



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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* VOL. 18, MAY, 1988 *
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Review's poll/MVP contest about to close

The returns for Strat--O-Matic's next past-season baseball card set are coming in at a brisk pace.

But, since the game company wants to begin researching the season that gamers choose as soon as possible, the poll will have to close very soon.

Also, while on the topic of gamer participation, the Review's Most Valuable Player contest ends May 10th. Entries, to be counted, must be postmarked by this date. The MVP contest allows you to pick who the most valuable players will be in each of the leagues, plus you also select the division winners and their percentage.

If there's a tie in balloting for MVP, then the division picks will be used to break any deadlocks.

Both of the ballots, for MVP and past seasons, should be sent to the Review (not the game company). The Review's address is: Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

Early returns for the next past season have shown no pattern developing for a solid No. 1. Here is a sampling of some of the returns:

* (1) 1927, (2) 1959, (3) 1939.	* (1) 1959, (2) 1955, (3) 1960.
* (1) 1946, (2) 1934, (3) 1918.	* (1) 1965, (2) 1959, (3) 1945.
* (1) 1959, (2) 1960, (3) 1941.	* (1) 1927, (2) 1936, (3) 1923.
* (1) 1908, (2) 1964, (3) 1927.	* (1) 1954, (2) 1955, (3) 1957.
* (1) 1962, (2) 1960, (3) 1959.	* (1) 1960, (2) 1959, (3) 1958.

And here are some comments by readers regarding their choices:

--James Overmeyer, Islip, NY - 1908 - Giants, Cubs and Pirates fight it out in the senior circuit, while in the American League, Detroit, Cleveland and the White Sox all finish within 1 1/2 games...Glorious era of strategy and scratching out runs.

--Rodney Johnson, Tempe, AZ - 1951 - Voted greatest pennant race ever by The Sporting News. Gas House Gang with ol' Diz (30-7) is second
(continued on next page)

choice and 1927 third (the research has been started, so lets get it done).

--Phil Salimese, Clifton, NJ - 1959 - The N.L. had a great pennant race, resulting in a tie between the Dodgers and Braves, with the Dodgers winning a best-two-of-three playoff. This was also the year that the Chicago White Sox won an A.L. pennant. Second choice is 1957, which was last year for Dodgers and Giants in New York. Also, '57 was when Milwaukee Braves won their only world championship. Such stars as Mays, Mantle, Aaron, Frank Robinson and Ted Williams excelled.

PAST SEASON BASEBALL POLL

Here are my three choices, in order, for Strat-O-Matic's next past season in baseball:

(1) _____; (2) _____;

(3) _____. Comments: _____

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER BALLOT

Most Valuable Player:

American League _____

National League _____

Division Winners & Percentages:

American League East _____ % _____

American League West _____ % _____

National League East _____ % _____

National League West _____ % _____

Print Clearly:

Your Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Send to: Strat-O-Matic Review
P.O. Box 27
Otsego, MI 49078

Remember, you must be a current subscriber to the Review to enter the contest. And only one entry per subscriber is permitted for each poll/contest. The MVP contest winner receives the new baseball cards.

He got S-O-M start with throwaway games

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Ed Olechnowski is probably the only Strat-O-Matic gamer who was weaned on throwaway games.

Olechnowski, who today lives in Smithtown, NY, and is a technician for a graphic arts company, was introduced to S-O-M Baseball over 20 years ago in the basement of a friend's house.

"He and another friend were playing the game," recalls Olechnowski, "and right away I was fascinated to see such greats as Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig come to life via the table top.

"It was soon after that I purchased my first game. And, to my surprise, the game company was located across the street from my house in Port Washington (NY).

"I used to go buy teams with lunch money and such, but soon discovered the game company putting boxes of overstocked teams in the garbage. This is where I got most of my early years of the baseball and football games, including the entire 1967 football set.

"I've collected cards every year since and still enjoy playing some 20 years later."

Olechnowski works today in Glen Cove, NY, which is not far from Glen Head, the current home of the game company. Nope, he doesn't sneak over to Glen Head in the middle of the night and rummage through the game company's 'garbage.'

"I still enjoy playing the baseball solitaire and the football against my friend, Mike Hywell, also of Smithtown. I recently left some team photos of the '27 Yankees for Harold Richman (owner and creator of Strat-O-Matic) that I made at work. Sort of a payback."

Ed Olechnowski and his S-O-M-playing buddy, Mike Hywell, also teamed up and replayed the 1969 New York Mets ("Miracle Mets) season. Exact batting orders and pitching matchups were used.

To make the playoffs, the Mets had to better the 92 wins recorded by the Chicago Cubs that season. But the Mets got off to a slow start, were only 20-24 at the end of May and still only 50-49 as late as July.

At the end of August, the Mets were still far short of 93 wins with a 69-61 record. But then the "Miracle" part of that memorable season began to occur as New York won 20 of its next 25 games. With seven games left, the Mets needed to win three to tie Chicago and four to capture the outright title.

Trouble struck immediately as the Mets' Jim McAndrew and St. Louis' Bob Gibson hooked up in a pitchers' duel, with the Cardinals winning 3-0 in 11 thanks to Joe Torre's two-run double. The next day, Steve Carlton struck out 10 as the Cards breezed to a 4-0 victory.

The slide continued against the Phillies as the Mets lost their third in a row, 6-1. Finally, Tom Seaver ended the skid with a 5-3 win. The next day, the Mets fell 5-3 as Don Money hit a bases-loaded home run for the Phillies.

On to Chicago and needing a two-game sweep of the Cubs to force a one-game playoff. The Mets had lost four of five games.

"Game one was the most tense, pressure-packed game I've played in 20 years of Strato," says Olechnowski.

It looked like the end of the season for the Mets in the early going as the Cubs led 5-1 through five innings. But the Mets battled back to tie it twice - the last time on Al Weiss' two-out, eighth-inning single. Eventually, New York scored three times in the 11th to claim a 9-6 triumph. Nolan Ryan - remember him? - pitched four innings of scoreless relief.

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In the second game, with everything riding, Gary Gentry opposed Chicago's Bill Hands in the pitching matchup. The Mets scored early but that was their last-hurrah as Chicago went on to a 4-1 win. Olechnowski's two-year replay effort fell a game short as far as the Mets emulating real life.

Many of the batting averages and pitching stats were very close to real life. Cleon Jones, a .340 hitter for real, batted .352 on the table top. Art Shamsky, .300 in real life, hit .296 in S-O-M. Ken Boswell was another extremely close (.279 real life compared to .276). Donn Clendenon hit .257 (.252 real) and Ed Swoboda (.235 real) batted .242.

Tommy Agee was a disappointment in that he batted only .247 (.271 real) and clouted only 18 homers (26 real). Jones (12), Clendenon (12) and Swoboda (9) matched their real-life home run production exact in the replay.

Among the pitchers, Jerry Koosman had an 18-12 record (17-9 real), and Gentry 15-11 (13-12). Seaver was a disappointing 17-11 with a 2.85 ERA after real-life totals of 25-7 and 2.21. Ryan's ERA was close (3.54 actual compared to 3.44) as was Don Cardwell's (3.02 actual and 3.09).

The Mets were better at home, compiling a 49-33 record compared to 42-38 on the road, while in one-run games they were 35-29.

S-O-M humor...



---Ira Wolins
Philadelphia, PA

Summertime is tournament time

5

TBA, Bostock, Southwest Shootout are headline gatherings

Here comes summer.

And with it also comes a gamer's choice of Strat-O-Matic tournaments, ranging from John Kreuz's ongoing Table Baseball Association gatherings in all parts of the country, to James Sanders' Lyman Bostock Memorial tournament.

And there's also a rookie making its tournament debut - the Great Southwest Strat-O-Matic Shootout - that will be staged in Longview, TX.

The Southwest Shootout fires its opening shots on May 20 (through May 22) at the Contessa Inn, with the tournament being held in conjunction with a Comic Book/Baseball Card/Fantasy Fair.

