-bats in a three-game series against the Giants...Bob Friend, despite giving up 12 hits and allowing 16 baserunners, pitched a shutout against St. Louis.

Standings and leaders (real-life):

Rick Smith	W	L	()	GB	AVG. ()	ERA	()
Milwaukee	97	57	(92-62)	-	.257 (.259)	2.80	(3.11)
Cincinnati	88	66	(91-63)	9	.265 (.266)	3.56	(3.85)
Brooklyn	86	68	(93-61)	11	.249 (.258)	3.50	(3.57)
St. Louis	74	80	(76-78)	23	.258 (.268)	4.05	(3.97)
Philadelphia	74	80	(71-83)	23	.250 (.252)	3.97	(4.20)
New York	70	84	(67-87)	27	.243 (.244)	3.46	(3.78)
Chicago	65	89	(60-94)	32	.245 (.244)	3.75	(3.96)
Pittsburgh	62	92	(66-88)	35	.240 (.257)	3.34	(3.74)
Ed Caylor							
Cincinnati	96	61	(91-63)	-	.264 (.266)	3.49	(3.85)
Milwaukee	94	63	(92-62)	2	.257 (.259)	3.16	(3.11)
Brooklyn	92	62	(93-61)	2½	.261 (.258)	3.62	(3.57)
Pittsburgh	84	73	(66-88)	12	.260 (.257)	3.07	(3.74)
St. Louis	72	84	(76-78)	23½	.265 (.268)	4.03	(3.97)
Chicago	70	87	(60-94)	26	.254 (.244)	4.11	(3.96)
New York	61	93	(67-87)	33½	.237 (.244)	3.73	(3.78)
Philadelphia	54	100	(71-83)	40½	.246 (.252)	4.64	(4.20)

Batting

RS

		EC	
Boyer SL	.351 (.306)	Aaron MIL	.352 (.328)
Brandt NY	.330 (.299)	Banks CHI	.336 (.297)
Aaron MIL	.327 (.328)	Musial SL	.323 (.310)

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<u>Batting con't</u>			
<u>AS</u>		<u>EC</u>	<u>H: Aaron MIL 217 RS</u>
Kluszewski CIN	.314 [302]	Boyer SL	.306 [(.306)](200) Aaron MIL 223 EC
Banks CHI	.303 [297]	Bell CIN	.304 [(.292)] <u>2B: F. Robinson CIN 38</u>
			Bell CIN 38
<u>Home Runs</u>			
Snider BRN	45 [43]	Snider BRN	51 [43] [Aaron MIL 34]
Kluszewski CIN	39 [35]	Mathews MIL	46 [37] <u>3B: Jackson BRN 14</u>
Robinson CIN	38 [38]	Adcock MIL	45 [38] Aaron MIL 18
Boyer SL	38 [26]	Lopata PHI	42 [32] [Bruton MIL 15]
Bell CIN	36 [29]	Post CIN	38 [36] <u>R: Robinson CIN 119</u>
			Snider BRN 123
<u>RBI</u>			
Boyer SL	126 [98]	Snider BRN	130 [101] [Robinson CIN 122]
Kluszewski CIN	115 [102]	Mathews MIL	117 [95] <u>SB: Mays NY 38</u>
Aaron MIL	107 [92]	Boyer SL	115 [98] [40] Mays NY 38
Snider BRN	103 [101]	Mays NY	108 [84] <u>CG: Spahn MIL 26</u>
			Spahn MIL 20
<u>ERA</u>			
Spahn MIL	1.64 [2.78]	Burdette MIL	1.88 [2.70] [Roberts PHI 22]
Rush CHI	2.39 [3.19]	Spahn MIL	2.65 [2.78] <u>SH: Spahn MIL 11</u>
Simmons PHI	2.58 [3.36]	Newcombe BRN	2.72 [3.06] Antonelli NY 5
Newcombe BRN	2.65 [3.06]	Antonelli NY	2.73 [2.86] [Burdette MIL 6]
Kline PIT	2.66 [3.38]	Kline PIT	2.80 [3.38] <u>SA: Freeman CIN 23</u>
			Labine BRN 21
			[Labine BRN 19]
<u>Wins</u>			
Spahn MIL	26 [20]	Burdette MIL	27 [19] <u>K: Friend PIT 188</u>
Newcombe BRN	24 [27]	Friend PIT	23 [17] Friend PIT 187
Burdette MIL	20 [19]	Newcombe BRN	23 [27] [S. Jones CHI 176]
Friend PIT	20 [17]	Spahn MIL	22 [20]
Roberts PHI	20 [19]	Nuxhall CIN	19 [13]

MVP Contest to close May 10

Hurry, time is running out to enter the Review's Most Valuable Player Contest. Deadline for entries is May 10 and no entries post-marked after that date will be accepted.

To enter, just fill out the form (or facsimile) below and send to the Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078. Winner of the contest will receive a set of the new baseball cards next year.

MVP (American League) _____

MVP (National League) _____

Division winners and %: AL East _____; AL West _____

_____; NL East _____

NL West _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____ Zip Code _____

Only one entry per subscriber will be permitted. And, to enter the contest sponsored by the Review, you must be a subscriber to the Review. Twelve gamers have received new card sets via the MVP Contest, which started in 1972. Terry Ringen, Beattie, KS, is the lone two-time winner, calling the MVPs correctly in 1977 and 1978. Last year's winner was Paul Bressoud, Arcata, CA, who was one of 10 gamers who picked Dale Murphy in the National League but claimed the prize by coming the closest on forecasting the division champs.

Readers roll 'em

S-O-M IS A TEACHER...

A few comments on past seasons in baseball: First of all Strat-O-Matic is more than a game, it's a teacher. Speaking personally, it taught me hockey to the extent that I now own season tickets.

Second, and most important of all, baseball transcends time. You can argue for hours on end about which teams and players were better. That fact alone lets every gamer identify with any team, be it 1926 or 1982.

As for 1961 being too close to 1956, ridiculous. Take a look at the 1981 and 1982 teams; they're as different as the 1956 Sandy Koufax is to the 1961 version. Each season is unique; age, injuries, trades, rookies and retirements make sure of that.

JOHN McTERNAN, Belleville, IL

CALLING COLLEGE FOOTBALL

I would like to know if the game company has given up on the college football game? I have not received any information on this game for quite some time.

RON WINSLOW

3407 Ave. F

Kearney, NB

Editor's note: If you like college football, you'll love this issue of the Review as it contains a full replay using 24 teams.

'EVERYONE'S A COLLECTOR'

A game...for gamers - yes! But everyone's a collector, whether they realize it or not. The minute your new cards arrive in the mail, you are inadvertently a collector. You guard those cards with your life.

In reference to Karl Lewis's letter in the Review (April, 1983). Mr. Lewis, you stated that you were in complete agreement with Chris Rosen's views on Strat-O-Matic. That S-O-M is a game, not a collector's item. You also disagreed with a letter by L.O. Melito, regarding his views on Strat-O.

Please read the for sale ads in the Review. You will note that Mr. Rosen runs a for sale ad

every month. So you see...he is a collector also. And also a gamer. He is also looking to profit with his cards. He's not giving them away. And I don't blame him. Everyone puts a value on their cards.

L.O. MELITO

Daniel Road

North Salem, NY

FOOTBALL CHANGES WELCOMED

Whatever became of Harold Richman's "open letter" that you published in the June, 1982 Review? Have people been writing Mr. Richman with their opinions?

Since that letter was published, you pointed out that it was the football, not the baseball game, that was due for the revisions that would make playing new teams versus old teams impossible.

This would be a good time for S-O-M to toy around with a revision of the football game. Why? Because of the shortened season the NFL had in 1982. That is, if the revision is unpopular, the only thing lost is a nine-game travesty-of-a-season. In other words, I feel that S-O-M would stand to lose less on the shortened season than on a full season if the revised game turns out to be unpopular.

Other things I'd like to see S-O-M do:

[1] Print extra player cards for the basketball game, giving each team that bench jockey or two it needs to keep its stars from being grossly overused. This is a real problem for me.

[2] Start printing, on each basketball player's card, the number of games he played during that season. They did so before 1980-81 cards came out and it was a great help.

[3] Figure out a way for pitchers in S-O-M Baseball to have some way of affecting that stealer's chances of success. This is about the only serious bug left in baseball.

DICK HUNT

612 N. Dewey St.

Owosso, MI

'Time Tunnel' baseball drafting

Larry Fryer, the author of the Review's annual "Who Should You Draft in Baseball" articles (April, 1983), has come up with something a little different - drafting that takes a trip down the time tunnel.

The scenario, according to Fryer, who resides in Hamburg, PA, and has a penchant for on-target prognosticating, is that you are a rookie general manager who is about to draft his first PBM baseball team from the beginning. Your goal is to draft a team that will be good the first year and also for another five years. You are allowed to draft minor leaguers as well as current major leaguers.

