



STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW

Devoted exclusively to
the Strat-O-Matic Game
fan, with the consent
of the Strat-O-Matic
Game Company

VOL. VI-6, September, 1976 50¢

'Steel Curtain' Again Looks Impregnable *Pittsburgh Has Eight '6s' On Defense!*

Sounds of Pittsburgh's "Steel Curtain" clanging shut on another offense should be reverberating across table tops throughout the fall and winter months. The Steelmen are super tough defensively, as evidenced by an S-O-M lineup that includes eight "6s"--count 'em, eight!--two "5s" and a "4"--left cornerback J.T. Thomas.

Because of the defense, Pittsburgh easily rates as the favorite for NFL replay battles shaping up. Add in the passing of Terry Bradshaw, who has cut down on his interceptions over the years, the running of Franco Harris, who has a "short gain" straight across No. 7 results via the ground routes, and the receiving of Lynn Swann, John Stallworth, and the Steelers look awesome.

Harris, who gained 1,246 yards, is almost impossible to throw for a loss. Pittsburgh is rated "only" good against the run, but with all those "6s" Steeler rooters have little reason for concern. Oh, and Joe Greene, not so mean after injury woes, still was rated a "5" at left tackle. He was the only lineman and linebacker not pegged a "6."

While the Steelers look tough in the newest S-O-M cards--as they should--there are other teams and individuals worth mentioning, too.

Buffalo, of course, has O.J. Simpson [at least for one more year]. He led all NFL rushers and his card reflects it with a short gain found straight across.

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No. 6, guessed right or wrong, and a long gain on No. 10, guessed wrong, off-tackle and end run. Jim Braxton gives the Bills a good inside threat, too, while Joe Ferguson tied with Fran Tarkenton with the most TD passes in the NFL, 25.

Greg Pruitt of Cleveland was one of "roadrunners," gaining 1,067 yards and having short gain strung across No. 4, all except linebacker guessed right. John Riggins of the Jets all packs a wallop on the ground, especially inside, but look for Joe Namath to be an "all or nothing" passer. The Jets are one of three teams to have no fumbles on the offensive cards, but the defense is a nightmare, being rated poor against both the run and pass and having five "0s".

Miami and Los Angeles are the other teams without fumbles on the offensive cards. The Jets and L.A. lost the ball via bobbles only eight times apiece, and Miami but nine.

Conversely, Miami only recovered nine fumbles and the New York Giants but eight--both thus receiving no fumble chances on their defensive cards.

ONLY TWO PERFECT KICKERS

The moving of the goal posts back to the end of the end zone continues to create havoc among placekickers as only John Smith of the Patriots and New Orleans' Richie Szaro are perfect 2-12 booters on extra points.

Mark Moseley of Washington has another interesting card in that he's only 2-6 good on field goal tries from 1 to 12 yards, but then improves to 2-10 from the 13-22 range.

OAKLAND BEST BAND OF THIEVES

Oakland, which intercepted a whopping 35 passes, has thievery numbers on both No. 4 and 9 against the short pass. Oakland's defense recovered only six fumbles, however, thus no fumble chances on the defensive cards--joining Miami and the N.Y. Giants in that category.

Other observations of Oakland include: a sturdy defense, with four "6s," five "5s" and two "4s," Ken Stabler being a good percentage passer with a tendency to throw interceptions, and a flock of good runners, although Marv Hubbard is missing. Hubbard carried the ball only 60 times--Fifth most on the team--and thus did not receive a card.

Kansas City's Len Dawson, the Methuselah of the active NFL quarterbacks, has a surprisingly good percentage of completions on flat and short passes. Bob Griese of Miami is another with unerring accuracy with flat passes, having completion chances on 3-12 (8-9 are receiver), even when called right by the defense.

Other observations of the new football cards include:

* Baltimore has an excellent combination of run and pass with Lydell Mitchell having a short gain across No. 4 on the rush and an overall excellent card as far as consistency. Bert Jones seldom throws interceptions and is accurate with the short pass, while Roger Carr and Glenn Doughty provide excellent long threats for Jones' long bombs.

* Look for Houston to be much improved as the pass defense is rated good to excellent and the run excellent. Billy Johnson has TD chances on both his punt and kickoff return cards, too.

* San Francisco, which lost the ball on fumbles 25 times, has straight fumble chances on No. 10 and also No. 5 (2-6, 11, 12).

* Jim Otis of St. Louis, the NFC's leading rusher, is extremely good inside. He and versatile Terry Metcalf give the Cards an inside-outside punch that's a match for the Simpson-Braxton duo.

* Dallas has the green light to the end zone when it comes up "receiver" on a long pass. Both Drew Pearson and Golden Richards can pull 'em in deep.

* Chuck Foreman of Minnesota doesn't have as good a card as you might expect, although Fran Tarkenton will have plenty of success on flat passes, plus again has John Gilliam to throw deep to.

* Ken Anderson of Cincinnati is another on-target tosser when it comes to the short pass, connecting on Nos. 6 and 7, right or guessed wrong.

Review Editors Play College Football **Michigan State Takes On Illinois**

Poor Michigan State!

It was bad enough suffering through the recruiting violations and the NCAA-imposed penalties. Then Review co-editor Del Newell took the team and played it against Illinois, using the new Strat-O-Matic College Football Game. Michigan State's problems only got worse.

Never noted for a passing game, MSU, after falling behind early, went to a "big play" offense and went on to have five passes intercepted and succumbed by a 34-20 score. In real-life, it might be remembered, Illinois prevailed by a 21-19 count.

Warren Newell, Del's brother and a co-editor of the Review, was the victorious coach in the head-to-head confrontation, taking advantage of early MSU miscues and shaking the Spartans out of their normally conservative game plan.

Although MSU lost and Illinois won, the biggest winner was Strat-O-Matic. Even though a one-game test is anything but thorough, the game is definitely another winner for S-O-M. The game was easy to play (the rules were brief and easy to follow), there was excitement galore and, it's obvious, plenty of strategy can be brought into the action.

Both Del and Warren, after the game was history, had the feeling they had just scratched the surface as far as the strategy. MSU, for instance, altered its game plan dramatically--and with dire consequences. After falling behind, Del admitted, he continually threw low numbers (better for a passing game) when passing and very high when running--often in pass or run situations that were obvious, though. And because he was often caught on his gambles, many interceptions resulted. Charlie Baggett was, as was his tendency, throwing the football up for grabs when he ran out of running room.

RICHMAN'S CRITIQUE

After the game, the Review editors talked to S-O-M creator Harold Richman by phone and told him how the game went and asked for his evaluation of their methods of play. "It sounds as if the strategy was only barely touched," offered Richman. "You can't gamble with Michigan State too much, or there's going to be mistakes. The game is quite sophisticated--but that's something you can't be expected to bring out in one game. You both passed more than most college teams did, although Illinois did throw the ball more than Michigan State.

"James Williams in our office plays the game very well. Having James guiding one team is worth between 10-15 points in a game between two evenly matched teams. Steve Barkan (also of S-O-M) has twice taken Texas and defeated Oklahoma (coached by a less experienced player). Oklahoma has an unbelievable running game, as you will see."

ILLINOIS 34, MSU 20

Illinois and MSU were the only two teams sent to the Review editors for the "exhibition" game. Since the basic gaming concepts were explained in last month's Review, no further explanation of playing procedure will be given--that is until you have the game in your own hand.

Anyway, as far as the game itself, it just wasn't MSU's afternoon. On the third play from scrimmage, Illinois intercepted a pass and ran it back 34 yards for a touchdown. MSU, which could move the ball on the ground with little resistance early in the game, did march back down the field and tie the count at 7-7 in the first period, however.

The Illini grabbed the lead back for good on a 15-yard TD run just before the half ended. Then, aided by a pair of fumbled kickoff returns by MSU, Illinois started to pull away. Soon it was Illinois on top 21-7, then 21-13, 28-13, 28-20, and, after field goals of 9 and 23 yards, a final of 34-20.

For the statistically minded, Illinois rushed 42 times for 178 yards and two touchdowns, with the longest gain a 44-yarder, while through the air the

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Elliott Analyzes Newest Old-Timers **1936 Yanks Have Explosive Attack**

Editor's note: Jim Elliott of Orange, CA, is a student of the Old-Timer teams in Strat-O-Matic Baseball. He's also quite knowledgeable when it comes to roster selection, too, as evidenced by his recent columns in the Review pertaining to the topic. He, because of the interest in the Old-Timers, was naturally delighted when he received the most recent eight-team set. The following article is his reaction to the new teams and his evaluation of each.

BY JIM ELLIOTT

I was greatly impressed with several of the teams, most notably the '34 Tigers and the '20 Indians. I didn't vote for the '20 Indians in the Review poll, but was very impressed that their roster contained ten players with averages above .290. That team will have an excellent top-to-bottom batting attack, though it's weak in power.

I'm glad the game company made a card of Ray Chapman, as it would have been difficult to attempt a full-season replay with just Joe Sewell and Harry Lunte at shortstop. And, the Indians have four players with more than 50.0 on-base points: Tris Speaker, Steve O'Neill, Joe Sewell and Jack Graney.

The '34 Tigers also have four 50.0 on-base hitters (Jo-Jo White, Mickey Cochrane, Charlie Gehringer and Hank Greenberg). And, I can't recall ever seeing a card with as many double points on it as Heinie Schuble has. That surely must be some kind of record.

I researched this team (going through all the box scores), but I don't think the lineup listed on the Old-Timer roster is the best one to use. The order most frequently used down the stretch and in the World Series was as follows: 1. Jo-Jo White (cf); 2. Mickey Cochrane (c); 3. Charlie Gehringer (2b); 4. Hank Greenberg (1b); 5. Goose Goslin (lf); 6. Billy Rogell (ss); 7. Marv Owen (3b); and 8. Pete Fox (rf). I recommend this lineup as it would give Greenberg more rbi chances, batting behind those other 50-point on-base hitters.

