



## 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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**Gooden was No. 1 pick by both, but...**

### GKSML, NTL drafts compared

Every tabletop baseball manager would, if possible, pick Dwight Gooden No. 1 in a draft. Goodens are too good to be true. No argument there.

But who would you pick No. 2, behind Gooden, if conducting a draft of National League rookies or other newcomers to the N.L.? The National Texas League, a 10-member league that includes former Atlanta Braves pitcher Tony Brizzolara in its managerial ranks, and the GKSML (Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League), which includes Review co-editors Warren and Del Newell, disagreed on that one.

The NTL choose Orel Hersheiser of the Dodgers No. 2, while the GKSML, with Del Newell trading away his pick for help at two other depleted positions (pitcher Charlie Lea and centerfielder Jerry Mumphy) selected outfielder Dan Gladden.

Hersheiser was No. 3 man in the GKSML, where a league rule allows a manager to reacquire a player that has been traded to another league in real-life by declaring his intentions before the draft and using his first-round pick to do so.

In the GKSML, for instance, longtime league member Gary Tien, who would have picked No. 8 in the first round, had lost Rick Sutcliffe from his American League team when he was traded to the Cubs. So, Gary used his draft choice to reacquire Sutcliffe. John Tudor was also reacquired, by Pat Stemas, a high school teacher who had the best won-and-lost record in the N.L. the year before and now had the No. 10 pick.

Sutcliffe was the No. 3 draft choice in the NTL, with Goose Gossage No. 4 on both draft lists. All told, seven of the top 10 in each league were the same. On the next page are the top 20 draft choices in each league.

The rest of the GKSML managerial roster, in addition to the Newell brothers, Tien and Stemas, includes Jeff Kik, Jeff Green, newcomer Bob Hoyt, Bruce Mulder, Mike Pryson and Todd Newell, 21-year-old son of Del

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Newell. The GKSMML includes students, a sports writer, band instructor, high school teacher and a food store manager. It's entirely face-to-face, plays a 154-game schedule and the biggest claim to fame is long life, with the GKSMML having complete 28 full-season replays.

In the GTL, in addition to Brizzolara, who pilots the Pirates, the managerial lineup has John Blomstrom, organizer of the league; Brent Goodwin (Braves), Rick Blount (Expos) and Jim Woods (Mets), all of Houston, TX. Craig Becker (Giants) is another Texan, calling Austin home. The others are Kirk Gassman (Cubs), Monticello, IA; Rick Weber (Reds), St. Louis, MO; Mike Turnis (Cards), Maquoketa, IA; and Dennis Tiemever (Dodgers), Florissant, MO.

Now for the top 20 draft choices: (\* - reacquired)

GKSMML	NTL
1 - Gooden (Todd Newell)	1 - Gooden (Expos)
2 - Gladden (Jeff Green)	2 - Hershiser (Pirates)
3 - Hershiser (Bruce Mulder)	3 - Sutcliffe (Expos)
4 - Gossage (Bob Hoyt)	4 - Gossage (Dodgers)
5 - Darling (Warren Newell)	5 - Gladden (Pirates)
6 - Eckersley (Jeff Green)	6 - Tudor (Pirates)
7 - Cocoran (Mike Pryson)	7 - Pendleton (Cards)
8 - Sutcliffe (Gary Tien) *	8 - Santana (Astros)
9 - Kosman (Pat Stemas)	9 - Samuel (Pirates)
10 - Tudor (Pat Stemas) *	10 - Darling (Reds)
11 - D.Anderson (Mike Pryson)	11 - S.Fernandez (Cubs)
12 - J.Russell (Del Newell)	12 - Tibbs (Reds)
13 - S.Fernandez (Bruce Mulder)	13 - Backman (Pirates)
14 - Cabell (Bob Hoyt)	14 - Corcoran (Phillies)
15 - Power (Warren Newell)	15 - Power (Dodgers)
16 - Pendleton (Jeff Green)	16 - Foley (Pirates)
17 - Redus (Todd Newell)	17 - Franco (Cards)
18 - Perry (Gary Tien)	18 - Wockenfuss (Pirates)
19 - Stone (Jeff Kik)	19 - E.Davis (Phillies)
20 - Foley (Pat Stemas)	20 - Solano (Braves)

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#### DON'T FORGET LYMAN BOSTOCK TOURNAMENT

There's still a couple of months left to sign up for the fifth annual Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament, which is again being organized by James Sanders, the jack-of-all-trades in the Strat-O-Matic world and policeman from Gary, IN.

This year the tournament will be held at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, the weekend of July 6-7. The Purdue Union Building (Student Center Room) will be the site for the game-playing.

Four tournaments will again be staged, including super advanced football, advanced baseball, super advanced hockey and elementary baseball. For more information, write (enclose a SASE): James Sanders, Director S-O-M Tournament, 5806 Kennedy Terrace, Apt. 103, Gary, IN 46403.

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#### 1927 SEASON ABANDONED...TEMPORARILY

Word has filtered down from the Strat-O-Matic Game Company that the 1927 baseball season, rumored to be the next old-timer set of cards produced, has been put on the backburner temporarily.

S-O-M had been planning on coming out with two sets each year, but now it appears in 1986 it will be just the 1968 season that will be produced.



## Gaming crew is on board USS Kiska

# S-O-M is at every port of call

Hong Kong, Singapore and the Philippines are not usually considered hot spots as far as rolling Strat-O-Matic dice.

But they've been the site for the Super Bowl, World Series and Stanley Cup, respectively, in the International Strat-O-Matic Association's championship series over the gaming seasons.

The ISOMA, you see, is a five-member face-to-face S-O-M league that is truly international in scope. All five are shipmates on the USS Kiska, which calls Concord, CA its home port.

"The ISOMA is a firm believer that Strat-O-Matic is the next best thing to being there," says Bruce Lindgren. "Currently, the ISOMA has in progress a baseball league comprised of both NL and AL teams from 1978-1983, a six-team football league, a six-team basketball draft league and, most recently, a hockey league with teams from 1983."

### THE ANCHORS AWEIGH BOYS

Lindgren, 25, of Brookfield, WI, is the founding father of the ISOMA. He's been playing S-O-M Baseball since 1970. His dice duties include acting as commissioner of the baseball and basketball leagues.

Also in the ISOMA managerial lineup are Ed Mondello, 21, Boston, MA, who is married, the father of two boys and commissioner of the hockey league; Jim Galoppa, 22, Mare Island, CA, also married, and known for his long bombs to Mark Duper in football; Mark Hutchinson, 23, Harrisburg, PA, whose trademark is using the one-back offense in football; and John Rhoten, 21, Detroit, MI, diehard fan of all Detroit teams and currently commissioner of the ISOMA's football league.

### ISOMA'S PLAYING TIPS

The ISOMA, along with playing in different "stadiums" than most leagues, also has some unique playing tips it uses.

First off, it uses a 20-sided die in place of the split deck.

That's nothing new, of course.

But it has a hit-by-pitch rule that is activated whenever a HBP occurs. Then the die is rolled and if a 1, 2, 3:

Roll the split die again and...

1-5 - Batter is injured and out for the rest of the game.\*

6-10 - Fight erupts, pitcher ejected from the game.\*

11-15 - Fight erupts, batter ejected from the game.\*

16-20 - Fight erupts, both batter and pitcher ejected from the game.\*

If the roll is 4-20:

Normal play, batter is awarded first base.

\* Batter awarded first base in all cases.

Shallow Outfield rule (outfield in) - In certain situations, the defensive manager may elect to play his 'outfield in' to try and prevent the runner on third from scoring. This may be done individually or as a unit. If the outfield is playing "in," the following changes take place:

\* All flyball (B)'s become flyball (B)?

\* All flyball (B)? - do not add two (2) to the runner's total.

\* All flyball (A)'s become DOUBLE \*\*.

Wild Pitch/Passed Ball rule - When a wild pitch or passed ball occurs, even with no runners on base, roll the split die:

If it is a 1, 2, or 3: It is the third strike (batter is out on (continued on next page)



strikes, disregard the results on the fielding chart), but the ball has gotten away from the catcher and the batter may be safe at first. Roll the split die again and by referring to the batter's running rating and the catcher's throwing arm, determine if the batter is safe at first.

Keep in mind that the "T" rating of the catcher will come into play on a roll of 1, 2, or 3 (just as in base stealing).

If it is 4-20: Follow the results listed on the fielding chart.