Here is the way Fryer ranks the players at each position, with an eye for their current talent as well as potential over the next five years:

CATCHER	FIRST BASE	SECOND BASE	THIRD BASE
1. Lance Parrish	1. Eddie Murray	1. Steve Sax	1. Mike Schmidt
2. Gary Carter	2. Keith Hernandez	2. Damasco Garcia	2. Pedro Guerrero
3. Tony Pena	3. Kent Hrbek	3. Ryne Sandberg	3. Paul Molitor
4. Terry Kennedy	4. Cecil Cooper	4. Frank White	4. Bob Horner
5. Chris Bando	5. Greg Brock	5. Johnny Ray	5. George Brett
6. Joel Skinner		6. Juan Samuel	6. Tim Wallach
			7. Carney Lansford
			8. Buddy Bell
			9. Bill Madlock
SHORTSTOP	OUTFIELDERS	PITCHERS	
1. Robin Yount	1. Rickey Henderson	1. Fernando Valenzuela	
2. Cal Ripken	2. Dale Murphy	2. Mario Soto	
3. Ozzie Smith	3. Leon Durham	3. Dave Righetti	
4. Dave Anderson	4. Willie Wilson	4. Steve Rogers	
5. Tony Fernandez	5. Andre Dawson	5. Dave Stieb	
6. Dick Schofield	6. Dave Winfield	6. Floyd Bannister	
7. Dave Concepcion	7. Jack Clark	7. Dan Petry	
	8. Dwight Evans	8. Rich Gossage	
	9. Jim Rice	9. Joaquin Andujar	
	10. Lonnie Smith	10. Tim Lollar	
	11. Von Hayes	11. Bruce Berenyi	
	12. Chili Davis	12. Mike Witt	
	13. Tom Brunansky	13. Neil Allen	
	14. Mike Marshall	14. Storm Davis	
	15. Daryl Strawberry	15. Stefan Weaver	
	16. Mike Davis		

Fryer admits the pitching list was the toughest to compile, "as pitchers tend to be less predictable than offensive players, mainly due to being more injury prone."

And Fryer also admits that some of the stars of today - Steve Carlton, Steve Garvey, Rod Carew, Al Oliver, etc. - have been left off the list. Says Fryer: "Their talents will have diminished with age by the time 1988 rolls around. I would rather draft with an eye to the future."

You may disagree with Fryer - and perhaps vehemently. But remember his past success in looking into the future. Clip this column out for future reference - and perhaps as a guide when you begin drafting for the first time as a general manager.

The Review staff

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College football is alive and well

Dorsett-led '76 Pitt whips Notre Dame, is No. 1

Contrary to some reports of its demise, Strat-O-Matic College Football is very much alive and well.

True, the Review seldom receives replays. But there are gamers who pit the collegiate greats against each other.

One such gamer is James Overmeyer, a 28-year-old electronics technician in the U.S. Coast Guard, Atlantic Beach, NY. Overmeyer has been playing Strat-O-Matic since 1969 and has a special fondness for baseball out of the five games created by S-O-M.

Nevertheless, Overmeyer also has a fondness for the collegiate greats. As a result, he conducted a 24-team (using the great teams series) replay, using two divisions of 12 teams and playing an 11-game regular season plus bowls.

The format had each team in the division playing the others once, with no inter-division play permitted. Then for the bowls, Overmeyer took the first-place teams and pitted them against each other, and likewise down the standings. The first-place teams vied in the Granddaddy of the bowls, the Rose Bowl, No. 2 teams in the Orange and down to the now defunct Garden State Bowl which matched the last-place teams.

All the games were played solitaire and Overmeyer reports the project, which was begun in June, 1980, wasn't finished until late last fall. "I gambled a lot," reports Overmeyer of his playcalling style, "and interceptions were higher than normal as a result. I also wanted to get some 'identity' into the teams so I used players' names to various positions. Rather than Pittsburgh halfback, I gave 90 percent of all Pitt halfback totals to Tony Dorsett."

Standings and individual leaders follow, with team-by-team summaries and bowl highlights after that:

East Division						West Division					
	W	L	T	PTF	PTA		W	L	T	PTF	PTA
1976 Pittsburgh	9	1	1	309	89	1973 Notre Dame	10	1	0	267	133
1971 Michigan	8	3	0	200	138	1977 Texas	10	1	0	298	133
1966 Alabama	7	3	1	206	170	1971 Nebraska	8	3	0	322	191
1958 LSU	7	4	1	192	185	1967 USC	6	5	0	282	241
1973 Penn State	7	4	0	264	176	1966 Michigan St.	6	5	0	203	146
1959 Mississippi	6	5	0	214	174	1968 Kansas	5	5	1	201	211
1958 Army	5	6	0	174	201	1975 Oklahoma	5	6	1	208	210
1959 Georgia	4	7	0	164	285	1960 Minnesota	5	6	0	170	212
1959 Syracuse	4	7	0	167	240	1965 UCLA	4	7	0	216	308
1968 Ohio State	3	8	0	123	166	1970 Stanford	3	8	0	158	246
1963 Navy	3	8	0	196	281	1964 Arkansas	2	8	1	202	243
1966 Florida	2	9	0	130	234	1966 Purdue	1	10	0	125	378

Rushing				Receiving			
	Att-Yds.	Avg.	TD		No.-Yds.	Avg.	TD
Dorsett PIT	275-1829	6.7	17	Beirne PUR	79	1111	14.1
Campbell TEX	315-1624	5.2	13	Trapp FLO	64	1037	16.2
Simpson USC	261-1457	5.6	12	Rodgers NEB	63	891	14.1
Cappellitti PS	262-1450	5.5	11	Orr NAVY	60	852	14.2
Riggins KAN	210-1067	5.1	7	Corbett PIT	54	805	14.9
Kinney NEB	236-1043	4.4	7	Altenberg UCLA	52	751	14.4
Cannon LSU	169-770	4.6	11	Vataha STAN	50	878	17.6
Taylor MICH	146-724	5.0	3	Perkins ALA	50	775	15.5

Passing				TD-Int.	
	Att-Comp	%	Yds.		
Plunkett STAN	309	139	45.0	2364	10 26
Spurrier FLO	285	139	48.8	2208	10 26
Griese PUR	306	144	47.1	2203	11 35
Staubach NAVY	293	154	52.5	2141	14 25
Shuman PS	236	115	48.7	1940	10 17
Raye MSU	254	118	46.5	1905	10 20
Tagge NEB	215	110	51.2	1897	17 11
Behan UCLA	264	123	46.6	1789	12 15

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Team summaries:

1976 PITTSBURGH - Had stingiest defense of 24 teams, allowing only five TD passes while intercepting 25...Tony Dorsett rushed for over 100 yards in 12 games, with 295 (29 carries) against Georgia tops...Lone loss was 13-10 to Penn State.

1971 MICHIGAN - Passing game was inept [34.4 percent completion rate], causing rival defenses to gang up on runners...Averaged 180.6 yards rushing...Passed for pair of TDs in 14-9 win over arch-rival Ohio State...Only loss was 35-0 wipeout at hands of Pittsburgh.

1966 ALABAMA - Won lot of close games...Tide defenders intercepted 29 passes, but 'Bama quarterbacks threw 31 interceptions to offset it...Tied Pittsburgh and beat Michigan, 21-18, but lost to Ohio State, LSU and Army.

1958 LSU - Featured running of Billy Cannon and defense that yielded only eight TD passes...Whipped Alabama, but fell to Pittsburgh and Michigan.

1973 PENN STATE - John Cappelletti led hot and cold team, rushing for 1,450 yards [No. 4 overall]...Passed for five TDs and 394 yards in rout of Florida...Clobbered Ohio State one week, 42-14, but in next game was crushed by Michigan, 31-0.

1959 MISSISSIPPI - Highlight was beating Michigan, 19-7...Jake Gibbs, future Yankee catcher, was one of three quarterbacks in the league to have more TD (8) passes than interceptions (7)...Gibbs had 90-yard completion, which was longest in league.

1958 ARMY - Army's air defense was great, intercepting 37 passes, but wound up yielding 182.2 aerial yards per game...Kicking game was consistently bad, however, as nine field goals were missed...Returned nine pass interceptions for TDs.

1959 GEORGIA - Weak ground game and defense hurt, offsetting Fran Tarkenton's 54.8 percent (115-210) completion average and 1,648 yards passing...Enemy defenders intercepted 39 passes, though...Highlight was 27-17 win over Penn State, while lowlight was 56-3 demolishing by Pitt.

1959 SYRACUSE - Lack of big plays hurt Orangemen, who outrushed foes 163.1-116.5 and outpassed 'em 191.1-176.5 in yardage but wound up being outscored...Ernie Davis was responsible for big chunk of 1,068 yards tailbacks produced along ground trails.

1968 OHIO STATE - Weakest offense, scoring only 123 points...Jim Otis averaged only three yards per carry...Defense against rush was good, particularly in 26-0 blanking of Alabama in regular-season finale.

1963 NAVY - Lived by the pass as Roger Staubach completed 52.6 percent of 293 throws for 2,141 yards...On the ground, Navy scored only four times and gave up 20 TDs...Lost big game to Army, 27-21..

1966 FLORIDA - Offense could only muster 130 points, almost all scoring and offense via the airplanes...Averaged, thanks mainly to Steve Spurrier, 220 yards a game passing...Ground game was non-existent; being so bad that against Florida the net was one yard in 25 carries.

1973 NOTRE DAME - Balanced and methodical team that lost only one regular-season game, to Kansas, 14-11...Averaged 169.5 yards rushing...Did lose 19 fumbles, but compensated for that by recovering 17 of opponents'.