Or, put Goose Goslin in the cleanup where he was during the first half the season, and drop Greenberg to sixth, with Rogell fifth. That arrangement was used early in the year.

CUBS HAVE 'FEARSOME FOURSOME'

The '29 Cubs' fearsome foursome (Hornsby, Wilson, Cuyler and Stephenson) is everything I thought it would be, but regretably the two leadoff batters (Norm McMillan and Woody English) don't seem to get on often enough to give the sluggers something to shoot at.

Also, it should be noted that the Cubs used five catchers in 1929 (Earl Grace and Gabby Harnett were the others), but Zack Taylor was used most in September and in the World Series so he should probably get the most playing time. Gonzalez was used a lot in the early going, along with Grace.

BROWNS ARE EXCITING TEAM

I consider the 1922 Browns to be one of the most exciting hitting teams ever made by S-O-M. Wally Gerber and the combination of Frank Ellerbe-Eddie Foster were interchangeable, with Gerber batting second early in the season and Ellerbe or Foster there late. Also, Jacobson hit fifth much of the season, with McManus sixth. Sisler always batted third and Williams in cleanup, of course. The Browns' bench impresses me as Pat Collins is an excellent replacement for Hank Severeid and you may want to use him even as a catcher whenever the Brownies face a power team like the '61 Yankees or '62 Giants.

Chick Shorten has practically nothing but extra-base points for his hits and Gene Robertson (.296) was an extra bonus I hadn't expected.

CHANGES '27 PIRATES BATTING LINEUP

The batting order for the '27 Pirates on the roster sheet is all screwed up. The correct lineup, used in the '27 World Series, was: 1. L. Waner (cf); 2. Barnhart (lf); 3. P. Waner (rf); 4. Wright (ss); 5. Traynor (3b); 6. Grant-ham (2b); 7. Harris (1b) and 8. Gooch or Smith (c). I've worked out a compro-

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mise of sorts by batting Harris cleanup and Wright seventh, which seems to put a little more bite into the attack. Big problem with this team, however, is a lack of power.

'36 YANKEES A POWERHOUSE?

The '36 Yankees appear to have all the makings of a great powerhouse, though being limited somewhat by a weak bench. I also was really surprised to find a card of Myril Hoag on this team. Hoag was not with the team at the end of the season, having been sent to the minors because of a severe head injury. Perhaps the game company made a card of him anyway, because it felt it dubious at best to issue a card of Art Jorgens (66 at-bats), a third catcher, when Bill Dickey (423 at-bats) and Joe Glenn (129) could adequately handle the catching requirements.

Hoag's presence will definitely upgrade a weak bench--and that's a sore spot on this team. Better hope Gehrig never gets injured because it's a long drop down to Saltzgaver (.211). Crosetti and Rolfe are capable leadoff hitters, getting on a lot, so DiMaggio, Gehrig, Dickey and Selkirk will drive in a lot of runs. Very explosive, wide-open attack. Should be fun to play with. My favorite Yankee Old-Timer team of the six S-O-M has created, followed closely by the Maris-Mantle '61 Yankees.

'21 YANKS NOT THAT IMPRESSIVE

The '21 Yankees don't impress me very much. Babe Ruth's card isn't as good as his '27 card. Willie Mays, in fact, had a more awesome looking power card in 1965 than Ruth's in 1921. Willie had a 1-11 split on 3-7 for a home run, whereas Ruth's is only 1-9 on the same result.

This team doesn't walk enough to be rated a super powerhouse. I'd recommend batting Bob Meusel cleanup, followed by Frank Baker. Having Meusel follow Ruth may give the Babe more swings. The bench is adequate, although not great. You'll probably find the '21 Yanks will live or die with Ruth and what he does.

'33 GIANTS--TYPICAL TERRY TEAM

One of the first things that caught my eye on the '33 Giants is Travis Jackson's injury on "7". He must have been in and out of the lineup every other day to get an injury rating that bad. There are few hitters on this team worth mentioning, and even Bill Terry's card isn't great by Old-Timer standards. But Ott, Vergez and Lefty O'Doul, when used, will do a credible job.

This is a typical Bill Terry team, built around pitching and defense, with some power. Pitchers Bell, Hubbell, Fitzsimmons and Schumacher will be especially difficult to hit. I'd recommend using the same lineup listed on the roster sheet as Vergez can keep Ott from being walked too much and Moore and Terry should get on just often enough to give "Master Melvin" some dandy RBI chances.

Looking For Back Issues Of Review?

The following back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review may still be purchased. Send to the Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

- 1976 - August, July, June, May, 50¢ each. March, Feb. [limited], Jan., 45¢ each.
- 1975 - Nov., Oct., Sept., August, July, June, May [limited], April, March, Feb., Jan., 45¢ each.
- 1974 - Oct. and Jan. [extremely limited], 40¢ each.
- 1973 - Dec., August, 40¢ each.
- 1972 - August, 40¢.

For those issues in short supply, please be sure to order a second choice in case the first is unavailable. Note that April, 1976, and Dec., 1975, have been completely sold out.

Advertisements

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Rates per issue will be as follows: First 30 words--50¢; 31-50 words--70¢; 51-70 words--\$1.00; 71-100 words--\$1.50; 101-120 words--\$1.80; 121-150 words--\$2.00; 151-175 words--\$2.50; 176-200 words--\$3.00. When you send in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, or LEAGUE FORMING. And name card sets by the year upon which they were based. Note also that only advertisements regarding Strat-O-Matic products, related merchandise and leagues will be accepted. Merchandise competing with S-O-M-produced products, such as scoresheets, etc., may not be offered for sale. Also, no photocopied S-O-M cards should ever be offered for sale. Ads, to be included in the next issue of the Review, must be in by the third of the month. Money for ads will not be refunded, but will be credited to your subscription if you do not wish the ad to appear. Be sure and give all sections of the country ample time to respond to ads--mail is notoriously slow in some areas.

Wanted

WANTED: 1961 to 1974 Red Sox. Name price and please contact: John Walsh, 453 Cornell Ave., Pemberton, NJ 08068

WANTED: 1969 baseball, with or without extras. Hope for full set and will pay top price for a good-condition full set. But I will consider any incomplete set (list missing teams), or any set that has a few or many incomplete teams (list missing players). Even fair-to-poor condition set will be considered. Now is your chance to sell those teams that you thought you would never get rid of. Send SASE and a full description of your merchandise, along with your price, to: Paul DeGroot, 906 Catalina, Corpus Christi, TX 78411

WANTED: The following New York Mets baseball teams: 1963-1967 and 1969; desperately. Contact: David Liebeskind, 154 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn, NY 11215 [212-965-4773].

WANTED: All 1973 baseball teams with extra players and roster sheet, if possible. Also, same as above, but for 1972 teams. Teams must be in excellent or better condition. Please state condition and price and enclose SASE for reply. Contact: Bill Flynn, 141 Sea Flower Road, Milford, CT 06460

WANTED: Would the fellow who picked up a notebook full of games from me to compile statistics for me please contact me? Without that book all my other games are worthless, being incomplete, and this will wipe out a

long, long period of game playing. Also I would like to thank everyone who answered my last ad. I didn't manage to answer everyone. Peter Denman, 2316½ W. Main, Houston, TX 77098

WANTED: 1971, 1972 American and National League baseball teams (plus additional) in good condition; also 1968 Tigers. Name prices and contact: Scott Wigent, 3116 Kensboro N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49505

WANTED: Following football teams--1968 Packers, '68 Falcons, 1969 Cowboys, '69 Redskins, '70 Bengals, '71 Chargers. Mail your price to me: Terry Neiss, 5801 Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17112

WANTED: 1963 Dodgers and Yankees, 1964 Cardinals and Yankees, 1966 Orioles, 1968 Tigers and Cardinals. Will pay \$1.00 each for any or all of these teams. Write: Dave Marston, 21623 Montgomery, Hayward, CA 94541

WANTED: Long-suffering Dallas Cowboy fan tired of seeing 1972 secondary chewed to pieces because of a "D" cornerback, namely Charlie Waters. I am looking for the World Champion 1971 team or, perhaps, the 1970 NFC champs in which, hopefully, Herb Adderly still retains his defensive prowess. Contact: Joel D. Hilbun, 3119 Woodglyn Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70814

WANTED: Football teams--will pay top price; you name it. 1967 Chicago Bears, Green Bay Packers; 1968 New York Jets; 1969 Kansas City Chiefs, Minnesota Vikings. Must be complete teams and in fair-to-good shape. Send bids to: Mark Woloszyn, 1052 Hudson Ave., Rochester, NY 14621

WANTED: 1969-71-72 baseball card sets, especially '72 with additional players and roster sheet. Also Baseball Guide

based on 1972. Don't delay. Write today! Please hurry with bids. Prefer 1972 cards to be \$15.00 and lower. Send bids to: Al Gallagher, 408 Center Street, Garwood, NJ 07027

WANTED: I am looking for nine teams from the 1969 baseball season. Specifically, I am looking for the Baltimore Orioles, New York Yankees, Cleveland Indians, Atlanta Braves, San Francisco Giants, Chicago Cubs, New York Mets, San Diego Padres and the Montreal Expos. I am also looking for the 1970 Atlanta Braves and 1973 Atlanta Braves. I am willing to pay a reasonable price for the teams. If anyone is interested in selling the above teams, or knows where I can buy them, write to: James Lizon, 131 Stratford Road, New Britain, CT 06053

WANTED: Baseball -- 1971 Chicago White Sox with extra players, 1970 and 1971 Washington Senators with extras. Send to: Jeff Rohwer, 19724 Q. St., Omaha, NE 68135

WANTED: 1968 Detroit Tiger team cards. Contact: R. Hoyt, 5875 Southwest 48th St., Miami, FL 33155

For Sale

FOR SALE: Baseball teams galore! If you want any of these teams, sending me a bid will be your best bet for a great buy because I must get rid of these teams. Baseball -- 1965 Los Angeles, Pittsburgh (minus Don Cardwell and Bob Friend), San Francisco, Baltimore, Cleveland, Detroit; excellent condition. 1966 San Francisco and Detroit; good condition. 1968 St. Louis (minus Lou Brock), Oakland (minus Ramon Webster); good condition. 1969 complete set, except Mets; good condition. 1970 Mets, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, San Diego, Baltimore, Washington, California and Kansas City; good condition. 1971 complete set. 1972 complete set. 1973 complete set and extra players. 1974 complete set. The more teams you bid on, the better your chance.