#### FOOTBALL PLAYING TIPS

**Quarterback Sack Rule** - When a sack occurs, roll two dice to determine the yards lost on the play. It will vary from 2 to 12 yards.

**First Down Measurement Rule** - In some instances, play results in the ball being on the exact yard line needed for the first down. In this case, roll two dice and if it is 2, 3, 11 or 12, the ball is inches short of the first down.

If it is 4-10, it is a first down.

This rule also applies to the goal line when the ball ends up exactly on the goal line. Once again, roll two dice and if 2, 3, 11 or 12, the ball is inches short of the goal line.

If it is 4-10, touchdown!

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#### Moncrief leads ASOMBA with 34.3 average

### Basketball league goes the distance

The American Strat-O-Matic Basketball Association (ASOMBA) is one of those rare tabletop basketball leagues that has gone the distance. In other words, it played through a full season of games plus playoffs.

The ASOMBA was founded by Alan Joffrey, who's finishing up his senior year at Glenbrook South High School in Glenview, IL. Joffrey, in addition to his coaching a team (Chicago Mobsters) and commissioner duties, also found time to play on his school's varsity football and wrestling teams.

Altogether there were 10 teams in the ASOMBA's inaugural season, a season that consisted of 80 games plus three rounds of playoffs.

In addition to Joffrey, league members included Chris Degarmo (Georgia Jets), 15, of Roswell, GA; George Peete II (Buffalo B-52's), 26, Buffalo, NY; Keith Bangs (Owatonna K-Bangers), 41, Owatonna, MN; Ed Perlmutter (California Carreras), 17, Aptos, CA; Paul O'Connor (Los Angeles Fast Lane), 22, Los Angeles, CA, and Brad Scrade (Atlanta Gunners), 15, Roswell, GA.

Tim Sellner (Minnesota Squires), Carey Miller (Saskatoon Lakers) and Jonathan Bing (New Jersey Smog) also guided teams in the ASOMBA.

Degarmo, Joffrey, Perlmutter and Scrade are all in high school. Peete, however, is an office clerk and newsfilm curator at a museum (Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society) as well as a member in good standing of the USBA (United States Basketball Association).

Bangs is a high school math teacher and coach (volleyball and golf). He's been married 20 years and has four children, ranging in age from 8-17. He also officiates collegiate and high school basketball games. And Bangs is also in a four-team league with his three sons: Nathan (17), Greg (15) and Scott (11).

O'Connor was a rarity to the S-O-M play-by-mail league in that he drafted a team without ever having played the game before. "I determined my draft list from my limited stock of basketball savvy and a basketball stat guide," relates O'Connor.

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The Fast Lane, as might be expected, finished last in the South Division with a 27-53 record, which still wasn't the worst in the ASOMBA. O'Connor is a video game designer and also currently belongs to one baseball and two hockey draft leagues.

"Despite the fact that my team was seemingly out of it from the start, I always had a good time playing my (ASOMBA) games," enthuses O'Connor. "The ASOMBA is the best S-O-M league I've ever been involved with."

#### ADVANCED VERSION IS PLAYED

The ASOMBA uses the advanced version of S-O-M Basketball and a schedule is played that consists of four quarters of 20 games each. As far as rosters, each team has 14 players, but only can use 11 in a game.

All players must rest the number of minutes shown in the upper-right hand corner of the playing card. And any player that played in less than 70 games in real-life is restricted to his real-life totals.

No injuries can occur, according to ASOMBA rules, and double-teaming is not permitted, since there is "no suitable system for employing the S-O-M double-teaming rule in a fair and realistic manner without abuses."

All scoresheets are funneled into the commissioner at the end of each quarter for compilation. A myriad of statistics are kept, including 3-point field goals attempted, made and percentage; offensive and defensive rebounds, assists, steals and blocks. The home coach also writes a short paragraph of highlights of each game and an MVP is chosen.

When it comes to the playoffs, a neutral coach plays such games. Home and away games are split, with the team with the best regular-season record having the home-court advantage for a third, fifth or seventh game.

#### "SWEET SIDNEY'S" SENSATIONAL

Sidney Moncrief of the California Carreras was the ASOMBA's Most Valuable Player as he led the league in scoring with a whopping 34.3 average, had over four assists per game and shot 83.1 percent from the free throw.

Because of Moncrief, plus such players as Larry Nance, Junior Bridgeman, Clark Kellogg and Robert Parish, the Carreras carried off regular-season honors and also won the playoffs.

Nance was No. 8 in field goal percentage with a .568 percentage, Bridgeman No. 3 in free throw success (87.4%) while Kellogg was No. 7 (11.8) and Parish No. 10 (11.1) in rebounding.

California also had the second most prolific scoring team, averaging 130 points, and the stingiest unit on defense, yielding 115.2 in a free-wheeling league.

Moncrief had a great season...and it was a good thing he did as Magic Johnson of Georgia matched or exceeded him in most departments, except in scoring where the Magic man averaged 'only' 24 points.

Johnson was No. 2 in field goal percentage (60.4!), and No. 1 as far as assists (14.9) and steals (3.1).

#### CALIFORNIA REIGNS AS ASOMBA KING

California proved its league-best 64-16 regular-season record wasn't a fluke by also capturing the playoffs.

The Chicago Mobsters, third-place team in the North Division with  
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a 44-36 record, met California in the final best-of-seven championship playoff.

California won the opener, 117-102, as Parish was MVP after scoring 28 points, grabbing nine rebounds and coming up with four steals. Moncrief added 24 points for the winners, while Jim Paxson had 32 points and Terry Cummings 23 for Chicago.

Chicago rebounded to win games two (114-109) and three (111-110) and seize a brief 2-1 lead. Cummings went on a 41-point tear in game two, Paxson added 21 points and Tree Rollins was named MVP after coming up with basketball's "triple" by scoring 11 points, grabbing 11 rebounds and blocking an eye-opening 11 shots. Moncrief had 23, Kellogg 20 points and Parish 15 rebounds for California.

Cummings poured in 41 in game three also - this time winning MVP honors after also snatching 21 rebounds. Paxson added 24 points while Parish had 21, Kellogg 20 for the losers.

The Carreras rolled in games four and five, evening the series when Moncrief joined the "41 Club" and had seven assists to garner MVP laurels. Cummings had 36 in a losing effort. Game five was no contest as California used a 37-25 third-quarter advantage to go up 3-2 in the series with a 137-111 romp. Unheralded Brad Davis was MVP after scoring 17 points, dishing out 11 assists and making four steals. Moncrief had 40 points, Nance 21, with Cummings tallying 34 and hauling down 17 rebounds for the Mobsters.

Game six was a rerun of five as California routed Chicago, 132-108. A 36-20 first-quarter getaway was all the Carreras needed. Davis was again MVP, with 27 points and 16 assists. Moncrief added 37 points and Parish 22 to go with 15 rebounds. Cummings, unstoppable throughout the series, had 33 and Ruland 26 for Chicago.

#### Standings and leaders:

<b>North Division</b>		<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>Off.</b>	<b>Def.</b>	<b>Playoffs</b>	
Owatonna K-Bangers	56	24	-	125.9	118.8	Chicago d. Georgia, 2-1		
Georgia Jets	47	33	9	135.5	131.3	New Jersey d.		
Chicago Mobsters	44	36	12	123.3	122.8	Atlanta, 2-1		
Buffalo B-52's	42	38	14	120.4	123.3	Chicago d. Owatonna,		
Saskatoon Lakers	14	66	42	116.5	132.2	3-0		
<b>South Division</b>							<b>California d. New</b>	
California Carreras	64	16	-	130.0	115.2	Jersey, 3-0		
Atlanta Gunners	42	38	22	128.7	126.2	California d. Chicago,		
New Jersey Smog	33	47	31	117.2	122.6	4-2		
Minnesota Squires	31	49	33	117.7	122.4			
L.A. Fast Lane	27	53	37	116.1	121.0			
<b>Scoring</b>		<b>Field Goal %</b>		<b>FGM-FGA</b>	<b>Pct.</b>	<b>Rebounding</b>		
Moncrief CAL	34.3	Gilmore OWAT		769-1269	60.6	Gilmore OWAT 15.3		
Tripucka GEO	32.2	M.Johnson GEO		783-1297	60.4	Malone NJ 14.1		
English SASK	29.8	Macy BUFF		325-544	59.7	Williams LA 13.6		
Erving ATL	29.7	Cummings CHI		905-1531	59.1	Laimbeer ATL 13.1		
Paxson CHI	29.7	H.Williams OWAT		520-891	58.4	Cummings CHI 12.0		
Aguirre OWAT	28.4					Ruland CHI 11.9		
Bird BUFF	26.3	<b>Free Throw %</b>		<b>FTM-FTA</b>	<b>Pct.</b>	<b>Kellogg CAL</b> 11.8		
G.Williams GEO	25.0	Vandeweghe MIN		258-279	92.5	Sikma MIN 11.6		
Free NJ	24.1	Gervin SASK		350-387	90.4			
M.Johnson GEO	24.0	Bridgeman CAL		160-183	87.4	<b>Blocks</b>		
		L.Drew MIN		285-334	85.5	Rollins CHI 5.0		
		Bird BUFF		366-431	84.9	Nance CAL 4.7		
<b>Assists</b>		<b>Steals</b>				Gilmore OWAT 2.8		
M.Johnson GEO	14.9	M.Johnson GEO		3.1		McHale BUFF 2.5		
Nance OWAT	14.6	Valentine CHI		3.0		Jabbar LA 2.5		
B.Davis CAL	13.1	Moore OWAT		2.9				
L.Drew MIN	11.3							