1977 TEXAS - Earl Campbell rushed for 1,624 yards and Erxleben booted 29 of 47 field goal attempts successfully. Erxleben accounted for 114 points...Pass defense limited foes to 38.5 percent completion rate.

1971 NEBRASKA - Superior defensive teams (Notre Dame, Texas, Michigan State) gave Cornhuskers trouble, but weaker teams were rolled over by powerful Nebraska offense...Jerry Tagge threw league-high 17 TD passes...Lopsided wins included Purdue (55-7), Oklahoma (35-7), UCLA (35-7) and Minnesota (34-14).

1967 USC - O.J. Simpson was main sparkler, rushing for 1,457 yards, including 241 against Nebraska...Defense was USC's downfall as opponents passed for 194.3 yards a game...Seven punts were returned for TDs...Got slaughtered by Notre Dame, 47-14.

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1966 MICHIGAN STATE - Won first four games, but close loss (7-6) to Notre Dame in fifth game sent Spartans into slide they never recovered from...Two-point try against Notre Dame failed after touchdown late in fourth quarter.

1968 KANSAS - Lost opener to Minnesota on last-play 46-yard TD pass, 14-10...Pass defense was leaky at best, allowing 216.8 yards... Did have potent ground game as Riggins (John, of Super Bowl fame more recently) blasted to 1,067 and combined with Ron Shanklin for 1,716... Upset Notre Dame, 14-11.

1975 OKLAHOMA - Ran the ball well (199 yards per game) but porous defense hurt (Sooners yielded 160.2 yards rushing, 155.6 passing a game)...Aerial game only produced 86.7 yards, plus had 29 interceptions...Won against every team with .500 or below record but lost to every team with a better record.

1960 MINNESOTA - Averaged 18.5 yards per pass completion, but only completed 41.5 percent of attempts...Highlight was opening-game win over Kansas, while low point was 22-21 setback by Purdue.

1965 UCLA - High-scoring offense led by Gary Beban's passing (162 yards per game, 12 TDs) couldn't compensate for weak defense...Opposing runners picked defense apart for 213 yards per game and rang up 26 TDs...Six times had over 30 points scored on it in lopsided losses.

1970 STANFORD - Another team with good aerial game (214.9 yards) but non-existent ground attack (67.5 yards)...Jim Plunkett passed for 391 yards and 4 TDs against Kansas in 34-15 win.

1964 ARKANSAS - Lost five games by three points or less to win "Hard Luck" honors...Lindsay caught 8 of team's 13 TD passes.

1966 PURDUE - Worst team of the best...Bob Griese did pass for 376 yards against Kansas and 299 in win over Minnesota...Rushing game was bad, averaging 60.8 yards...Losses included being blitzed by Texas (40-7), Nebraska (55-7), Michigan State (49-7) and USC (49-0).

EAST DOMINATES BOWL SERIES

The East Division teams won seven of the 11 bowl games in Overmeyer's post-season, including the Rose Bowl. Pittsburgh intercepted five Notre Dame passes, turned three of the thefts into 17 points, and whacked the Irish, 17-7, in Rose Bowl. Dorsett rushed for 186 yards and one TD for the opportunistic Panthers. Notre Dame completed only 7 of 25 passes and Pittsburgh wasn't much effective through the air, connecting on 5 of 18.

Michigan put the East up 2-0 by whipping Texas, 31-17, in the Orange Bowl. U-M rushed for 291 yards and four TDs, while holding Earl Campbell to a paltry 91 yards. Billy Taylor, meanwhile, scampered to 122 for U-M.

In the Sugar Bowl, No. 3 on the bowl list, Alabama rocked Nebraska, 24-6, despite being outgained 342-175 by the 'Huskers. Four interceptions ruined Nebraska.

The West finally broke the East's domination, winning the Cotton Bowl, 21-12, as O.J. Simpson raced 68 yards for a TD and caught a 37-yard pass for another as USC topped Louisiana State. But Penn State made it 4-1 in favor of the East when it blanked Michigan State, 13-0, by turning two interceptions (out of five total) into points in the Fiesta Bowl.

The Gator Bowl saw Shanklin return two punts for TDs (50 and 59 yards) and run 25 yards for another, leading Kansas past Mississippi, 36-17. In a field goal bowl--the Sun Bowl--Oklahoma outboots Army, 9-7, after kicking three field goals. Fran Tarkenton's 313 yards passing (14-of-25) gave Georgia a 31-7 triumph over Minnesota in the Liberty Bowl.

Other bowl results had UCLA topping Syracuse, 41-14, in the Peach Bowl; Ohio State intercepting three Jim Plunkett passes en route to a 20-17 win over Stanford in the Bluebonnet; Roger Staubach throwing three TD passes in a 35-31 win by Navy over Arkansas in the Holiday Bowl, and, in the battle of the basement dwellers, Florida ripped Purdue, 29-13, in the Garden State Bowl.

The Garden Bowl featured a passing duel between Spurrier (15-28, 253 yards and 2 TDs) and Griese (17-of-33, 262, 1 TD, but 3 interceptions).

Advertisements

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Rates per issue are as follows: 50 words or less - \$1.00; 51-100 words - \$2.00; 101-150 words - \$3.00. Maximum length of an ad will be 150 words. When sending in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR TRADE, LEAGUE FORMING, or CONTESTS. And name card sets by the year upon which they were based. Note also that only advertising for Strat-O-Matic products, or closely related merchandise, will be accepted and that merchandise competing with S-O-M products may not be offered for sale. Photo-copied cards also, of course, 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: 1971 baseball cards. Extra players must be included. AL and NL complete set. CAPS (money is no object). Playable condition. I'm not a collector. Please call collect to: Edward Legenbauer (518-283-6666).

WANTED: The following football teams - 1968 Colts, Jets; 1969 Vikings, Chiefs; 1972 Redskins; 1973 Vikings, Rams, Dolphins, Raiders; 1974 Steelers; 1975 Cardinals; 1976 Patriots; 1977 Cowboys. Baseball team - 1976 Reds. Will pay any reasonable offer. Teams must be in good to excellent condition; no writing, and complete. Send offers to: Matthew Cline, 1682 Slatebrook Lane, Columbus, OH 43229

WANTED: Baseball - 1963 Indians, Angels, Senators, Houston; 1965 Angels, Cubs, Houston; 1966 Red Sox; 1967 Indians, A's; 1968 Angels, Senators; 1969 Indians, Seattle, Padres; 1971 Angels, Indians. State condition and price. Gary Gannet, 5950 NW 24 Place, Sunrise, FL 33313

WANTED: Chicago Cubs baseball sets from 1971, 1972 and 1974 through 1978. Will buy or trade from complete 1968, 1969, 1970 or 1973 major league sets. Please contact: Paul Lorenz, 602 Jordan, Apt. 2, Mt. Vernon, IL 62864

WANTED: 1978 Milwaukee Brewers. Must be in good condition. Will pay \$2.50 with extras or \$2.00 without. Just send team and I will send money for team plus stamp to cover postage. Send to: Steve Pavlek, 8213 W. Cloverbrook St., Milwaukee, WI 53223

WANTED: 1973 Football, all teams, must be complete. Playable condition or better. Will pay \$40 to first bidder accepting this price; otherwise will accept lowest bid received by April 31. All bids answered. Alan Stewart, 702-25 St. Mary St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4Y 1R2 (416-961-8095; no collect calls).

WANTED: Announcing the S-O-M Baseball Card Warehouse. My goal is to have a marketplace where any team can be bought or sold quickly at a fair price. Accepting cards immediately. Sales will begin May 15. Send SASE for details. Dave Leonard, 19 Fourth St., Danbury, CT 06810

WANTED: All baseball rosters from the years 1962-1973. All football rosters prior to 1980, except for '71. The 1981-82 basketball roster and all basketball rosters prior to '80-81, except for '72-73, and all hockey rosters except for '80-81 season. I will pay one dollar apiece for all original rosters and 25¢ apiece for all copied rosters. Send rosters to: Brian Smith, 2872 E. Broad St., Bexley, OH 43209

WANTED: Desperately needed by our local football league: 1968 NY Jets team. I will purchase. Ron Angleton, 1705 Treen St., Logansport, IN, or call 1-219-735-0335. I need this team.

WANTED: S-O-M Baseball teams from the 1969 through the 1979 seasons. Will pay top dollar for any of these teams. Anyone interested in selling any of the above teams please send me a list of your teams and your asking price.

