

## 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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### Bostock Tournament again success Champions are crowned in Sanders' tournament

As this issue of the Review and issues that came out throughout the summer clearly show, there's no shortage of Strat-O-Matic tournament gaming activity.

There's been the TBA, Pro-Strat and other assorted mini tournament gatherings.

The Granddaddy of the tournaments, however, is still the Lyman Bostock Memorial, which James Sanders, the Gary, IN, policeman, has staged for six consecutive years. It's not nearly as elaborate, or does it pay out in lavish prizes or huge sums of money, like some of the others. But it's been a model of consistency, thanks to the tireless efforts of Sanders.

Sanders sends along word that the most recent LBMT was another success, with gamers from all over the country gathering at Purdue University at West Lafayette, IN, for three days of dice-rolling, camaraderie and revelry.

"As usual we had a great time and the tournament was a success," said Sanders. "We once again had gamers from all over the country. Most gamers arrived at Purdue on Friday evening and soon Strato games were being played and parties going on all over the place."

In attendance, among others, were a doctor, lawyers and even a congressional candidate (Ken Donnelly) for the third district seat in Indiana.

So much work was involved in staging the popular event that Sanders, a self-admitted football fanatic, had to confine his gaming to two exhibitions. He took the Dwight Gooden-led 1985 Mets and lost to the '50 Indians, 11-4, in an exhibition baseball game, and also was beaten, despite having the Super Bowl champion Chicago Bears, by the '85 New York Giants, 27-20. The Giants were guided by longtime Sanders nemesis, "Mad Dog" Brammer from Kansas City.

One bit of bad news came out of this year's convention in that the site for next summer's convention will have to be in a different place  
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than Purdue. "It was due to reasons beyond my control," explained Sanders. "If any gamers in Indiana or Illinois know of a place close by, please contact me at: 5806 Kennedy Terrace #103, Gary, IN 46403.

#### ADVANCED BASEBALL

The advanced baseball tournament again attracted the most entries (62), with the field broken up into eight divisions and with each team playing a 12-game schedule. Winner and runnerup in each division advanced to the playoffs. Series of five-game duration were played the rest of the way until the final, which was seven games.

So competitive were the divisional races that one division had four teams having to play a pre-playoff playoff.

When it was all over, Rich Newman's '86 Reds had defeated Frank Luisi's defending champion '77 Phillies in the World Series in five games (3-4, 12-4, 4-3, 9-7, 7-1).

Greg Luzinski's solo homer in the bottom of the 14th inning decided game one...but after that it was all the Reds as Frank Robinson won game three in 10 innings, 4-3, with a solo homer, and Wally Post connected for a three-run shot to lead the way in a 7-1 romp in the final game.

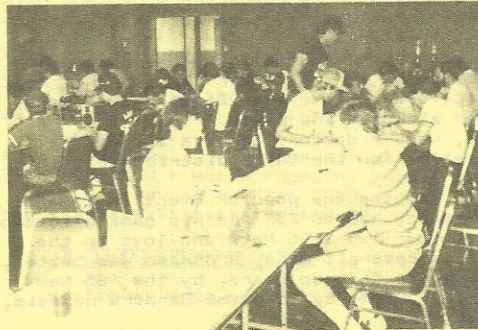
Along with winning the Series, Newman also put his name in the LBMT recordbook by going unbeaten in the 12-game first-round series. In the playoffs, Newman ousted, in order, the '75 Reds (3-1), '80 Yankees (3-2) and '74 A's (3-0).



RICH NEWMAN (LEFT). VINCE LUISI

#### SUPER ADVANCED HOCKEY

In an exciting seven-game final, John Stewart's '81-'82 Islanders finally subdued Joe Peto's '81-82 Canadiens, overcoming a 3-1 deficit to accomplish the feat.



PART OF THE CROWD AT PURDUE U.

Rich Wamsley's superb goaltending had Montreal on the verge of victory as it led 2-0, with 13 minutes left, in game five. But New York erupted for four goals in eight minutes and reversed that outcome.

Game six also went to the Islanders, 7-1. A 5-3 win by New York wrapped it up in game seven. Goalie Roland Melanson was the difference for the Islanders as he stopped 10 of 12 goalie rating

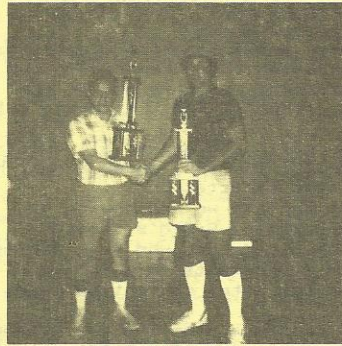
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shots, including seven in the first period.

#### SUPER ADVANCED FOOTBALL (OLD VERSION)

Beth Sherman of New York and his '68 Jets defeated '73 Miami in the Super Bowl, 16-13, as 23 gamers vied for honors in the largest football tourney in LBM history.



SETH SHERMAN (LEFT), PETE NICHOLSON

Pete Nicholson, a lawyer from Winchester, IL, guided Miami and seemingly was on the verge of victory when late in the game, and ahead 13-6, the Dolphins were driving for an insurance touchdown.

But a fumble was recovered by the Jets and New York promptly put 10 points on the scoreboard. Miami drove inside the 10 with a minute left, only to have Bob Griese sacked and Garo Yepremian miss a 38-yard field goal attempt that would have tied the game and forced an overtime.

"Sherman is from New York and is a holdover from the old S-O-M conventions put on by Rick (Wolfman) Shapiro," points out Sanders.

Matt Lorenz ('74 Washington) defeated Ed Grap's '76 Rams for third place, 31-13. The Jets were the first team to repeat as LBMT champion, having won the inaugural tournament.

#### SUPER ADVANCED FOOTBALL (MODERN VERSION)

Actually a backup tournament which was played Sunday. Ten teams participated, with Eric Lathrop's '85 Patriots defeating Ken Golston's 49ers in a wild final, 37-24. Craig James rushed for 176 yards and scored twice for the Patriots.

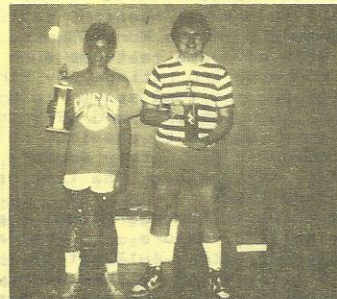
The pre-tourney favorite, the '85 Bears, were eliminated early by the 49ers in a big upset.

#### ELEMENTARY BASEBALL

The '27 Yankees were allowed to compete for the first time and Micah Burch was the envied skipper that brought the Bronx Bombers home first. The 1919 White Sox, managed by Tom Lyne, lost the final in four straight games.

Lou Gehrig was the overall tourney MVP with 10 homers and a .378 average. At one point, Babe Ruth was walked intentionally 11 times in three games.

The first no-hitter in the LBM was produced as Dave McNally (Mike Beeson, Atlanta, GA) shut down the '06 Cubs, 2-0.



MICAH BURCH (LEFT), TOM LYNE



John Kreuz is rebuilding TBA's image

## Table Baseball Association is 'alive'

"We are alive, but not completely well."

The speaker is John Kreuz of Glenview, IL, who has undertaken the task of re-establishing the creditability of the Table Baseball Association (TBA; see Nov., 1985 Review).

"I am trying to repair the negative effect there has been and I'm sincerely attempting to right any wrongs," says Kreuz, who was one of the main financial backers of the TBA in the beginning.

Tournaments in Boston (Sept. 12) and Chicago (Sept. 19) have already been held and will be reported in the November issue of the Review.

Kreuz, a registered investment advisor and a longtime Strat-O-Matic gamer, says it was his love for table-gaming that drew him to the TBA initially. He does admit, however, that the business end of the operation was poorly run (by one of his partner's) and that phone calls after a while were never returned.

"I have promised to return all phone calls and answer all questions about upcoming tournaments," vows Kreuz. The TBA, under Kreuz, has also scaled down its goals to more realistic expectations.

"I feel that John Kreuz is an honest man and we are hoping he makes a success of the TBA," says Harold Richman, S-O-M's creator.

"We were at a low point recently," admits Kreuz, who says one of the many changes he's made is to schedule tournaments at sites with reasonable rental rates rather than luxurious hotel convention rooms with exorbitant prices.