## Baseball playing tips

Every gamer at times likes to tinker with the product, making a good thing better. Right? Of course. If you don't like something about a game, change it. After all, it's your game now.

The Review has acted as a forum for many gamers over the years who have desired changes - better known as playing tips. The most popular have been, as might be expected, those pertaining to baseball.

Add Joe D'Aniello of Rocky Hill, CT to the extensive list of those providing baseball tips. Many of them have been presented in various forms in the Review, but all have some new touches, too.

Again, as always, you may want to give the playing tips below nothing more than a cursory check. Some you may find helpful. So, let's roll 'em:

### THROWING - BASIC GAME ADJUSTMENT

Catcher's or Outfielder's Rating	Adjustment to Stealing or Running Rating
1	-
2	-2
3	-1
4	0
5	+1
	+4

Note: The "5" rating is effective for the advanced game, too, unless the player plays another outfield position and has an arm rating.

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### PITCHER'S POINT OF WEAKNESS

(1) A pitcher's point of weakness (POW) occurs if he allows a combination of six hits or walks in one inning or eight hits or walks in two consecutive innings.

(2) A starting pitcher's POW will automatically take effect if he hurls four innings beyond his POW inning. A relief pitcher's POW is automatically effective two innings after his POW. For example, a starting pitcher with a POW of 8 is automatically tired when he starts the 12th inning.

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### BASES LOADED, INFIELD IN

If the bases are loaded, the infield "in" and the dice roll result is a "groundball A," take a split number and use the chart below to determine the result:

Split	Result
1 - 4	- Runner on third base out at home.
5	- Fielder throws ball past catcher, 2 runs score, runners on second and third bases.
6 - 7	- Runner on third base out at home; catcher throws man out at third for double play.
8 - 9	- Fielder bobbles ball, run scores, but batter is out at first. Runners on second and third bases.
10-12	- Runner on third out at home.
13	- Runner on third base out at home, but catcher throws ball in to right field. Two runs score, runners on second and third.
14-15	- Runner out at home, catcher throws batter out at first base for double play.

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- 16-17 - Runner's slide knocks ball out of catcher's mitt. No error on play. Bases remain loaded.  
 18-20 - Runner on third base out at home.  
 Note that the ++ still results in a single.

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#### BRINGING THE OUTFIELD IN

- (1) Flyball B? becomes a Flyball C.      Note: Reduce runner's ratings by two.  
 (2) Flyball B becomes a Flyball A.  
 (3) Flyball A becomes a Double.

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#### "5" FIELDING CHART

Use the chart below when players are used at a position not listed on their card. Ignore "e" ratings for advanced play. The number after the result indicates how many bases the batter and runners advance.

Split	1B + 3B	2B	SS	C	OF
1 -	Single-2	Single-2	Single-2	Single-1	Flyball-B
2 -	Single-2	Single-2	Single-2	Single-1	Error-2
3 -	Double-2	Single-2	Single-2	Single-1	Double-3
4 -	Double-2	Single-2	Single-2	Single-1	Single-2
5 -	Double-2	Single-1	SI + Err-2	Single-1	Error-3
6 -	Single-2	Single-1	Single-1	SI + Err-2	Single-2
7 -	Single-1	SI + Err-2	Single-1	SI + Err-2	Flyball-A
8 -	SI + Err-2	GB-B	Error-2	Error-1	Error-4
9 -	Error-1	GB-B	GB-C	Error-1	Home Run
10 -	Error-1	Error-1	Error-1	Error-1	Single-2
11 -	GB-B	Error-2	Error-1	Error-1	Triple
12 -	Error-2	GB-C	GB-C	WP + FO	Error-2
13 -	GB-B	GB-B	GB-B	WP + FO	SI + Err-2
14 -	Error-1	Error-2	GB-B	PB + FO	Single-2
15 -	Error-1	GB-C	Error-2	PB + FO	Double-2
16 -	Error-1	Error-1	Error-1	PB + FO	SI + Err-3
17 -	GB-C	GB-C	GB-C	PB + FO	Flyball-A
18 -	Error-2	GB-C	Error-1	PB + FO	Single-2
19 -	GB-C	GB-C	Error-2	Foulout	Single-2
20 -	Error-1	GB-C	Error-1	Popout	Flyball-C

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#### STEALING - SOLITAIRE PLAY

Prior to stealing, roll a white die and a red die. If the white die is a 4, 5, or 6, then subtract the red die amount from the stealing rating and add or subtract the catcher's arm rating.

Example: You steal an "A" runner. His safe splits are 1-15. Assume the catcher has a -1 arm. His safe split drops to 1-14. Now roll a white die and a red die. You roll a white "5" which indicates a drop in the rating. If the red die is a "4" the final stealing rating is 1-10. Once you roll the white and red die you must steal.



# Readers roll 'em

## NO TO COMPUTER S-O-M

I've been very fortunate to have played Strat-O-Matic almost 23 years, thanks to a tenth birthday gift in 1962.

Those original 1961-based cards were truly a poor game. However, something hooked me because I ordered every season since, except, to my great regret, the 1963-based cards.

I love baseball and Strato very much and baseball's essence is best reflected in Mr. (Harold) Richman's game. I believe Strat-O-Matic offers a flow and feeling that other fine games don't capture. They play like tabletop games, whereas Strato offers ease, flexibility and unmatched realism.

It's the possible loss of these intangibles and a generally unenthusiastic view of computers that tells me computer Strato is not my game.

I find myself thinking of computer Strato as I do Astro-turf, domed stadiums and the DH ...unfavorably. Yet, I accept such "progress" as inevitable and I do not begrudge this form of Strato to other gamers.

I would prefer the company's efforts be directed at enhancing the existing games and expanding rosters. But as long as the paper cards keep coming, this old-timer will be happy.

RALPH WEESSIES  
Climax, MI

Editor's note: Although information pertaining to a computerized version of S-O-M Baseball cannot be released as yet, rest assured that the game company will keep the basic rudiments of its creations intact, namely the cards. Stay tuned...

## TROUBLE JOINING A LEAGUE

For the last two months I have been trying to join a PBM baseball league. I am having a problem with the advertisers not

responding to my inquiries. I have been sending a SASE along with my letter and they are not returning them.

I do not think someone who is advertising that he needs managers in four consecutive issues of the Review should do this.

I will not name names; that wouldn't be helping this situation. People who don't reply to letters they receive know who they are.

DOUG ROOT  
Beloit, WI

Editor's note: The Review does not know the background (i.e. why the accused PBM leagues have not responded to Doug Root's SASEs), but would be glad to help resolve the problem. Send the names of the leagues to the Review (not for publication) and we will try to contact them.

## 'REPRESENTATIVE' CARDS

Regarding the question of additional baseball cards, I agree with Strat-O-matic that to print 27 or 28 cards for each team is not the solution.

Pitchers with few innings or batters with few at-bats, if the cards are good, will tend to be overused when possible.

One solution which S-O-M has already recommended is the use of nameless player cards. I, however, would not feel particularly attached to a player (blank card) who gets the game-winning hit or pitches a great game.

Maybe S-O-M could add a short list of player names and their significant stats (positions played, etc.), and then recommend which nameless card would be useful for representing that player.