(continued)

Mail to: Gary Comins, 135 East
Hoard St., Watertown, NY 13601

WANTED: Managers. Established
play-by-mail league of five years
needs three managers. No expan-
sion teams, including the 1981
and 1982 league championship
team. This is one of the top
PBM around, and we want reliable
managers. We use current year's
American League cards every year,
with a draft of rookies and A.L.
newcomers. The most realistic
league around. Call Mark at 914-
699-2275 and leave a message if
necessary, or write: Mark Heaney,
472 Gramatan Ave., Mount Vernon,
NY 10552

WANTED: 1974 Mets; '78 Phils,
Mets, Reds, Cards, Giants, Astros,
Mariners, Royals, Blue Jays,
Orioles; '75 A.L. and N.L. and
extra players; '69 extra players;
also '69, '74, '75, '78 rosters.
All must be excellent to mint
condition. Name your price. Mark
Peterson, Box 6125, Fullerton,
CA 92634

WANTED: 1965 Indians; 1967 Ath-
letics; 1970 Royals [without
extras]. I'll pay \$5 for any of
these teams. Ron Brammer, 2504
NE 52nd Ter., Kansas City, MO
64118 [816-455-2366]

For Sale

FOR SALE: 1961 baseball card
ratings. On base and total base
points for advanced version with
extras. Send \$5 to: Bill Brubaker,
8 Orchard Ave., Owego, NY 13827

FOR SALE: Football teams, 1968-
1978. Good-to-excellent condi-
tion. If you meet my price, I
will sell immediately. Lower
bids will be decided by the end
of the month. J.M. Bordelon,
5445 Braesvalley, #724, Houston,
TX 77096 [713-721-5465]

FOR SALE: Tired of spending
hours upon hours compiling
stats for your league? Let us
do the work for you. Spend more
time throwing dice than pushing
calculator buttons. We're a pro-
fessional statistical company
using computers to produce high
quality, professional results.
Stats can be done periodically
or seasonally, for however many
games the stats represent. Stand-

ings, leaders and individual and
team stats for any S-O-M game are
done quickly and accurately. Ideal
for all leagues (PBM and face-to-
face). Multiple copies can be
ordered to provide for all league
members. For free information and
price list, write: Jerbis, Inc.,
P.O. Box 81, Franklin Park, NJ
08823

FOR SALE: Baseball card sets in
very good condition (a very few
have pencil markings). Extras in-
cluded. 1971 (+5 duplicate teams),
1972, 1974, 1980, 1981. Reasonable
prices. Send offer for individual
sets or whole sehebang to: Randy
Shavis, 5214 C. Castlewood Road,
Richmond, VA 23234

FOR SALE: Football - pro football
game with 1980 set. Baseball -
1927, '36, '41, '61, '77 Yankees;
1953, '65 Dodgers; 1922 Browns;
1962 Giants; 1934, '46 Cardinals;
1919 White Sox; 1922 Browns; '27
Pirates; '31 A's; '34 Tigers; '46
Red Sox; Four Hall of Fame teams;
1979, '80 teams [with or without
game]. Write to: Samuel Robi, 1245
E. 73rd St., Brooklyn, NY 11234

FOR SALE: [or trade] Over 2,000
loose players (baseball), 1964-
1981. Send your want list and
trade list to: Chris Rosen, 731
Bergen St., Philadelphia, PA 19111.
Phone: 215-745-5247.

FOR SALE: Strat-Stats now avail-
able. Computerized breakdown of
the 1982 cards, Strat-Stats sum-
marize each player's card in 2
lines. Includes OBP, average,
slugging, GA's and much more. Also,
a special Ultra-Stat combines all
of the card information into one
easily understood number. No long-
er wonder whether to draft a play-
er with a 50% OBP and a .250 aver-
age or a player with a 35% OBP and
a .330 average. With Ultra-Stat
you'll know who is better. Take
First place this year. Send \$8
[make checks payable to cash] to:
Strat-Stats, 260 Winston Lane,
Bloomington, IL 60108

FOR SALE: 1965 Dodgers, \$7; 1972
Mil., Mont., SF, \$4 each; 1974 SF,
Atl., Phil., Mont., NY Mets, Cubs,
Houston, Cleve., Det., Texas, Minn.,
White Sox, Mil., Boston, \$3.50
each; 1975 Det., White Sox, Oak.,

[continued]

Minn., Tex., KC, Mil., Balt., Atl., Houston, SD, \$3.50 each; 1976 Cleve., Tex., Minn., Calif., SF, Houston, St. Louis, \$3 each; 1977 Tor., Tex., Minn., NY, Balt., Cleve., Det., Calif., Boston, Sea., KC, SD, Atl., Phil., SL, SF, Mont., Mets, Pitt., Cin., LA, \$3 each; 1978 Atl., Cin., SF, LA, \$3 each; 1969 baseball season, some writing on cards otherwise good shape, \$70. 1969 Football cards, some writing on cards otherwise in good shape, \$65. All items sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. All items postage paid. Bill Salter, 22001 Inkster Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48024

FOR SALE: 1964 baseball, complete in good condition. Ron Brammer, 2504 NE 52nd Ter., Kansas City, MO 64118 (816-455-2366)

FOR SALE: 1977-78 basketball set. Individual teams are \$1 and the entire set is \$17. A basketball game board is on sale for \$1, the tokens are \$1 and chart is \$1 and split deck goes for 50¢. Please add 50¢ for postage and handling. Mark Anderson, 7770 Skipper Lane, Tallahassee, FL 32301

FOR SALE: 1982 hockey game. All charts, dice, scoresheets and eight teams with extras available (Edmonton, NY Rangers, Chicago, Buffalo, Philadelphia, NY Islanders, Montreal, Boston). Very good condition. \$15 or best offer. I'll pay for postage. Send offers and SASE to: Eric Spitz, 1255 W. Elmdale, Chicago, IL 60660

FOR SALE: Baseball teams - 1976 American League. Teams in excellent condition. Highest bid accepted. I pay all postage and handling costs. Send bid with SASE to: Ezra Ochshorn, 5930 Reseda Blvd., Apt. 39, Tarzana, CA 91356

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1977 2 teams; 1978-1981, all National League teams each year, few American League teams each year, plus all additional players each year. Basketball, 1977-1980, complete set; 1979-80 4 teams; 1980-81 2 teams. Most in excellent condition. Send want list for sets or singles. Nick

Donato, 215 Mary St., Munhall, PA 15120 (412-461-8309)

FOR SALE: 1978 baseball set, A.L. and N.L., complete, with extras and roster. Mint condition (except Astros - very good). Will sell to highest offer received by May 15. Send SASE if you want a reply. Doug Moog, 1143 Marin Ave., Albany, CA 94706

FOR SALE: S-O-M Reviews, all '72 and Dec. '77 through June, '80, except Nov. '79. \$15. Football, complete sets, '74 (\$35), '78 (\$25), '79 (\$25), '80 (\$20). 1976 Colts, Cowboys; '58 Giants, '60 Eagles, '65 Browns - \$6. College Football game with all-time greats and '77 major bowl and group A teams, \$10. Baseball - '64 Dodgers, mint, \$10; '66 N.L., \$75; complete sets with extras: '77, \$40; '78, \$25; '79, \$25; '80, \$20; '81, \$15. Anthony Johnston, 1916 Alden Lane, Little Rock, AR 72207

FOR SALE: 1971-1981 baseball cards. Complete sets, including extra players each year. Excellent condition. Also, assorted copies of the Review (1974-1977), plus one set of old-timer cards. Best offers accepted or ask for prices. Call: 816-392-6768, or write: Tom Javelaar, 1096 Legion Ct., Holland, MI 49423

FOR SALE: Baseball teams with some extras 1979 (complete), 1980 (complete), 1981 (8 teams), 1977 (8 teams). All for \$20. I pay postage. Write: Rich Madison, 1002 N. Poplar, Creston, IA 50801. All letters answered.

FOR SALE: 1967 football teams - Giants, Cowboys, Chiefs, Raiders, Colts, \$8 each; Oilers missing Granger, \$5. All six teams for \$40. Dave Leonard, 19 Fourth St., Danbury, CT 06810

FOR SALE: New random number method for serious S-O-M Baseball players. Forget annoying split decks, cumbersome 20-sided dice and dice conversion tables. RLM's 20-number spinner produces quick, accurate and 100% random number selection each and every time. This compact, durable spinner is your ticket to truly realistic statistical results. Send \$3.50 (postage included) to:

(continued)

RLM Enterprises, 725 Elm Court, LeSueur, MN 56058. Order now to make 1983 your best season ever.

FOR SALE: Announcing the S-O-M Baseball Card Warehouse. My goal is to have a marketplace where any team can be bought or sold quickly at a fair price. Accepting cards immediately, sales will begin May 15th. Send SASE for details. Dave Leonard, 19 Fourth St., Danbury, CT 06810

FOR SALE: Complete set 1980 football cards; also included are '77 Dallas; '78 Cleveland, Minnesota. All cards good condition; \$13. Complete set 1978-79 basketball - light writing on 8-10 cards; good condition; \$13. Both sets for \$25. Will sell only as sets. First-come, first-serve. Send to: Laird Leathers, 301 Prairie St., St. Charles, IL 60174

FOR SALE: 1975 baseball teams [24 players] - Giants, Phils, Pirates, Mets, Red Sox, Reds. 1980 teams [24 players] and revised pitchers cards - Mets, Yankees, Phils, Royals, Orioles, Dodgers, Astros, Blue Jays. Send me your offers with SASE: Frank Glaz, 1709 B Fairmont Ave., Whitehall, PA 18052