Eventually, if everything gets back on track, the TBA may expand nation-wide and fulfill Tim Johnston's 'dream' of regional tournaments. But for now the reborn TBA will stage events in selected cities.

"Kreuz is an older man with an established business," adds Richman. "He spent a lot of his money and time on the TBA before and was a silent partner. Now he's in control."

If you are interested in finding out more about the TBA, or have questions, John Kreuz can be reached by writing 4732 Laurel, Glenview, IL 60025, or calling 1-312-635-6747.

The Nov. issue of the Review will, as previously mentioned, have an update on the TBA, and it's 'health' will be duly reported.

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## In this corner...the editors

The 1968 baseball season, featuring the Detroit Tigers and St. Louis Cardinals in the World Series, will be the next to be reproduced, replete with advanced features such as lefty-righty pitching and batting and throwing arm ratings, by Strat-O-Matic.

Following the 1968 season in S-O-M's lineup, however, may be the 1962 year. Both the 1962 and 1959 seasons had support from the gaming public, as evidenced by previous polls in the Review.

Although it definitely appears the 1927 season has been put on the backburner, at least for the time being, the choice after '68 is not nearly so definite.

One thing to remember about the '62 season - and perhaps its greatest selling feature - is the fact that it was the first year that S-O-M came out with a full set of teams. The original Mets would be another selling point, although only "good-to-great losers" could get more enjoyment out of replaying Casey Stengel's ragamuffins.

Prior to the 1962 season, S-O-M had produced all-star or selected team card sets. But '62 signaled the dawning of a new day in S-O-M Baseball and all teams each year have been produced ever since.



## Here are rules for Pro-Strat tournament play

Anything that is a success always has a sequel. There's the Rocky series. And any number of grisly horror flicks (Friday the 13th I through ad infinitum) draw big crowds for big screen showings, or are popular via video rental or purchase.

In the Strat-O-Matic world, the first Pro-Strat convention (featured in the September Review) warrants a sequel, too. And the organizers of the convention that was held at Hofstra University in the New York area, have responded to the success of their initial endeavor and have Pro-Strat Convention II set for this November (the weekend of the 7-9).

With lucrative prizes (\$1,200, \$500, a VCR and color TV went to the gamers who finished one through four, plus there was losers tournament that paid off \$165 to the winner and \$65 to the runnerup) being offered, attendance should balloon for Pro-Strat II.

The fact that the trio of organizers - Steve Laskin, Howard Belgrad and Fred Goodman - were well prepared and smoothly ran off the tournament should help for future events. Even though Pro-Strat took a financial loss, all the prize money and gifts were awarded as advertised. There was no reduction in the monetary awards, nor prizes.

Instant credibility has been attained by the Pro-Strat folks, who call Massapequa Park, NY, their home base. There was nary a complaint: instead only praise of the work of Pro-Strat. Many gamers, before they departed, wanted to know when the next tournament was going to be held and they promised to bring other league members or S-O-M friends.

As promised in the September issue of the Review, the rules used for the Pro-Strat tournaments would be presented. The rules are concise and brief, and seem to have taken into consideration everything you would want to know about how to stage a baseball tournament.

The draft, which was also explained at length in the September Review, makes the tournaments a test of a manager's drafting ability as well as his table-top managing expertise. Four different draft pools were used at Pro-Strat I and more could easily be added, depending on the turnout.

Now for the rules for Pro-Strat tournaments:

### EQUIPMENT

Pro-Strat will supply all dice, cubes, charts, cards, rolling cups and scoresheets.

### DRAFT

Each manager will draft 26 players, using the latest (1985) card set, including extra players. One player must be dropped from the roster before play begins.

- A. Draft sequence - Round 1: pick 1, 2, 3, 4, 5...20  
Round 2: pick 20, 19, 18, 17...1  
Reverse order each round.
- B. Draft positions will be determined by lot.
- C. Manager has 45 seconds to draft a player.
- D. If a manager calls out a player's name during his turn, the player will be considered as drafted.
- E. A manager may be penalized for calling out players out of turn.
- F. If players have split cards (i.e. two cards for same player) use the card with the highest at-bat or inning-pitched total.
- G. No at-bat or inning-pitched limitations, except with relief pitchers. See sub section ("Play") under N, O, P and Q.

(continued on next page)



- H. Managers must draft at least two (2) players per position.
- I. No designated hitter (DH).
- J. Managers must use at least a four-man (4) starting rotation.

#### PLAY

All official Strat-O-Matic advanced baseball rules will be used except as mentioned hereafter. All managers must use Pro-Strat equipment (see preceding page).

- A. Injuries: 1-10 - no injury; 11-20 - remainder of game.
- B. All dice must lay flush with the playing surface.
- C. All dice must be rolled together.
- D. If any die falls off the table, re-roll the dice.
- E. We will use the old stealing system (AAA, AA, A, B, C, D, E).
- F. No super-advanced rules.
- G. The infield may be brought "in" at all times, except when a runner is being held on base.
- H. Offense must ask defense if the infield is "in" or if any runners are being held on. If the offense forgets, then a re-roll is in order.
- I. If a manager makes a lineup error, such as batting out of order or looking at the wrong card, go back to the point of error unless the following rolls had no bearing on the outcome at hand.
- J. When taking the extra base on a throw, the defensive manager may elect to throw or not to throw. If he chooses not to throw the trail runners stay at their bases. If he throws, the trail runners move up.
- K. A manager may not remove the last player at any fielding position. If an injury forces the last player to be removed, the opposing manager picks a player from the bench to fill the spot (a pitcher may not be picked). The fielding rating for the picked player will be the worst possible rating of a given position. \*\* Note - outfield arms will be rated +5, while catchers arms will be rated +4.
- L. A starter/reliever used as a starter can relieve only after a three-game (3) rest. He then may start again after a three-game (3) rest from the time of his last relief appearance.
- M. "Strictly relievers" may not start. "Strictly starters" may not relieve.
- N. Relief pitchers may not be used for more than six (6) outs per game, except as herein stated. \*\* Note - if a double or triple play sends a reliever over his six (6) outs quota, there is no penalty.
- O. A manager whose pitcher is the last available reliever may exceed the six (6) outs restriction. However, each additional three (3) outs will result in a one-game suspension for that particular pitcher.
- P. When exceeding six (6) outs, the pitcher is automatically tired.
- Q. Starting pitching rotation and reliever suspensions carry over from series to series.

If interested in joining in the fun and the quest for money and prizes on Nov. 7-9 at Hofstra University, write:

Pro-Strat  
172 Atlantic Ave.  
Massapequa Park, NY 11762

If entry fee is submitted before Oct. 15, cost is \$40. After Oct. 15 the entry fee will be \$45.



# Readers roll 'em

## SETTING RECORD STRAIGHT

Boy, oh, boy - I didn't realize my complaint about the commissioner who didn't send back the money would raise such a ruckus. My name keeps popping up in the Review too often.

To set the record straight, I received \$5 of the \$8 back from the commissioner, which is fine, since the money was far less a problem than the principle of the thing.

It is my opinion that the young man simply got in over his head, and didn't realize that there are certain things you just don't do. I'm sure he's well aware of it by now; to the best of my knowledge I don't think he ever intended dishonesty - just an acute lack of finances and experience to be running a league.

As long as I have a forum, I'd like to make these comments about advanced baseball:

- The clutch system will always remain a question mark as long as the game company is elusive about its fact-gathering methods. If it indeed incorporated stats like RBI vs. potential RBI, plus hits with two outs and the game is still close, plus key hits in key pennant races, etc., over a period of more than one year, then my hat's off to S-O-M.

Anything less than that will result in a distortion of actual player performance. Elias' stats mean almost nothing clutchwise, but I am not aware of anyone ever doing the kind of extensive fact gathering that would really indicate true clutch ability.

One suggestion, though, if you're going to insist on this boondoggie, why not make the clutch not only with two outs, but if the game is within four runs or so. Is it really a clutch hit during a 13-0 game in the eighth inning?

- Main gripes are the advanced stealing (figure out a way to get the stats on the

card). This referencing of a separate card - especially for draft leagues - is for the birds.

- Second, put at least the batting average vs. left and right on the cards. All you have to do is look at the ads to see the huge demand for some sort of statistical information on the righty/lefty situation. It's certainly not secret information any more and you'd save many gamers hours of marking up their cards if you put something besides percentages of pitchers faced.

But, thanks for the greatest baseball game in the world, flaws disputes and all.