As far as the S-O-M activity, Allen Pliler, the tournament's organizer and director, says that baseball throws out the first die on Friday (7 p.m., using TBA-style rules), a football (pro, teams from 1982 to present, super advanced) tournament will start on Saturday and on Sunday there will be a Sports Trivia Contest. A \$10 fee allows one to partake of all the activities (a gamer can enter either the baseball or football tournament, but not both).

Longview, in case you're curious, is located 120 miles east of Dallas and 60 miles west of Shreveport, LA, on I-20. For more information, contact: Allen Pliler, Rt. 1, Box 588, Longview, TX 75602.

Pliler has played S-O-M games since 1971. He's rolled dice for all the games except basketball. "My uncle and I have completed replays of the 1974, '75, '82 and '84 baseball seasons and we are working on a replay of the 1986 hockey season," notes Pliler.

KREUZ UPDATES TBA RULES

Kreuz, S-O-M's man-in-motion when it comes to staging tournaments, has a busy summer and early fall ahead as the TBA goes into its second full year with him at the controls.

A model of organization, Kreuz has been fine-tuning his rules of play. Many gamers may be curious about how a TBA tournament is run, or may be planning to put on their own mini tournaments in the near future and want something to use as a guide, or in their own local leagues.

So, here are some of the basic rules of play in the TBA:

- * All super-advanced rules are used, including supplementary stealing and pitchers holding.

- * Gamers are expected to be punctual: 1-30 minutes late for first game on Saturday morning - pitcher starts that game weak; 31-60 minutes late - forfeit first game; 61+ minutes late - gamer disqualified.

- * A minimum of 14 games will be played by every manager.

- * After draft order is established, but before draft, ballparks are assigned randomly to those managers who did not register at least six days prior to the start of the tournament.

- * Each manager drafts 27 players for 25-player roster (two players are cut).

- * Order of draft is reversed every other round.

- * Grand Prix Draft - Must be agreed on by managers drafting. In such a draft every manager has a chance at every player because there is no draft order; during each round, players are drafted simultaneously. Each manager writes on a separate sheet the name of the player he wants to draft that round and automatically gets him if no other manager drafted him. If two or more managers draft the same player, the tie is broken by a die roll. Die roll losers pick again until each manager has drafted a player in that round.

- * Trading is not allowed in either type of draft.

- * Managers must have at least two players at every position and at

(continued on next page)

least eight (but not more than 10) pitchers, with at least four being starters.

* If, because of an injury, a player must be used at a position not listed on his card, he is given the worst possible fielding ratings and a +5 arm rating.

* A starting pitcher must be removed at the end of 10 innings; however, he cannot be removed until he's pitched 5 innings or given up four runs (earned or unearned).

* A starter/reliever or reliever/starter used as a starter cannot pitch again until he has rested three games. A r/s or s/r used in relief must rest at least one game before starting (and maybe more if the chart calls for it). Each manager must keep a sheet which lists pitchers and the innings they pitched each game. This sheet must be signed by opposing manager after each game.

* When infield is "in" without a runner on third, any groundball A, B, or C result = lead runner forced out, other runners advance one base. However, if there is no runner on first, then runner on second is out at third only on groundball B and holds second on groundball A or C. It is not possible to ground into a doubleplay when infield is in.

* With a pinch-hitter up and a runner on third, the infield may be brought in "two levels" which decreases bunting rating by two letters but turns all pitcher weakness dots into SINGLE**. If the pitcher is already weak, all groundball C also become SINGLE**.

* A defensive manager may concede a steal of second or third without a throw. On any "WP" or "PB" result, the runners advance. However, the accompanying "FO" or "PO" result is disregarded and the same batter continues to hit.

* Scouting reports are allowed at draft, but cannot be used when playing. Information may be written on your S-O-M player cards, however.

* All dice are rolled (by the offensive manager) out of a special TBA cup. All dice must lie flush with playing surface; no leaners.

* No designated hitter will be used.

* Relief pitchers innings chart:

Innings #	1	2	3	4
0 -1	0 -1	0 -1@	1GM	
0 -1	1.1-2	1GM		
0 -1	2.1-3	2GM		
0 -1	3.1-4	3GM		
0 -1	4.1-5	4GM		
1.1-2	0 -1	1GM		
1.1-2	1.1-2	2GM		
1.1-2	2.1-3	3GM		
1.1-2	3.1-4	4GM		
1.1-2	4.1-5	5GM		
2.1-3	1GM			
3.1-4	2GM			
4.1-5	3GM			

The chart at left is read left to right. Each line represents a separate instance of relief pitcher usage. Example: If a reliever pitches one inning in a game and then pitches four innings in the next game, he then misses three games ("3GM"). A pitcher may pitch more than five innings only if all other available pitchers have been used. If this is the case, pitcher automatically becomes weak after five innings and misses an extra game for each additional inning pitched.

Key:

"GM" - Number of games of rest required before being eligible to pitch.
 "@ - May not pitch more than one inning.
 "0" - Pitcher entered the game but failed to retire a batter.

* Draft eligibility requirements: (A) Position player card - 200 plate appearances (at-bats + walks); Relief pitcher card - Must have
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pitched 50 innings or more; Relief-Starter cards - Must have 75 innings pitched or more; Starter-Relief cards - Must have 100 innings pitched or more; Starter pitcher card - 125 innings pitched or more.

* "Death Penalty" rule - If an ineligible player is used in a game, the game is automatically forfeited. Some examples of ineligible players are: Cards which fail to meet draft eligibility requirements (i.e. Sam Horn), pitchers who should have been rested for the game in question and players who have been removed from the game in question.

1988 TBA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

April 15-17 - Chicago	August 5-7 - Dallas
April 22-24 - Philadelphia	August 12-14 - St. Louis
April 29-May 1 - Los Angeles	August 19-21 - Philadelphia
May 13-15 - Toronto	August 26-28 - Kansas City
May 20-22 - Boston	Sept. 9-11 - Toronto
June 3-5 - Sacramento	Sept. 16-18 - Los Angeles
June 10-12 - Tampa	Sept. 23-25 - Milwaukee
June 24-26 - New York	Sept. 30-Oct. 1-2 - Tampa
July 8-10 - Detroit	October 7-9 - Chicago
July 15-17 - San Diego	October 14-16 - Boston
July 22-24 - Baltimore	October 21-23 - Sacramento
July 29-31 - Minneapolis	October 28-30 - Detroit
	November 11-13 - San Diego
	November 18-20 - New York
Jan. 13-15, 1989 - Tournament of Champions (at Chicago)	

For more information about the TBA tournaments or to sign up for a tournament(s), contact: John Kreuz at 312-635-6747 (phone calls preferred), or send \$1 (refunded on entry) plus a self-addressed, stamped-envelope to: John Kreuz, TBA tournament director, 4732 Laurel, Glenview, IL 60025. Entry fee is \$50 per tournament.

James Sanders, the man responsible for the popular Lyman Bostock Memorial tournaments, has overhauled his baseball rules and has tightened up the pitching regulations.

His tournament, which will be the eighth Sanders has conducted, is set for the weekend of June 25-26, at the Holiday Inn in Portage, IN. Entry cost is \$18.50 and for more details Sanders can be contacted at: 1068 VanBuren St., Gary, IN 46402 (1-219-882-2938). If writing, please enclose a large SASE.

Sanders' tournament will again feature advanced and elementary baseball, super advanced hockey and super advanced football (old and new versions).

Sanders has also sent along a copy of his revised tournament rules for baseball. Some of the changes that might affect gamers in their league or solitaire endeavors include the following:

* No pinch-hitter with under 100 plate appearances can remain in the game before the seventh inning. These players also cannot be used defensively before the seventh.

* To start a game a player must have 120 plate appearances. A DH will only be used when American League teams (from 1973 to present) are the home team.

* Team batting will roll the dice (surprisingly, many gamers play it just the opposite) and injuries will be ignored.

* When 1971-72 teams play, these teams use the following catcher's arm ratings since catcher arm ratings did not start until 1973:

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Fielding (throwing): 1 (-2), 2 (-1), 3 (0), 4 (+1).

* In 1985, Strat-O-Matic changed the pitcher hitting cards. The following teams will use the old cards, while all other teams will use the new cards: 1969-1984, plus '30, '50, '56 and '61 seasons.