One alternative solution is to add two additional cards per team; one pitcher card that represents all the innings and won-and-lost records of all the pitchers not on the other cards, and

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one hitter's card that represents all the at-bat and hits of the hitters not represented on the other cards. Maybe this, too, can be done as a recommendation to use one of the nameless set.

I want to say on a personal level that Strat-O-Matic Baseball is a great game and I enjoy it very much.

STEVEN EDELL  
P.O. Box 3231  
Jerusalem, Israel

#### HOW TO START A LEAGUE?

How about some information on starting a league, face-to-face versus play-by-mail, number of games per season, best way to schedule 26 managers (time, days per week, number of S-O-M game sets?), entry fee and payoffs.

What are some of the pitfalls and problems, and suggestions for improvements?

RICK BORDEN

Editor's note: The Review tries to run at least one article every year as to how to start a league. A number of constitutions have been printed, plus many commissioners of successful leagues have had articles dealing with everything from the birth of a league, drafting, to the post-season awards banquet and what cuisine is most popular.

#### UPDATE ON 'FAST BREAK'

Just wanted to let the Review and its readers know how the NFBA (National Fast Break Association) is doing.

We are in our eighth year. We play a 44-game schedule, using the advanced S-O-M game, plus some modifications that we feel improve realism.

A comparison of our stats with the NBA's last year, leaves one impressed with the accuracy of S-O-M. Our stats last year were the closest yet.

It absolutely amazes me that a game that provides so much room

for individual coaching maneuvers can still come so close to real-life statistics.

I think the reader's concern that "someone like Ennis Whatley will never get his 662 assists" in S-O-M is really nothing to worry about.

RICHARD ROBB  
305-7100 Gilbert Road  
British Columbia, Canada

#### PREFERS MORE LEAGUE NEWS

I think that the Strat-O-Matic Review is great. I bet the other sports table game companies don't keep their gamers as well informed as S-O-M.

However, there is one thing I do not agree with; it is about the ads and league forming section. Every month there is about eight pages devoted to that section and when I first read the Review I usually skip over that section.

I and maybe a few others would prefer more league replay scenes, etc.

Also, now that the Final Four is over, I wondered about S-O-M college basketball. It would be better than the idea of USFL cards, since the league is in trouble now and will probably fold.

It would be great if somehow the action cards and same procedures as pro basketball could be used in the college game. I would like to see the top 10 (20) teams printed each year.

TIM BLACKWELL  
Painted Post, NY

#### FOR A FEW DOLLARS TOO MANY

I have been playing S-O-M Baseball since 1968 and football since 1977. There were a lot of teams I didn't get, especially in football, because I started so late.

I started getting the Review in 1980 and started bidding for teams shortly after. Things sure have changed in five years.

The price of teams has gone  
(continued on next page)



up like players' salaries. Greed has set in to the majority of sellers. What happened to the person who liked to help fellow gamers?

I haven't had a successful bid in a year and with the prices being asked, I probably never will get another team. I assume money grows on trees on the east coast.

The most I've ever spent is \$3.50 for the '68 Cowboys and \$1.50 for baseball teams. I've actually been given some teams and players I've needed. To those gamers I salute you.

Recently I received a letter asking if I've ever bid before. He was asking \$7 for '68-70 baseball teams down to \$2 for 1980. He said some were "collector items." What is a collector item? I'm a gamer. I don't sit, never playing the game, waiting for my teams to accumulate value. If these guys played the game the way it was meant to, their cards wouldn't be in mint condition.

Some observations I've made include:

If the same ad appears each month, he's a collector. If it says serious bids only, he's greed-invested. If we keep paying these ridiculous prices, they'll continue to go up.

I see nothing wrong with doubling or tripling your investment, but \$7 for a baseball team, come on.

In closing, I do want to thank all the guys who do keep their bids "sane" and if I don't have a son to pass on my teams to, may my coffin be lined with Lajoie, Gehrig, Mays, etc.

JEFF HORLEN  
Richland, WA

#### WHAT SHOULD YOU BID?

Please answer a question.

Could you give a guide as to what people expect when they list teams for sale, and what they want you to bid?

I have no idea how to get

teams not offered by the game company.

RON MAGOC  
181 Cedar St.  
Tarenton, PA

Editor's note: Since we have not actually engaged in either buying or selling, we may not be much help to you as far as a fair bidding price. For sale advertisers should list a minimum bid that they expect as a starting point. We prefer to have sellers (those who are selling a large number of teams) ask interested buyers to write them for a list of what's available and the prices they (sellers) expect. The Review's advertising rates have always been reasonable, we feel, because we are not out to make a big profit off the advertising section. But some sellers run long lists of teams available - lists that take up valuable space - and we do discourage that. As far as transactions, there's not much we can do as far as lowering prices. Our main concern is that no fraud or selling of photo-copied cards takes place. If enough people don't buy, however, then sellers are going to have to lower their prices. Simple supply and demand (what buyers are willing to pay) economics.

#### PITCHERS' HOLDING

I am a 10-year veteran and I belong to three PBM leagues. I think S-Q-M is the best tabletop game ever created. My hat is off to Mr. (Harold) Richman (S-Q-M's creator).

In baseball, however, I think it would be a good idea to put a "holding on" rating on each pitcher's card. Catching a runner trying to steal depends highly on the runner's ability to get a good lead and a good jump; not as much on the throwing ability of the catcher.

Indeed the catcher's throwing ability is important, but not as much as the pitcher's ability to hold the runner close to the

(continued on next page)



base. This problem could be taken care of very easily by giving each pitcher a rating much the same as the catcher's throwing rating.

A pitcher with an excellent move could have a 'holding rating' of -3, those with an average move could be a 0, and those with a high deliberate leg kick would be a +3. This rating would not add any time to the games and would make this portion of the game much improved.

Now instead of bringing in a right-handed reliever to get the batter with a runner on first, you will have to measure the percentages of what a left-handed reliever with a -3 rating would make.

It would sure make it a lot more interesting in the late innings.

DOUG CRANDALL  
314 N. Brandon  
Smith Center, KS

#### WHY 1969?

Why was 1969 reprinted?

The years 1963, '64, '65 and '66 were all great pennant races, also Sandy Koufax, Bob Gibson, Juan Marichal, Willie Mays, Harmon Killebrew, Al Kaline, etc., had great years for good teams which would be a must for best teams leagues from the last 30 years.

These are the best years for teams who have power, pitching and Hall of Famers.

Let's push for these years. An 18-year S-O-M veteran.

WILLIAM GOLDEN III  
1022 S. Henrietta  
Springfield, IL

Editor's note: It has been previously explained that S-O-M came out with '69 (replete with advanced features this time) because it was in descending order (1970 was reissued last year). S-O-M, however, does plan to print a past year every year in addition to following the 1960s reissuing format. The

1927 season is likely going to be the next past season, with the 1950 season perhaps No. 2 on that list. That's the unofficial list, however.

#### SUGGESTS HOCKEY CHANGES

I have been playing Strat-O-Matic Hockey for four years (I play solitaire, with the advance version and super-advanced power play) and I have been reading in the Review occasionally that the baseball and football games have been revised somewhat over the years.

The changes made the games more life-like and added more dimensions.

I haven't read much about revising the hockey rules. After completing four 80-game seasons for each team, I have come up with some changes I'd like your opinion on (I haven't used them):

- \* Change the penalty chart (super-advanced), making it easier to receive a penalty. Add a five-minute major penalty (go through the penalty timing chart twice?).

- \* Lower the goalie assists numbers.

- \* Maybe introduce a penalty shot (in real-life there are quite a few penalty shots).

- \* Get rid of "lose puck to opponent" in the action deck cards and putting in offsides, then a faceoff, instead. How many times in pro hockey does an off-sides nullify a good scoring threat?

- \* Add more games missed due to an injury. Players in real-life are injured for more than two games a season.

Editor's note: The author of the above article did not include his complete name with the letter. We do know he resides in Havertown, PA.

Policy on letters: They must not be too long (subject to editing if they are) and must pertain to issues and questions regarding Strat-O-Matic games.



## Advertisements

Rates per issue are as follows: 50 words or less - \$1.00; 51-100 words - \$2.00; 101-150 words - \$3.00. Maximum length of an ad will be 150 words. When sending in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR TRADE, LEAGUE FORMING, or CONTESTS. And name card sets by the year upon which they were based. Note also that only advertising for Strat-O-Matic products or closely related merchandise will be accepted and that merchandise competing with S-O-M products may not be offered for sale. Photo-copied cards are also prohibited from being offered for sale. Ads, to be included in the next issue, must be in to the Review by the third of the previous month. Late ads will be held over for inclusion the following month.