For the last time in a while, I hope.

KEVIN ANDERSON  
1871 Kilkenny Dr.  
Lake Oswego, OR

## WELCOME BACK COTTRELL

I am renewing my subscription to the Strat-O-Matic Review after letting it expire for some time. As an S-O-M devotee, I must have some S-O-M magazine to get my "fix."

But with my money to you, I just want to echo Luke Kraemer's feelings towards the lack of analytical articles on S-O-M play (Sept., 1986 Review).

I also agree the S-O-M Review should pare back the extra details on draft league games and other "filler" type material, which is of minimal interest if you are not in that league.

Instead, I vote strongly for more S-O-M analysis and rule variant articles.

RICH COTTRELL  
Parma, MS

Editor's note: The Review also echoes its comments, following Luke Kraemer's letter in the Sept. issue, that all analytical and rule variant articles are welcome, just as they've always been.

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# REVIEW PRAISED

You people do one heckuva job in putting the Review together, what with gathering all the information on leagues, ads and the like.

The Review is quick reading and I have found myself anxiously awaiting the new edition after I have read the previous one.

As far as the for sale section, please keep up the good work. In a little over one year I have expanded my Strato collection by leaps and bounds by purchasing past seasons from other owners around the country. This has been beneficial to me for doing replays and matching teams from the past against teams from the present.

All in all, you should be highly commended for a super job.

One question before I finish. The game company supposedly has the 1968 baseball season in line to be the next released. Are there any other seasons which it plans to release after the '68 (not specifically after the '68 season, but any seasons in general)?

CHRIS LOVALLO

Editor's note: Thanks for the kinds words. As far as future past seasons, S-O-M has indicated (see page 4 of this issue) that 1968 will be next. After that the Review feels, from talking with the game company, that 1962 is the next likely past season.

# PAST SEASONS WORTH IT

I would like to make a comment on S-O-M's reprints of past seasons. Even though I own several 1960's seasons, I would like to see these teams reprinted, because there are no extras or advanced sides.

However, I think the '70s and '80s cards should not be reprinted, because they have those features.

Even though reprints would devalue the teams I own from

worth it.

# 1968 IS NEXT

Has Strat-O-Matic announced yet what year will be issued next for baseball (past years, I mean)?

JIM PORTER  
Swissvale, PA

Editor's note: 1968 is next up.

# REPLAYING THE SOX

I haven't found a lot of fellow table-top sports fans in Vermont; so far only one regular player and we've gotten together a few times for some wild Red Sox-Orioles games.

I'm currently 125 games into a replay of last year's Sox season and found some invaluable replay aids through your ad section.

I'm pleased to see you advocating for having pitchers' abilities to hold runners on base rated. This year's changes have added so much (especially having a home park like Fenway) that this further change can only enhance the game.

ROBERT TURCOT  
4 Grant St.  
Burlington, VT

# DISAGREES WITH HBPS

I am extremely impressed with the new additions made to the S-O-M advanced baseball game.

However, there is one aspect of the game I disagree with - hit by pitches. Most often, a batter is hit by circumstance more than anything else.

I would like to see the HBP result moved to the pitcher's card, with a few notable exceptions (Don Baylor, for one). It seems more reasonable that if Mike Smithson hits 15 different batters or Tim Stoddard hits seven in 60 innings, the chances are much greater that they will continue to hit more batters in more innings.



However, there is a strong possibility that someone like Dave Parker (three HBP) may not get hit again in his career. Granted, players like Baylor, Chris Brown, Carlton Fisk and Brian Downing have had an abnormal tendency to get hit a lot in their careers and should be rewarded as such. Let's just put the HBP roll where it belongs.

PATRICK DARE  
671 Andrews Road  
Aberdeen, MD

#### OLD BALL PARK RATINGS

Thank you for printing my ball park chart in the July, 1986 issue.

Here are the ratings Jim Elliott (Aug., 1986 Review) was interested in: Wrigley Field (Los Angeles - 340 RF - 1-9; 340 LF - 1-9); Los Angeles Coliseum (300 RF - 1-16; 251 LF - 1-20).

There are two items I would like to mention. I have been trying to find the foul line dimensions for Griffith Stadium in Washington, D.C. This was the original home of the Senators and the only park I haven't rated. If someone knows of them, could they drop me a line? It would be appreciated.

Second, I would like to see the game company select a season (example, 1946, the first season after World War II) to chronologically print the baseball sets.

This might save them a few headaches about what seasons to re-create. It would also give some continuity to gamers such as myself who like to replay seasons.

Thanks for the forum.

CHRIS CHARRON  
6411 53rd Ave.  
Court West Apt. A  
Tacoma, WA 98467

#### IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

Being the fastest-paced and most exciting game, S-O-M Hockey is the best around. However, many

improvements are sorely needed.

Among these are passing columns. Wayne Gretzky's assist rating should be around a 13. But it wouldn't matter anyway because any player - 9 is the highest the assist section on the split cards gets. In most leagues, Gretzky winds up with more goals than assists.

Also needed are goalie penalties, better injury chart, more chance at injury, game misconducts, fights occurring with players at other positions (many times there are a few "A's" on the ice, but since they're at different positions, a fight cannot occur) and a revised penalty chart to include a chance at coincidental major penalties and five-minute power plays.

And, of course, separate goalie cards.

It took 10 years for advanced baseball. Lets hope we don't have to wait that long for the hockey changes.

Despite it all, S-O-M is still the best and I will continue to play it. However, S-O-M says it reacts to pressures, but for many years I have seen a lot of letters in the Review asking for changes.

ADAM WODON  
4 Colnar Ave.  
Lake Grove, NY

#### MORE PIZZAZ NEEDED

A few comments on the S-O-M Computer Baseball game. There is no doubt that it contains the finest statistical package around bar none. It also allows for much speedier play, which is always welcome.

My only complaint, which is minor, is that I'd like to see commentary on each play and commentary with a little more pizzaz.

Otherwise, it's a first-rate game. By the way, the Mets are tearing up my league at this point. I'll send stats later.

TAD SCHWARTZBERG  
1492 Brookcliff Dr.  
Marietta, GA

# Basketball playing tips

BY DICK HUNT, Ovid, MI

This playing tip is used in the American Tabletop Basketball League, a play-by-mail league I run, and has to do with the most important part of any Strat-O-Matic game: the paperwork. For without the paper shuffling, what good are all those cards, dice and charts? Stats are everything.

When S-O-M revised the basketball game (beginning with the 1980-81 cards), it also revised its scoresheet in a wonderful fashion. In my opinion, the best change in the scoresheet was the little boxes that allowed for keeping track of each player's minutes played.

This is an extremely important stat in pro basketball like in no other sport. But many people I talk to have no idea how to use the little boxes. Most folks end up with a mess of notes and erasures.

Before playing any games, I get 11 small cards (index cards cut into halves or thirds work great) and write the numbers 1 through 11 on them. These will go into the action deck to warn me how many minutes remain in the quarter, just as the small cards S-O-M provides with the basketball game do.

Then I count out the action cards, five at a time, as five such cards represent one minute of a quarter. After each five cards, I lay down a "minutes left" card, starting with one and going in ascending order. When I'm done, I have my 60 action cards that represent one quarter. After the fifth card drawn, the minutes start ticking down...

## HOW TO FILL IN SCORESHEET BOXES

Now for those nasty little boxes on the scoresheet.

First, at the start of each quarter, the starting players each get a tiny little 's' in their box. Write small, You'll be glad you did. The little 's' means the guy started the quarter.

When anyone comes out, I figure out at which point in the quarter he is being removed. Then he gets, in his minutes box, a tiny 'o' with a number behind it to represent his exit point. If he leaves with four minutes left in the quarter, he gets a tiny o4. If he leaves with three minutes to go, it's an o3.

For players entering the game during a quarter, I use a small 'i' to indicate that they are coming into the game. Simple, yes? Yes. This system makes it easy to see when the players entered and exited a quarter and makes the "minutes played" stats easy to add up.

A handy thing to remember: if a player comes out between the "Minutes left" cards, remember that five action cards make a minute. Count down to the next Minutes Left card: if there are one or two action cards before it appears, the player gets credit for the minute he is now exiting. If there are three, four or five action cards before the next Minutes Left card, he does not get credit for having played the minute he is now exiting.