Write to: Gordon Stein, 1213 Ave. Z, Brooklyn, NY 11235

FOR SALE: Selling 1972 and earlier season baseball cards at three cents per card. Minimum order is \$1.00. Larry Wolf, 3329 Monticello Court, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

FOR SALE: 1966 Dodgers, Pirates, Giants, Twins, Mets. \$5.50 postpaid each. Mint condition. With check, enclose number from one to fifty as tiebreaker. Mark Pistolese, 54 Sierra Vista, Valley Cottage, NY 10989

FOR SALE: All 1973 baseball teams except Texas and St. Louis; \$1.00 each. 1972 except Yanks, White Sox, Angels, Orioles, Royals, Tigers, Indians, Mets, Phillies, Cards; \$1.25 each. 1971 except Yanks, Mets, Giants, A's, Orioles, Reds, Astros; \$1.50 each. 1970 except Senators, Twins, Orioles, Indians, Cards, Reds, Cubs, Mets, Pirates; \$1.75 each. 1969 except Mets, Expos, Dodgers, Astros, Pilots; \$2.00 each. Teams in good-to-excellent condition. Bruce Fleischacker, 105 Norman Rd., New Rochelle, NY 10804

FOR SALE: Complete sets of 1967 and 1969 Football teams. Also all 1968 and 1970 Football teams, except Chiefs. Condition ranges from good to very good. Will sell either complete sets or, if offers are attractive enough, individual teams. Offers must be submitted by Sept. 20. Contact: Mike Bordelon, 1700 Carl Rd., #209, Irving, TX 75061 [21-438-7271].

FOR SALE: The first 19 issues of the Review, all in good condition, from March 1971 to Aug. 1972. Will sell to the highest bidder. Bids will be accepted for 30 days after this ad appears. These issues must be sold all together, and not separately. Send your bids to: Lyle Kula, 6155 N. River Road, Rosemont, ILL 60018

FOR SALE: Baseball -- 1968, assumed complete but without roster sheet; in fair to good condition; \$40. 1969, complete and in good condition with some trades marked, \$35. 1970, missing 11 players; in good condition with some trades marked; \$25. 1971, complete with extra players, in good to excellent condition with only a few trades marked; \$30. 1972, complete and unmarked in excellent condition; \$25. 1973, complete and unmarked in excellent condition; \$20. Higher offers will be considered. Jim Steiker, 8001 Heather Rd., Elkins Park, PA 19117 [1-215-635-2761]

FOR SALE: Baseball -- game box and score pads, \$3.00; 1969 season, complete with extra players, \$15.00; 1970 Twins, Orioles, Reds, Pirates, 70¢ each; 1971 season, complete with extra players, \$14; 1972 season, complete with extra player, \$12; 1973 season, complete with extra players, \$11; package nameless players, 35¢; 20 Old-Timer teams, 50¢ each. Football -- game box and score pads, \$5; 1970 season (26 teams), \$12; 1971 season (26 teams), \$11. Basketball -- 1972-73 NBA, hardly used, \$12. We will not break up seasons. We pay postage. Send to: Mike Allison, 2214 East 14th St., Chattanooga, TN 37404

FOR SALE: 1973 A.F.C. Football, 1971-72 baseball (mixed, fair-bad condition), 1973 and two 1974 sets, all with extras except '71. Sparky Lyle and Sid O'Brian missing from 1971 set. Send bids to: Larry Braus, 8545 N. Washtenaw, Chicago, IL 60645

FOR SALE: 1. Complete set of 1973-74 basketball cards and equipment. Includes three split decks and scoresheets. Cost: \$9.00. 2. 1972 football cards and game contents. Teams include Los Angeles, Minnesota, Buffalo, Kansas City and Pittsburgh. Cost: \$6.00. Scoresheets included. Both sets in excellent condition. You pay postage. Jeff Moritz, N. 5908 Milton, Spokane, WA 99208

FOR SALE: Strat-O-Matic Review from April 1971 to September 1975, sold individually or as a set. 1972-1973 NBA season, all 17 teams; mint condition; \$4.00. 1973-1974 NBA season, Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Boston; mint; \$2.00. Will take bids on following baseball teams, in mint condition: 1972 A's and Reds; 1971 Pirates, Twins, A's. Will take bids on following football teams in mint condition: 1974 Raiders, Bills, Vikings, Steelers; 1969 Baltimore Colts; 1970 Buffalo Bills; 1972 Redskins, Dolphins, Bills, Packers, Jets, Browns; 1973 Eagles. Will sell 1927 and 1961 Yankees for \$1.00 for both. Send to: Carlos Hurtado, 191 South

Commonwealth Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90004

FOR SALE: 1972 baseball (no extras); 1972 football (sold only as a set); 1971 Vikings, Jets, Dolphins, Steelers, 49ers, Redskins, Colts, Lions, Packers. Back issues of Review, every month but March and Dec. of 1975. Have all of '74 and April, July, Aug., Oct., Nov., Dec. of 1973. Also Aug., Nov. and Dec. of 1972. Sold in sets of three. Bids accepted; for response, send SASE. Brian Butler, 912 Mullaghbay Road, Glendora, CA 91740

FOR SALE: I am interested in acquiring the 1962 Yanks, 1962 Dodgers, 1964 Cards, 1965 A's, 1965 Senators, 1966 Dodgers, 1966 A's, 1966 Senators, 1969 Cards, 1969 Royals, 1970 Pirates, 1970 Twins, 1970 Reds, 1970 Padres, 1969 Twins and 1971 Reds. I am only interested in trading, not buying. The teams I have to offer are 1963 White Sox, 1965 Pirates (minus three players), 1965 Dodgers (original), 1969 Dodgers, 1971 Twins, 1971 A's, 1971 Yanks, 1971 Giants, 1971 Orioles, 1972 Yanks, 1972 White Sox (2), 1972 Phils (2), 1972 Astros (2), 1972 Reds, 1963 Sox and '65 Pirates in good condition. The rest are mint. Dave Mendonca, 1930 Messina, San Jose, CA 95132 [408-926-6331].

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Anyone in Glendora, Azusa, Covina area interested in a face-to-face league? If so, contact: Brian Butler, 912 Mullaghboy Road, Glendora, CA 91740 [335-3571].

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for 11 reliable managers for a new PBM baseball league. We will be using the actual teams from the new American League cards and play a 162-game season. If you like a fast-paced schedule then this is the league for you. An entry fee of \$5.00 will be charged, \$3.00 of which will be refunded if you complete the season. Send your list of teams, in order of preference, and a small resume including any PBM experience, to: Bill MacLeod, 17362 Via San Ardo, San Lorenzo, CA 94580 [415-278-3196].

LEAGUE FORMING: SOMBA, a PBM basketball league, is getting set to begin its second season soon. We are looking for at least three reliable managers to join us. You will have the opportunity to draft and build a team of your own, a team that could meet instant success or suffer from growing pains. If you are interested in finding out just how

good you are at drafting and coaching a basketball team, write to: Richard Siteman, 13 Sheridan St., Portland, ME 04101

LEAGUE FORMING: A 1974 National League replay. There will be eight teams. This league only wants managers that are sure they can finish the league and can keep on time. If you are interested, write to: Brent Goodwin, Route 5, Box 499-N, Conroe, TX 77301. Please send name, experience and age.

LEAGUE FORMING: Anyone in the Central Pennsylvania area (Dauphin County) interested in playing in a Face-to-Face Strat-O-Matic Football league this fall, contact: Terry Neiss, 5801 Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17112 (717-652-4844)

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for 10 to 12 reliable managers to play 1975 PBM baseball. It shall be set up as American and National League. Please state your preference. When writing, please select six players at each position and 30 pitchers like the suggestion on page 9 of July's S-O-M Review. Make selections from only the league you indicate. Please send an entry fee of \$5 with your draft. I hope to have the draft by Sept. 1. Write: Paul Zucker, 1701 N. Tyndall #16, Tucson, Arizona 85719

LEAGUE FORMING: Did you send a resume of yourself to David Lutes for his American League draft league. Mr. Lutes has a great idea and looks on his way to a successful league in the coming years. Unfortunately there was not enough room for everyone. If you were too late then come join my league. It is a PBM Major League draft league. We will play 162 games. We will have trophies, newsletters and league statistics. Don't be late twice, send a resume of yourself to: Hiram Raldiris, 15 Stephens Ave., Middletown, NY 10940

LEAGUE FORMING: I am looking for managers for a PBM league using the 1974 card set. We will play

the basic game. No experience necessary. Please, only managers who are willing to play out a full season of baseball. This will be a draft league. Write: Bob Hess, 925 Willow, Wood River, IL 62095

LEAGUE FORMING: Last call for coaches in a college football league! Since we are about to make up schedule, please send your team choices in the order that you would like them. Also, send a \$3.00 entry fee to cover postage and newsletters. Write now to: Bob Spellerberg, 284 Willets Lane, West Islip, NY 11795

LEAGUE FORMING: National League actual teams replay. Based on 1975 cards, including extras. To run this fall and winter. Need from 4-8 managers with PBM experience. Send resume and list of teams in order of preference to: Larry Lampsa, Rt. 1, Box 105, Gilbert, MN 55741

LEAGUE FORMING: Association forming. Can you travel to Hillside, NJ, once a week for head-to-head competition in S-O-M Football, Baseball and Basketball? We have reserved a room one night a week in the Hillside Community Center for an S-O-M Club. All area S-O-M buffs interested for meeting dates or more info call: John Schiener, 9 Hilldale Place, Hillside, NJ 07205 (923-8313).