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1968 Reds, Dodgers, Orioles, Giants, Tigers, Boston, Senators, Astros, Mets, Yankees, Cubs, Pirates, Twins, Indians. \$2.95 each. 1969 Reds, Boston, K.C., Twins, Cubs, Tigers, Padres, Angels, Indians, Cards, Senators. \$2.80 each. 1970 Astros, Tigers, Brewers, Angels, A's. \$2.65 each. 1971 Boston, Twins, Brewers, Angels, Padres, Phillies, Cards, Tigers, Dodgers, Expos, Cubs, Senators. \$2.50 each. 1972 A's, Brewers, Braves, Boston, Astros, Giants, Twins, Dodgers, Cubs. \$2.35 each. 1973 Dodgers, Twins, Indians, Mets, Rangers, Angels, Cards, Reds, Orioles, Expos, Brewers, Tigers, A's, Giants, Yankees. \$2.20 each. 1974, all teams, \$2.10 each. 1975, all teams, \$2. Add 20¢ per team postage. Bruce Fleischhacker, 671 Bronx River Rd. Apt. G, Yonkers, NY 10704

FOR SALE: Baseball seasons,

1976, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1981. All with extra players, good condition, 1981 near mint. 1969 Braves and 8 Giants including Mays and McCovey. Will sell individually or as group. I pay postage. Scott Holbrook, 5804 N. Oakley, Kansas City, MO 64118

FOR SALE: 1978 football teams. All in excellent condition. Colts, Bears, Browns, Chargers, Eagles, Falcons, Lions, Redskins. All inquiries answered. Send offers to: Sam Gindy, 6607 Convent Blvd., Sylvania, OH 43560

FOR SALE or TRADE: Very large supply of out-of-stock S-O-M cards [all games]. For list, send SASE to: Bill Kozack, 49 Commonwealth Ave., Haverhill, MA 01830 or call 617-372-6852.

FOR SALE: Complete games - football, basketball, baseball, hockey, college football. Football - teams all in good condition to mint. Hockey - 1977-78, '78-79, '79-80 complete w/extras. Basketball - 1974-75 Bos., Buf., Chi., Det., KC; '75-76 Cle., GS, Den., Nets, San Ant., ABA extras; '76-77 Bos., Nets, Phil., Phoe., Port., San Ant.; '77-78 Den., LA, Knicks, Phi., Sea., Was.; '78-79 Atl., Hou., Por., Sea.; '79-80 Bos., Phil., Knicks, LA, Mil. Football - 1972 SD, St. Louis, Atl., Cin., Den., Hous., NE, NO, Phi.; '73 SF, St.L., NE, NO, Hou., Cle.; '74 all but Mia., LA; '75-79 complete; 6 old-timers. Baseball - '67 complete; '74 Oak.; '75 Cin.; '76-80 complete, w/ext.; 4 Hall of Famers; all old-timers except '60 B's; 36 reprints. S-O-M Reviews - 5/78, 11/78-10/79, 4/80-2/81, 4/81. Bids accepted until July 1. Bid on any combination, etc. Send SASE for reply to bid. I will contact winners. Send bids to: Tom Jacobs, 51 Berkshire Rd., Bethpage, NY 11714 [516-681-2815]

FOR SALE or TRADE: Baseball - 1966-1973. Football - 1970-1975. 1973-74 Buffalo Braves. 1978-79 NHL hockey teams. All teams in good to excellent condition. I am interested in pre-1967 baseball and 1969 and 1970 extra players. For complete list of available teams, send SASE to: Mike Custer, 500 5th Ave., Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

[continued]

FOR SALE: Over 2,000 baseball cards from 1973, '74, '75, '76, '77 and '80 seasons. Most in mint condition and several teams complete, w/extras. All teams are individually contained and labeled in their own protective envelope - no rubber bands are used - thus assuring maximum protection for valuable cards. Also eliminating frayed edges, or bent cards. Envelopes will keep cards in mint condition. Send for free price list of what we have available. Write to: L.D. Melito Assoc., Daniel Rd., RFD#2, North Salem, NY 10560

FOR SALE: Complete football sets, 1967-1981. Good to excellent to mint condition. Will include unused game board, play selectors and dots free of charge with each purchase. I will pay postage for shipment to you, express mail if possible. Each bid will be answered ASAP. Buy now - you're not going to find another deal like this anywhere. Tony D'Abbraccio Jr., 21-09 30th Avenue, Astoria, NY 11102

FOR SALE: Extra player giveaway - I have the '80, '81 and '82 season American League extra players. Never used. First person to write me can have them. Send no money. When I get the first letter, I'll write back asking for postage (should be about \$1.75). Rick Guzman, 3833 East Marilyn Road, Phoenix, AZ 85032

FOR SALE: Over 500 baseball teams, including all old-timers and complete sets from 1962, 1964, 1970, 1977-1982. Missing only few teams from other years (1966 missing only Sox, 1967 only Cleveland and A's, 1968 only Angels and Washington, 1971 only Angels and Cleveland, 1973 only Padres, etc.). Most teams in very good, excellent or mint condition. I am not charging ridiculous prices; will accept first reasonable bid. Send to: Gary Gannet, 5950 NW. 24 Place, Sunrise, FL 33313

FOR SALE: You're already playing the best board game available. Make it even better by rolling

the best dice available. If you're serious about S-O-M, throw away your dice and order Precision Dice. Precision Dice are professionally made in Los Angeles, are balanced and properly weighed, unlike cheap pharmacy dice. Join all the gamers who swear by them. \$8 pair, \$11.50 for 3 dice. Available in red, white, green. I'll put your initials on the dice free of charge (3 initial max.). Send today to: Eric Corwin, 828 S. Holt #3, Los Angeles, CA 90035. Get rolling. Include 75¢ per order for handling.

FOR SALE: Baseball - complete sets. 1976 with extras, excellent condition; 1977 with extras, excellent; 1978 no extras, excellent; 1979 with extras, excellent; 1980 with extras, excellent. Hockey - complete sets. 1979-80, excellent; 1980-81, excellent. Assorted teams - Baseball, 1973 Angels; 1974 Angels; 1936 Yankees; 1929 Cubs; 1922 Browns; 1976 Reds; 1978 Pirates; 1977 Cubs; 1974 Cardinals; 1948 Indians; 1934 Cardinals; 1977 Reds; 1950 Yankees; 1948 Indians. Football - 1978 Cowboys; 1976 Steelers; 1960 Eagles; 1963 Bears; 1958 Giants; 1965 Browns; 1962 Packers; 1958 Colts. Games and boxes - New basketball, deluxe, all teams. Hockey game, excellent condition. Football game, excellent condition. Everything must go! All items are on a best offer basis. Send bids to: Mike Stenson, 15401 Ann Marie Dr., Oak Forest, IL 60452 (call: 312-687-0632)

FOR SALE: Complete baseball sets, 1967-1974, for sale with or without additional players, all in good to excellent condition, to high bidder. Bid on full set(s) or league(s). Individual baseball teams (1966-1974) and football teams (1967-1974) also available; send want list and SASE. Dave DeGriselles, Box 826, New Castle, DE 19720 (phone: 302-328-1228; no collect calls)

FOR SALE: Everything must go. All cards very good-mint unless noted. No extra players. 1969 - Cardinals, Reds (good-very good); 1970 - Royals, White Sox; 1973 - A's; 1974 - A's, Red Sox, Mets, (continued)

Indians, Padres, Tigers; 1975 - Reds; 1976 - Pirates, Padres, Orioles; 1977 - Cardinals, Dodgers, Phillies, Royals. Bidding closes at end of month. Luke Kraemer, 2550 Yeager Rd. 7-8, West Lafayette, IN 47906

FOR SALE: Start the baseball season with a new challenge: 11-page Playbook I involves super advanced strategy that puts the emphasis on speed and defense and substantially increases your managing options. Includes head-to-head and solitaire rules, easy-to-read playbook and strategy cards. In Playbook II, you get revised and expanded hit-and-run, sacrifice/squeeze play, outfield/infield drawn in and injury charts. That means hit-and-run strikeouts and homers, foul and misplayed bunts, a variety of injuries and many more time-tested results. Playbooks are \$5 each or just \$9 for both. Paul Ladewski, 14332 Maple Lane, Midlothian, IL 60445

FOR SALE: 1971 White Sox, Phillies (21 players); 1973 Red Sox, Reds (no extras), Indians, Pirates, Cardinals; 1974 Red Sox, Tigers; 1975 Braves (no extras), Angels, Indians, Tigers, Royals, Yankees, Giants; 1976 Pirates; 1978 Orioles, Angels, White Sox, White Sox (no extras), Tigers, Twins, Mets, Padres, Mariners, Rangers, Rangers (no extras), Blue Jays; 1979 all N.L. teams, all A.L. teams except Royals, Yankees; 1980 all teams except Dodgers, also 94 miscellaneous extra players and roster sheet. All teams are originals, have extra players except where noted and are in very good-excellent condition. 1971-1976 teams are \$2.25 each postpaid; 1978-1980 teams are \$1.25 each postpaid, money orders only. Please write or call before sending money to reserve teams you want. Buy 10 teams or more and take off 25¢ per team. Mike Gumkowski, 315 Maureen Drive, Wheeling, IL 60090 (phone: 312-537-4631, 6-10 p.m. week nights)

FOR SALE: All 28 teams from 1978 football season with roster sheet, \$15 postpaid; all 28 teams

from 1980 football season with roster sheet, \$13 postpaid; 1974 football season roster 50¢; 1978 Steelers, \$2.25 postpaid; 1979 Pirates (no extras), 75¢ postpaid. All teams are in excellent condition. Money orders only on complete seasons. Please write or call before sending money to reserve teams you want. Mike Gumkowski, 315 Maureen Drive, Wheeling, IL 60090 (phone: 312-537-4631, 6-10 p.m. weeknights)