### Wanted

WANTED: 1977-78 hockey card set with extra players. Send price and condition information to: Don Beaton, 8417 Xylon Circle, Bloomington, MN 55438

WANTED: Doing research. Need following cards: 1977 Carew (Twins), 1977 Sutter (Cubs), 1978 Guidry (Yankees), 1978 Rice (Red Sox), 1973 Hiller (Tigers), 1972 Carlton (Phillies), 1976 Morgan (Reds), 1977 or 1978 Parker (Pirates). Dr. Michael Traina, 245 Highland Ave., Salem, OH 44460 (216-337-3572)

WANTED: To meet with fellow gamers in Easley and Greenville, SC. Anyone who would be interested in trying to form a league, contact: Leroy Sheriff, P.O. Box 1187, Easley, SC 29641 (803-859-3908)

WANTED: Wish to acquire the following baseball teams: 1982 Boston, Milwaukee, Baltimore; 1981 Cincinnati, Milwaukee. Please contact: Jeff Mueller, 214 Terrace Apartments, Pullman, WA 99163 (509-334-9528)

WANTED: 1964, 1966, 1967, 1968 baseball seasons and 1965 Baltimore Orioles or 1965 Wally Bunker of Baltimore. I will pay reasonably for cards in at least playable or good condition. Please send price and condition to: Johnny L. Pratt, Rt. 2, Box 385, Bono, AR 72416 (501-932-2392)

### For Sale

FOR SALE: Complete advanced game ratings of all 1984 players, including extras. I've built two powerful PBM teams with these ratings. My ratings factor in HR, 3B, 2B, 1B, BB, GDP, steal and running ratings, N or W rating, defensive position and defensive skill, including throwing arm. All players and pitchers rated against lefties and righties and given an overall rating. For your easy-to-read printout, send \$5 to: Paul Patrick, 2210 Terry Way, Manhattan, KS 66502 (913-539-7954)

FOR SALE: Exact schedules and pitching rotations for all major league clubs from each season available in sets, 1900-1983. 1983 sells for just \$8. Write me for quotes on all other seasons. Rich Pray, 7800 LaNain Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514

FOR SALE: 5,000 loose S-O-M Baseball cards from 1967-1983. Send your list and include year, team and player's full name to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111 (215-745-5247). I've got to get rid of some of these cards.

FOR SALE: Baseball, complete sets with extras, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1979 (minus Milwaukee, Boston); all in good to mint condition. Football, 1982 complete, mint. Various teams from 1969, 1971, 1974, 1975, 1981, from average to (continued)



mint condition. Will sell at any reasonable or almost any unreasonable offer. Tony Solem, 2710 W. Sahuaro Dr. #5-102, Phoenix, AZ 85029 (602-993-3866)

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

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

FOR SALE: Baseball, single teams 1962 to present. Complete seasons, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1980. Football, single teams 1967 to present, complete 1980 season. Hockey, complete seasons 1977-78 to present. Send requests, bids and SASE to: Sal Mangiapane, 239 Ackerman Ave., Clifton, NJ 07011 (201-546-9698)

FOR SALE: Super-advanced rules enhance the realism and detail of S-O-M Baseball while preserving the speed of play that makes it fun. Includes easily memorized rules for more realistic base advances on hits, outs and errors; outfield throwing errors and mis-played hits; trail runners sometimes advancing on throws (or being thrown out on cutoffs); injury chart with rare plays, balks, pickoffs, pickoff errors, rundowns; infielders positioned

in or back individually; outfield shallow; suicide squeeze, safety squeeze and sacrifice charts where fielder's ability and runner's speed play a part; hit-and-run method that also takes into account pitcher's abilities and characteristics, fielding, runner's speed and much more; all blended into the game so as not to disturb statistical accuracy or ease of play. Fully tested and refined in face-to-face league play. \$8, with money-back guarantee. Richard Robb, 305-7100 Gilbert Road, Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5C3

FOR SALE: Football teams, all in good to excellent condition. 1971 set (minus Baltimore, Dallas); '72 full set; '73 full set; '74 full set; '75 full set; '76 set (minus Oakland, New England, Los Angeles, Detroit, St. Louis, New Orleans); '79 full set; old-timers ('58 Baltimore, '62 Green Bay '58 NY Giants, '65 Cleveland, '60 Philadelphia, '63 Chicago). Also have selected '73 and '75 teams to sell individually. Strat-O-Matic Reviews from Jan., '75 to Feb., '78 and March, '81 to Oct., '81. Must sell all teams. Will take any reasonable offer. Call Bob Hess (618-251-4920)

FOR SALE: Now available for the second year. On-base, batting and slugging averages for both sides of the 1985 advanced baseball cards. For example: Dale Murphy's 1984 card reflected a .306 on-base %, a .235 batting average, and a .409 slugging % against left-handed pitching. Against right handers, he had a .517 OBP, batted .401 and slugged .837. These averages are derived from data off the advanced side of the card. Very useful for drafting, trading, platooning and tournaments. \$10 gets you about 12 pages of computer output developed after over 30 hours of input. Includes the extras, both hitters and pitchers, arranged by position, alphabetically. Available now. Data for 1984 baseball cards (continued)



still available. Roger Johnson, 16338 Chadsford, Baton Rouge, LA 70817

FOR SALE: Baseball Guides; Spaulding, 1925, 1926, 1928, 1930, 1933, 1934; Reach, 1927, 1929, 1935; Sporting News, 1963. All in fair to very good condition; four are missing covers; package deal, \$230. John Napier, 62 S. Wolf Road, Apt. 312, Wheeling, IL 60090

FOR SALE: The 1984 Strat-O-Matic Baseball Advanced Version Scouting Report. Each report rates each batter against left- and right-handed pitching for the following: 1. Batting average; 2. Total on-base percentage; 3. Walks received; 4. Home runs hit. Each report rates each pitcher against left- and right-handed batting for the following: 1. Batting average allowed; 2. Total on-base percentage allowed; 3. Walks allowed; 4. Home runs allowed. Each report includes a free surprise bonus. To order, send \$6 to: David L. Smith, 11213 Fairfield Road W., Minnetonka, MN 55343

FOR SALE: Looking for serious gamer to buy me out of all my S-O-M cards. I have multiple, complete sets for each year from 1968 to present in baseball, 1970 to present in football, plus all reprint years and old-timers. I also have individual teams from pre-'68, plus basketball games for '78 and '79 and all related game parts. Asking \$640; accepting offers. This is a hard thing for me to do, so would like to sell as one package. Contact: David M. Stamper, 22425-100th Ave. West, Edmonds, WA 98020 (206-775-7897, 206-771-5293)

FOR SALE: Have 250 loose S-O-M American League baseball cards based on the 1982 season. Send SASE for list and prices to: Steven Kramer, 472-A Cedar St., Shaw Air Force Base, SC 29152

FOR SALE: 1972 Cubs (excellent); 1973 Braves (mint); '74 Yankees (average); '78 Indians (excellent); '80 Giants (mint), Twins (mint). All with no extras. '78 Blue Jays, Mariners (excellent), both with extras. 1963 Street & Smith Yearbook; good condition. First bid that meets my price gets item. All bids with SASE answered. WANTED: 1980 extras and non-4-column pitchers. Send price and condition to: Drew Elliott, P.O. Box 8008, Bellflower, CA 90706-8008 or call 213-925-4818 (no collect calls, please)

FOR SALE: Model ballpark kits designed with S-O-M in mind. Three-dimensional Yankee Stadium and Ebbets Field. Approximate size 18x15x3. Full color and detail. Lends realism to your games. Send \$14.95 per kit plus \$2 each postage and handling to: Bauer Diamonds, 101 Elm St., Burdett, KS 67523

FOR SALE: On-base and power numbers versus righties and lefties, batters and pitchers. American and/or National League sets. \$5 each, both \$7.50; listed alphabetically. All 1984 players and extras. Or, order all players listed by team. American or National League, \$5 each, both \$7.50. Also available, complete American or National League pitcher sets listing IP, hits to IP ratio, walks per IP, strikeouts per IP and home runs per IP, \$5 per league, \$7.50 for both, or complete American or National League batter sets listing AB, strikeouts per AB, walks per AB, 1B's per AB, 2B's per AB, 3B's per AB and HR's per AB. \$5 per league, \$7.50 for both. Best method of comparing cards. Special order printouts of almost any data on request. Send check or money order, plus 50 cents postage to: R. Iwaszkiewicz, 1805 Hickory Bark Lane, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013