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for reliable managers to use 1975 cards, both American and National League. If interested, write to: Don Beane, 58 St. Louis Ave., Chicopee, MA 01013. No experience necessary.

EXTRA WANTED: Any Pirate teams before 1971. Will pay reasonable amount. Would like extras. Write: Tony Wymen, 1897 Sturbridge Dr., Lancaster, PA 17601

Directory Additions

* Pete Dursó, 1520 N. Columbia, Naperville, IL 60540; 15; has played S-O-M Baseball for three years.

* Tom Unthank, 2348 Sycamore Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95405; been playing S-O-M for seven years; interested in PBM league.

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S-O-M League, Replay Scene



JIM CRISCIONE

* GREATER UNITED STATES S-O-M ORGANIZATION [GUSSOMO] -- Jim Criscione is beginning to rule 24-team, play-by-mail league like dictator. Recently won third straight title in actual-team replay, guiding Texas [after a multitude of trades] to the top...Jeff Fleischman is organizer of league, which currently is in fifth season...Criscione proved once again to be a master trader, acquiring the likes of Carl Yastrzemski (.333, 104 walks), Reggie Smith (.309, 34 homers, 124 RBI), Tom Seaver [24-15, 2.70 ERA, 324 strikeouts] and Lynn McGlothen (31-7, 2.71). Texas set GUSSOMO record with 120-42 record...Doug Smith's Cincinnati team won the N.L., but fell in the World Series by scores of 2-1, 6-7, 3-2, 1-0 [Seaver with the shutout], 6-7, 3-2, 0-5, and 6-4...Criscione has Boston this summer but team is hardly recognizable as he's already traded for Dave Cash, George Brett, Tom Seaver, Andy Messersmith, Ed Figueroa and Ken Brett...Other big traders have been Bob Galvin (Oakland), who acquired Boog Powell, Willie Davis and Dennis Eckersley; Dean Amrhein (Pittsburgh), who grabbed Don Sutton and Jimmy Wynn, and Doug Cochrane (Baltimore) who swapped Lee May, Don Baylor, Mark Watson, Greg Gross, Charlie Johnson and Roger Metzger...Fleischman, who guides the Dodgers, hasn't exactly been sitting on his hands, either, going for speed in his swaps by adding Jim Rice and Dave Winfield (for power) and Dave Lopes, Mickey Rivers and Enzo Hernandez...

Standings and leaders: (1975 league)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	Won-Lost	GB
Boston	95-67	--
Cleveland	89-73	6
Baltimore	87-75	8
New York	70-92	25
Milwaukee	66-96	29
Detroit	53-109	42

West	Won-Lost	GB
Texas	120-42	--
Oakland	90-72	30
Chicago	84-78	36
Minnesota	81-81	39
Kansas City	72-90	48
California	65-97	55

Batting

AL - Carew, Minn.	.390
NL - Garr, Atl.	.417

Home Runs

AL - Schmidt, Bos.	34
NL - Allen, Atl.	39

RBI

AL - Smith, Tex.	124
NL - Bench, Cin.	137

Doubles

AL - Blye, Min.	40
NL - Stargell, SL	40

Triples

AL - Rivers, Cal.	16
NL - Garr, Atl.	18

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	Won-Lost	GB
Philadelphia	96-66	--
St. Louis	84-78	12
Chicago	81-81	15
Montreal	72-90	24
Pittsburgh	71-91	25
New York	62-100	34

West	Won-Lost	GB
Cincinnati	98-64	--
Los Angeles	92-70	6
Houston	88-74	10
S.F. Giants	81-81	17
Atlanta	76-86	22
San Diego	71-91	27

Stolen Bases

AL - Carew, Min.	111 [16 CS]
NL - Brock, Pit.	195 [65 CS]

Runs

AL - Carew, Min.	119
NL - Brock, SL	121

Hits

AL - Carew, Min.	249
NL - Garr, Atl.	222

ERA

AL - Hunter, Oak.	1.89
NL - Matlack, Cin.	1.94

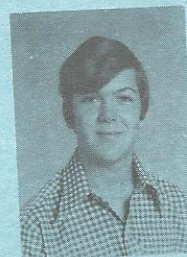
Wins

AL - Jenkins, Tex.	31-12
McGlothen, Tex.	31-7
NL - Matlack, Cin.	25-8

Strikeouts

AL - Seaver, Tex.	324
NL - Carlton, Cin.	287

* EAST COAST BASEBALL ASSOCIATION [ECBA] -- Play-by-mail draft league using all teams to form 12-team setup...Larry Fryer [whose college thesis was on play-by-mail leagues and how to be a successful manager] won World Series after rising up from second-place regular-season finish...Fryer's team was Hamburg Outcasts, which won 17 of last 18 games to tie for second--then win playoff, then division and Series honors...League members bid on new players at



DOUG SMITH

start of each season--managers are given \$1,000 for each loss so teams with poor records will obviously be able to buy best players...Don Gullett and Phil Niekro both pitched no-hitters. But Paul Splitterff belonged in pitcher's Hall of Shame after compiling atrocious 1-21--yes! 21 losses!--record...Wins and losses do not match because one manager dropped [Cardston Pheasants] and team's record was put at 81-81...Awards went to Fryer [Manager of Year], commissioner Dan Hoffman (G-M of Year), Catfish Hunter [MVP and Cy Young winner] and John Hiller [Fireman of Year].

Standings and leaders: (1975 season, based on 1974 cards)

Division I		Won-Lost	GB	Playoffs
Twin Tier Titans [Dan Hoffman]		117-45	--	* Outcasts d. Bootleggers, 2 games to 1.
Elmira Yankees [Mark Weiermiller]		92-70	25	Outcasts d. Titan, 3-2.
Montreal Expos [John Nastro]		90-72	27	Yankees d. Reds, 3-2
Ridgewood Renegades [Wesley Sass]		87-75	30	
Cardston Pheasants [The Phantom]		81-81	36	World Series
Richon Ripp Squad [Tom Fees]		35-127	82	1. Yanks 3, Outcasts 0;
Division II				
Cincinnati Reds [Mike Weiermiller]		115-47	--	2. Yanks 8, Outcasts 4;
Hamburg Outcasts * [Larry Fryer]		93-69	22	3. Outcasts 5, Yanks 1;
Hamburg Bootleggers * [Jeff Grounis]		93-69	22	4. Outcasts 4, Yanks 2;
Chemung Cougars [Ralph Hebb]		77-85	38	5. Outcasts 5, Yanks 0;
Zenith City Swiffuls [Dale Barnes]		77-85	38	6. Yanks 2, Outcasts 1;
New York Condors [Sean Crosbie]		65-97	50	7. Outcasts 3, Yanks 0.
				[Rudy May, who pitched shutout in 7th game, was World Series MVP].
Batting		Home Runs		
Carew [REDS]	.377	Schmidt [TI]	44	Hits: Carew [REDS] 222
Garr [REDS]	.342	Allen [REDS]	32	Doubles: McRae [COND] 49
Oliver [COND]	.326	Wynn [COUG]	30	Morgan [COUG] 48
Randle [BOOT]	.315	Gamble [REN]	28	Triples: Garr [REDS] 14
Garvey [YANK]	.315	Jackson [TI]	27	Runs: Schmidt [TI] 107
				Stolen Bases: Brock [ZWIET] 153
ERA				
Hunter [TI]	2.27	P.Niekro [TI]	2.78	Wins
John [ZWIET]	2.53	G.Perry [TI]	2.85	Ryan [TI]
R.May [OUT]	2.54	Blyleven [REDS]	2.89	Hunter [TI]
Fitzmorris [REN]	2.71	Reed [COUG]	2.98	P.Niekro [TI]
B.Johnson [REN]	2.75			Sutton [YANK]
Jenkins [OUT]	2.77			G.Perry [TI]
Strikeouts				
Shutouts - Niekro	10	Ryan [TI]	319	G.Perry [TI]
		Matlack [REN]	207	Tiant [REDS]
		G.Perry [TI]	202	Gullett [REDS]

GREATER EAST HARTFORD FOOTBALL LEAGUE -- A two-coach, 20-team draft league in which all play is solitaire, except for the playoffs...Ronald Surwill and Richard Lamore were on the drafting and dice-rollin' end for a nine-game regular-season schedule for each team plus the playoffs...a team appropriately called the Maulers won it all, going 8-1 and then scoring 41-34, 31-13 and, in the Super Bowl, 26-16 victories...Lamore, incidentally, guided the Maulers in the playoffs...the Maulers had a lineup of Roger Staubach throwing to the likes of Cliff Branch, Nat Moore and Bob Tucker, plus the one-two dynamic running duo of Otis Armstrong and O.J. Simpson. Enough said about that offense!...Maulers ran into defensive-minded Roughriders (7-2) in Super showdown and, despite O.J. and Otis being held in check (only 79 yards in 33 carries between 'em), the Maulers still prevailed--thanks to 80 and 67-yard returns by Lynn Swann...Franco Harris was the league's top rusher with 1,162 yards for a 5.6 average; Charlie Taylor hauled in a league-high 52 passes for a 16-yard average [Isaac Curtis and Harold Jackson both averaged over 23 yards per catch]; while Ken Stabler passed for 2,133 yards. Ken Anderson was the top TD tosser, however, firing 17 payoff pitches while completing 60 per cent of 240 passes. Bert Jones had the dubious distinction of having 18 of his 215 passes intercepted--also a league high.