FOR SALE: Football teams - 1970 49ers, Lions; 1971 Colts, Chiefs, \$10. 1970 Vikings, \$12. 1972 Packers, Browns, 49ers, \$7.50. 1973 Steelers; 1974 Dolphins, Cardinals, Vikings, \$7. 1975 Bengals; 1976 Steelers, \$5. 1976 set, \$24 (without Colts, \$18). Combination deals may be accepted. Write for all to: Leon H. Kalayjian, 39 Gramercy Ave., Rye, NY 10580

For Trade

FOR TRADE: Will trade individual 1956 and 1961 baseball teams for teams from 1971 through 1979. Send your list of teams you have to trade and what team you want in the trade. Randy Sherrill, 3007 Wood Ave., Chattanooga, TN 37408 (phone: 1-615-622-2950)

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Face-to-face draft baseball league in the San Mateo to San Jose, CA, area, entering its 3rd season, is looking to expand from 4 to 10 managers using 1982 National League teams. Very realistic play - players with limited at-bats or innings pitched are forced to rest. Plan to draft early June. Contact: Rick Lagomarsino (408-739-8680) or Keith Johnson (408-248-4549) or write to: Rick Lagomarsino, 670 Johanna Ave. #3, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 by June 1 if interested.

LEAGUE FORMING: Backup managers needed for Roll 'Em Baseball International (RBI) PBM league. No PBM experience required. Give brief self description. For more information, write: Eric Spitz, 1255 W. Elmdale, Chicago, IL 60660. Include SASE.

[continued]

LEAGUE FORMING: The SOMMBL - a PBM league - is looking for one manager to take over an existing team and for backup managers. This league plays the advanced game, 162-game season and draft league. For more information, call or write (send a SASE) to: Harold Tellefsen, 224 Coast Guard Dr., Cheboygan, MI 49721 (phone: 616-625-7225 or 616-627-9067)

LEAGUE FORMING: The DELCAL American League is looking for an energetic, responsible manager to fill a managerial vacancy for our 1983 season. DELCAL is in its 4th year of operation and is a PBM league using the American League cards plus extras. We play a 162-game schedule with the advanced side of S-O-M cards. Experience is preferred but not necessary. For more information, write or call: Larry Hirt, 3762 Ivy Dr., Grand Rapids, MI 49505 (616-361-5116)

LEAGUE FORMING: Manager needed. Assume the controls of last year's second place team (2 games out) in Greater Boston Baseball Association, a 4-team, advanced, progressive face-to-face draft league entering its fifth year using players from N.L. East. Must replace manager due to increased grad school workload. Candidate must be mature and reliable. Team's pre-draft nucleus includes Sanderson, Rose, Gullickson, Forsch, Sutter, Dawson, Hay, Lacy, Parker, Stearns and Mathews. For info, call or write at once: Norman Shacat, 81 Woburn Street, Medford, MA 02155 (phone: 391-5726 evenings)

LEAGUE FORMING: Need seven managers for basic draft PBM league, using 1983 cards. \$3 fee for a monthly newsletter. Send list of 10 A.L. and N.L. teams to determine teams in the draft. Darwin Pfaltzgraff, 1932 Primrose Dr., Cedar Falls, IA 50613

LEAGUE FORMING: Attention all advanced baseball play-by-mail enthusiasts. Want to manage stars of the new 1983 cards ('82 season), as well as stars from the latest past season, 1981? I am starting a 40-man draft league using both of these sets. A

common draft will be used, no separation of seasons or leagues. You could possibly have players like Maris, Koufax, Yount and Carlton on your club. I propose 8 divisions of 5 teams each, divided into two 20-team leagues, with playoffs and a true-life World Series (as the two teams do not play each other during season). If you want to get in on this super league, send along SASE to me right away for more details. Eventual entry fee will be \$10, with a \$200 world championship cash prize as well as a lovely trophy. A 162-game schedule will be followed. Tom Swank, 37 Charles St., Bloomfield, NJ 07003

LEAGUE FORMING: The US Off-Season Basketball League is now forming. The USOSBL is an advanced draft league with 12 teams playing a 64-game schedule. Experience is preferred, but not necessary. Only serious managers need reply. A small entry fee covers newsletters and final stats. If interested, contact: Thor Hanes, 710 Riverside Road, Roswell, GA 30075 (404-992-3318 after 6 p.m.). It is advisable to call to insure you of a team.

Contests

CONTESTS: The third annual Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament - five events available. Meet gamers from all over the country. Have a great weekend playing S-O-M games we are obsessed by. July 16-17 in Hobart, IN. For further information, write (enclose long SASE) or call: James Sanders, 5806 Kennedy Terr. #103, Gary, IN 46403 (1-219-938-6137). The tournament is approved and sponsored by the Strat-O-Matic Game Company, which has again purchased all the trophies for the winners and runnersup.

Baseball playing tip

Steve (Boom) Johnson, Lima, OH, and his league members send out a master copy instruction sheet for each team before the season begins. Then, postcards are sent with pitching rotations and any changes in the master for each series. If no postcard, then the master is always available and play goes on.

Here's how to figure 'true' standings

Editor's note: Patrick Curtis, Chicago, IL, adds another dimension to actual teams' replays, whether they be face-to-face or play-by-mail. Some leagues, especially those having trouble finding managers to guide cellar-dweller teams, might wish to consider his proposal for figuring 'true' standings:

By PATRICK CURTIS

What has the experience been in playing Strat-O-Matic Baseball face-to-face or in PBM leagues where managers control an entire individual team rather than choose players from a draft?

Choosing individual teams allows for greater realism and allows managers to play favorite teams. Obviously, the teams would be of uneven strength, but what if the standings were to be based on the S-O-M percentage loss or gain from the actual real-life won/loss percentages?

Consider the standings as reported on pages 21-22 from the January, 1983 issue of the S-O-M Review contribute by Murray Zalitsky. Although it was not clear whether the results were derived from the play of separate managers, I will assume, for the sake of my argument, that they were.

Team (1975 NL East)	S-O-M Standings	S Winning%	Actual Win. %	Gain(Loss)
Philadelphia	.605		.531	.074
St. Louis	.537		.506	.031
New York Mets	.475		.506	[-.031]
Pittsburgh	.469		.571	[-.102]
Chicago Cubs	.444		.463	[-.019]
Montreal	.395		.463	[-.068]

In the above example, the Cubs' manager should be credited with third place, Pittsburgh last. In the NL West the results (below) are more interesting.

Team (1975 NL West)	S-O-M Standings	S Winning%	Actual Win. %	Gain(Loss)
Cincinnati	.679		.669	.010
Los Angeles	.542		.542	-
San Francisco	.542		.497	.045
San Diego	.494		.438	.056
Houston	.432		.398	.034
Atlanta	.383		.416	[-.033]

San Diego, with a gain of .056 percentage points (nine more wins), should be acknowledged the winner, followed by San Francisco and Houston. Cincinnati, the team with the best net winning percentage, should be credited with finishing fourth.

What do others think of this system?

One final note: I have the impression that in S-O-M play, extremely good teams perform better than in real life while extremely poor teams play worse. Have others found this to be true?

S-O-M Baseball trivia quiz

Marc Jacobson, the Strat-O-Matic Baseball card buff and creator of the trivia quizzes that appear frequently in the Review, has put together another list of questions that will send you searching back through your old card sets--providing you're fortunate to have such sets.

This month Jacobson has focused in on 1968-71 seasons, with the spotlight on roster oddities for those years. So, without further chit-chat, here we go with the latest baseball trivia quiz:

QUESTION 1: How much did the first set of 1969 extra players cost?
[continued on next page]

- QUESTION 2: Which 1969 players did S-O-M suggest restricted usage for?
 QUESTION 3: Which team had four players allowed to pitch every fourth game in 1969?
 QUESTION 4: Which players from the 1970 set had restricted use?
 QUESTION 5: How many extras were issued for 1970?
 QUESTION 6: Which 1970 team had 7 pitchers and 13 batters?
 QUESTION 7: Which 1971 teams had three catchers listed on the roster sheet?
 QUESTION 8: Name the teams from 1971 that had four pitchers who were allowed to pitch every fourth game?
 QUESTION 9: How many extras were issued for 1971?

- ANSWER 1: The first set of true extra players [1968 was really an expansion set] cost \$2.
 ANSWER 2: S-O-M suggested that Carl Taylor of Pittsburgh and Orlando Martinez of the Astros be used sparingly.
 ANSWER 3: Houston had Larry Dierker, Tom Griffin, Denny Lemaster and Don Wilson who could pitch every fourth day.
 ANSWER 4: Chuck Hinton [Cleveland], Jake Gibbs [New York Yankees] and Ed Crosby [St. Louis] were suggested for little use.
 ANSWER 5: One hundred extra players were issued for 1970--96 that belonged to particular teams, plus such "traveling" players as Dean Chance, Jim Grant, Ron Herbel and Hoyt Wilhelm.
 ANSWER 6: The 1970 Pittsburgh Pirates had 7 pitchers and 13 batters, a variation from the normal 8-and-12 ratio.
 ANSWER 7: The Kansas City Royals and California Angels each had three catchers listed among the regulars on the 1971 roster sheet.
 ANSWER 8: The New York Yankees, Baltimore, California and St. Louis each had four pitchers who could hurl every fourth day.
 ANSWER 9: Only the 96 'regular' extra players were issued for the 1971 set. This would not happen again until the 1976 set.