## BY THE COLORS

I have one more handy tip for you before I go - in keeping score on the scoresheets, don't you get rather confused by the end of the game?

If a guy has a great game, how do you tell if his first half was any better than his second half? Did he have a good fourth quarter? How can you tell?

In the ATBL, we recommend the use of a four-color ink pen, which is probably available in your local drug or variety store. Using blue

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for the first quarter (on the scoresheet), red for the second quarter, green for the third quarter and black for the fourth quarter (or some similar combination), we can always tell what happened and when it happened.

Try it. You might be amazed at how much more you're enjoying S-O-M pro basketball.

Editor's note: Dick Hunt is employed at Oldsmobile, has a family and is a 13-year veteran of S-O-M gaming. He is a frequent contributor to the Review and his playing tips have been well received by the gaming public.

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## Football playing tips

Nothing is forever. All of Strat-O-Matic's games have gone through changes over the years. The pro football game was the most recent, with the changes keeping up with the changes in the real-life game.

"I really love the changes," says Joe Tate of Marietta, GA. "especially the super-advanced pass rush chart and the pass/run ratings for blockers and defenders. Now it matters whether or not a blitzing linebacker is a good pass rusher. Before it only mattered how many linebackers blitzed."

One minor change that Tate would like to see, however, is to allow sacks to vary in yardage, rather than always being for 9-yard losses. With that in mind, Tate's made up a chart for varying sack yardage. "Using my chart the average yard loss is 8.991 (very close to 9)," he says.

To use the chart, roll all three of the numbered dice after a sack has occurred. The white die numbers are listed on the left side; red dice numbers ( ) are listed across the top of the chart.

SACK YARDAGE CHART

White Die	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1	7	15	11	9	8	10	7	11	5	8	10
2	12	10	8	13	10	7	9	6	10	9	7
3	14	9	12	6	11	9	8	10	14	6	11
4	11	5	10	8	9	6	11	9	8	13	5
5	8	12	7	11	5	8	9	7	12	6	8
6	6	11	9	10	7	12	10	8	9	7	12

Chances of occurring:

Yards - %

Yards - %

	5	- 5.1%	11	- 11.6%
	6	- 8.8%	12	- 7.4%
Average loss	7	- 12.5%	13	- 2.8%
	8	- 15.7%	14	- 1.9%
= 8.991	9	- 18.1%	15	- 1.0%
	10	- 15.3%		

# Advertisements

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

## Wanted

WANTED: 1975 complete baseball season with extras. Please state condition. Will pay \$65. Richard Gulezian, One Robinhood Road, Windham, NH 03087

WANTED: Hey you S-O-M gamers of Europe, wake up! If you're tired of S-O-M solitaire games, why not build up a FBM league? Please drop me a line: I'm waiting your opinion (even if negative). I'm mainly interested in hockey and baseball. Advertisement always good. Please contact: Georgio Salvadego, Via Castelveccchio, 4/6 30174 Venezia-Mestre, Italy (phone: 0039-41-974255 after 3 p.m.)

WANTED: Baseball complete sets. Will pay \$50 for '62 or '63 in very good condition or better (no missing cards, no writing on cards, all cards easily readable). Will pay \$40 for '71 in similar condition. Also need '64 Orioles, '65 Orioles and Red Sox, '60 All-Stars. Trades possible if you want sets from the '80s. Reply to: Glenn Guzzo, 2018 Green St., Philadelphia, PA 19130. Please give phone number and indicate whether you have roster sheets to accompany complete sets.

WANTED: 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1978 seasons. Will pay top price for season(s) in mint condition. Send prices to: Mike Russell, 3025 Jersey Ave. No., Minneapolis, MN 55427

WANTED: If you live in the New

York metropolitan area and would like to make quick, easy cash - unload your unwanted S-O-M material on us. Call: Charles Squannone (1-718-417-5009). Those living outside the greater New York area can call or send their list to: 792 B. Onderdonk Ave., Ridgewood, NY 11385

WANTED: Various individual (loose) S-O-M Baseball cards, 1972-1975. Write and ask for my list and prices or send your list. Also need various individual baseball teams 1971, 1972 and 1974. Phone calls welcome. Cyril Morong, Graduate Center, Box 203, Pullman, WA 99163 (509-335-1828)

WANTED: Florida Strat gamers, stand up and be counted. I am currently looking to compile comprehensive directory of the Sunshine state's Strat players and leagues. This guide should be valuable to established leagues looking for dedicated players and visa-versa. I have an ulterior motive: I'm looking now to incorporate existing face-to-face leagues and individuals into an expansive, state-wide "Super League" with regional divisions engaging in face-to-face play. But even if you're not interested, send in your name, address, phone number and gaming interests to be included in the directory. And, if you'd like to receive a (free) finished copy of this valuable guide, send along an SASE. Who knows? Maybe your own neighbors are Strat-O-Matic fanatics, too!

(continued)



Write to: Stefan Foyo, 3435  
S. Orange Ave., Apt. 121.  
Orlando, FL 32806

WANTED: Baseball - 1977 Cincinnati (with extras): 1979 extra player card set. Hockey - The following seasons with extra players: 1979-80, 1980-81, 1981-82 complete seasons. All cards must be in good to excellent condition. Please send asking price along with SASE to: Mark Oleksiw, 7672 Millet St., St. Leonard, Quebec H1S-2N2. I will pay any reasonable price.

## For Sale

FOR SALE: Football teams, 1968-78. Good condition. If you meet my price, I will sell immediately. Lower bids will be decided at the end of the month. Mike Bordelon, 5445 Braesvalley, #724, Houston, TX 77096 (713-721-5465)

FOR SALE: The exact schedules and pitching rotations played by all major league teams for any season, 1901-present. 1985 sells for just \$8, 1956 for \$7.25. Write for quotes on all other seasons. Rich Pray, 7800 LaNain Drive, Pensacola, FL 32514

FOR SALE: Individual S-O-M Baseball teams from 1950-1985. Loose S-O-M Baseball cards from 1930-1985. Send a SASE for teams list and or your list for loose cards to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen St., Philadelphia, PA 19111 (215-745-5247). A lot of new stock.

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 misplayed 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 system 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: Roster sheets and supplementary stealing charts for '77, '80, '82, '83, '85, '86. Whole set for \$2. Baseball cards: 1984 A.L. with extras (minus Detroit and Baltimore); 1985 A.L. with extras (minus Detroit and Baltimore). Both sets include NL extra players. All 24 teams with extras only \$12.50. Keith Miller, 318 Dale, Willard, OH 44890 (419-935-1760)

FOR SALE: 1983-84 Basketball set in excellent to mint condition (sorry, no extras). Will consider trade for pre-1980 baseball season. Send offers and SASE to: Patrick Dare, 7131 Cumberland Hall, College Park, MD 20742

FOR SALE: Get your copy of the S-O-M Baseball "Kit," a valuable addition to any gaming situation but especially for solitaire players. Includes complete system for organizing solitaire play, outline for setting up leagues and miscellaneous rules and variations. Money back guarantee. \$4.50 postpaid. Gopher Graphics, RD-2 Box 323, Greene, NY 13778

FOR SALE: Baseball schedules for entire 1930, 1950, 1956, 1961, 1969 and 1970 seasons. Great for S-O-M replays. Other seasons also available. Both AL and NL. Send \$1 per season and a postage stamp per order. Mailed immediately.