1974 Silver La

Strat-O-Matic Profiles

JEFF HOLMQUIST

A participating Walter Mitty who has played against some of baseball's current greats and today watches them all perform--via Strat-O-Matic...27 years old and a marketing researcher with the R.L. Polk Company in Taylor, MI, near Dearborn where he and his wife and six-month-old daughter make their home...



In 1967, while at Mackenzie High School in Detroit, he competed against both John Mayberry and Richie Coggins of Detroit Northwestern. Sixteen pro scouts watched him perform (even though they were really there to watch Mayberry and Coggins). Jeff tripled twice and made a shoestring catch--his greatest game ever! No one signed him up, however. What did Mayberry do? He singled in three at-bats, but as a relief pitcher he struck out Holmquist on three smoking fastballs...Holmquist also competed against Ted Simmons as a prep and believed then, as he does today, that Simmons is the better hitter than Mayberry...Holmquist has been a Strat-O-Matic player since 1964, believes it to be best baseball table-game on market because of the "extremely individualized pitching"...Has had two no-hitters, both using the 1964 cards. Juan Pizarro of the White Sox and Jim O'Toole of Cincinnati hurled 'em...Played most of baseball games available. "Strat-O-Matic, however, is the bread and butter game, not depending on images and super marketing. With a money back guarantee, its management is more confident of consumer receptivity to its product."

DON BLUESTEIN

Discovered S-O-M in-1967 and has been addicted ever since...has played over 4,500 baseball games, most solitaire...19 years old and lives in Swampscott, MA ...after graduation from high school accomplished lifetime ambition of playing entire baseball schedule, in 1975. Mike Schmidt hit a league-high 41 homers, Rod Carew batted .376 and Cincinnati won the World Series...Loves to announce



games, often recording important contests on a cassette and later reliving the exciting moments...Usually plays S-O-M solitaire, although admits that mother has been coaxed into trying game on more than a couple occasions...Two of biggest S-O-M thrills were no-hitter by Mike Cuellar of Baltimore against the Red Sox, in 1969 (Don's first and only no-hitter), and four consecutive home runs off the bat of Willie Stargell--Don's favorite player. Stargell, after booming the four roundtrippers, tripled in his fifth at-bat. ...Currently in two play-by-mail leagues; loves the trading and drafting aspects of them...Often attends Red Sox games with his father, usually catching about 50 games a year.

DANNY NORDSTRAND



Started playing S-O-M in 1972 after seeing game advertised in magazine...15 years old...plays both football and baseball and is currently commissioner of Richmond Strat-O-Matic League, which includes six members and plays both sports...Lives in Richmond, British Columbia, Canada...Has contributed S-O-M playing tips in the past; quite an innovator...Being from Canada, naturally he's very much interested in an S-O-M Hockey game...Biggest coaching thrill was guiding Washington Redskins to a 9-6 (15-game schedule) and Super Bowl victory in six-team football replay last fall. League included Miami, real-life Super Bowl king Pittsburgh, Oakland, Minnesota and St. Louis. Steelers only had 8-7 record and didn't qualify for 'Super' showdown.

Postal Strike Can't Stop It

CanAm League Again Delivers Full-Season Replay

13

The CanAm Strat-O-Matic League, despite having to contend with the Canadian postal strike, still delivered its second full-season replay. Even a couple of defections couldn't stop as it completed a 160-game replay.

Commissioner Gary Fell feels the league looks stronger than ever as it readies to begin its third season this fall. Fell, 18, who lives in Arvida, Quebec, says the league will remain at eight teams and again be of a draft nature. In the beginning, two years ago, the CanAm was an actual team league, but switched to a draft format last year.

Along with the postal strike throwing the league for a two-month loss, CanAm also saw two of its managers vanish into the sunset. But the other managers pitched in and carried the "phantom manager" teams through the schedule. This year CanAm appears well-stocked for managers. An ad in the Review resulted in 15 replies for the two vacated posts. "I, truly, had a difficult time in choosing the managers," says Fell. "The league now has eight managers and about six backups."

CANAM LINEUP

Current managerial lineup for CanAm includes: Kevin Conrad, 19, of Bridgewater, Nova Scotia (manages Banditos); Paul Wootten Jr., 16, Seaford, DE (Bluehens); Steve Wilson, 19, Truro, Nova Scotia (Bearcats); Tim Olson, 16, Plymouth, MN (Pirates); Ron Fell, Gary's cousin, 27, Toronto (Tigers); and Gary Fell (Stampeders).

New managers will be Clark Baglole, 19, O'Leary, Prince Edward Island (Rancheros), and Bob Ryan, 22, Waltham, MA (Gauchos).

Wilson, Baglole and Gary Fell will be attending Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, this fall; Ron Fell works in a Toronto bank; Wootten and Olson are high school students, and Conrad recently graduated from a two-year vocational program.

BANDITOS WIN SERIES

Both the Banditos and Pirates ran away with their respective leagues--setting up a World Series clash. Conrad's Banditos won it in seven games--the home team winning each time--with Dick Allen's two-run, eighth inning triple the decisive blow in the finale, a 3-1 win by the Banditos. Gaylord Perry of the victors was named MVP after winning two games (first and last) out of three and allowing but two earned runs.

A LOOK AT THE TEAMS

Using eight teams (25 players each) means CanAm was, in a sense, an All-Star league. Both A.L. and N.L. players were used, from the 1974 season (1975 S-O-M cards). So, naturally there were many highlights...and also many lowlights. Here are a few of each from all the teams:

BANDITOS (Kevin Conrad) -- Conrad was Manager of Year...Buzz Capra was ERA king with 2.48 mark, despite 14-14 record...Ace of staff was Gaylord Perry (22-8, 2.67), while Jim Rooker (15-8, 2.59) and Lynn McGlothen (17-6, 2.86) were other mound sparklers...Geoff Zahn and Sparky Lyle were the heart of the bullpen...Offense was led by Jorge Orta (.311), Dick Allen (.257, 33 homers, 88 RBI), Jeff Burroughs (.290, 25, 65) and Reggie Smith (.291, 24, 70).

TIGERS (Ron Fell) -- Awesome starting trio of Luis Tiant (21-11, 3.17), Fergie Jenkins (20-16, 2.74) and Steve Busby (19-11, 3.17)...Johnny Bench whacked 39 homers and had 113 RBI, but batted lowly .242...Team had lowest average in league--.243--as Amos Otis was leader with .282 average...Bobby Bonds slumped to .234, but did steal 102 bases and hit 25 homers...Mark Belanger (.203) and Bud Harrelson (.194) were a banjo hitting shortstop duo while Vida Blue, fourth starter, was 13-19, 4.07.

BLUEHENS (Paul Wootten) -- Andy Messersmith, Cy Young Award winner, was the big man with a 23-8 record, 2.64 ERA and 200 strikeouts...Raves for Messersmith turned to hisses for Nolan Ryan, however, as he was 11-21, walked a disastrous 179 batters and had a 4.64 ERA...Willie Montanez was top hitter

with .297 average and Willie Stargell led in homers with only 18...Tom Murphy was a sparkler in the bullpen, going 6-1, 2.49, but the hitting was miserly as Don Money (.202), Bobby Grich (.224) and Ted Simmons (.240) all were big disappointments.

STAMPEDERS [Gary Fell] -- Came through pretty good for a team that hit only 39 home runs all season. Any bonafide slugger hits that many himself! ...Speed was the Stampeders' game, however, as team swiped 229 bases, including 129 by Lou Brock alone...Hitting was fair as Willie Davis (.292), George Brett (.290) and Dwight Evans (.287) all came through...Thurman Munson was team HR "king" with 12--and hit .215...Phil Niekro did win 10 games in a row--a CanAm record--and was 20-7, with a 2.70 ERA...Don Sutton (18-13, 2.65) backed him effectively, but Jerry Koosman (8-16, 3.13) and Frank Tanana (6-20, 4.97) suffered from lack of long ball support.

PIRATES [Tim Olson] -- Won West Division pennant as Rod Carew just missed batting title with a .346 average...Steve Garvey (.318, 21, 119) was league's MVP, while Mike Schmidt, MVP runnerup, walloped 47 homers and had .294 average...Cesar Cedeno, acquired in a trade, only hit .230, however...Pitching was another strong suit as Jim Kaat (21-13, 2.67) and Bert Blyleven (20-13, 2.59) were supported ably by Jim Barr (16-11, 3.16) and Tom Seaver (13-10, 3.08).

RANCHEROS [Manager quit] -- Still had 82-78 record despite being rudderless as far as someone at the controls...Big sticks were provided by Reggie Jackson (29 HRs, 113), Gary Matthews (.303, 11 HRs) and Toby Harrah...Joe Morgan chipped in with 106 walks and 70 stolen bases, although batting only .237...Eight "4s" made defense the best in the league...Catfish Hunter was ace of hurling staff with 22-14 record, 2.90 ERA...Don Gullett and Jim Lonborg won 15 and 14 games, respectively, while rookie Dennis Blair impressed with 10 wins and a 2.86 ERA.