First base analyzed

How much is fielding worth?

BY ROGER JOHNSON
 7526 Chairman Ave.
 Baton Rouge, LA 70816

The Strat-O-Matic Baseball manager must often make the decision between two players: one who can hit and can't field, the other able to field but not contribute much at the plate. So what must a manager do and is there any information that would at least help one make a rational decision between two players?

I recently attacked this problem by analyzing 10 pitchers' cards selected at random and assumed that a pitcher's card would be referred to 19 times in a nine-inning game. I started examining the position of first base and discovered that over the course of a 162-game season, one will refer to a first baseman's X-rating approximately 57 times.

Going a step further, 11 of 20 times you will refer to the first baseman's error portion of the chart, the other nine times the hit or groundout portion. Thus, his ball handling ability (e-rating) is more important than his range factor (1, 2, 3, 4).

Going another step, I calculated that a first baseman with a rating of e15 will commit about 17 errors over 162 games. If that same first baseman has a range factor of 3, he will let about nine hits through his side over 162 games. Thus, a first baseman rated e15 1B-3 will cost about 26 hits and errors a season.

The chart on the next page provides a manager with some information for selecting first basemen (and first basemen only; other charts are

[Continued on next page]

required for the other positions):

FIRST BASE				
e Rating		1	2	3 4 [Range]
e5	-	6	11	15 20
e10	-	13	18	22 27
e15	-	17	22	26 31
e20	-	25	30	34 39
e25	-	31	36	40 45

For example, a first baseman rated e5 18-2 would allow only about 11 additional baserunners a season, while a player rated e25 18-4 would allow about 45 baserunners to reach base. The difference between the two players is 34 (45-11).

Assuming that both players have equal power, speed, platooning abilities, the poorer fielder must carry a higher batting average to justify playing. But, how much higher?

Assume each player would have 550 at-bats over the season and divide the additional 34 runners by 550 to come up with .062. This essentially means that the poorer fielder must hit .062 points higher than the good fielder to justify playing. Put another way, a first baseman hitting .260 may be just as useful as the clumsy fielder hitting .322.

Editor's note: Managers interested in charts for the other positions may write Roger Johnson at the address listed on the preceding page.

GKSML completes 24th season

Newcomer is newest champ in longtime baseball league

The Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League's newest member was in part responsible for the longtime face-to-face baseball league's latest completion date in its history.

The GKSML, of which Review co-editors Warren and Del Newell are members, completed its American League season in August, 1982. But it took until January of this year before the A.L. playoffs and a World Series were history.

One of the reasons for tardiness in completion was A.L. champion, Dave Heffner, 18, and a freshman at University of Michigan. Heffner left for school and, except for a couple of days at holiday time, never returned to Kalamazoo, MI, long enough to complete the World Series.

But, finally, the GKSML's 24th full season (154 games) was history. And Dave Heffner, who replaced longtime GKSML manager Dale Holland, who retired from the second season of the summer to concentrate on being a father to his family and slugging a slow-pitch softball, wound up being crowned king for 1982.

For those not familiar with the GKSML, it is a 10-manager face-to-face league that calls Kalamazoo its home stadium, or more precisely the conference room of the Kalamazoo Gazette, where Del Newell is employed as a sports writer.

The league meets once a week until a 154-game season has been played. Average session is 4½ hours and consists of playing between 10-14 games. A draft is held before every season, with drafting done in reverse order of finish the season before. Each manager is allowed to protect 15 players from the roster of a year ago, with the draft pool coming from players dropped, traded from one league to another and rookies (players with cards for the first time).

(continued on next page)

The GKSMML does permit a manager the choice of using his No. 1 draft pick to re-acquire a player traded from one league to another. Del Newell, for instance, lost Bert Blyleven, Ken Forsch and Pete Vuckovich, all from his National League team of two years ago, to the A.L. So, Del was allowed to use his No. 1 pick in the A.L. to re-acquire [in this case it was Forsch] one of the three. This allows a manager to maintain a semblance of control over real-life player movement.

WHO ARE THOSE GUYS?

Again, for the unfamiliar, the GKSMML managerial lineup consists of a mixture of experience and youth. Del Newell, 41, represents much of the experience, and Todd Newell, Del's son, and Heffner, the youth movement. Todd, 19, has been rollin' 'em for the past 12 years, however, and has been a member of the GKSMML for the past seven.

Warren Newell, 38, a band instructor at Otsego Middle School, Otsego, MI, located 17 miles north of Kalamazoo, is also a charter member of the GKSMML. Gary Tien, 34, and a data processing supervisor in Kalamazoo, is another longtime manager.

Others in the lineup include: Jeff Kik, 28, manager of Gordon Food Service cash-'n'-carry; Pat Stemas, 30, teacher in Dowagiac, 45 miles southwest of Kalamazoo; John Gordon, 22, sales trainee for Gordon Food Service; Bruce Mulder, 26, student and part-time factory worker; and Jeff Green, 25, paint manufacturer at Port City Paints, Kalamazoo.

Mulder and Gordon reside in Grand Rapids, 50 miles north of Kalamazoo, and the duo, coupled with Stemas, are the most reliable members of the GKSMML despite the distances they must travel each week.

BEST WAS IN THE WEST

The GKSMML has two divisions of five teams each and the winners of each division, regardless of overall record, clash in the playoffs. In the West it was Heffner edging out Jeff Green by a game, 92-62 to 91-63. Both had glittering records.

But over in the East it was a different story. Three teams--John Madden's [he was a college reading instructor who returned for the A.L. season], Todd and Warren's--shared first with lowly 75-79 records. The record of the best in the East would have been good for only the basement in the West.

In one-game playoffs, John Madden blanked Todd Newell, 5-0, behind the six-hit pitching of John Denny, and Warren Newell trimmed Madden, 6-3, as Oscar Gamble and Graig Nettles homered for the winners.

So that put Warren against Dave Heffner in the A.L. playoffs. Dave bombed Warren in the opener of the best-of-five series, 17-0, as Ken Singleton, Jeff Newman and Bruce Bochte all homered. Dave also won game two, 5-4, but this time it took 12 innings. Singleton again homered, as did Reggie Jackson for Heffner.

Warren, however, remained alive by winning game three, 7-4, and game four, 2-1. Finally, in the fifth and deciding game, Heffner got a five-hitter from Matt Keough and won 6-1, thus advancing to the World Series and a meeting with National League kingpin Dale Holland, the manager that Heffner replaced for the American League season.

WORLD SERIES - NO CONTEST!

Dale Holland, it turned out, had the 'wrong' team for the Series. His A.L. team proved to be much better than the N.L. squad he was guiding.

Dave won the opener, 6-3, as Reggie Jackson--formerly one of Dale's favorite players--hit a two-run homer in the 8th inning. In game two it was Dwayne Murphy's solo home run in the top of the 10th inning that resulted in a 7-6 victory.

A six-run explosion in the bottom of the 6th inning in game three provided Dave with a 7-6 win and a 3-0 Series advantage. A total of nine home runs were hit in games two and three as Dale outhit Dave, 13-8 and 12-7, yet lost both.

[continued on next page]

Dale kept his flickering hopes alive in game four, winning 9-5, thanks to a four-run flurry in the top of the 10th inning. But Dave Heffner wrapped it up in game five, winning 5-1 as Dan Quisenberry came on and notched his third save of the World Series. Mike Schmidt homered in the first inning for Dale, but it was Schmidt's lone roundtripper of the Series.

RUN RICKEY, RUN...

Rickey Henderson was one of the key offensive performers on Dave Heffner's precision-functioning A.L. squad, swiping 108 bases (158 attempts), scoring 122 runs, batting .318 and stroking 19 triples. Seven players did hit 10 or more home runs, while five had more than 70 RBI.

Pitching was also consistent as Dave Stieb, Danny Darwin and Matt Keough had records of 18-13, 16-6 and 16-4, respectively, and Stieb and Darwin tossed no-hitters. Stieb was also the ERA leader, posting a minuscule 2.50 mark.