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Richard Breest, 1332 Greenlea Dr., Holiday, FL 33590-6759

FOR SALE: 1983 baseball with extras (excellent), \$25. Also, copies of S-D-M roster sheets: 1970-74, '76, '77, '79-81. \$1 per five seasons. I pay postage and require SASE. Write: Brian Fischel, 2517 Teal Road, Wilmington, DE 19805 (302-994-8682)

FOR SALE: Football, 1970 set of 16 teams, good condition, \$50; 1972 set (less Vikings), 25 teams, excellent condition, \$75; 1976 almost new Raiders, Vikings, Steelers, Rams, \$20. Prefer to sell as sets but will accept bids on individual teams. Paul Malo, Box 72 GRP 2, RFI1A, Winnipeg, Canada, R3C 4A2

FOR SALE: Baseball cards based on the following seasons: '70, '71, '72, '73, '74, '75, '76, '77. All are complete and with additional players, except 1977 (no Baltimore, Philadelphia, Yankees, Los Angeles). 1970 no Baltimore and California. 1970-71 and '76 in good condition. 1972-73-74-75-77 in very good to excellent condition. Football - Based on following seasons: 1974, '75, '76, '78. all in very good condition. Reviews Dec., 1975-Dec., 1978 inclusive. All bids will be considered to be in Canadian money. David Smith, 765 Maher, Lasalle F.Q HBR 2S4

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1984 complete w/extras, additional 1984 NL (no extras). Individual teams (no extras): two-sided '79 Cardinals, Mets, A's, White Sox, Tigers. Basic only: original '70 Mets, White Sox, Orioles, Reds, Phillies, Twins, Yankees; original '69 Braves, Cubs; original '68 Cardinals, Twins, Tigers. Orioles. Old-timers: '22 Giants, '24 Senators, '27 Yankees, '31 A's, '34 Cardinals, '35 Cubs, '41 Yankees (two teams), '46 Cardinals, '46 Red Sox, '53

Dodgers. '57 Braves, '61 Yankees; NL and AL Hall-of-Famers. Also many stray cards, '68 to present, especially 1984. Send SASE and bids to: David Donat, 921 Harlem Ave. #6, Glenview, IL 60025, or call 312-729-4623. Also want to buy '76 Dale Murray.

FOR SALE: All baseball teams - 1981 (no extras, mint), 1983 (with extras, mostly mint), 1984 (with extras, mostly mint) and 1985 (with extras, mostly mint), \$20 each. 42 old timer teams (mint), \$23. Plus I have many loose 1978 cards available (send SASE with list of wanted players) To buy sets, add \$2 per season. Please send check or money order only. Write to: Chris Sinatra, Box 353 B. Dau Hall, Valparaiso, IN 46383

FOR SALE: Darling. Mahler and Valenzuela do more than pitch. They play a complete game with Playbook IV, exclusive pitcher ratings for fielding range, stealing, bunting, hit-and-run and running. Now includes individual wild pitch, passed ball ratings. Seasons 1982-85 remain \$3 each or \$6 for all four. Playbook III is a revolutionary weather and effects system used by month or season. Ratings are based on results from 1970, 1983-85 seasons, which remain \$3 each or \$6 for all four. Playbook I can be used solitaire or head-to-head, giving offensive and defensive managers more strategy options and play results. Playbook II includes super advanced hit-and-run, sacrifice-squeeze play, outfield/infield pulled in and injury charts. Playbooks I and II are \$6 each. Special: Playbooks I-IV for \$22. The prices haven't changed, and neither have the quality and realism. Satisfaction guaranteed. Paul Ladewski, 14340 Maple, Midlothian, IL 60445

FOR SALE: Football - all teams complete and most teams in excellent condition; 1971 teams available are Bengals, Broncos, Eagles, (continued)



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

FOR SALE: Baseball teams (FPD) - 1969 original (fair-good), no extras, \$2 each. '70 original (very good-excellent) with extras, \$3 each. Mike Brenner, 10102 Galahad Road, Philadelphia, PA 19116 (215-676-5926)

FOR SALE: Football, all complete and in fair-good condition. Sold only as set of 100 teams. First \$150 takes all. 1958 NY Giants, Baltimore; 1962 Green Bay; '67 Chicago, Green Bay, Rams, Oakland; '68 Baltimore, Cleveland, Dallas, Kansas City, Minnesota, NY Jets, Oak.; '69 Detroit, KC, Minn., Rams, Oak.; '70 Balt., Dallas, Det., Oak., San Francisco, St. Louis; '71 Balt., Dall., Det., Rams, Miami, Oak., SF, Washington; '72 Cleve., Dall., GB, Miami, Oak., Pittsburgh, SF, Wash.; '73 Atlanta, Buffalo, Cinn., Rams, Miami, Oak., Phil.; '74 Oak., St. Louis, Pitt.; '75 Buffalo, Cinn., Houston, Rams, Minn., Oak., Pitt., St. Louis; '76 Balt., New England, Oak., Pitt.; '77 Dall., Denver, Oak.; '78 NE, Pitt., Seattle; '79 New Orleans, Phil., Pitt., San Diego, Tampa Bay; '80 Atlanta,

Buffalo, Houston, Oak., Phil., San Diego; '81 Cinn., SF; '82 GB, Raiders, Miami, NY Jets, SF, Wash.; '83 Dall., Raiders, Miami, SF, Seattle, Wash.; '84 Chicago, Denver, Raiders, Miami, Seattle, SF. Mark Woloszyn, 1052 Hudson Ave., Rochester, NY 14621

## League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: I would like to start a face-to-face S-O-M Football league this coming fall. We can use all the super advanced rules. If interested and you live in the Los Angeles or Orange County area, contact: Cliff Knotek, P.O. Box 7105, Buena Park, CA 90622 (714-828-1327)

LEAGUE FORMING: Hockey fanatics: Have you been wishing away the years for a top-notch league stressing the building of tradition and a reputation that ranks with the other three sports? Do you want the world's fastest sport to get what it deserves? Then the National Strat-O-Matic Draft Basic Hockey League is for you. The NSOMDBHL will feature an 80-game schedule, playoffs, trophy and newsletters and a yearbook. We need eight totally dedicated coaches and backups as well. The road to the top begins in November with a draft of the 1985-86 cards. Highly organized operation and commitment to excellence are the theme. Reply now. Experience not necessary; dedication is. Act now, for early response is critical for total organization, something we will have. Contact: Sp4 Al Stessman, 488-82-6378 USA RFC NBG (opd), APO NY 09696 for constitution. Basic version used. Dare the dream!

LEAGUE FORMING: Serious football players in greater Boston area wanted for face-to-face league. Format of actual teams or draft (draft preferred) can be discussed, along with penalties, revised injury chart, etc. If interested, call Brian at 617-522-7694, or (continued)



Jonathan at 617-969-7536.

LEAGUE FORMING: NASOMHA forming PBM draft league. We play 76-game schedule with super-advanced rules. We have additional rules and are open to suggestions. We will start as soon as possible. You may request two teams which you prefer. Write to: Adam Wodon, 4 Colmar Ave., Lake Grove, NY 11755

LEAGUE FORMING: South Shore, MA, S-O-M Basketball league is looking for backup and expansion coaches. We are a face-to-face draft league that meets every Sunday in Brockton, MA. We have a lot of innovative rules. We are looking for backup managers for this season and expansion managers when the new cards come out in Feb., 1987. If interested, please call or write: Bob Hanflig, 31 Cynthia Dr., Brockton, MA 02402 (617-587-3517)

LEAGUE FORMING: The No-Name League is in its fourth year. I need five experienced managers to play super-advanced rules. Newsletters, stats, team highlights, draft results, yearbooks, all delivered free of charge. Will be using the 1985 cards, using version with clutch hitting and stadiums. I pay postage on everything. One of Connecticut's best run serious leagues. If interested, write: Larry Vieira, 14 Hernan St., Unit I, West Haven, CT 06516. Upon receiving your letter, all necessary information will be sent to you.

LEAGUE FORMING: Backup managers needed for PBM baseball draft league. All players permanently owned. Established league features minor league draft, all-star game and World Series. Must be 18 years of age or older, with some PBM experience. This league is well run. Write or call: Ron Iwaszkiewicz, Can Am Baseball League, 1805 Hickory Bark Lane, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48013 (313-852-1303)

LEAGUE FORMING: Help. Five managers lost in a relocation. The Bucknell S-O-M Baseball League is now a greater Boston area face-to-face eight-team draft league looking for four to six enthusiasts to bring parity to an unbalanced league. In five 162-game seasons, two teams have dominated, but all others have talent and potential. We are now one draft behind pace, but hope to squeeze in a season before April 1987. If you're in the greater Boston or North Shore area, call Bill (324-0699) for more details.

LEAGUE FORMING: We are seeking competitive and fair adult managers (age 18+) for all-star league in Joliet area, to play in an 80-game, face-to-face season in 1987. Call or write: Jules Wojciechowski, 1123 Clara Ave., Joliet, IL 60435 (815-722-1309)

LEAGUE FORMING: The University of Maryland-based Baseball League (UMBEL) will begin operations in mid-October. We will begin with a 70-90-game season using advanced 1984 season. In April, we will begin a 150+-game season with the new 1986 cards. We feature full draft (with certain player limits). Send resume to: Patrick Dare, 7131 Cumberland Hall, College Park, MD 20742 (301-454-2868)

LEAGUE FORMING: Attention solitaire replay enthusiasts. Combine the flexibility of a solitaire replay without all the work. Enjoy a relaxed pace, flexible format and emphasis on an authentic replay instead of rewriting the history books. Looking for mature dependable solitaire gamers. Those who feel they can manage the Senators into the World Series need not bother. This is a perfect format for fanatics on a busy schedule. For more information, call 219-291-4960, or write Co-Op, 4331 Irish Hills Drive #1C, South Bend, IN 46614. Will respond to all serious inquiries.