* Asterisk pitchers are the only ones who can start every four games, must start before other pitchers on the roster and cannot relieve. None asterisk pitchers must rest two games before and two games after a start.

* No starter can pitch more than 10 innings in a game.

* A starter cannot be removed from a game before the fifth inning unless he has given up three or more runs. However, if a gamer is behind in the fourth inning and his pitcher has pitched four innings, he can pinch-hit for the pitcher.

* Any pitcher that faces more than nine batters in an inning will become tired starting with the 10th batter.

* Any pitcher who has relief on the top of his card and starter below and starts a game, will automatically become tired at the start of his inning of endurance.

Many of the other pitching rules used by Sanders are virtually the same as used by Kreuz in his TBA tournaments.

Hopefully, these playing regulations will be of some help to gamers who have wondered what other gamers are doing in their dice-rollin' ventures.

Strat-O-Matic spotlight

REVENGE OF THE RED SOX

The Boston Red Sox, the victims in that memorable 1986 World Series against the Mets, turned around the outcome on a table top in the home of Michael Fitzgerald, Brockton, MA.

Fitzgerald, in fact, replayed the playoffs from both leagues and the Series that year. All the advanced features were used. "Out of the 37 homers, only one was not from the Ball Park Chart," mentions Fitzgerald. And "I had only one clutch hitting chance come up (Lenny Dykstra, 3-10, to end the World Series)."

Houston surprised the Mets in the N.L. playoffs, winning 4-3 as Mike Scott went 3-0 with 24 strikeouts and an 0.78 ERA. Glenn Davis hit four homers, including a three-run shot that decided game seven, 3-1.

In the A.L., Boston went seven games before subduing California. Roger Clemens was 3-0 with 27 strikeouts and a 1.12 ERA, while Jim Rice batted .333 with three homers and eight RBI. Clemens won the finale as Rice clouted a three-run homer in a 5-2 victory.

The World Series (replayed using the Mets, rather than Astros) had Boston winning in six games. Wade Boggs batted .478, Monty Barrett .400 and Bruce Hurst (2-0, 1.12) and Clemens combined for three wins. Clemens finished it off by besting Bob Ojeda in game six, 2-0. The Mets loaded the bases in the ninth and Calvin Schiraldi came in to have Dykstra line out on a 3-10 clutch chance.

WHO ARE THOSE GUYS?

James Overmeyer of Islip, NY, sends along a clipping from a Long Island entertainment paper called "Good Times." In it is an article, replete with photo, of a singing group called, interestingly enough, the "Stratomatics."

Overmeyer has no idea if the group borrowed its name from the
(continued on back page)

Readers roll 'em

9

COMPREHENSIVE POLL

I would like to see the Review run a poll to see what old-time baseball teams are desired for reprint.

But don't end it there. Run a full page ballot with other questions that need to be addressed:

What football teams would you like to see printed? (1967 season - old card format)

Do you prefer the old football card size or the new?

What basketball teams would you like to see printed?

Do you like the new perforated cards, or would you be willing to pay extra for the old style?

Do you prefer the colored cards or the white cards?

Let's all voice our opinion and send the game company a message from many voices. Writing as an individual will not get you anywhere. We would be doing the game company a favor and quite possibly ourselves, too.

The Review could publish an advanced notice of the issue the ballot would run in and only official ballots would count.

You could print the address on one page and the ballot on the other side so a voter need only fold the page in half, staple or tape it, add a stamp and mail it.

We would all benefit from this. With more readers, you would have lower printing costs per issue, more potential articles on replays, etc.; and we would get the teams we and you long for. The game company would make more by printing sets that are going to sell, rather than take a chance on a reprint.

Personally, I'm a baseball nut and would buy any past season S-O-M wants to print.

I like the idea of the extra players as part of the team purchase. I do not like the colored cards or the perforations and I like the old-style football cards.

JOHN LUCZYNSKI
Adams, MA

Editor's note: The Review is currently running a poll (see April, 1988) to determine the next past-season baseball set desired by gamers. A more comprehensive poll, as suggested by Luczynski, could be in the works. Hopefully it won't be that far off, especially for long-suffering gamers who have clamored for football, hockey and basketball past-year cards.

NO GAME SUGGESTIONS, BUT...

I do not have any game suggestions, as the baseball game is the finest of its kind.

The suggestion I would like to make is to have the game company accept Master Card or American Express for payment. As they have a surcharge for postage and handling, an additional three-to-four percent could be levied for those wishing to pay by credit card.

This would be a great service for Canadians, as we must go to a bank, wait in line to purchase a draft which has a \$2.50 service fee. This would be optional so no extra cost would be passed on to customers paying by draft.

Another option this would give the company is to have a reservation list where gamers could authorize their purchase of new game cards each year, using a credit card number. This would eliminate unnecessary mailings by the game company for their regular customers.

PAUL MALO

A 'BASIC' EYESTRAIN

As a basic side junkie with thick glasses, I must complain, light blue on dark blue means eyestrain.

The advanced side of the new is great.

(continued)

Any color background with black ink would be fine. But don't make such an easy game to play hard to read. And get rid of the diamond in the middle of the cards; most of us know what one looks like and we all see the games in our imagination anyway.

RICK GOLDMAN
Los Angeles, CA

EDITOR'S NOTE: The game company plans on lightening up the basic side next year (some of the later card sets are now being printed lighter).

PLEASED WITH CLUTCH RATINGS

I have heard one too many people complain about the clutch ratings. I, for one, am very pleased and satisfied with the clutching ratings.

To fully understand the clutch, the skeptics must understand that the clutch is a bonus to very good RBI men and not those players who hit well in late-inning pressure.

S-O-M uses the term "clutch" loosely. I, too, found my players' averages, with two outs and runners in scoring position, much higher than their raw batting average; and when I saw they were worse in the clutch, I was mad.

Using a hitter's percentage of runners driven in from scoring position and dividing it by the player's batting average will give you a more accurate stat to compare with S-O-M's clutch hitting.

If the number is higher than 1.1, then the player should be better in the clutch, and the reverse goes for a number lower than 1.1. See, this stat is not a true clutch since it can be incorporated in any inning. What gives it away is that it is designed to get at least one RBI if it is rolled.

I'll use Don Mattingly as an example. In 1986, he batted a very impressive .352. His percentage of runners driven

in from scoring position was .38% - based on figures available from Elias Baseball Analyst. By my system, he rates a 1.08, making him worse in the clutch.

Now for Jose Canseco, 1986 season: batting average - .240; % from scoring position - 35.

Kemp's clutch factor is 1.46 which accounts for him being so effective in the S-O-M clutch. Although my stat is not foolproof it does give me a general idea of a player's clutch rating.

Another stat I have devised is "effectiveness" rating. This incorporates batting average, SIG, percent driven in from first base and percent driven in from scoring position.

I take the percent of runners driven in from first base and divide it by SIG percentage. Then I take the percentage of runners driven in from scoring position and divide it by average. I then take these two numbers and multiply them together and finally multiple them by 100 to give some scale.

Example: Mattingly

% from 1B - 6%

SIG - .573

% from scoring position - 38%

AVG - .352

Effectiveness - 10.8

Factor

If skeptics want clutch in the traditional sense, S-O-M would have to use stats in the eighth or ninth inning with, at least, the tying run on base.

KEMP WELLS
408 Maryville Dr.
Walnut, CA

CHANGES QUESTIONED

I just can't see why the ballpark ratings can change so much each year. I don't feel that if the players' performances change in a certain ballpark that the ratings for the should be affected.

You can't tell me that the carpet in Houston (1-11 single) is any different than two years ago (1-8). If the players hit

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better, then put the extra changes on the player cards.

I realize that outdoor parks can have changes in weather conditions from year to year, but can the domed stadiums?

Also, I am echoing the concerns of many hockey fans in the Strat world. Why can't hockey passing sections be more individualized? Does a high assist rating really make a hockey card better?

PHIL LEDESMA
Hawthorne, CA

MORE PAST-SEASON EXTRAS

It sure was good news to hear Strat-O-Matic is thinking about printing another past-season baseball card set soon.