Standings and leaders:

GKSM - AMERICAN LEAGUE, 1982 (based on 1981)

East	W	L	GB	AVG	ERA	Batting		
John Madden	75	79	-	.262	4.36	Paciorek DN	.344	* It should be
Todd Newell	75	79	-	.261	3.89	Grich GT	.3309	noted that Gary
Warren Newell	75	79	-	.247	3.80	Carew DN	.3308	Tien's team
Jeff Kik	72	82	3	.260	3.52	Lansford JG	.3305	hit 210 homers.
Pat Stemas	60	94	15	.246	4.10			
West						Home Runs	RBI	
Dave Heffner	92	62	-	.260	3.24	Murray TN	41	Grich GT 119
Jeff Green	91	63	1	.270	3.21	Grich GT	39	Murray TN 108
Gary Tien	86	68	6	.276	4.37	D.Evans GT	36	Paciorek DN 100
Del Newell	79	75	13	.257	3.81	Luzinski GT	32	D.Ford JG 94
Bruce Mulder	65	89	27	.253	3.98			
Won-Lost			Strikeouts			H:		
Gura DN	20-11		Barker JK	186		28:	Cooper JK 53	
Abbott JG	19-7		Blyleven JK	182		38:	Henderson DH 19	
Torrez GT	19-9		Burns TN	154		R:	Henderson DH 122	
Flanagan GT	18-7		McCatty WN	152		SB:	Henderson DH 108/158;	
							Wilson TN 93/110; Dilone BM	
							92/142	
ERA			IP: Leonard PS			Wt:	D.Evans GT 119	
Stieb DH	2.505		347			E:	A.Griffin BM 43	
McCatty WN	2.507							
Gura DN	2.552		CG: McCatty WN 21; Gura DN, Stieb DH 20					
Flanagan GT	2.557		SH: Gura DN, Leonard PS 5					
Lamp JG	2.56		SA: Davis GT 26, Gossage JM 19					
			HRA: Clancy DN 30					
			ERA (relief): Saucier BM 1.44, Beattie TN 1.47					

Baseball playing tip

Chris Payne presents the charts below to provide for having the infield "in" without a runner on third base. He feels that the rules, although not stating it exactly, imply that the infield can be "in" when runners are on first and first and second, but no runner on third. Here is his addition to the basic chart:

Runner on Second

Type	Batter	Runner
gbA	out	holds on 2nd
gbB	safe	out in rundown
gbC	out	runner advances to 3rd

With Runners on 1st or 1st & 2nd

Type	Batter	Runner(s)
gbA	safe	lead runner out, other advances
gbB	out	runners advance
gbC	out*	runners advance

* Only if batter's running rating is 1-12 or less; if not, he is safe.

S-O-M Hockey critiqued

BY HAROLD COLEMAN, Bear, DE

After playing numerous games of Strat-O-Matic Hockey and by being a participating commissioner of NAHA, a PBM hockey league entering into its fourth season, I feel I am qualified to offer my opinions of the game.

Although it is the best, most exciting and action-packed table-top hockey game I have ever played, I still feel that S-O-M has some obvious, although minor to some fans, deficiencies in its game. I was hoping to see some thought put into, and possibly some changes made in these areas:

[1] The truly "defensive" defenseman - players like Langevin, Fox, Barrett, Kea, Hajt, etc. - has little value in S-O-M Hockey, unless they can intimidate. They give away as many shots through their inept passing as they take away with their defensive skills. When they do take away the puck, they are the ones with the shot (usually, through Opponent Defense 1 through 4, for example), not their high-scoring forward teammates. When they give it away, opposing forwards have the shots, making it rather not unlike double indemnity.

I feel S-O-M should evaluate the effect of either (a) matching defensemen on wings - LW on RD, LD on RW, C on C, RD on LW, RW on LD - instead of wings on wings and defensemen on defensemen. This means that wings would penetrate on defensemen and vice-versa, putting more emphasis on the defensive rating of the defenseman and less on the wings.

There are other advantages not so obvious - for example, the matchups for rebounds. (b) Keep the matchups as they are, but stipulate that wings penetrate vs. defensemen and vice-versa. Either of these options would give more value to the "defensive" defenseman and, also, put a more negative influence on the "1" rated (def.) defenseman - Ian Turnbull, Crossman, Routsalainen, to name a few. Maybe worth considering would be to let the defenseman have the option to pass if he takes away the puck and has an inside shot - or at least to consider the next topic...

[2] Defensemen's scoring cards need revamping. In my three years of experience, defensemen rarely score as many goals as they should. One reason is that they rarely (except for those with high offensive ratings) get inside shots on passing attempts or on "Any Player" shots, and that their cards are so poor that it doesn't pay to penetrate with them on outside shots (it almost always is better to try to pass to a forward).

These facts are balanced by their ice time (50% or more compared to forwards), so that their cards should be at least as strong as forwards with equal goals per game. I don't feel that this is the case - defensemen's scoring chances are much weaker than a comparable forward.

[3] There must be more of a difference between playing a "3" offense than a "1" - it seems that you still get as many scoring opportunities playing a 1/0 as playing a 3/3. Accordingly, it is tough to protect a lead or to not give up shots and scoring opportunities. I can't recall the last time I saw a team get held to fewer than 20 shots in a game. I could probably count them on one hand in my three years of playing the game.

[4] Penalties.

(a) The penalty chart needs revising - too many misconducts and not enough fights and other majors. Bob Lopeck, of Florida Gold Coast Hockey Association (FGCHA) fame, has a reasonably good one available for interested gamers.

(b) There is virtually no chance for either team to get a penalty during a power play. I realize that extra penalties are cumbersome to the super-advanced power play procedures. However, for added realism, there must be a method to get penalties during a power play. Two

(continued on next page)

suggestions: 1. Disregard the "Power Play - 16" result on intimidation chances by the short-handed team and allow the possible penalty and the "takes away shot" or "fails to take away shot" results. This would create more penalties for the SH team. 2. On icing attempts that read "puck iced - outside shot only for PP LW" for example, change to "puck iced - PP LW Opponent Defense 11" (or 7, 8, 9 or 10 - mix them up), which would result in either a penalty on the PP team's LW or an outside shot only for that player based on the LW's penalty rating. This procedure, if carefully thought out, would enable the PP team to get penalties.

(c) In the advanced game, when (if ever) do the defensive ratings in parentheses come into play? The only instance I can think of is on a rebound while killing a penalty; e.g. if rebound result is "Def. LW if 3 or better" and his defensive rating is 3(2), he does not get the rebound (because you refer to the rating in the parentheses) and his opponent gets the rebound shot. This occurs unbelievably infrequently.

... I honestly think S-O-M made an oversight on the readings of Opponent Defense 12, 13 and 14 on the players' cards for the advanced game. In the case of the player mentioned above with the def. rating of 3(2), I believe his OD-13 should read "Takes Away Puck [Outside Shot]" so that when killing penalties an outside shot occurs if that player's OD-13 is questioned by an action card or by an icing attempt. Otherwise, there is virtually no penalty for using a player who is not considered a strong penalty killer even though he may be a fine defensive player, e.g. Dave Taylor, a 4(3) - any player whose rating declines when he is killing penalties. Similarly, the player who has a 3(4) rating - one that increases - gets little extra edge when he is killing penalties.

(d) In order to increase the number of "slow whistle" situations - those that occur through intimidation occur infrequently - our league rules allow a slow whistle situation to occur on "Opponent Defense 11" penalties (not on OD-7 through 10) where only the defender gets the penalty. We turn over the next action card and look at the power play section to see what happens.

(5) There are far too few unassisted goals compared to real-life. Perhaps every time the split card reads "one assist only," which is one every 10 times, and there have been no assists awarded thus far from the action card results, passes, or rebounds, then the goal should be unassisted. Maybe some split cards should simply read "no more assists shall be awarded."

(6) I still disagree with S-O-M's determination of when a period ends. In NAHA (North American Hockey Association), we play out a period "until an action card must be drawn." This seems more consistent with the action at the start of a period, which begins after the faceoff with the drawing of an action card.

The first 40 seconds of play don't end until the next card must be drawn. Rebounds, faceoffs, slow whistle penalties, etc., may occur on the first card of the period, why not on the last? The only exception we make is when a penalty occurs on the last card. Then we end the period for it would get too confusing timing the penalty.

(7) Some "4" rated offensive players should be examined more closely - their scoring chances are much less than they should be to score the proper amount of goals. They simply do not get enough "any player" shots to justify their mediocre scoring cards.

I also have some playing tips to pass on:

(1) Use a double (or triple) split deck. It prevents the unnecessary reshuffling of the deck midway through a period featuring a lot of goals or penalties while also adding to the deck's randomness.

(2) Play the game on a fairly large table and lay out all the forward and defensive lines above and below the playing board in such a manner that you can read all the cards. Use markers to indicate which line is on the ice and who has the puck. This precludes the handling of cards on line changes, thus helping preserve them better, while speeding up play at the same time.

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Hockey fan tries out suggestions

Editor's note: The following is a mini review of Harold Coleman's suggestions for Strat-O-Matic Hockey, as well as his playing tips. Dave Hager, a hockey buff who answers most questions (those not answered by S-O-M) relating to the ice sport, tried some of them out and this is his evaluation:

"Used Harold Coleman's variant rule No. 1, matching wings against defensemen and it worked mechanically. I think it is more realistic to think of matchups as consisting of wings against defensemen. It certainly does put more emphasis on the defensemen's rating.

I wonder, though, what it does to the overall balance of the game. Does changing the matchups, the way Coleman suggests, make the defensemen too dominant? It would be interesting to play a large number of games and find out.

I do agree with Coleman's suggestions two and three. They match my experience in playing S-O-M Hockey since it came out.

I'm neutral on his suggestions four, five, six and seven. His playing tips are super."

(Dave Hager is assistant city editor at the Kalamazoo Gazette, Kalamazoo, MI. He's played S-O-M Hockey since its inception and is particularly interested in the good and bad times experienced by the Chicago Black Hawks).