New football cards reviewed

You can't call him the Great One, but Eric Dickerson can be dubbed Eric the Excellent.

"Excellent" is the way Review co-editor Warren Newell describes Dickerson's rushing card based on the strike-shortened 1987 season. Dickerson, like hockey's Great One, was in a blockbuster trade. But he continued to run like the Dickerson of old with the up-and-coming Colts.

Dickerson has a solid all-around running card, reports Newell, who checks the pro football cards closely for draft picks in a 10-member, face-to-face league in Otsego, MI, about 18 miles north of Kalamazoo.

"In general," continues Newell, "there seems like fewer offensive threats. There are fewer short gains for runners and fewer long gains for receivers. And there are very few good pass defenses and very few high ratings. There are some fine running quarterbacks," he says slyly.

Newell can protect, if he wishes, Jim Kelly of the Bills and Randall Cunningham of Philadelphia in the draft. "Kelly has a great card, the best passing card of any quarterback I've ever had. And Cunningham has a balanced card (running/passing)."

Kelly's card, for instance, has long pass completions on No. 7 both ways, and also Nos. 8 and 12 both ways. Having "7" a connection either guessed right or wrong has Warren eagerly awaiting the opening kickoff.

Here are some other highlights and lowlights found in the new pro football card set:

* LOS ANGELES RAIDERS - Strange cards in that they have no fumbles and many of the running results are all or nothing - many short gains and many "0" gains. "Just like a slugger's card in baseball," says Newell, "It's either a strikeout or home run"...James Lofton has a 21.5 average per pass reception, but nary a long gain on his card. The longest pickup is 49 yards.

* BUFFALO - Jim Kelly. Enough said.

 * CHICAGO - Dennis McKinnon is the only punt returner and he has a
TD on dice roll of No. 3...Neal Anderson, Walter Payton's heir apparent
has a good all-around card and Willie Gault is a deep threat with long
gains both ways on rolls of Nos. 7 and 5 and 29 yards on No. 6 when
throwing the bomb...Bears do not have a defensive fumble reading on
their cards, yet the overall rating is good to excellent...Special team
play is going to hurt as against punt returns the Bears give up 27
yards (No. 7), 19 (No. 8) and long gain (No. 12).
 CLEVELAND - Bernie Kosar is another QB with an excellent card...
Gerald McNeil has four good gains on punt returns...And Kevin Mack has
a very good card for a running back with only a 3.7 average.
 GREEN BAY - Many blanks on its pass defense cards - a lot more
than you would expect for an "average to good" rating...Invoke the
"Tony Galbreath Rule" against backup QB Don Majkowski. He only carried
15 times, but check out those end run (guessed wrong) and must run
numbers.
 LOS ANGELES RAMS - Charles White, the NFL's leading rusher, has a
good card, with short gain straight across on No. 8.
 MIAMI - Dan Marino has another awesome card, with straight long
gains, guessed right or wrong, on Nos. 4 and 9 when throwing long. And
Nos. 5-7 and 9 are good both ways when throwing short...Unfortunately
the Dolphins' defense is rated poor against both the pass and run.
 MINNESOTA - Will always be a threat with Anthony Carter operating
on the flanks. Carter, who averaged 24.3 for 38 receptions, has a long
gain both guessed right and wrong on Nos. 7 and 8 for long pass and a
long gain reading on No. 10, again both ways, when a short pass conn-
ects...Wade Wilson, although no great shakes as a passer, is another
good running QB.
 NEW ORLEANS - Defensive cards have fumble chance 2-11 on No. 6...
Rueben Mayes has a flock of short gains and is thrown for a loss very
seldom.
 NEW YORK JETS - Don't have any fumbles on their defensive cards.
 NEW YORK GIANTS - There must be something in the Hudson River that
causes opponents not to fumble as the Giants also don't have fumbles
on their defensive cards...Pass defense is good to excellent, however,
and Mark Bavaro has a card that could cause him to lay claim to being
the No. 1 tight end in the NFL.
 PHILADELPHIA - Defense has a straight fumble on No. 6 and an
excellent rating for lineback/off-tackle...Cunningham makes the Eagles
a threat to score at any time as he averaged 6.6 yards in 76 rushes.
 SAN FRANCISCO - Joe Montana has outstanding short pass card but is
weak throwing long...Defensive secondary has two "5s" and two "6s".
 KANSAS CITY - On offensive cards has fumble on No. 5 (2-7, 12) and
No. 11 (automatic).
 PITTSBURGH - Has no fumbles on its offensive cards.
 SAN DIEGO - Finally! Dan Fouts has a less than all-world card.
 SEATTLE - Curt Warner has short gain straight across on No. 9...
The Boz is rated "4" at inside linebacker.
 ST. LOUIS - Neil Lomax has good passing card and has completion
straight across on No. 7 when throwing short and No. 9 going long.
 TAMPA BAY - Three of four defensive backs are rated "0."
 WASHINGTON - Has three defensive backs with "6" ratings.
 DENVER - John Elway has a good, if not great, passing card.
 HOUSTON - Receivers Drew Hill and Ernest Givins have many long
gains and are best one-two bomb threat.
 DALLAS - Herschel Walker is a threat, both as runner and receiver.
Walker has short gain straight across on No. 10 running the football
and 44 yards (No. 4) and 26 yards (No. 7), both guessed right and
wrong, when hauling in long passes.
 CINCINNATI - Another with three "0s" in defensive secondary.