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**LEAGUE FORMING:** I would like to start a face-to-face S-O-M Baseball league in the south suburban Chicago-northwest Indiana area. Also interested in S-O-M Football. Please contact: Stan Kowalski, 14500 Torrence Ave., 3B, Burnham, IL 60633 (312-891-3203)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** We have eight managers but would like to add two more in a face-to-face S-O-M Baseball league in Orange and Los Angeles counties. If interested, contact: John Fellet (work, 818-961-3629; home, 818-968-1588), or Cliff Knotek (714-828-1327), P.O. Box 7105, Buena Park, CA 90622

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Florida gamers. Am currently conducting initial search for existing leagues and dependable individuals to be considered for state-wide, advanced face-to-face baseball league. Please see "Florida Strat gamers..." advertisement in "Wanted" section. Write: Stefan Foyo, 3435 S. Orange Ave., Apt. 121, Orlando, FL 32806

**LEAGUE FORMING:** The Orange Coast S-O-M Federation is looking for one or two expansion managers to join existing three-year league. For exciting face-to-face action in a stable league, contact: Mike White (714-645-3172) in Costa Mesa, CA

**LEAGUE FORMING:** Attention South Cook County gamers. We are looking for managers for possible hockey, baseball and football leagues this winter. A large baseball league to start in 1987. That's our main goal. Tell me what you're interested in. Contact: John Gedwill, 5701 Merun Court, Oak Forest, IL 60452 (687-8986 after 6 p.m.)

**LEAGUE FORMING:** East Coast Baseball Association, a 12-year PBM baseball league, is recruiting managers for the 1987 season.

Rookie draft in March followed by 162-game schedule. Monthly newsletters. Yearbook. We prefer managers to be located in southern California or the mid-Atlantic region of the U.S. Now is your chance to join an established league and get a playoff contending team. Contact: Chris Franco, 954 New Dover Road, Edison, NJ 08820

## Contests

**CONTEST:** Pro-Strat (see Sept. and this issue of Review for more information) would like to announce the coming of our second tournament. The Pro-Tournament will take place on the weekend of Nov. 7-9, 1986. Early registration is encouraged so that we may increase our prize pool. The registration fee is \$30 until Oct. 15, 1986, and \$45 thereafter. Our prize pool for the tournament will be at least \$1,200 first prize, \$500 second prize, VCR third prize and color TV fourth prize and more. Due to the overwhelming success of the losers' tournament, we will again host a losers' tournament for those eliminated after the first-round of the tourney. The entry fee for the losers' tournament will remain at \$15. Note: cash prizes will be awarded for the losers' tournament in proportion to the amount of entries. New item - On Sunday, Nov. 9, Pro-Strat will hold its first amateur BYOT tournament. Each manager will B-bring Y-your O-own T-team from any advanced card set. The format and rules will be similar to the Pro Tournament setup. Winners could receive TV, trophies and free entries. The entry fee for the BYOT Tournament is \$15. All are welcome. Important - Please inform every S-O-M player about our tournament. More people = more prizes + more tournaments. If you have a list of managers and their addresses or phone numbers, please send it to us. P.S. The tournament will be held either at Hofstra U. or another location in (continued on back page)



## NIT has been in business over decade

Many Strat-O-Matic leagues come into being and are like shining stars. They shoot across the sky, with grandiose hopes abounding, but, unfortunately for so many, they flicker out just as fast and are gone.

In other words, it's quite an accomplishment for an S-O-M league, particularly play-by-mail where home and away records are many times so completely diverse, to develop a longevity record.

With that in mind, the Review editors thought it would be interesting to trace the history of the National Texas League (NTL), a part face-to-face, part play-by-mail league that was founded by John Blomstrom of Houston, TX.

The year was 1976 and John was single and had aspirations for creating a combination league as described above. The NIT would consist of eight teams, four based in Houston and four from around the country. "The original draft was done by putting eight split cards, numbered one through eight, in a box," recalls Blomstrom. John, because he was the commissioner, said he would draw last. He still got the No. 1 pick and chose Tom Seaver.

Picking Seaver was the first of many good moves Blomstrom made as Tom Terrific won 134 games, lost 76, pitched 29 shutouts and twice won 22 games and once 23. He was Cy Young winner twice. Combined with his American League stats later, Seaver has a 146-85 career record.

### NIT HAS TRIO OF BROTHERS

The first year of the NIT found three Blomstrom brothers rolling S-O-M dice. While John had the Astros, David, who is 13 years older than John, guided the Reds and a third sibling, Tom, 10 years older than John, piloted the Pirates. Both the Reds and Pirates would go through name changes later.

Mike Davies was the fourth manager from Houston and he was to guide the Dodgers for eight years. Mike was also known for being a non-trader as he made only six trades in eight years. John Blomstrom made that many trades in a month.

The out of town NIT connection consisted of Sam Cortese from Chicago (Braves), Dave Brandwein from Bexley, OH (Cubs), Dennis Madej from Buffalo, NY (Mets) and Craig Becker from Austin, TX (Giants).

Many of the teams underwent name changes through the years, with the Cubs becoming the Expos, the Mets becoming the Phillies and later reverting back to Mets, the Reds being renamed the Cards and the Pirates later becoming the Padres. The Padres would eventually fold and become the only franchise in NIT history to suffer that fate.

Over a decade after the founding of the NIT, John Blomstrom and Becker are the only original managers still piloting teams.

### ASTROS HAVE DOMINATED

In the early years, the NIT playoff championship was spread around, with the Dodgers winning the initial season. Sam Cortese's Braves the second, John Blomstrom's Astros No. 3, Mike Davies' Dodgers No. 4 and Dave Brandwein's Cubs No. 5.

Since then, however, Blomstrom's Astros have been the dominant team, capturing five straight NIT titles, including the latest one. In season No. 10, Blomstrom's Astros defeated ex-major league pitcher Tony Brizzolara's Pirates - who had won an amazing 114 games in the regular season - by a 4-1 margin.

Brizzolara's Pirates, in fact, had almost identical records home and away. The Pirates won 57 of 80 games at home and 57 of 82 on the

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road for a 114-48 overall record. The Astros (93-69) also had close home-and-away records, going 46-35 at home and a slightly better 47-34 away.

#### TRACING THE TEAMS

Now for a history of the franchises:

**ASTROS** - John Blomstrom, 37, Houston, TX...owns an entertainment agency...married to Cheryl Byrd, who also has managed a team in the NIT for years, and has three children, ages 2-7...active trader...never won fewer than 87 games...charter member of NIT...in playoffs every year.

**BRAVES** - Sam Cortese, Chicago, IL, was manager seasons Nos. 1 and 2...Brent Goodwin, who then resided in Conroe, TX, took over team for third season...Goodwin was 15 years old at time and since then has finished high school, graduated from college with an accounting degree and recently formed a business partnership with Rick Blount, whom he met through S-O-M and the NIT...Goodwin is also a good friend of Blomstrom ("He's like the younger brother I never had," says John)...Twice reached World Series, losing both to Astros (Nos. 3 and 7) in seven games.

**METS** - Managed by Dennis Madej first two years...Infamous lineup had Enzo Hernandez batting cleanup as Mets lost NIT-record 107 games in season No. 2...Mets were almost as bad in season No. 1, except that they did have Andy Messersmith (14-12, 2.32, 7 shutouts and a phenomenal three no-hitters, including NIT's only perfect game)...Jon Bavouth, from Bexley, OH, finished out season No. 2, but he abandoned the Mets before No. 3...Team was finally taken over by Cheryl Byrd, Blomstrom's fiancée at the time, and a co-worker at American Bands, secretary Susan Fermenter. Susan lasted 20 games and then it was Cheryl's team as she renamed it the Phillies...Cheryl's first season resulted in an 80-74 record. She managed for six years (three times finishing third or higher), before relinquishing the reins because of family ties...Cheryl's last season, No. 8, was her best as she finished two games back in second place and met her husband in the World Series (she lost)...Jim Woods, another Houstonian, took over the Phillies for season nine...Woods, 28, is another accountant.