FOR SALE: Baseball teams - 1979 Pirates, Orioles; 1969 Orioles, (continued)



(extras), Mets, Cubs (extras), all originals, \$6 each; 1980 Royals, Astros, Dodgers, Yanks, \$5 each; 1980 A's, Expos; 1978 Pirates (extras); 1974 Yankees, Rangers, \$4 each; 1974 Phillies, Giants; 1977 Cardinals (extras); 1978 Tigers (extras), \$3 each. All teams mint except 1969 (very good-excellent). First check takes teams. Losers returned. John Hoffman, 14 Lincoln Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

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

FOR SALE: Back by popular demand, the 1985 edition of Playbooks III and IV is here. Playbook III is an easy-to-use weather system for every team used by month or season. Now there are rainouts, snowouts, suspended games and rain-shortened

games stopped during or at any inning. Ratings are based on exact results from 1970, 1983 and 1984 seasons, which are still \$3 each, or \$6 for all three. Playbook IV allows pitchers to play a complete role with individual ratings for fielding range, stealing, bunt, hit-and-run, running and power. Expanded pitcher's fielding chart included. All pitchers including extras are rated based on official statistics and formulas similar to those used for non-pitchers. 1982, 1983 and 1984 seasons are still \$3 each, or \$6 for all three. Playbooks III-IV complete, \$11. Playbooks I-IV complete, \$22. See other ad in this section. Paul Ladewski, 14340 Maple Lane, Midlothian, IL 60445

FOR SALE: Football, 1971-present, 2,500 cards, \$250. Basketball, '74-present, 3,000 cards, \$300. Hockey, '76-present, 3,500 cards, \$350. Sold as groups only; first money order assures immediate mailing. All baseball teams/seasons '61-present also available. Contact: Robert Gerver, 24 Access Road, Chicopee, MA 01020 (413-533-7567, 6-9 p.m. EST)

FOR SALE: Why pay more? You've seen the ad offering major league trade listings for prices as high as \$14 per season. I know times are tough and you spent good money for those past seasons. So for truly realistic re-plays between 1901-1983, I offer these super low prices: 1. All transactions, any year, \$5.50 per league or \$10 for both leagues. Send year and league(s). 2. All transactions, any year, \$2 per team. Specify team and year. Special this month only: two seasons (both leagues) for \$16.50, three seasons for \$22 (specify years). I pay postage. Here's what you get: 1. Exact dates of transactions. 2. All players involved (including minor leaguers) and 3. All money involved. You'd be surprised at the number of players sent packing every

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season. It makes a difference in replays. Get order in one week. Send to: Dennis Anderson, 3127 76th Court, Elmwood Park, IL 60635

**FOR SALE:** S-O-M Baseball fanatics, don't miss out on this continued opportunity to enhance your baseball play. For \$4 you can purchase a copy of the S-O-M Baseball "Kit." This 16-page "Kit" is especially designed for solitaire and/or league players, but contains valuable material for all S-O-M Baseball fans - novice to expert. The "Kit" includes: 1. A statistically sound system to make solitaire play more realistic and more enjoyable; 2. An outline for setting up face-to-face and solitaire leagues; and 3. Miscellaneous rules and variations to spice up the game. All rules are explained in detail and printed in convenient booklet form and all charts are printed on a single consolidated chart sheet. There have been many happy customers already. Don't delay, send \$4 plus 50 cents postage to: Jamie Potter, RD-1 Box 89 D, Oneonta, NY 13820. As always, satisfaction guaranteed or your money back.

**FOR SALE:** Join the growing number of S-O-M fanatics who have advanced to Playbooks I and II. Playbook I is used solitaire or head-to-head and involves super advanced strategy that lets the offensive and defensive managers call the shots. Play results include pickoffs, rundowns, interference, balks and much more. Playbook II gives you advanced hit-and-run, sacrifice/squeeze play, outfield/infield drawn in and injury charts that emphasize speed and defense, giving managers more results and options. Playbooks I and II are \$6 each, or \$11 for both. See other ad in this section. Paul Ladewski, 14340 Maple Lane, Midlothian, IL 60445

## For Trade

**FOR TRADE:** 1956 N.L. or A.L., 1961 N.L. or A.L. (in excellent condition) in exchange for 1970 N.L. If preferable would be willing to trade complete 1956 or 1961 for complete 1970 season. Write to: Samuel Rabi, 1245 E. 73rd St., Brooklyn, NY 11234

## League Forming

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The North American Baseball League is entering its 10th season. We currently have openings for two managers. Backup managers are also required and will have first opportunity to take over any managerial positions that become available. The two openings currently available are for established teams which are very competitive. The NABL is an 18-team play-by-mail league with teams kept from year to year. Newsletters, yearbook, handbook and rookie and free agent draft are only part of the NABL. Our season is 162 games and runs from April to October. Interested managers should write: Rick Helwig, 400 3rd St., Hanover Ontario, Canada N4N 1B3 (519-364-1705)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The Continental Baseball League still needs a few good managers and backup managers to begin its first season. It is a 20-team, advanced baseball league that will use the 1984 cards to begin play. All managers will begin the same 24-man roster as Strat prints for his team. What they do from there is up to that manager. A draft of the players from the six remaining teams will be held after the league is filled. A 162-game schedule is planned for this year. The league publishes an instruction manual in order to speed play. A regular newsletter is planned with manager articles and statistics from the games. Trading between the teams will be allowed. Send dues (continued)



of \$20 and team preference list to: Jeff Weinke, 107 W. Chicago St., Algonquin, IL 60102 (312-658-4333 day or night)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Advanced S-O-M summer PBM baseball league, 10 teams, individual player draft from N.L. Experience required. Send resume, including sample strategy sheet of an imaginary team of your making, to: Andrew Tait, 21 Oakland St., Lexington, MA 02173 (617-862-0839). Deadline is April 30.

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The Great News League is looking for members in the Everett-Seattle-Tacoma area. We play face-to-face, a most advanced version of the baseball game. We play a 54-game regular season schedule. The league is a well-established, rich compliment of adults. Two existing managers would like to retire as soon as replacements can be found. Contact: David M. Stamper, 22425-100th Ave. W., Edmonds, WA 98020 (775-7897 or 771-5293)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Be a part of the play-by-mail advanced North America Football Association (NAFA) 1985 season. This draft league is the re-birth of the Lombardi Football League and offers a blend of experience, commitment and fun. The new league commissioner is devoting all of his S-O-M time to the success of this organization. The proposed 12-team league features a 16-game schedule (Sept.-Jan.), special expansion draft for new coaches (June) and an annual rookie draft (August). No PBM experience necessary, however knowledge of the game and a personal commitment is desired. Don't miss out on this offer. Expansion will be limited to three teams. Become a NAFA coach by contacting: Michael Macher, 415 Walnut St., Middlesex, NJ 08846 (201-469-9331)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The RHAL is in need of new and backup managers

for its first season. The RHAL is PBM, American League only, using advanced rules. You must have S-O-M Baseball experience. All replies will receive the first league newsletter. Contact: Michael San Clemente, 8 Constitution, Lexington, MA 02173 (617-862-8103)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Forming a 14-team advanced baseball league. It is a total draft league and teams and draft picks are awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis. League features include: salaries, drafted ball parks and newsletters. There is a \$10 fee and a \$15 deposit to be returned upon completion of the season. For more information, send a SASE to: Aaron Hoog, 4060 Farm Woods Lane, Hampstead, MD 21074. Responsible managers only. Uses newest cards, A.L. and N.L.