I would like to make a suggestion that more extra players be included. It would be nice if the same rule of thumb for selecting extras would be the same for past-seasons as for modern seasons.

Having most players with 50 or more at-bats and pitchers with 40 or more innings pitched would give us all more flexibility.

PAUL BLAHO
P.O. Box 612
East Troy, WI

CONVERT OLD TO NEW

Does Strat-O-Matic plan to convert any of its old-time football teams or sets to the new format?

I have not heard or read about any teams in the making. Please urge Strat-O-Matic to remake the old football sets.

ALEXANDER HANE

Editor's note: There are no plans at this time to convert past football seasons to the new format.

WORLD SERIES SET WANTED

Before I make known my past full season preferences, I would like to suggest to the game

company, through the voice of the Review, that it give consideration to a World Series set.

Possibly a set consisting of the series teams from the 1950s, to be followed at a later date with a set of the series teams from the 1940s and so forth.

I have enjoyed the baseball game for over 25 years and been a subscriber to the Review since its inception, and was always pleased to read in the earlier Review pages the consideration of, or the announcement of, printings of past pennant winning ball clubs.

Now, unfortunately, the possibility of playing with other World Series teams from the 1920s, '30s, '40s and '50s seems as remote as the World Series game being played on an early October afternoon.

Anyway, here are my full-season selections: 1. 1960; 2. 1952; 3. 1959.

RICHARD GULEZIAN

MORE ON 'E' RATINGS

Thanks for replying to my question concerning fielding chart inconsistencies in the IBM version of the baseball game. Please note that 1987 Willie Randolph and 1984 Terry Kennedy are not "1" fielders, as you printed in your version of my question.

The point I was making about Randolph is that he is a second baseman, yet he committed a two-base error. Likewise, catcher Kennedy made a two-base error. Second basemen and catchers have never been able to make two-base errors in Strat-O-Matic.

Your answer indicated that such errors are now possible, due to the implementation of different fielding charts than those used for the board game. Would you please be more specific in detailing just what the fielding chart differences are, so that my league members and I, along with all other games who read your publication can be aware of these differences and manage accordingly.

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ly.

I also would like to extend a huge "thank you" to Jim Murphy, whose ratings program for the IBM version of the baseball game is invaluable.

His documentation, beautiful color screens and ease of use of the program are all praiseworthy. I have taken the information produced by his program a step further by loading the results into R: Base software.

The result is that I have condensed all pertinent information about the 1985-1987 cards into one database, which I can very easily query and manipulate. I can easily get the right answers in seconds, rather than manually searching through about 2,000 cards over a period of many hours.

His program is also not tied to a specific year's cards.

RICHARD ZABORSKY
Dublin, OH

Editor's note: Regarding the different fielding chart used in the computer games, S-O-M does not have a hard copy example of it for gamers to check. S-O-M gave its information to the folks developing the computer versions and they came up with the fielding system that includes the heretofore impossible-to-get two-base errors for some positions and ratings. The game company, however, assures everyone that the frequency of errors and the ratings are still correct.

CARDS FOR REPLACEMENTS?

Will Strat-O-Matic create cards for any of the players from the NFL replacement games?

Your idea of another poll for baseball is a good one.

Will S-O-M be reprinting the NFL teams that scored well in your earlier survey?

Keep up the excellent work. The Review provides a great deal of interesting information at a still very low price.

ALAN COHEN
Arlington, VA

Editor's note: S-O-M's handling of the so-called "scab player" games is not known at this time. It is doubtful, however, if the game company will create cards for players who were not on the regular NFL team. Hopefully, the game company will reveal more on this next month.

PAST-SEASON PREFERENCES

I'm 35 years old and I've been playing Strat-O-Matic since 1965. That should tell you what I think of this great game.

I'm writing to let you know what past seasons I would love to see.

First let me say I'm under the impression, based on what I've read in past Reviews, that the game company is going to print the 1962 season and eventually reprint all the years between 1961-1970 (S-O-M has already done the 1961-1970, 1969, '70 seasons) and so that leaves the 1963, '64, '65, '66, '67 years left.

I hope S-O-M sticks to this, because many game owners, especially those of my age, would love to have the 1960s brought back to life.

S-O-M has already printed the 1950 and 1956 seasons and I'm also hoping it continues to reproduce the 1950s because this was truly the golden era of baseball. I hope this will not fall on deaf ears.

PHIL SALIMESE
Clifton, NJ

RE-RELEASING PAST SEASONS

Does the game company have any plans to re-release past baseball teams or seasons, that have been already released with advanced features, like 1971-'80?

As the years pass, it gets more difficult to obtain teams from these years, unless, of course, you want to pay outrageous prices for them.

JEFF ZWICKER
Columbus, OH

Editor's note: Not at this time.

Limiting usage of starting pitchers

Ed Berro of Los Angeles, CA, has a baseball playing tip that limits the use of pitchers, particularly those starters that end up hurling the distance in marathon extra-inning games.

"This chart (below) prevents the all-too-prevalent case where a great starter goes 14 innings without becoming weak," says Berro. "It also creates situations where your pitcher just doesn't have his stuff and must be removed early."

PITCHER POINT OF WEAKNESS

If any of the following conditions (1-3) are met, the pitcher is weak (POW inning is listed on pitcher's card):

1. Pitcher has given up 8 runs.
2. Pitcher gives up 6 runs in an inning or 5 runs in any inning past the third inning.
3. Both A and B below must happen for this condition to be met:
 - A. If the pitcher started the game, he has given up 8+ total hits plus walks. This is not necessary for relievers.
 - B. Any one of the below (I-V) has occurred:
 - I. Pitcher has given up 5 hits plus walks in POW -1 inning.
 - II. Pitcher has given up 3 hits plus walks in POW inning.
 - III. Pitcher has given up 2 hits plus walks in POW +1 or POW +2 inning.
 - IV. Pitcher has given up 1 hit or walk in POW +3 or POW +4 inning.
 - V. Pitcher is in POW +5 inning.

Clarification: A (3) * inning reliever is in his second (POW -1) inning after he has pitched one inning = three outs.

"We also has a home field advantage rule," adds Berro. "The home team adds one (out of 20) to its chance of success on all ballpark home runs and singles, while the visiting team has one subtracted."

How to bunt for a base hit

Ever wish it was possible for that roadrunner batter, the guy with the great speed, deft bunting ability, but not much of a hitter, could try to bunt for a base hit?

Well, the California Baseball Association, founded by Dana Perlstein of Los Angeles, CA, uses a bunting chart that may be just what you're looking for.

"It's a revised bunt chart that enables 'A' bunters with good running speed to bunt for a base hit," says Perlstein, who notes that the CBA was formed in 1982 as a face-to-face, continuous draft league using National League teams only.

"The six founding members were a circle of friends in the writing and production end of television," informs Perlstein. The league broke up in 1987 after many of the original managers wanted to draft totally new teams. Perlstein, who had been building a team over the years, didn't want to draft anew.

Soon after, Perlstein and Mike Donoho formed the new-look CBA, which now has two five-team divisions.

Also managing in the league, in addition to Perlstein, who's a film buyer for a theatre company, is Elton Sotello (Chain Gang), software sales manager and host for the CBA's game-night site who lives

(continued on next page)

in a glass-enclosed chalet overlooking Sunset Boulevard. Sotello had the best regular-season record: 52-32.

Other managers and their teams were: Gary Van Thiel (Sting), Jon Pepper (Black Sox), Roch Doran (Rockets), Don Ordway (Bendovers), Dave King (Trojans, a USC student, naturally), rookies Robert Krantz (DTB'ers) and Chuck Navarrete (Blue Macs) and Perlstein (Hollywood Sleaze).

The home team went 220-200 for a winning percentage of .524. In the playoffs, Perlstein's Sleaze defeated the Sting in the best-of-seven championship series, 4-1.

Tony Gwynn of the Sleaze was the batting champ with a .349 average and led in triples (10) and runs scored (65). Glenn Davis, also of the Sleaze, tied Mike Schmidt of the Black Sox for most home runs with 24. Vince Coleman of the Trojans swiped 44 bases in 57 attempts.