**EXPOS** - Expos were called Cubs first six seasons and were managed by Dave Brandwein, Bexley, OH...Brandwein, a college student at the time, had two first-place finishes and was the first to meet Brizzolara and play him in person...Brandwein was also the first to fly to Houston for the World Series (which he won)...He dropped out before season six (he finished last) was completed...Brandwein's Cubs' team in season five established records that still stand as Dave Kingman hammered 62 home runs and 164 RBI, and Pete Rose batted .371 (second-highest in NIT history), had 242 hits and scored 132 runs...Rick Blount replaced him and began rebuilding...Blount operates a State Farm Insurance agency, is married (Robin) and has two daughters...Blount and Blomstrom have socialized away from the table-top, prompting Blomstrom to say: "A silly baseball board game has created a lot of good friendships."

**REDS** - Became a franchise team in season No. 9 and was drafted by Jack Biggars, Jr., a good friend of Jim Woods...Biggars, who had met and married his wife when both were in the service, had to drop out after one season when his wife, still in the service, was transferred...Rich Weber of St. Louis came aboard and proved to be one of the NIT's best managerial additions...So popular would Weber become, that he became the first president other than Blomstrom...His first team lost 104 games, but he's building a contender by emphasizing speed, defense and pitching.

**PIRATES** - The first expansion team in the NIT, in season No. 6...Originally owned by rock musician/bass player Phillip Petty, of Point  
(continued on next page)



Blank...Petty dropped out at the 60-game mark and Brizzolara, who's had pitching stints with the Atlanta Braves, took over...Brizzolara, who has a degree from Texas U. in actuary science (one who calculates insurance risk and premiums), had three building seasons before twice reaching the World Series...Pirates of season No. 10 were only third team in NIT to win more than 100 games (114)... "Tony is well liked and is a tough trader, but very active," says Blomstrom.

**REDS** - Guided in seasons 1-3 by David Blomstrom, John's C.P.A. brother who has four children, three of whom are grown and one that has made him a grandfather...Had 236-226 record...Mike Turnis took over in season No. 4 and has been one of the NIT's steadiest managers...Made World Series once, losing 4-2...Responsible for bringing in current Cubs' manager Kirk Gassman.

**CUBS** - The other expansion team in season No. 9...Had 79-83 record in second season, a remarkable feat for an expansion outfit...Kirk Gassman is manager.

**DODGERS** - Dennis Tiepmeyer of St. Louis, MO, is newest Dodger manager...He replaced longtime skipper Mike Davies, who directed the Dodgers for seven seasons and had only one losing campaign, reaching and winning the World Series twice...Davies was party to one of NIT's greatest moments when in the seventh game of World Series No. 4, and in the 11th inning and trailing 6-5 to John Blomstrom, a walk and a 1-12 roll on Lenny Randle's card resulted in a dramatic 7-6 victory.

**GIANTS** - Craig Becker is one of two original managers left in the NIT...Suffered through seven straight losing seasons before making playoffs two consecutive years...An active trader.

**PADRES/PIRATES** - Only team in NIT history to be disbanded...Team was originally managed by Tom Blomstrom and 75-year Gunnar Blomstrom... With 50 games remaining in season No. 2, Tom dropped out and Greg Lyons, also of Houston, took over and managed for over four years...After a move to Colorado, Greg dropped team and it was disbanded through a special draft prior to season No. 7.

#### DESPITE 114 WINS, IT'S ASTROS AGAIN

As mentioned previously, Brizzolara's Pirates won 114 games in season No. 10, yet lost to Blomstrom's Astros in five games in the World Series. Dale Murphy (36 homers, 115 RBI), Keith Hernandez (.297, 81 RBI, 104 runs) led the Astros' attack, while John Denny (15-5, 2.31) Rick Honeycutt (15-10), Fernando Valenzuela (13-12) and Nolan Ryan made for a solid, if not very good, pitching staff.

Brizzolara's Pirates were the regular-season giants, with Orel Hersher (20-4, 2.80), John Tudor (20-5, 3.61), swingman Dan Schatzeder (14-3) and Jesse Orosco (12-7, 26 saves) pitching mainstays and Dan Gladden (.350), Jose Cruz (.315) and Von Hayes (.310) keying an attack that outscored foes by a total of 214 runs.

The Pirates were 39-15 in one-run games and 18-6 in extra inning contests.

Some other highlights/lowlights included: Dwight Gooden of the Expos, although going only 14-13, produced a 2.89 ERA and became the second pitcher in NIT history to strike out over 300 (314)...Mike Schmidt of the Braves had his worst season (.234, 24 HRs)...George Hendrick of the same Braves had only three homers and 41 RBI - in 157 games...Pedro Guerrero of the Dodgers was another disappointment, with .256-16-75 numbers...Ozzie Smith of the Cubs had only 13 errors at shortstop...Lonnie Smith of the Cubs walked 93 times and struck out 93 times. He also was hit by pitches 13 times...Jim Woods, manager of the Mets, received former owner Cheryl Blomstrom's wrath for trading her favorite player, Ryne Sandberg. Ryn-o batted .295, with 19 homers, 97

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RBI, 108 runs scored and league-leading 22 triples.

Standings and leaders (based on 1984 real-life season):

#### National Division

	Won-Lost	GB	Home	Road	Batting	
Pirates	114 48	-	57-23	57-25	Gladden FIR	.350
Cards	85 77	29	55-27	30-50	Gwynn RED	.349
Cubs	79 83	35	40-42	39-41	Cruz FIR	.315
Dodgers	79 83	35	40-42	39-41	Ray DOD	.314
Giants	63 99	51	33-47	30-52	C.Davis DOD	.314

#### Texas Division

	Won-Lost	GB	Home	Road	Home Runs	
Astros	93 69	-	46-35	47-34	Murphy AST	36
Mets	90 72	3	44-36	46-36	C.Davis DOD	31
Braves	75 87	18	38-44	37-43	Cey FIR	29
Expos	74 88	19	31-49	43-39	Durham CUB	28
Reds	58 104	35	34-48	24-56	McReynolds EXP	28

RBI		2B: Ray DOD	54	Won-Lost	
Murphy AST	115	3B: Sandberg MET	22	Soto CARD	22-7
McReynolds EXP	104	R: Sandberg MET	108	Hershiser FIR	20-4
Carter GIA	102	H: Ray DOD	198	Tudor FIR	20-5
C.Davis DOD	98	SB: Samuel EXP	72	Rhoden MET	20-7
Durham CUB	98	GWH: Murphy AST	20		
ERA		K: Gooden EXP	314	MVE: Murphy AST	
A.Pena MET	2.29	CG: Andujar BRAV	16	Cy Young: Soto CARD	
Denny AST	2.31	SA: Orosco FIR	26		
Valenzuela AST	2.45	SH: Denny AST	9		
Soto CARD	2.52	ERA (Rel.): Solano BRAV	1.48		
Lacoss EXP	2.54		Lefferts CUB	1.61	

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## Baseball playing tips

### UNUSUAL PLAY CHART

Dave Charney of 159 Belcrest Ave., Daly City, CA, sends along this chart to spice up your Strat-O-Matic Baseball with the odd and the unusual.

When a 6-12 or 1-2 is rolled with runner(s) on base, pick a split card or roll 20-sided die and check the chart below (\* if no runner on first then runner on second or third):

- 1 - Batter is hit by pitch. Brawl ensues and defensive team has pitcher and third baseman ejected. Offensive team has batter hurt for four games.
- 2 - DOUBLE - Batter is out going to third.
- 3 - Catcher interference - Batter takes first.
- 4 - Rainout - If past the bottom of fifth inning, then game is over, otherwise game must be played over.
- 5 - Ball - Pitcher ejected for disputing call.
- 6 - SINGLE - Hitter breaks bat and it strikes the third baseman, injuring him for seven games.
- 7 - Runner picked off first \*.
- 8 - DOUBLE - Clears the bases.
- 9 - TRIPLE - If A, AA or AAA stealer, then inside-the-park home run.
- 10 - Batter out for using a corked bat.
- 11 - Hidden ball trick. Runner on first \* is out.
- 12 - DOUBLE - Batter bunts and ball passes second baseman.