GAUCHOS [Manager quit] -- Another league "orphan" as manager abandoned them early in season...Few bright spots on 67-93 record team were Ralph Garr's winning batting title with .350 average and league-record 19 triples, Jim Wynn homered 27 times with 94 RBI and Richie Zisk's .294 average and 19 round-trippers...Dave Lopes (.219), Roger Metzger and Brooks Robinson comprised an at best, mediocre infield...Jon Matlack was only real winner on mound staff, going 16-14 with 3.61 ERA...Ross Grimsley was just horrendous, losing 22 of 31 decisions and having a skyrocket ERA of 4.93.

BEARCATS [Steve Wilson] -- Pitching breakdown could be carved on team's tombstone as Al Fitzmorris lost 20 games, Randy Jones, Jerry Reuss and Mike Cuellar 19 apiece...Only relievers John Hiller (5-6, 2.67) and Al Hrabowsky (9-6, 3.12) were at all effective...Hitting was another matter, however, as Bill Madlock (.290, 11, 73) was Rookie of Year, Bob Watson delivered (.293, 20, 84), Dave Winfield had 25 homers in 106 games and Mickey Rivers swiped 42 bases...Countering those fine performances was the weak bat of Greg Luzinski (.220, 4, 20).

FINAL STANDINGS

East Division	Won-Lost	Pct.	GB	West Division	Won-Lost	Pct.	GB
Banditos	95-65	.594	--	Pirates	94-66	.588	--
Tigers	85-75	.531	10	Rancheros	82-78	.512	12
Bluehens	79-81	.494	16	Gauchos	67-93	.419	27
Stampeders	78-82	.488	17	Bearcats	60-100	.375	34

'The Count' No. 1 Draft Pick

John [The Count] Montefusco, San Francisco pitcher, had the distinction of being the No. 1 draft choice in the GKSM (Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League) National League draft, using the 1976 cards. Todd Newell, 12-year-old rookie manager and son of Review co-editor Del Newell, drew the first choice after the team he had inherited finished last the previous season. Because his team was pitching weak--and The Count appeared the best available--Todd plucked his card from the rows of players available.

[continued on next page]

In the GKSM, managers are allowed to protect 17 players from the previous season's roster. Then, all those unprotected, plus rookies and players traded from one league to another, become available in the draft. The draft itself is in reverse order of finish from the previous season. Eight teams, rather than 10 as in the American League, took turns drafting.

Second pick in the draft went to Del Newell, who selected Bobby Murcer and thus was reunited with one of the players who helped him to an A.L. pennant three years before. Incidentally, Del also picked Dick Allen--in the last round--thus returning to him that one-two slugging punch of old.

Here is the way the remainder of the N.L. draft went through two rounds:
1. John Montefusco (Todd Newell); 2. Bobby Murcer (Del Newell); 3. Gary Carter (Jim Myers); 4. John Candelaria (Dale Holland); 5. Dan Warthen (Joel Block); 6. Gary Nolan (Al Brinkert); 7. Rawley Eastwick (traded from Clif Sage to Al Brinkert); 8. Larry Christenson (Warren Newell).

9. Tom Underwood (Todd Newell); 10. Brent Strom (Del Newell); 11. Ed Halicki (Jim Myers); 12. Woody Fryman (Dale Holland); 13. Will McEnaney (traded from Joel Block to Jim Myers); 14. Tom Hilgendorf (traded from Al Brinkert to Joel Block); 15. Skip Lockwood (traded from Clif Sage to Joel Block); 16. Pat Darcy (Warren Newell).

Clif Sage, in case you were wondering, finally got a pick in the third round, picking relief pitcher Gary Lavelle.

Deal A Defense, Or Offense

[continued from page 3]

Illini accumulated a sizeable 234-yard total on 14 completions in 27 attempts. In the second half Illinois did connect for 34, 71 and 36-yard gains.

Michigan State, on the other hand, rushed for 136 yards in 37 attempts and passed for 210 yards on 12-of-23 accuracy. Longest ground gain was 16 yards while through the air there were such biggies as 71 and 43 yards, plus five others of 10 yards or more.

The next game, promises Del, "I'll stay on the ground more and pass much less, if playing Michigan State. Those two fumbles on kickoffs (right after Illinois had scored) really hurt. Later I was in obvious passing situations so much that even playing my lowest cards didn't help--Warren was doing the same with the defense, and calling the play right."

How would you fare? Interested in taking Texas and challenging Oklahoma? How about Oklahoma and Michigan squaring off, again? The opportunity will be coming your way soon when Strat-O-Matic College Football invades your gaming room for a full season of thrills.

What's Available At S-O-M?

BASKETBALL

Four ABA teams--Indiana, New York Nets, Denver, San Antonio--\$1.50; 20 key players from other teams, 65¢. Cards based on 1975-76 season.

FOOTBALL

- 1974 - All teams available. Cost: \$11 for entire set; 75¢ per team.
- 1973 - All teams available except New York Giants and Buffalo. Cost: \$10 for set; 75¢ per team.
- 1972 - All teams available except Pittsburgh. Cost: \$10; 75¢ per team.
- 1971 - All teams available except Miami, Dallas, Baltimore, San Francisco, Kansas City, Detroit, Minnesota, Green Bay, Los Angeles, Washington. Cost: \$7.00 for set; 75¢ per team.
- 1970 - Only Boston available. Cost: 75¢.
- 1969 - Only Cincinnati, Denver, Houston, Miami, San Diego available. Cost: \$1.25 in multiples of two; 75¢ per team.

[continued on page 18]

S-O-M Baseball Trivia Corner

15

And away we go with September's Strat-O-Matic Baseball trivia quiz!

Quizmaster Robert Henry of Detroit, owner of the vast S-O-M card collection, has another list of questions certain to have you scratching your head in frustration.

This month's 10-question quiz and answers will also have a bonus: cards of the most potent one-two home run punch in Strat-O-Matic, Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle of the 1961 New York Yankees, are also being reprinted, courtesy of the Strat-O-Matic Game Co.

First the answers to the questions raised in the August issue of the Review, then the M & M cards will be presented.

QUESTION: Which pitcher holds the record for most strikeouts by a starter over five seasons?

ANSWER: Sandy Koufax holds the record for most strikeouts by a starting pitcher over five seasons with 213 strikeouts [on his S-O-M card] from 1961 through 1965. His annual strikeout figures were 40, 48, 38, 39 and 48 [again off his S-O-M card]. Koufax added 38 more strikeouts in 1966, bringing his six-season total to 251. Koufax [1961-65 and 1962-66] is the only pitcher to reach the 200 mark for five consecutive seasons.

QUESTION: Which players hold the record for most 1 ratings at each infield position [submitted by Jim Overmeyer]?

ANSWER: The following players hold the record for most 1 ratings at each infield position:

First Base -- George Scott, nine times, 1967-75.
Second Base -- Bill Mazerowski, six times, 1962-67.
Third Base -- Brooks Robinson, 14 times, 1962-75.
Shortstop -- Larry Bowa, five times, 1971-75.

QUESTION: Which player holds the record for receiving the most home runs on a card without receiving a Flyball A?

ANSWER: 1962 Willie McCovey holds the record for most home runs [13.75 card chances] without a Flyball A. He also failed to receive a Flyball A on his Old-Timer card.

QUESTION: What is the record for fewest home runs on a card for a modern league leader in homers?

ANSWER: The American League record for fewest home runs on a card for a modern league leader in home runs is held by 1973 Reggie Jackson who had only nine home run [chances] to represent his real-life 32 blasts. The National League record is held by 1974 Mike Schmidt with 9.25 home run [chances]. Schmidt also holds the record for fewest home runs for the major league leader.

QUESTION: Has any pitcher reached 100 strikeouts on two consecutive cards [adding the strikeouts from one card to those on another]?

ANSWER: Dick Radatz is the only player who can reach 100 strikeouts on two consecutive cards. He had 49 strikeouts [chances] on his 1962 card and 52 on his 1963 card for a total of 101. Radatz just missed turning the trick for 1963-64, as he had 47 strikeouts on his 1964 card.

[continued on following page]

QUESTION: Has any modern team had two players rated third base 1 fielding?
 ANSWER: The 1974 Milwaukee Brewers had two players rated 1 in Don Money and John Vukovich.

QUESTION: Who holds the record for most times rated stealing E?
 ANSWER: Harmon Killebrew's 14 E ratings represent the record. Killebrew was rated E every season 1960-75 except 1969 and 1971, when he was rated C and D respectively.

QUESTION: Who is the runnerup to Norm Cash for most home runs hit without a Flyball A?

ANSWER: Ernie Banks is the runnerup to Cash. He homered 37 times in 1962, but failed to receive a Flyball A on his card.

QUESTION: Which team had the best baserunners for outfielders?

ANSWER: The 1975 St. Louis Cardinals (Lou Brock, Willie Davis and Bake McBride) and the 1975 California Angels (Mickey Rivers, Morris Nettles and Dave Collins) each have three outfielders rated running 1-17. You can't improve on that.

QUESTION: 1961 is generally regarded as the greatest home run season in baseball history. Please list all players who received ten or more home runs [chances on the card]? (Submitted by Rick York)

ANSWER: Here are the players with 10 or more home run [chances] on their 1961 cards:
 1. Roger Maris [16.6], 2. Mickey Mantle [15.15], 3. Jim Gentile [14.4], 4. Orlando Cepeda [13.3], Harmon Killebrew [12.6], 6. Wally Post [11.3], 7. Rocky Colavito [11.25], 8. John Blanchard [11.1], 9. Willie Mays [10.45], 10. Norm Cash [10.4], 11. Frank Robinson [10.1], 12. Duke Snider [10.0].

Next Month's S-O-M Quiz

QUESTION: What is the modern record for most walks on a pitcher's card?