Rick Rhoden of Chain Gang had the lowest ERA at 2.19. Teammates Mike Scott (2.50) and Mike Krukow (2.57) were next. Rhoden had the best record (14-3) while Fernando Valenzuela had a league-high 11 complete games.

Below are the CBA's standings and a bunting-for-a-hit chart:

East	Won-Lost	GB	West	Won-Lost	GB
Chain Gang	52 32	-	Sleaze	48 36	-
Sting	48 36	4	DTB'ers	53 41	5
Blue Macs	45 39	7	Bendovers	39 45	9
Jazz	39 45	13	Black Sox	37 47	11
Trojans	36 48	15	Rockets	33 51	15

BUNT CHART

Dice	A	B	C	D	E
2.....	Speed.....	Speed.....	Speed.....	SAC 5-4.....	SAC 2-4
3.....	Speed.....	Speed.....	SAC 5-4.....	Speed.....	SAC 1-4
4.....	Speed.....	SAC 2-4.....	Speed.....	SAC 2-4.....	2K's
5.....	SAC 2-4.....	Speed.....	SAC 1-4.....	2K's.....	SAC 5-4
6.....	Speed.....	SAC 1-4.....	SAC 3-4.....	SAC 3-4.....	SAC 3-4
7.....	SAC 3-4.....	SAC 3-4.....	2K's.....	FC 2-6.....	2K's
8.....	SAC 5-4.....	SAC 5-4.....	SAC 5-4.....	2K's.....	FC 2-6
9.....	SAC 1-4.....	FC 1-6.....	FC 1-6.....	SAC 5-4.....	FC 1-6
10.....	FC 2-6.....	2K's.....	SAC 2-4.....	SAC 1-4.....	2K's
11.....	Fielder E.....	Fielder E.....	Fielder E.....	Fielder E.....	Fielder E
12.....	2K's.....	SAC 3-4.....	Pop-DP.....	Pop-DP.....	Pop-DP

Key:

SAC - Sacrifice, runners advance one base.

FC - Fielder's choice, lead runner thrown out; other runners advance one base.

Pop-DP - Popout to the catcher; leading runner is doubled off; other runners hold.

2K's - Batter has two strikes. Offensive manager may take off bunt (continued on next page)

play and steal, hit and run or swing away. Defensive manager may also realign his infield and put on/take off hold. If 2K's is hit again on re-bunt, batter fouls off pitch for third strike and runners hold.

Fielder E - Roll 20-sided die (pick split card) to determine fielder:

1-6 - pitcher	16-18 - first baseman
7-10 - catcher	19 - second baseman
11-15 - third baseman	20 - shortstop

Speed - Use running rating to determine runner beating out bunt. If runner is out, sacrifice is successful.

Running	Die/Split #
1- 8,9.....	1
1- 10,11.....	1-2
1- 12.....	1-3
1- 13.....	1-5
1- 14.....	1-10
1- 15.....	1-14
1- 16.....	1-17
1- 17.....	1-19

If situation changes, both managers may change strategies.

Questions & Answers

Editor's note: Questions pertaining to individual and team ratings will not be answered in most cases, unless a mistake has been made on the card. The game company cannot, for reasons of security, divulge its card-making formula, which would be necessary to answer some of the questions completely.

QUESTION: I have a question about the new pitcher's hold rating. The rules state, "when using either rating number, first add together the catcher's throwing arm rating and the pitcher's held rating." If the defensive manager does not hold the runner on, is the pitcher's hold rating still used?
(Michael Olson, Foxboro, MA)

ANSWER: The catcher's throwing and pitcher's holding ratings are always combined, regardless of whether or not the runner(s) is being held on. The combined rating, however, cannot be more than +5 or -5.

QUESTION: When a player in Strat-O-Matic Basketball has a shot attempt and an F(2) occurs, does he get credited with a missed field goal attempt? (Michael Salerno, Monroe, CT)

ANSWER: No. There is no field goal attempt when a foul (2) occurs.

QUESTION: When "any D player" comes up in hockey, does any player on the defensive team get control of the puck or does the defensive player with the highest rating get control?
(Phil Ledesma, Hawthorne, CA)

ANSWER: Any player gets control of the puck, according to Strat-O-Matic.

S-O-M league, replay scene

HOCKEY'S BEST TEAMS REPLAY - Jeff Zwicker, Columbus, OH, picked out the best from each of the 21 hockey teams and three other teams and played a 40-game schedule...Project took over three years to complete...A couple of teams, such as the Detroit Red Wings and Devils of 1986-87 were added after good seasons. Two Philadelphia teams - 1979-80 and 1984-85 - were also utilized...Top four teams in each division got in playoffs, with '78-79 Montreal meeting '80-81 St. Louis for the Stanley Cup. Montreal took only five games to dispose of Blues...Ken Dryden, Montreal's goalie, played in 21 playoff games and had a 2.05 goals-against-average. Guy Lafleur won the playoff scoring title with 49 points (22 goals, 27 assists). Marcel Dionne of the Blues was second with 46 points (26 goals/20 assists)...Dionne won the Art Ross Trophy, edging out Wayne Gretzky. Dionne had 50 goals and 60 assists for 110 points and Gretzky 61 goals and 40 assists. Dryden, with a 2.00 GAA, won the Vezina Trophy.

Standings, leaders and playoffs:

Patrick	W	L	T	Pts.	Adams	W	L	T	Pts.
'81-82 NY Islanders	26	12	2	54	'78-79 Montreal	29	9	2	60
'84-85 Philadelphia	25	12	3	53	'79-80 Buffalo	26	12	2	54
'83-84 NY Rangers	21	18	1	43	'82-83 Boston	22	13	5	49
'79-80 Philadelphia	20	20	0	40	'83-84 Quebec	15	23	2	32
'83-84 Washington	15	23	2	32	'85-86 Hartford	15	24	1	31
'85-86 Pittsburgh	14	23	3	31	'86-87 New Jersey	12	24	4	28
Norris	W	L	T	Pts.	Smythe	W	L	T	Pts.
'82-83 Chicago	22	16	2	46	'80-81 Los Angeles	25	14	1	51
'82-83 Minnesota	20	18	2	42	'83-84 Edmonton	23	15	2	48
'86-87 Detroit	16	19	5	37	'81-82 Vancouver	19	20	1	39
'80-81 St. Louis	15	20	5	35	'84-85 Calgary	17	21	2	36
'78-79 Atlanta	15	22	3	33	'84-85 Winnipeg	17	22	1	35
'78-79 Toronto	13	24	3	29	'80-81 Colorado	8	28	4	20

Scoring	G	A	P	Playoffs
Dionne '80-81 LA	50	60	110	Smythe: '80-81 Los Angeles d.
Gretzky '83-84 EDM	61	40	101	'84-85 Calgary, 4-0; '81-82
Taylor '80-81 LA	34	50	84	Vancouver d. '83-84 Edmonton, 4-2
Simmer '80-81 LA	32	47	79	'80-81 Los Angeles d. '81-82
Lafleur '78-79 MONT	38	33	71	Vancouver, 4-2. Norris: '80-81
Power Play Goals				St. Louis d. '82-83 Chicago, 4-3;
Gretzky '83-84 EDM	21			'82-83 Minnesota d. '86-87 Detroit, 4-0;
Lemieux '85-86 PIT	20			'80-81 St. Louis d. '82-83 Minnesota, 4-0.
Short-Handed Goals				Adams: '78-79 Montreal d. '83-84 Quebec,
Gretzky '83-84 EDM	9			4-0; '79-80 Buffalo d. '82-83 Boston, 4-1;
Goaltending	AVG			'78-79 Montreal d. '79-80 Buffalo, 4-1.
Dryden '78-79 MONT	2.00			Patrick: '81-82 NYI d. '79-80 Philadelphia,
Beaupre '82-83 MIN	2.24			4-1; '84-85 Philadelphia d. '83-84 NYR, 4-3
Sauve '79-80 BUFF	2.64			'81-82 NYI d. '84-85 Philadelphia, 4-2.
B.Smith '81-82 NYI	2.70			Semifinals: '78-79 Montreal d. '81-82 NYI,
Lindbergh '84-85 PHI	2.80			4-3; '80-81 St. Louis d. '80-81 Los Angeles
				4-2. Stanley Cup: '78-79 Montreal d. '80-81
				St. Louis, 4-1.