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The Future Basketball Coaches of America (FBCA) is a new PBM draft league forming. Features of this league consist of 80-game season, incentives for finishing season, minimal league fee, bi-weekly newsletters. If interested, contact: Glenn Goldstein, 226 Morris Dr., East Meadow, NY 11554

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Niagara-Buffalo area face-to-face baseball and hockey draft leagues, advanced game only. For information, call or write: Bruce Chambers, 31 B Courtside Dr., North Tonawanda, NY 14120 (716-692-8061)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The CGL has immediate openings for our sixth season. This is a PBM baseball league featuring draft format, 150-game schedule and continuous ownership. We will be using 1983 cards, including extras. Advanced game is used. No previous experience needed. For more information contact: Steve Lorenz, 406 Pine-wood Dr., Utica, NY 13502

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The World's Best Basketball League (WBBL) is looking for new and backup managers  
(continued)



ing for coaches and backup coaches. There should be a couple of openings and the teams are playoff contenders. The WBL is a three-year-old PBM winter league that runs from Oct. through April. We play the advanced game with a few additional league rules. There are 12 teams in two divisions of six playing a 76-game schedule. The top three teams from each division advance to the playoffs. If interested, send name, age and experience to: Doug Crandall, 314 N. Brandon, Smith Center, KS 66967 (913-282-6143)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The Pine Tree Draft Association needs managers for its inaugural season. This will be an advanced continuous PBM draft league. We will be drafting from all 26 teams plus additional players. We plan to start with eight teams this year and expand to 10 next season. With only eight teams you're bound to get plenty of good players. So, if you're looking to get into a PBM draft league, here's a chance to build the type of team you want. Only those who are serious and reliable gamers and enjoy the camaraderie of dealing with the same managers year after year need apply. Contact: John Coggan, 46 Newell Road, Yarmouth, ME 04096

**LEAGUE FORMING:** 18-year S-O-M veteran. Would like to meet other S-O-M enthusiasts, in Jackson, MS area. Talk about forming possible football or baseball league. Face-to-face competition. Write: Brandt Schmersahl, 82 Summit Ridge Drive, Brandon, MS 39042

**LEAGUE FORMING:** An established advanced football league operating in the Denver, CO, area is looking for new franchises. We draft with current year players and allow for maximum flexibility in scheduling games. Experience not necessary, but pre-

ferred. We are a friendly and informal group, but we take our play seriously. For more information, contact: Neal Linkon, 3840 S. Spruce, Denver, CO 80237 (call 571-7726, days)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Tradewater II is starting league play in June and needs three good managers. Tradewater II is an advanced 22-team baseball league. All three teams have good foundations, including McReynolds, J. Cruz, Hershisher, Durham, Raines, O. Smith, Lee Smith, Winfield, G. Walker, Trammell and Gossage. Call or write quickly to: Dean Monson, 3503 W. 4400 So., West Valley City, UT 84119 (801-967-7182)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** PBM baseball league starting second season needs new teams. We use all the players. First person to join gets first pick in expansion draft. For more information, call 518-273-3043 or write: Peter Galens, 225 Hoosick St., Troy, NY 12180

## Contests

**CONTESTS:** Strat--O-Matic Masters Tournament will be held on Saturday, May 4, in Mt. Prospect, IL. Baseball and football planned. Come and play the best in the midwest. For more information, call: 312-439-3261 before 9 p.m. CST, or write: Larry Braus, 612 W. Dempster, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

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## The Review staff

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### Printing

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### Mailing

The Review is mailed monthly third-class, from Otsego, MI.



## Strat-O-Matic spotlight

One of the more ambitious Strat-O-Matic projects has to be the "S-O-M junkies dream" that a trio of gamers from Salem, VA, have undertaken.

The threesome includes Joey Philpott, salesman for a local beer distributor and S-O-M gamer since 1975; Freddie Shockley, a route supervisor with the Roanoke News Agency and also a gamer since 1975, and Dirk Leonard, co-manager of a local department store and a dice-roller for nine years. It was Leonard that gave the venture the 'dream' label.

The project is taking the eight original baseball teams in each league, splitting them into four divisions, and then using their vast card libraries to create the best team for each franchise (advanced cards only).

Several cards had to be created for Hall-of-Famers that the trio wanted in the league, such as for Walter Johnson, Cy Young, Dizzy Dean and Christy Mathewson. A typical season for them was used as the basis for the stats.

"There were also some players that we put with teams that they had never played for, because we wanted them in the league," points out Philpott. George Brett and Dan Quisenberry, for example, were placed on the St. Louis Cardinals. Nolan Ryan was put with Pittsburgh and J.R. Richard with Philadelphia.

The DH was going to be used and a 162-game season played, with 14 games versus teams in the same league and eight against teams in the other league. All told, the trio will play 1,296 games, plus playoffs (four division winners qualify).

Some of the favorites are, in the American League East, the New York Yankees (pitchers: Whitey Ford, Ron Guidry, Sparky Lyle; batters: Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Dave Winfield) and Baltimore Orioles (six 20-game winners, including Jim Palmer, Steve Stone and Mike Flanagan; and all "1" infield). Minnesota and Washington were combined, with the result a lineup of the likes of Rod Carew, Sam Rice, Larry Hisle, Harmon Killebrew, Tony Oliva and Frank Howard.

In the A.L. West, the favorite is the A's with Vida Blue, Catfish Hunter, Lefty Grove, Rollie Fingers, Al Simmons, Reggie Jackson and Jimmy Foxx. Detroit has a big three on the mound of Mickey Lolich, Denny McLain and Jack Morris. And Cleveland has the fireballing duo of Herb Score and Sudden Sam McDowell.

Oh, and the Chicago White Sox own the best bullpen of any team with Hoyt Wilhelm, Goose Gossage and Terry Forster.

Over in the N.L. East, the Chicago Cubs are favored (Hack Wilson, Billy Williams, Ernie Banks, etc.), with Cincinnati, which has an awesome hitting attack, good defense, but no pitching after Tom Seaver, pegged for second.

The Giants are favored in the N.L. West, thanks to an offense featuring Bill Terry (.401), Willie Mays, Willie McCovey and Orlando Cepeda and a pitching rotation of Mathewson, Gaylord Perry, Carl Hubbell and Juan Marichal. The Dodgers have a dream rotation, too, with Don Drysdale, Sandy Koufax, Don Sutton, Don Newcombe and Fernando Valenzuela.

And how about the Braves with Hank Aaron, Dale Murphy, Rico Carty (.366), Eddie Matthews and Bob Horner?

After one month, with teams playing anywhere from 15 to 24 games, Baltimore leads the A.L. East (Yankees are at 9-9, two games back), which also has Boston and Washington/Minnesota; the A's are a game ahead of Cleveland in the West (Detroit and the White Sox are the other West teams); Philadelphia Phillies are the pacesetters in the N.L. East (Cubs, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh) and the Braves are a game ahead of

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St. Louis in the N.L. West (Dodgers and Giants are both under .500).

Jimmy Piersall is letting his bat do his talking so far, leading the A.L. in hitting with a .420 average, playing for Cleveland. Andre Thornton, a teammate of Piersall's, is the home run pacesetter with 10. Babe Herman of the Dodgers (.424) and Bill Terry (.412) are tops in the N.L. batting derby.

#### WASHINGTON 69, SAN DIEGO 63 (OT)

It was going to be just a leisurely game of Strat-O-Matic Football that Joe Tura, an 18-year-old student at Queens College, New York, was going to play when he broke out the 1981 Washington Redskins and San Diego Chargers.

Both were explosive - but nothing like Tura expected.

Offense was the name of the game as the two teams were tied at 35 at halftime. Joe Washington had already rushed for three touchdowns for the 'Skins and Dan Fouts had thrown for four Charger TDs. One quarter later it was still tied, this time at 49.

San Diego took the lead back on a 10-yard pass from Fouts to Kellen Winslow. And Joe Theismann connected with Art Monk on a 9-yarder to make it 56 apiece. Next, Washington got loose on a 14-yard run for Washington and, with 14 seconds left in regulation time, Fouts flipped a 6-yard TD pass to Winslow to knot the count at 63.

In the overtime, San Diego never saw the ball as the 'Skins drove 78 yards in eight plays, with a 22-yard pass from Theismann to Monk ending the scoring spectacular.

All told, the two teams combined for 1,244 yards in offense. Washington (Joe) rushed for 125 of it in 13 carries, while Theismann completed 34 of 60 passes for 493 yards and five TDs. Monk had 11 of the receptions for 205 yards and four scores. The 'Skins had 619 yards in offense.

San Diego traveled through the air almost exclusively as it gained only 81 yards rushing. Fouts was sensational, however, completing 35 of 51 passes for 580 yards - yes, 580! - for eight touchdowns. He was intercepted three times, Theismann four. Winslow was the main man in receptions, hauling in 12 for 157 yards and five TDs. Charlie Joiner had six catches for 150 yards and two scores, Wes Chandler eight for 150.

The Chargers charged to 625 yards in offense. All told there were 51 first downs (all but six passing), three fumbles, seven interceptions and nine sacks.

#### PADRES PULL SURPRISE

Rich Vioral is one of the few non-believers as far as the invincibility of the 1984 Detroit Tigers. He replayed the '84 World Series soon after receiving (he's stationed in the Navy in San Diego, CA) the new cards.