QUESTION: When was the first Strat-O-Matic Baseball set issued? (submitted by Chuck Holman and Doug Bauer)

QUESTION: Which modern team has had the most 8 or better base stealers? (question, also next month's answer, submitted by Jim Overmeyer)

QUESTION: Is it true that there has never been more than one second base 1 fielder per league in any card set? (submitted by Tim Brace)

QUESTION: Must any previous answers be modified in light of the new baseball cards issued this year? This question concerns the worst injury result. (submitted by Mike Collins)

QUESTION: What is the modern record for most hits on a pitcher's card?

QUESTION: Which player holds the career record for most home runs on his S-O-M cards?

QUESTION: What is the record for most extra base hits on a modern batter's card?

QUESTION: What was George Alusik's stealing rating in 1963?

QUESTION: Has any team had three players rated 1 fielding at a particular [continued]

position, 1962-1975?

QUESTION: Who was the first player to receive a card without any hits on it?

QUESTION: What is the record for most walks on a modern hitter's card?

Remember, if you are interested in receiving a personal reply to a troubling S-O-M Baseball question and have contacted Robert Henry, be sure and send an SASE for a reply. Henry's address is: 15919 Ferguson, Detroit, MI 48227. If you have questions and would like to see the answers in the Review, Henry's the man to check with. The questions must be regarding baseball, however.

M & M Boys Greatest 1-2 Punch

Now for those cards of Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle. Henry points out that between 'em Maris and Mantle have a record total of 31.75 home run chances.

ROGER MARIS			
NEW YORK YANKEES		OUTFIELD STEALING—E	
1		2	
2—FLYBALL	E	2—HOMERUN	
3—popout		3—HOMERUN	
4—popout		4—HOMERUN	
5—WALK		5—HOMERUN	1-3
6—flyball	c	SINGLE	4-20
7—groundball	a	6—DOUBLE	1-5
8—lineout		SINGLE	6-17
9—HOMERUN		popout	18-20
10—HOMERUN		7—groundball	a
11—HOMERUN		8—groundball	b
12—HOMERUN		9—groundball	c
		10—lineout	
		11—groundball	c
		12—flyball	a
3			
		2—TRIPLE	1-13
		SINGLE	14-20
		3—GROUNDBALL	E
		4—WALK	
		5—WALK	
		6—flyball	b
		7—flyball	b
		8—WALK	
		9—strikeout	
		10—strikeout	
		11—lineout	
		12—lineout into as many outs as possible	
1961 HITTING RECORD			
AT BATS 590	DOUBLES 16	TRIPLES 4	HOME RUNS 61
AVG. .269	WALKS 94	STRIKEOUTS 67	

MICKEY MANTLE		
NEW YORK YANKEES		
OUTFIELD STEALING—B		
1	2	3
2—strikeout	2—flyball b	2—DOUBLE
3—WALK	3—groundball c	3—TRIPLE 1-14 DOUBLE 15-20
4—SINGLE 1-17 popout 18-20	4—WALK	4—DOUBLE 1-2 SINGLE 3-20
5—WALK	5—strikeout	5—SINGLE
6—flyball b	6—strikeout	6—strikeout
7—groundball b	7—HOMERUN	7—strikeout
8—flyball b	8—HOMERUN	8—WALK
9—WALK	9—HOMERUN	9—WALK
10—groundball b	10—HOMERUN SINGLE 2-20	10—WALK
11—strikeout	11—flyball c	11—GROUNDBALL E
12—FLYBALL E	12—flyball a	12—lineout into as many outs as possible
1961 HITTING RECORD		
AT BATS 514	DOUBLES 16	TRIPLES 6
		HOME RUNS 54
AVG. .317	WALKS 126	STRIKEOUTS 112

What's Available At S-O-M?

[continued from page 15]

BASEBALL

1974 - All teams available. Cost: \$10 for set; 65¢ per team. Additional players available at \$2.70 for set.

1973 - Only Oakland available. Cost: 65¢.

1972 - Only Oakland available. Cost: 60¢.

1971 Pittsburgh, previously available, has now been sold out. No other back baseball card sets are available through Strat-O-Matic.

All orders should be placed with the Strat-O-Matic Game Co., Inc., 45 Railroad Plaza, Glen Head, NY 11545. Please enclose 50¢ for handling cost per order.

Baseball Playing Tips

Although baseball seasons are winding down for many--including the real-life Big Leagues--for many others it's time to throw out the first ball. Many play-by-mail leagues are late-starters, as are many so-called "Winter Leagues."

Some interesting baseball playing tips have crossed the desk of the Review recently, and are worth passing along to the many Review readers.

To Hold, Or Not To Hold

Mark Paragos, often confused by whether he should hold a runner or not at first base in his many solitaire baseball games, has devised a holding chart to lift the decision-making from the gamer.

"The way it works is to take the runner's stealing rating along with the catcher's throwing rating and add them together," says Paragos. "For example, Joe Morgan (AA, 1-17) is attempting to steal off Steve Yeager (-3). Morgan's chance thus becomes 1-14. Next check the steal chance column and find 1-14--the result of which reveals a 1-14 stealer is held by a dice roll (two dice) of 2-9 and 12. If a roll of 10 or 11 comes up, Morgan is not held."

Mark also points out that it may seem too easy to hold the poorer stealers, but that in this way the "++" and hit-and-run come into play a little more realistically.

The chart:

STEAL CHANCE		HELD
1-18, 1-19	-	2-10, 12
1-16, 1-17	-	2-10
1-14, 1-15	-	2-9, 12
1-12, 1-13	-	2-8, 12
1-10, 1-11	-	2-7, 12
1-8, 1-9	-	2-6, 11
1-6, 1-7	-	2-4
1-4, 1-5	-	2-3
1-2	-	2

Rating Pitchers

Bob Wheeler, a member of the Tulare, CA, S-O-M Baseball Conference, uses the following formula for rating pitchers. It's called the "Sisler Percentage" for George Sisler, the inventor of the system. Wheeler follows it religiously when picking his pitchers and reports he annually leads the league he belongs to in pitching. He has yet, however, to win a league title in four years, mainly because while he's holding opponents to few runs, the "enemy" is holding his team to even fewer.

Here is the formula:

$$\frac{[(2X \text{ innings pitched}) - (4/3X \text{ bases on balls}) + \text{strikeouts-hits} - (1/4X \text{ earned runs})]}{\text{innings pitched}}$$

Injury Chart For Batters, Pitchers

One of the best was printed in the April, 1974 issue of the Review. Because it proved so popular, and because so many gamers ask about alternate methods of determining injury time, here again is an injury chart for both batters and pitchers.

Note the top row of numbers refers to batters, while the bottom row may be used for determining pitcher's injuries. For batters, add the at-bats and walks. For pitchers, the number of games injured is to be added to a pitcher's normal wait period.

(continued on following page)

Split card	0-200	201- 249	250- 299	300- 349	350- 399	400- 449	450- 499	500- 549	550- 599	600- 649	650- plus
1	- 1-15	batter	ejected	For	arguing;	16-20	game	rained	out.		
2	- 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3-4	- 1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-6	- 2	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
7-8	- 3	3	3	3	2	1	1	1	0	0	0
9-10	- 5	4	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	0	0
11-12	- 6	5	5	5	4	3	2	2	1	0	0
13-14	- 7	7	6	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	0
15-16	- 8	8	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
17-18	- 11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
19-20	- 12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
	0-30	31- 60	61- 90	91- 120	121- 150	151- 180	181- 210	211- 240	241- 270	271- 300	301- plus

Strat-O-Matic Spotlight

SUMMER BREEZES!

Paul DeGroot, a 15-year-old, three-year S-O-M fanatic, conducted his own "World Series of Strikeouts" recently. What he did was to select two teams made up of the biggest strikeout batters from the 1975 season, and then pit them against each other in a best-of-seven-game series.

Each team also had six pitchers--again the best strikeout hurlers from the '75 season. The pitchers did have to bat--adding to the whiff count.

Bert Blyleven and Frank Tanana faced each other in the opening game and also games No. 5 and 7, giving an idea what type of pitching the hitters were up against. Six home runs were hit in the opener as Gene Tenace cracked two and drove in six runs.

Tom Seaver calmed the free swingers in game two, losing a no-hitter in the ninth. He finished with a one-hitter and a 3-2 victory. In game six he came back with a three-hitter.

Big John Candelaria stole the show in game four, however, striking out 15, not walking a batter, and allowing but three hits.

When it was all over--it took seven games--22 home runs had been hit (two by pitchers), there were 159 strikeouts and every pitcher had more whiffs than innings pitched. Tanana finished with 31 Ks in 23 innings; Blyleven 28 in 24 and Seaver 20 in 18. Candelaria, incidentally, struckout 1.67 batters per inning.

In the batting department, Dave Kingman touched up the flamethrowers for four homers, whacked four doubles and collected a .357 average. He was chosen the series MVP. On the other hand, Jeff Burroughs had to be picked "least valuable" as he went hitless in 23 at-bats, while Mike Schmidt had an .071 average and fanned the breeze 14 times in 28 trips to the plate.

SHORT SHAKES

...Little Bighorn revisited: John Seward's Kalamazoo Killers were just that against Ron Helsel's Dewitt Dodgers in Tidewater League play-by-mail game, rolling to a 22-2 victory. Mickey Rivers opened the massacre by hitting a bases-loaded home run in the second inning. The Killers, leading 9-2 going into the bottom of the eighth, sent 18 batters up and swarmed across the plate 13 times to deliver the coup de grace. The 22 runs were the most ever scored by Seward, whose team also had 26 hits, including five by Chris Chambliss... Gary Cohn and David Barcus, of Morganville, N.J., are laying claim to the longest Strat-O-Matic Baseball game ever played--48 innings, in a matchup of All-Star teams from 1973 and 1974. Mike Schmidt's triple finally broke it up... Bob Spellerberg not long ago introduced his brother-in-law, Bob Olsen, to the Old-Timer baseball teams. The introduction was somewhat rude, however, as Spellerberg, guiding the 1961 Yanks, walloped the '62 Giants, 10-6, as Roger ("*61") Maris hammered a pair of home runs.