(continued on back page)

## Cubs hit .308 — but '30 team eight games behind real-life

22

If it's hitting you're looking for when you sit down to roll S-O-M Baseball dice, the 1930 season will soon have you jumping out of your seat — particularly if you're playing the National League teams.

Jim Currie, 35, of Haskell, NJ, an admitted lover of the Chicago Cubs despite living in Jersey, experienced plenty of thrills and chills when he guided the '30 Cubbies through a replay against N.L. teams that hit a composite .303.

Even though Chicago didn't match its real-life won-and-lost mark of 90-64 — it was 82-72 instead — many of the players almost duplicated their 'real' performances.

Hack Wilson, for instance, belted exactly 56 home runs, the same as in real-life. "That was the biggest thrill of all," enthuses Currie, who reported that Hack hammered No. 56 in the last game. And Kiki Cuyler, a .355 hitter in real-life, came through with a .354 mark in S-O-M.

Catcher Gabby Hartnett was another who almost duplicated real-life exactly, batting .339 in 1930 and .338 in 1985 via table-top.

Overall, the team batting average was .308, only one point shy of matching real-life exactly. Close enough.

Many of the batters and pitchers had to be used more than in real-life, although Currie tried to keep everyone at reasonable levels and not overuse too much. Cuyler, for instance, had 642 at-bats in real-life, and in the replay he totaled 666, or 24 more.

Four of the Cubbie regulars batted over .300 and a total of 10 players topped .300.

"I've never seen so much offense," says Currie. "It was a really exciting replay for me." For Currie, the 1930 replay was his fourth, with the others being 1962-63 (play-by-mail league) and 1983 (solitaire), all as manager of the Cubbies.

### PITCHERS SHARE THE SPOILS

The Cub pitchers, although yielding 5.35 earned runs per game and giving up 1,733 hits in 1,372 innings, did share in some of the victory spoils.

Pat Malone, 20-9 in real-life with a 3.94 ERA, was an amazing 27-10, with 31 complete games and a 3.70 ERA. "Malone was incredible all year," praises Currie. "His 27 victories are a personal record for me."

Charlie Root was another surprise, winning nine straight games during one stretch and finishing 23-13 with a 4.92 ERA. The ERA was higher than real-life (4.33), but there were seven more wins in the replay.

Another highlight included Cliff Heathcote, who hit 10 home runs in 161 at-bats in the replay, connecting for four in one game. Heathcote, an extra player, hit nine out in real-life in 150 at-bats. Also included among the extra players was Hall-of-Famer Rogers Hornsby, in the twilight of a great career, who still managed in the replay to hit .308 in 94 at-bats.

Malone's 27 wins, Wilson's 56 home runs and Root's nine-game win streak are all records for Currie.

Along with a brief summary of the replay and hitting and pitching statistics, Currie also included statistical breakdowns for Wilson's 56 home runs (number, date, team against, what pitcher and whether the game was home or away) and Malone's 27 wins (number, date, team, opposing hurler, site and score).

According to Currie's numbers, Malone averaged 5.34 strikeouts per nine innings, had the most success against Philadelphia (six wins), Boston and Cincinnati (five wins) and was least successful against Brooklyn (one win). Wilson had 15 of his homers against Philadelphia.



## S-O-M league, replay scene

**COSMIC TABLE ENTITIES** - Face-to-face baseball league located in suburban Minneapolis, MN, area...Has been in existence since 1979 and has, without a doubt, the largest yearbook in Strat-O-Dom (174 pages was latest version)...For last two years has played continuous draft league using American League players; prior to that actual teams (with trading permitted) were used...Greg Nelson, youngest member of the CTE at age 17 and a high school senior, won the 1985 CTE championship with his Santa Cruz Surf. Nelson had the best overall record, winning the West Division with a 90-72 mark, edged Hawaii in the West playoff, 4-3, and then rolled over Delaware Bay in the Cosmic Series, 4-0...The Surf batted .259, but the pitching ERA was a league-low 3.38. Nelson got key efforts from a pair of lefties, Frank Viola (23-10, 2.50 ERA and 19 complete games) and John Tudor (18-9, 3.19, 10). Having 10 players hit 10 or more home runs helped the cause, top. Jim Rice had 29 and Mike Easler, in only 360 at-bats, walloped 28 along with batting .356. George Brett batted .330, but only was at-bat 358 times, as Nelson rested him most of September...1985 yearbook included standings, statistics, head-to-head records, description of all the teams plus stats, comprehensive lists of leaders in all batting and pitching categories, playoffs, all-star game, award winners, a 12-page CTE records section, a 42-page player register, review of the '85 draft and a complete composite schedule...The rest of the managerial lineup: Tim Olson (Gary), 25, teacher's assistant at University of Minnesota at Duluth; Dave Meyer (Delaware Bay), 24, graphic artist; Jeff Nelson (Tampa Bay), 23, Greg's older brother and an accountant (Greg was the one that advised his brother to rest his regulars frequently to avoid injuries, as injuries to key players had ruined his playoff hopes the year before); Tim Moran (Bangor), 23, also a graphic artist and newest member of league; Brian Meyer (Woodstock), 21, student and part-time worker with video production company; Mark Moran (Hawaii), 24, computer systems analyst; Harry Mihas (Cheyenne), 24, student at U. of Minnesota; Randy Milacrik (Portland), 26, store clerk who began S-O-M career in 1970; and Jeff Meyer (Las Vegas), 27, insurance salesman, CTE commissioner since its inception and also been playing S-O-M since 1970.

League standings, playoff results and statistics:

East	Won-Lost	GB	West	Won-Lost	GB	Playoffs
Gary	86 74	-	Santa Cruz	90 72	-	Delaware Bay
Delaware Bay	85 78	3+	Hawaii	85 77	5	d. Tampa Bay
Tampa Bay	84 79	4+	Cheyenne	83 79	7	4-0;
Bangor	81 81	7	Portland	71 91	19	Delaware Bay
Woodstock	80 82	8	Las Vegas	64 98	26	d. Gary, 4-0
						Santa Cruz d.
						Hawaii, 4-3;
						Santa Cruz d.
						Delaware Bay
						4-0.

Batting	Home Runs	RBI
B. Bell WOOD .342	Kingman GAR 46	Schmidt GAR 116
Mattingly LV .336	Armas GAR 39	A. Davis BAN 114
Trammell HAW .331	Schmidt GAR 36	Hrbek TB 108
Dw. Evans BAN .308	Hrbek TB 35	Armas GAR 107
Baines DB .308	A. Davis BAN 34	Dw. Murphy CHE 107
Collins WOOD .308	Dw. Murphy CHE 34	

R:	R. Henderson DB 121	ERA (165 IP+)	Wins
2B:	B. Bell WOOD 47	W. Hernandez POR 2.32	Viola SC 23
3B:	Moseby DB 20	A. Lopez GAR 2.32	M. Mason GAR 20
SS:	W. Wilson LV 90	Eckersley BAN 2.42	Morris CHE 18
H:	B. Bell WOOD 221	Viola SC 2.50	Tudor SC 18
W:	R. Henderson DB 111	M. Mason GAR 3.01	Stieb GAR 18
		SH:	Tanana TB 6
K:	Stieb GAR 268	SA:	J. Howell WOOD 28
	Witt HAW 242		Hernandez POR 23
		CF:	Viola SC 19
		IF:	Stieb GAR 318

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## Baseball playing tip

(continued from page 21)

- 13 - All runners steal next base.
- 14 - Grounder to shortstop, but as he throws he is stung by a bee and ball sails into stands. Runners advance two bases.
- 15 - Balk - Runners advance one base.
- 16 - SINGLE - Batter takes wide turn and is picked off by outfielder.
- 17 - Strike - Batter is ejected for disputing call.
- 18 - Batter thrown out right field to first base. Other runners advance one base.
- 19 - Passed Ball - Runners advance two bases.
- 20 - HOME RUN - While rounding bases, batter trips and twists ankle. Injured and out for 10 games.

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## Advertisements

(continued from page 17)

Queens or Nassau. Another tournament is also planned for Philadelphia (Airport Ramada Inn), Jan. 16-18.

Entry fee is \$30 if paid before Nov. 7; \$40 after Nov. 7. Call Howie (516-795-4762) or Steve (718-769-6658), or write: Pro-Strat, 172 Atlantic Ave., Massapequa, NY 11762.