NORTH AMERICAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION - 16-coach face-to-face/play-by-mail draft football league that now has played five full seasons... At least 25 games were played face-to-face, most in second annual mid-

(continued on next page)

season marathon (10 straight hours of gaming)...Home team record was 29-16 (64 percent)...Awards handed out include: Bryant (executive of year - Michael Macher), Lombardi (coach of year - Ed Grap), Baltimore (prognosticator of year - Ed Grap - for predicting results and having good luck), commissioner's (extra effort in helping league - Eric Bessette)...Bill Cowart, a four-year league member from Tallahassee, FL, won the latest championship with his Marauders, who climbed out of second place in the East to win the playoffs...Chris Seum, Moundsville, WV, and Carl Olson, Marlborough, CT, are oldest league members at 41...NAFA's coaching lineup: Seum (Generals); Olson (Creampuffs); Grap (34, Perry Hall, MD, Bulldogs); Cowart (21, Marauders); Doug Crandall (27, Deerfield, KS, Chiefs); Olaf McDavid (33, Gonzales, LA, Cajuns); Adam Wodon (19, Lake Grove, NY, Sounds); Bessette (29, Rochester, NY, Mustangs); Stephen Beardslee (25, Gloucester, MA, Fishermen); Sal Fiore (38 Staten Island, NY, Browns); Kris Thomsen (White Plains, NY, Cougars); Macher (30, Middlesex, NJ, Rattlers); Brian Sampson (30, White Plains, NY, Assassins); Bob Brickeen (25, St. Louis, MO, Purple Aces); Don Browning (29, Charleston, WV, Warlords); George Murphy (30, Fontana, CA, Beagles)...Fiore, who's been in NAFA for five years, is only remaining charter member...Macher has had teams in finals three of four years in NAFA...Sampson had only expansion team in playoffs...NAFA (game) records include: Pass attempts/completions - Dan Fouts (81/50); Yards passing - Tommy Kramer (604); TD passes - Tommy Kramer (9); Receptions - Ozzie Newsome (24); TD receptions - Anthony Carter (5)...Marauders defeated Rattlers in NAFA Bowl, 33-24. Dave Krieg completed 20 of 30 passes for 209 yards and Curt Warner rushed for 161 yards for winners.

Standings, playoffs and leaders:

North	Won-Lost	East	Won-Lost	South	Won-Lost
Rattlers	11 5	Bulldogs	14 2	Cajuns	13 3
Assassins	9 7	Marauders	11 5	Mustangs	8 8
Browns	8 8	Creampuffs	8 8	Fishermen	5 11
Cougars	4 12	Chiefs	5 11	Sounds	4 12
West	Won-Lost				
Generals	11 5	Playoffs:	Rattlers d. Generals, 20-17;		
Purple Aces	8 8		Marauders d. Assassins, 20-17; Purple Aces d.		
Beagles	5 11		Cajuns, 45-28. Semifinals: Rattlers d. Bulldogs		
Warlords	4 12		35-24; Marauders d. Purple Aces, 37-13.		

Rushing	Att-Yds.	TD	Avg.	Receiving	No.-Yds.	TD	Avg.
Warner MAR	334-1449	14	4.3	Christensen MAR	123-894	6	7.3
G.Rogers ASS	333-1432	9	4.3	Bavaro BRO	120-1229	8	10.2
Payton CRE	218-1152	5	5.3	Brenner FIS	115-805	2	7.0
Brooks BUL	208-1127	4	5.4	E.Martin ASS	104-1566	8	15.1
Passing	Att-Comp	Yds.	TD-Int.	Rating (NAFA)			
Kramer GEN	474-250	3787	44 15	95.0			
Simms RAT	345-202	2855	25 12	94.6			
Marino CAJ	499-257	4197	33 13	88.7			
Elway PA	429-218	3395	31 13	87.1			

The Review staff

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Advertisements

Rates per issue are as follows: 25 words or less - \$1.00; 26-50 words - \$2.00; 51-75 words - \$3.00; 76-100 words - \$4.00. When sending in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR TRADE, LEAGUE FORMING, or CONTESTS. And name card sets by the year upon which they were based. Note also that only advertising for Strat-O-Matic products or closely related merchandise will be accepted and that merchandise competing with S-O-M products may not be offered for sale. Ads, to be included in the next issue, must be in to the Review by the third of the previous month. Late ads will be held over for inclusion the following month.

Wanted

WANTED: Cardinal baseball teams. Any year, minimum good condition, must include extras. Provide complete description, prices, SASE to: Rick Lepley, 4204 Burnham, Portsmouth, VA 23703

WANTED: 1976, '77, '79, '80, '82 Oakland-Los Angeles Raiders and 1983 complete season. State price and condition. Dave James, 14-E Briar Circle, Fayetteville, NC 28306 (919-483-9571)

WANTED: Desperately seeking S-O-M face-to-face play. Mature, dependable, loyal and paper-trained. Doesn't anyone play this game in north Detroit suburbs? Bill Marx, 14015 Southgate, Sterling Heights, MI 48078-5331

WANTED: Baseball - reprinted (2-sided) years of 1961, 1968, 1969 and 1970. Call or write to: Kraig Beverly, 832 Century Street, Hampstead, MD 21074 (301-239-6855)

WANTED: 1964, 1966, 1967, 1971, 1973 A.L.; 1977, 1980 and 1982 complete sets w/extras (where applicable). Prefer reasonably good condition to mint. Dennis Carlson, 975 Dewey Ave., Alpha, NJ 08865

WANTED: Baseball - 1972 Angels, Expos, Giants, all with extras. Entire 1973 extra player set (with four two-team players). 1974 Terry Harmon (Phillies). 1975 entire extra player set. 1975 Braves, Orioles, Angels, Cubs, Tigers, Astros, Royals,

Dodgers, Brewers, Expos, Pirates, Phillies, Padres, Giants. 1976 Rich Coggins (White Sox), Chris Knapp (White Sox), Jesse Jefferson (Blue Jays). Please state condition (and if there's writing on the cards) and price. Send SASE to: Neil Greenberg, 2940 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11235

WANTED: Baseball (advanced version only). I am still looking for some teams to use in an all-time team league which is already formed. Will buy the following teams if the cards are playable: 1971-73 A's; 1971 Baltimore; 1975-76 Cincinnati; 1977 Kansas City, Philadelphia; 1980 A's; 1982 St. Louis, Milwaukee (I need Yount's card, but will buy whole team); 1984 Detroit. If you have whole seasons from these years I will buy season for a reasonable price. Send available cards, condition and prices to: Chris Malitsky, 3528 Sussex Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19114. If you want to sell, I will buy. Send phone number if possible.

WANTED: Coaches to immediately take over openings in our PBM hockey league using the current cards. We are currently a 14-team two-division league that has been in existence for five years. We are also looking for commitments for possible expansion next season. We use several innovations, including the FGCHL penalty system. There are several stars (continued)

including Lemieux, Gretzky, Savard, Ciccarelli and Robitaille waiting for your coaching talents to guide them. If interested, please contact: Scott Trester, Gopher State Advanced Hockey League, 14930 Cleveland, Posen, IL 60469, or call 312-389-8278 after 6 p.m. central time.

For Sale

FOR SALE: Hockey teams, all excellent condition - 1978-79, 1979-80 NHL teams only, with extras; 1980-81 with extras. Football, in excellent condition - 1976 Cowboys, Steelers; 1977 Broncos, Jets, Giants, Rams, Seahawks. Baseball, good condition - 1969 Twins, Royals, Red Sox, Cubs; 1973 A's, Reds, Dodgers, Mets, Orioles, very good condition. 1977 American League; 1985 National League with extras. Looking to sell or trade; will sell as sets (preferred) or individually. Send bids to: Steve Pyatt, 2667 Shirley Lane, Bellmore, NY 11710

FOR SALE: Complete card sets: Hockey - 1978-79. Football - 1978, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1986. Baseball - 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986. Basketball - 1976-77, 1977-78, 1978-79, 1979-80, 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85, 1985-86, plus most individuals from 1977 baseball, Hall of Famer sets and old-timer teams. Write or call: Steve Wright, 76 W. 8th Ave., Apt. D-1, Columbus, OH 43201 (614-299-0617; no collect calls accepted)

FOR SALE: Love to play S-O-M but hate doing the statistics? If so, send them to: David Siere, 508 E. Monroe, Sullivan, IL 61951 (217-728-8273). Send all games and paperwork that is needed. For more information, please call. 25 cents per game and up.