And, unlike real-life where the Tigers clawed San Diego at the outset and roared to a four games to one near-sweep, the Padres stunned Detroit by silencing its bats in the opener as Eric Show hurled a no-hitter.

Show, who was roughed up in real-life as were most of the Padre pitchers, tossed a masterpiece as he walked five and had one error committed behind him. San Diego, meanwhile, pounded out 13 hits and scored 12 runs in a 12-0 win.

Detroit won game two, 5-3, with Willie Hernandez saving it for Dan Petry and Chet Lemon homering and driving in three runs. San Diego hit the 12-spot again in No. 3, winning 12-4, aided by a seven-run seventh

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inning in which Graig Nettles hit a three-run homer.

Games four and five were both one-run affairs, with Detroit winning 4-3 (Hernandez saved it for Jack Morris) and San Diego 3-2, as Steve Garvey and Terry Kennedy homered. Detroit tied the Series at 3-3 by winning game six, 7-4, as Hernandez got his third save after the Tigers had scored five first-inning runs.

The seventh game was another one-run thriller, with San Diego winning 5-4. Goose Gossage got his second save. Detroit outhit the Padres, 11-9, but Lou Whitaker's costly error in the fourth inning allowed three unearned runs to score.

#### '61 YANKS EMULATE VILLANOVA

Taking the cue from the recently completed NCAA basketball tournament, gamers Brian Bartow and Ted Halm conducted a 64-team S-O-M Baseball tournament.

Bartow, 23, is a student at Ferris State College, Big Rapids, MI, while Halm is sports information director at the school.

The 1961 Yanks played the role of Villanova, upsetting the heavily favored '27 Yanks, er Georgetown, 4-2 in games. The basic side of the cards was used for tourney, which lasted almost six months. Johnny Blanchard clouted five home runs in championship series for '61 Yanks.

Final records of the top three teams: 1. '61 Yanks, 16-8; 2. '27 Yanks, 14-7; 3. '70 Orioles, 10-6.

#### SHORT SHAKES

It was home run derby time when the 1956 Yanks and Dodgers exchanged long blasts in a replay game conducted by Rick Goldman, Los Angeles, CA. Eight homers were clouted, with five sailing out off Dodger bats. Mickey Mantle and the Dodgers' Sandy Amoros each hit two. The Yanks may have lost the home run battle, but they won the war, 9-6... Lehigh University's Jim Pellock, along with his roommate, witnessed a no-hitter in their first baseball game with the new cards. Rick Sutcliffe pitched for the Cubs and John Denny, Cy Young Award winner (as was Sutcliffe last year) in 1983, hurled for Philadelphia. No, it wasn't Sutcliffe with the no-hitter; instead it was Denny, who issued only a lead-off walk to Bob Dernier in the seventh inning and was never touched up for anything serious. Dernier was erased via a double play, so Denny faced only the minimum 27 batters....Bill Hall of Portland, OR, had to wait six years before being on the dice-rollin'/viewing end of a no-hitter. But his wait was only a little over a year for the second - by Vinegar Bend Mizell, pitching for St. Louis against Philadelphia. Strangely enough, Mizell, even though he pitched a no-hitter, wound up losing the game, thanks to a walk, error, groundout and sacrifice fly in the fifth inning that chased home the only run of the game. The inning before the Phillies had threatened, loading the bases on two errors and a walk - only to have Del Ennis hit into a triple play. Mizell lost another no-hit bid when Cardinal second baseman Don Blasingame - a "2" fielder - drew a "2" and allowed the winning run to scamper home when Blasingame couldn't reach the base hit shot...The LA-USA (Lewiston-Auburn United States Association), with headquarters in Auburn, ME, saw its first no-hitter in the league's eight-year history. Tom Seaver was on the dishing out end, walking four and striking out two for manager Rohn Morin's team. This was no hand-picked lineup, either, as the ranks of the victims included Mike Schmidt, Tim Lincecum, Eddie Murray, Andre Dawson, Ricky Henderson and Damaso Garcia. The LA-USA is a 12-team, continuous draft league.



## S-O-M league, replay scene

1956 NATIONAL LEAGUE REPLAY - Bill Hall, Portland, OR, conducted this full-season solitaire project that consumed three years of dice-rolling...the Brooklyn Dodgers, as in real-life, won the pennant, taking over first place for good at the 130-game mark and edging Cincinnati by a game and Milwaukee by three...Cincinnati got off to the best start (25-5) and was in first for over 70 percent of the season...Every team performed within six games of real-life, except the Cubs, who finished with 18 more wins than for real, thanks to improved pitching...Don Newcombe, 6-9 the first half of the season as the Dodgers were 39-38, was 15-3 the second half, leading the Dodgers' charge to the pennant...There were two no-hitters: Curt Simmons (1-0 over Brooklyn) and Vinegar Bend Mizell (1-0 loss to Philadelphia).

### Standings and leaders:

	Won	Lost	GB	Batting	Home Runs
Brooklyn	90	64	-	Kluszewski CIN .325	Mathews MIL 47
Cincinnati	89	65	1	Aaron MIL .319	Kluszewski CIN 42
Milwaukee	87	67	3	Banks CHI .318	Mays NY 41
Chicago	78	76	12	Ashburn PHI .309	Banks CHI 39
St. Louis	77	77	13	Boyer SL .304	Post CIN 35
NY Giants	68	86	22		
Philadelphia	66	88	24	RBI	E: Mathews MIL 103
Pittsburgh	60	94	30	Mathews MIL 104	H: Ashburn PHI 197
				Kluszewski CIN 102	2B: Snider BRO 40
				Lopata PHI 96	3B: Aaron, MIL 12
Wins					Walls PIT 12
Newcombe BRO	23-12		ERA		SB: Gilliam BRO 46
Antonelli NY	22-12		Mizell SL 2.20		Mays NY 46
Spahn MIL	20-13		Antonelli NY 2.44		SA: Labine BRO 14
Dickson SL	18-10		Simmons PHI 2.55		SHO: Antonelli NY 7
Burdette MIL	17-16		Rush CHI 2.69		
			Friend PIT 2.74	Strikeouts	
			Kaiser CHI 2.77	Haddix PHI 196	
			Erskine BRO 2.83	Mizell SL 193	
				Jones CHI 192	

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NORRIS DIVISION REPLAY - Based on the 1983-84, or latest, S-O-M cards, the Minnesota North Stars won the mini, five-team hockey replay...Jeff Zwicker of Pickerington, OH, played out an 80-game schedule and reports that every team won more games than real-life, except for Toronto...Success in overtime was the key to overall success as Minnesota had a 9-2-4 record in extra-session games and lowly Toronto was 0-3-8...Rookie Steve Yzerman led the league in scoring and was instrumental in lifting Detroit into third place. Red Wing goalie Greg Stefan had a 2.98 goals-against-average and four shutouts, Murray Bannerman of Chicago had four shutouts and a 2.52 GAA, while Mike Liut of St. Louis was 2.97 with six shutouts.

### Standings and scoring leaders:

	Won	Lost	Tied	Pts.	GF	GA
Minnesota	43	33	4	90	278	262
St. Louis	37	36	7	81	252	244
Detroit	38	40	2	78	273	265
Chicago	34	40	6	74	219	225
Toronto	23	49	8	54	222	316

  

Scoring	G	A	Pts.	G	A	Pts.	
Yzerman DET	44	49	93	Bellows MIN	51	30	81
Broten MIN	43	47	90	Federko SL	43	35	78
Ogrodnick DET	52	33	85				



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## **Review's MVP Contest closes**

This is the last call to enter the Review's Most Valuable Player Contest and win the first prize of a set of the new 1986 baseball cards that will be coming out next January.

Deadline is closing in fast, however, so don't delay if you haven't already entered. The postmarked deadline is May 10.

To enter, send your choices for the MVPs in both leagues and your forecast for which teams will win the divisions, and their percentages. Division winners and percentages will be used to break any ties.

Print your name and address clearly and send to the above (left-hand corner) address.

Only one entry per subscriber, please. And you must be a subscriber to enter the contest.

Last year's winner, in case you hadn't noticed, was Jonathan Lewis of Benton Harbor, MI. Lewis was the only gamer to correctly forecast Ryne Sandberg as the National League's MVP. No one, not even Lewis, picked Willie Hernandez in the American League. But everyone starts over now. So, send your choices pronto.