Questions & Answers

Editor's note: Questions regarding individual and team ratings will not be answered in most cases, unless a mistake has been made. The game company cannot, for reasons of security, disclose its card-making formula, which would be necessary in some instances to answer such questions. If your question regarding ratings does not appear in the Review within three months after being sent, you may assume the rating is correct.

QUESTION: In the advanced basketball game when there's an injury, who gains control of the ball? Is there a turnover, or what?

ANSWER: Shot is made or missed and opposing team gets ball.

QUESTION: If there's no injury [same question as above], who gains control of the ball? Is it a turnover, or what?

ANSWER: Shot is made or missed [no turnover] and opposing team gets ball.

QUESTION: Why does Lou Gehrig of the 1936 New York Yankees have an injury on his card? He did not miss a game that year.

ANSWER: Cards were made by computer, so all have a chance for injury. 1927 cards, incidentally, were not made by computer, rather manually.

QUESTION: The Oakland A's have become famous in recent years for their use of pinch runners. What were the stealing and running ratings for the following players? Al Lewis, 1967, '68, '70, '72, and '73; Herb Washington, 1974; Matt Alexander and Don Hopkins, 1975?

ANSWER: Herb Washington was rated an A stealer, 1-17 runner. None of the others were ever rated for both. However, all of them are 1-17 runners.

QUESTION: When men are on first and second base and there are no outs, is the lead runner out on a groundball B, or is there a forceout at second base?

ANSWER: Forceout at second base.

QUESTION: What should be the reading on Ed Halicki's 1975 pitching card for the San Francisco Giants on 6-9 against right-handed batters? It reads SI 1-8, 1o [2b] 2-20.

ANSWER: Reading should be Single 1-8, Lineout 9-20.

QUESTION: Did Allie Clark of the 1948 Cleveland Indians play first base? I believe he did. If so, what should his fielding rating be?

ANSWER: He played one game at first base. Make him a "4".

QUESTION: Can the pitcher hit-and-run?

ANSWER: No. In basic game it cannot be used, but it may in advanced game.

QUESTION: Runner on second base, one out, dice roll is a single with no asterisks. Can the defensive manager let the run score without drawing a split and hold the batter on first?

ANSWER: According to the Strat-O-Matic Game Co., this rule is an optional one that must be agreed on by both managers. It is not found in S-O-M's regular instruction booklet. Many leagues use it, however.

Readers Roll 'Em

VOICE FROM THE PHILIPPINES

I have several things to tell you regarding the Strat-O-Matic Baseball game:

I think that the game company should include in its fringe card set all players who have at least 50 at-bats or 30 innings pitched. This would allow the recreation of a realistic league replay.

I am currently experimenting on several variations of solitaire play with the baseball game. For instance, I have added a fourth die, to determine whether a batter is eligible for the steal or not.

Also, I am using an expanded fielding range based on Baseball Digest's March, 1976 article on fielding averages. Hence, I am using 16 classifications depending on range, ability for double play, and fielding average in the case of all fielders except catchers.

Also, I'm using an expanded odd-play chart plus a modified injury chart. I will let you know very shortly the different procedures being used when I have sufficiently tested the modifications. I have played about 120 games of the 1975 season and have been happy with the results, except that the high average hitters like Rod Carew and Fred Lynn are currently hitting above .450.

At the moment, I am doing a mathematical analysis of the modifications made. If it turns out to be accurate mathematically, I will report my whole series of modifications to the game company.

Incidentally, most of the modifications have been treated one way or the other in some of the Review articles.

Rodolfo S. Suaco
155 Lt. Attiaga St.
San Juan Rizal,
Philippines

INFIELD FLY RULE

I have come across a situation in Strat-O-Matic Baseball which has apparently gone unnoticed.

Let's say when referring to the catchers' section of the fielding chart you come up with the result, "Safe at first on dropped popup-1." If this occurred with runners on first and second, or with the bases loaded, and less than two outs, the infield fly rule should be called.

The batter would be automatically out, regardless of whether the catcher missed the popup or not.

Stan Grossman
1029 E. Huisache
Kingsville, TX

Editor's note: An interesting--and correct--observation. When game situations and the rules of baseball conflict, Abner Doubleday and his helpers have the right of way. Go by the baseball rules, in other words.

CHANGE 'INSIDE' SHOT

I would like to see a change made in the S-O-M Basketball game that would make the game more realistic than it already is. I would like to see the "inside and rebound shot" column broken up and made into two separate columns. And also the "double-teamed" column put back on the player's card as it was on the first-year cards.

As you probably already know, Paul Silas is the best offensive rebounder in basketball; and usually makes most of those shots. But when it comes to just a straight inside shot, Paul isn't very good and usually hits a very low percentage of those shots.

I found out from using the cards the past two years (the years with the inside-rebound shot column), that when Paul Silas gets an offensive rebound, he isn't much of a threat to score because that column takes into account his inside shooting as well.

Bruce Zimmerman

HOORAY FOR HIT PLACEMENT ARTICLE

I enjoy reading my issue of the Review every month. My favorite sections are Questions & Answers and Readers Roll 'Em. The quality of articles in recent months has been just excellent: specifically Robert Henry's Trivia Quiz and Jim Elliott's Baseball Rosters.

The article on Hit Placement in the April, 1976 issue, by Bill Fraser and Larry LaRochelle, is perhaps the finest feature you've had in several years.

[continued on following page]

I had always been aware of the patterns in S-O-M cards, but I'd never made the correlation between the player's average in relation to his rank on his team and the pattern.

Fraser and LaRochelle should be commended for their fine effort; keep articles like that coming. In general, keep up the good work.

Ron Hickey
[Commissioner of
The US Army Band
Strat-O-Matic League]
Arlington, VA

IMPROVING S-O-M BASEBALL

We all realize Strat-O-Matic Baseball is near to realism, but know there could be some minor adjustments to make it more fun and also even more realistic.

One thing is pitchers' hitting cards: I feel each pitcher should have his own bunting rating, since pitchers are involved in sacrifices on a larger percentage basis than regular batters.

I feel that pitchers should also have running and stealing ratings, although this is not as important as bunting. But, by your system, Ken Brett, who was used as a pinch-runner, has the same chance of taking an extra base as Mickey Lolich.

Certain pitchers hit more batters compared to others. For this reason, HBP should be found on some pitcher's cards. Bruce Kison of the Pirates is a fine example of a pitcher who should have an HBP on his card.

Another point would be to establish nicknames on the cards. This would make the game more fun to play. Nicknames are part of the game and should be part of S-O-M. The Atlanta Braves, for example, have nicknames instead of names on the back of their uniforms.

Also, I feel S-O-M should include the players numbers along with their names on their cards. One could then just write the number instead of the whole name when compiling stats.

Guy Lee
Box 91 A
East Texas Rd.
Allentown, PA

WIDE RECEIVER END RUN

I completed my very first season of S-O-M Football not long ago and it was very enjoyable and quite exciting.

During the season I thought of something that, perhaps, should be included in the football game. How about a wide receiver end run? Some of the pro teams are doing, such as the Miami Dolphins.

Right now I am playing a hockey game that really doesn't have all the realism that such a game should have. That's why I think all S-O-M players who are truly hockey nuts, should write to Harold Richman (S-O-M's creator) and tell him what is needed in his hockey game, which I hope will be out within the next year and a half.

Steve Griparris
Joliet, IL

Editor's note: Still no word from S-O-M regarding development of hockey game. College football has consumed most of S-O-M's testing time the last two years. Hockey could very well be the next project, however.

LOOKING AT '75 CARDS

Going over my 1975 Strat-O-Matic Baseball cards, I noticed that a few players in the real-life season appeared in positions not listed on the cards. These players are Tom Shopay (Baltimore) who should have received a catcher's rating (one game, five putouts, three assists); Adrian Garrett (California) who also should have a catcher's rating (one game, no chances) and Jim Holt (Oakland), also without a catcher listed on his card.

I realize the latter may be confusing as Holt caught a few innings for Ray Fosse on Sept. 25, 1975.

Finally there is a mistake on Darrel Chaney's card: he's listed as a lefty but actually Chaney is a switch-hitter.

There is also a rather interesting mistake on Bobby Grich's 1974 season card. He's given a shortstop rating of "3" but never played short that year. I believe the reason Grich was given a rating was that on the basic 20-player roster there was no one to back up Mark Belanger if he was injured (Frank Baker does as an additional player).

I agree with those who feel a "5" and "6" rating for pitchers' hitting should be adopted. There are a number of pitchers who hit higher than .230 (or whatever

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Readers Roll 'Em

(continued)

a "4" rating hits] and are discriminated against as a result. Two more pitchers' hitting cards are a lot more practical than individualized pitcher's hitting cards (which are not practical for reasons the Review editors have pointed out).

There are a few things on some past years' cards that I don't understand: Danny Frisella of the 1973 Braves, for instance, batted .500 (one for two), yet was rated a "2". Shouldn't he have been a "4", or is a certain amount of at-bats

required?

And, even though all pitchers have been rated "1" in the A.L. since 1973, shouldn't some have been rated higher since they did take cuts at the plate--some with success?

Jim Overmeyer

Editor's note: According to S-O-M, sources they use have Chaney as a lefty. You are right about Grich being listed as a shortstop, too. It was as a backup in case of injury to Belanger. And, as far as hitting ratings for pitchers, the cases you mentioned did not have enough at-bats to warrant a higher rating.