FOR SALE: Unbreakable 20-sided dice in red, white, blue, black, yellow, green, orange, purple, brown. Choose numbering from

1-20 or 0-9. Also 6-sided dice available. Only \$2 each, postage included. Specials: 3 for \$5 or 7 for \$10. David de la Fuente, 56 Oakdale Ave., Apt. 2, Akron, OH 44302

FOR SALE: Baseball schedules. Great for S-O-M replays. Every season available. \$1 per season and a stamp. Unbreakable 20-sided dice, easy to read, \$2 each. Richard Breest, 1332 Greenlea Drive, Holiday, FL 34691

FOR SALE: 1974 football - \$75. 1986 baseball with extras - \$12. Complete new college football game - \$20. All items excellent. Cal Whitbeck, 117 Peachtree, Mason, MI 48854

FOR SALE: Complete football sets from 1972-82. Individual teams from 1967 to 1978. Hockey sets 1977-78 to 1979-80. 1979 baseball set. 1976 college football set. Great college football teams set. All in excellent to mint condition. Will accept best offer. Robert Kondracki, 237 N. 6th St., Reading, PA 19601

FOR SALE: Accuracy - at last, easy-to-use systems to improve S-O-M hit-and-run and Catcher's Card. Both systems add realism and strategy without increasing play time. Hit-and-run uses results directly from player cards, giving each player truly individual H&R ability. Catcher's Card incorporates individual wild pitch ratings for pitchers, passed ball ratings for catchers. Statistically accurate for all '87 pitchers and catchers. Works equally well playing stock teams or draft leagues. Just \$3 for each system, \$5 for both. Check or money order to: Glenn Guzzo, 317-21 N. Broad Street #835, Philadelphia, PA 19107

FOR SALE: Apple version computer baseball game disk, \$20. Apple version team roster disks for 1968, 1984, 1985 and 1986 seasons \$10 each. Money orders only.
(continued)

Charles J. Knebel, 1018 Cora Drive, Flint, MI 48532

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1965 - 80% very good and 20% average; 1966 - very good; 1967-1985 - excellent. Old timer teams also. Hockey - 1977 (first year) to 1985 - excellent. All teams original, no reprints. Bids accepted until June 31, 1988 for everything or complete seasons. Send bid and SASE to: Philip Lupi, 308 Salem St., Safety Harbor, FL 34695

FOR SALE: IBM computer game users: Don't waste time making manual version team disks while you should be playing games. We will make them and save you large amounts of time. Send desired rosters/teams and required disk format to: Griff's Baseball Observer, Suite #211, 704 Stony Hill Road, Yardley, PA 19067. Regular teams: complete AL or NL, \$6; both, \$9. Custom teams: first team, \$4; teams 2-6, \$1 each; additional teams, 50 cents each. For leagues, extra copies of diskettes are \$6 each. Remember manual version limit of 17 players and 12 pitchers per team. We respond quickly.

FOR SALE: 1972-1977 football teams; 1972, 1975, 1977 complete; 1973 Redskins, Vikings, Raiders, Bills (O.J., 2003 yards), Dolphins, Cowboys; 1974 Steelers, Dolphins, Cardinals, Bills, Raiders, Vikings, Redskins, Cowboys; 1976 Raiders. Good to mint condition. Call: 206-822-7243. Write: Scott Brewer, 11001 NE 62nd St., Kirkland, WA 98033

FOR SALE: Must liquidate card collection. Have most baseball teams 1967 through '82 seasons (omit '68 and '71 sets). Some sets have extra players. Cards are in good condition, considering age and usage. Also have '75-76 football set, including six old-timers and '75 Steelers. Yes, now you can play the steel curtain against Jim McMahon, the Refrigerator and Co. Make me an offer. Send a SASE

with your bid. Richard Crim, 1218 Lincoln St., Shelbyville, IN 46176 (1-317-392-4470)

FOR SALE: Fanatics - make your season more realistic with Baseball Replay '87. Exact day-to-day 1987 schedules and actual starting pitchers; comprehensive list of roster changes (trades, disabled players, minor-league call-ups); plus a unique lineup guide to assure realistic player use. Ideal for replaying one team or a whole league. More than 100 hours of research at your fingertips for only \$6 for AL or NL, \$10 for both. Similar replay aids for 1961, 1968, 1986, 1985 - \$10 each (roster changes for '61, '68 are trades only). Check or money order to: Glenn Guzzo, 317-21 N. Broad St. #835, Philadelphia, PA 19107

FOR SALE: Following teams - (A) Baseball, 1976 American League (B) Basketball, 1974-75 Boston, Buffalo, Golden State, Chicago, Washington, Los Angeles; (C) Football, 1974 Houston, NY Jets, New England, San Francisco, Green Bay, Baltimore; 1975 Los Angeles, Dallas, Miami, Cincinnati. All teams in very good condition. Highest bid accepted on each group of teams (A, B, or C). I pay all postage and handling. Send bids and SASE to: Ezra Ochshorn, 12501 28th St., Tampa, FL 33612

FOR SALE: S-O-M Baseball becomes even more true-to-life and fun using my super-advanced rules, which add realism and detail while preserving the game's speed of play and accuracy. Included are easily memorized rules for outfield throwing errors and mis-played hits; more realistic base advances; injury chart with rare plays; balks, pickoffs, pickoff errors, rundowns; infielders positioned in or back individually; outfield shallow; suicide squeeze safety squeeze and sacrifice charts where fielding ability and the runner's speed play a part; (continued)

hit-and-run system involving the pitcher, fielders and runner's speed; and much more, all smoothly blended into S-O-M. Nearly 300 satisfied customers. \$9, with money-back guarantee. Richard Robb, #305-7100 Gilbert Road, Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5C3 (or P.O. Box 1776, Pt. Roberts, WA 98281)

FOR SALE: I still have over 800 individual S-O-M Baseball teams from 1930-1987. Over 22,000 assorted baseball cards from 1930-1987. I also still have some complete sets left: 1978, '81, '83, '86. Send a SASE with 65 cents postage for my giant 1988 teams list and/or send your list of assorted cards that you want to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111 (215-745-5247). Special note: I am interested in buying more S-O-M Baseball.

FOR SALE: Complete 1983 baseball without extras; mint condition; \$15 + \$2 postage. Will consider selling individual teams. 36 reduced-size past-season teams; mint condition; \$10 + \$2 postage. Both sets for \$20 plus postage. Mark Gast, P.O. Box 512, Taft, CA 93268

FOR SALE: 1988 Baseball (blue cards). Entire set, \$20 or best offer. I paid \$26. Keith Miller, 318 Dale, Willard, OH 44890

FOR SALE: Football - 1974 (\$40), 1986 (\$10). Baseball - 1987 (\$10), 1986 (\$10). New college football complete (\$10). All items in excellent condition. Will sell all for \$60. First money order receives item. Cal Whitbeck, 117 Peachtree, Mason, MI 48854

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1974, 1975, 1977-80, 1982, 1983, 1985. All years are complete sets with extra players and are in excellent condition. Sold by complete set only. Also, 1985 computer team disk and game program for Apple II. Send offers to: John Hooper, 11704 Olde English Drive, Apt. G,

Reston, VA 22090 (703-689-3974)
WANTED: Baseball - 1962-1967 complete sets. Send price and complete description to: John Hooper, 11704 Olde English Drive, Apt. G, Reston, VA 22090

FOR SALE: Team slumping? Show its true colors with 6-sided and 20-sided dice in nine shades. See ad elsewhere in this issue. David de la Fuente, 56 Oakdale Ave., Apt. 2, Akron, OH 44302

FOR SALE: Cleaning out the closet. Complete baseball sets from 1974-1986 (two sets for some years). Complete hockey sets from 1977-78 to 1985-86 seasons. All sets very good to excellent; each set used for one draft league season. All replies answered. I will pay postage. Send bids to: Jerry Banko, 639 Payne Avenue, Erie, PA 16503

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: The South Shore Stratosaurus Baseball League, a face-to-face draft league, is seeking new managers. For information call or write: Joe Trudeau (617-826-6906), P.O. Box 77, Hanover, MA 02339

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking to join a reliable and enjoyable PBM football league? - several franchises are available in the prestigious NAFA league. The NAFA features super-advanced S-O-M rules, playing face-to-face, neutral and home games and league awards for participation. A personal commitment and a basic knowledge of the game are only requirements. Don't delay, become a NAFA coach today. Contact: Michael Macher, 415 Walnut St., Middlesex, NJ 08846 (201-469-9331)

LEAGUE FORMING: Do you like team replays as opposed to draft? Fourth season of PBM baseball NL replay now playing 1987 (current) season. Winning manager is the one who has best percentage over actual won-lost, so your manager-
(continued)

ial skills are tested whether in first place or last. Easy schedule (we have gamers in Italy and Israel) and we give tips to beginners. To register, send list of all 12 teams in order of preference to: Tony Huhn, 1407 Stoddard #1, Missoula, MT 59802 (or call 406-549-5417)

LEAGUE FORMING: My name is Frank Dickson. I live in Barboursville, WV. I'm looking to form a PBM league or get into a face-to-face league in the Huntington-Charleston area. I have been a Strat-O fan since 1975 and have played in many PBM leagues, but this will mark my initial try at running a league (using 1988 cards). If you would like to help get this idea going, please contact me at 304-736-2522 Monday-Saturday after 9 each evening.

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for managers to form a S-O-M Baseball league. If interested, contact: Bob Wingate, 11 Edgewood Avenue, South Attleboro, MA 02783

LEAGUE FORMING: W.I.F.F.L.E. B.A.L.L. (Weekly Informal Face-Face League Executed by Aged Little Leaguers) is looking for at least one full-time manager for the 1988 season. We are a 10-team, continuous ownership, A.L. draft league beginning our third season in southern California. All of the super-advanced rules are used, including ballpark effects and pitchers' holding on ratings. If you are an experienced manager looking for a competitive league, W.I.F.F.L.E. B.A.L.L. is for you. For more details, call: Drew Elliott (213-866-4631, after 3 p.m.).

LEAGUE FORMING: Established eight-team PBM advanced National League needs one new manager plus backups. Available team includes Schmidt, Carter, Keith Hernandez, Guerrero, H. Johnson, Dave Smith and others. First-come, first-serve. If interested, contact: Larry Foster, 5028 Rock Glen Dr., Stone Mountain, GA 30088 (call 404-469-2789)

LEAGUE FORMING: Managers needed for the brand new Greater Phoenix Strat-O-Matic Baseball League. Super advanced rules used in fresh draft league. Schedule and rules open to discussion. Contact Lou Bruno (602-266-3710), 2025 W. Indian School Road, Apt. 423, Phoenix, AZ 85015

LEAGUE FORMING: I intend to form a 16-team face-to-face S-O-M Baseball league in the Connecticut area. I am seeking game players in Connecticut interested in such a league. The intent is to have four four-team divisions participating in two eight-team conferences, grouped according to location to cut down on travel time. I hope to have this league formulated in time to begin play with the current issue of 1988 cards. If you live in Connecticut and are interested in a face-to-face league, contact: Bruce Fogg, 43 Highland Dr., Wallingford, CT 06492 (203-269-9274)

LEAGUE FORMING: Managers needed for a continuous PBM league. Brand new league with simultaneous American and National League seasons. This is your chance to get into a league from the beginning. Choose to use American or National League players. Leagues will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Expect to start the seasons in July. To begin the pennant fever, contact: John Gedwill, 7842 W. 165th Place Tinley Park, IL 60477 (312-429-9493)

LEAGUE FORMING: Two seasoned veterans would like to start, or join, a face-to-face adult baseball league in, or about, Burlington, Ontario. Ideally, we would like to be part of a six-to-12-team American League with draft. If interested, call: Jim Lacey, 332-9496, or Steve Petaci, 681-2951.

Contests

CONTEST: Attention gamers. The (continued on page 23)

first annual Great Southwest Strat-O-Matic Shootout will be held May 20-22, 1988, in Longview, TX. There will be a baseball tournament played under TBA (Table Baseball Association) rules. There is a good possibility that this tournament will be sanctioned by John Kreuz as an official TBA tournament. There will also be a sports trivia contest, with a college football and pro football tournaments also likely to take place. Entry fee is only \$10. For more information, write or call: Allen Pliler, Rt. 1 Box 588, Longview, TX 75602 (214-753-3442)

CONTEST: Eighth annual Lyman Bostock Memorial Tournament will be held the weekend of June 25-26, 1988, in Portage, IN, at the Holiday Inn in the Pavillion and Gigi rooms. Featuring advanced and elementary baseball, super advanced hockey and super advanced football (old and modern versions). Trophies will be awarded to the winners and runners-up of each event. Meet fellow gamers from all over the country and experience the pressure of tournament play. Starting time is 8 a.m. (CST) and the entry fee is \$18.50. For further information, write or call (if writing, please enclose a large SASE): James Sanders, 1068 Van Buren St., Gary, IN 46402 (1-219-882-2938)

CONTEST: Attention tournament players. The Greater Scottsdale Strat-O-Matic Baseball League (GSSOMBL) is sponsoring an open advanced baseball tournament, May 20-22, at Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ. Previous tournament experience not necessary. Rules for tournament play will be the same as used by the Table Baseball Association (TBA). Entry fee is \$25, with cash prizes for top four finishers (i.e. \$150 first prize based on 16 entrants). For more information, call: Terry Sheridan (602-844-5900) or write to: Terry Sheridan, c/o GSSOMBL, P.O. Box 2414, Scottsdale, AZ 85252

Questions & Answers

QUESTION: In hockey, when a player gets a penalty for intimidation is he only awarded 2 minutes or is the split number also used on the super advanced penalty chart? (Adam Wodon, Lake Grove, NY)

ANSWER: According to S-O-M, a second split number if there is a penalty and the amount of time for the penalty.

QUESTION: When an offensive team wins a faceoff in hockey in the defensive end of the ice, can the player with the puck pass? (Phil Ledesma, Hawthorne, CA)

ANSWER: The player with the puck can either shoot or penetrate, according to S-O-M.

QUESTION: How does a +1 or +2 faceoff advantage affect draws for the power play or penalty killing teams? (Ledesma)

ANSWER: S-O-M says the ratings in question have no bearing on faceoff situations.

QUESTION: When a penalty killer's defense rating changes (i.e. 4 (3) or 3 (4) for example) does his defense section (12, 13, 14) change to reflect his penalty killing effectiveness, or does the new rating only reflect his ability to clear rebounds while short-handed? (Ledesma)

ANSWER: The ratings were done in this way, according to S-O-M, to reflect accurately the goals scored and given up on the power play. You don't have to change the bottom number.

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Strat-O-Matic spotlight

(continued from page 8)

games by the same handle, or if any of the band's members play S-O-M. "Contemporary is the term that I can best bestow on their style," writes Adam Barbasso.

SHORT SHAKES

The 1953 Brooklyn Dodgers were the champs of an 84-team double-elimination baseball tournament conducted by Paul Friederick of Belleville, IL. After eight months of rollin' 'em, the Dodgers had a 7-0 record (reliever Clem Labine was 3-0 and had two saves), the 1905 Giants were second (6-2), '46 Boston third (7-2) and the '56 Braves fourth (8-2)...George Bell's grand slam gave the West a 6-5 win over the East in the Southwest Suburban Strato League's fourth annual mid-season all-star game. The SWSSL is an eight-team, face-to-face league on the southwest side of Chicago. Ages range from 20-40 and all advanced rules are used, including ballparks.