Here are 'best' of
original baseball teams

By JOE WALKER, Saginaw, MI

What if? Baseball fans are always playing that game.

That's the reason I began to put together the "what if" lineups for the original 16 major league teams, plus an "expansion team" for each league.

I started out planning on just 20 players per team, but found it too difficult to make cuts. So I put 30 on each roster. Even then I'm sure arguments can be presented for another player or two.

The players selected were based on time in the major leagues and time with the teams they were placed on. Obviously there are a number of players who could play for two or three different teams. Players before 1900 were generally avoided because of the difference in playing rules and the great disparity in playing style.

The season for the players' cards was not necessarily a season with that team but generally the player's best season. For example, Davey Johnson is with the St. Louis Browns/Baltimore Orioles team but his card is from his super year with the Atlanta Braves.

Some cards have been adjusted slightly to give a player his best season.

Another factor in my selection (or your selection if you decide to do the same thing with your collection) is what cards are available to you. For example, I didn't have the 1950 season to draw from.

Either by cards or through the stats in the Encyclopedia of Baseball (a must!), I've come up with error factors for all the fielders so that a semi-advanced game can be played.

I don't feel there are enough sources for an advanced set yet (are you listening, S-O-M?). But for the time being I didn't figure these Hall of Fame-type players cared whether they were batting or pitching left or right.

Now here are the all-time teams I've selected:

Key: * - Left-handed batter/pitcher. # - Switch-hitter. Field - Fielding rating, (arm), error rating. BA - Batting average. HR - Home runs. YR -Year of stats, best year or best year with that team. Card - On-base chance/home run chance. SP - Starting pitchers. RP - Relief pitchers. W-L -Won-lost record. ERA -Earned run average.

BOSTON RED SOX		Field		BA	HR	Yr	Card
C -	Fisk	1	(-3) e6	.315	26	'77	49/7
	S.White	2	(-1) e8	.282	14	'54	34/3
1b -	G.Scott	1	e8	.303	19	'67	45/5
	* Runnels	3	e15	.322	8	'58	53
2b -	Doerr	1	e11	.294	27	'50	44/6
	* Goodman	3	e30	.313	2	'53	45
3b -	* Boggs	2	e25	.368	8	'85	60/1
	J.Collins	1	e25	.329	5	'01	50/1
SS -	Petrocelli	1	e17	.297	40	'69	54/12
	V.Stephens	2	e28	.290	39	'49	53/11
	* J.Pesky	2	e27	.335	2	'46	51
	Burleson	1	e19	.293	5	'81	41
CF -	* F.Lynn	1	(-2) e6	.333	39	'79	54/11
	D.DiMaggio	1	(-2) e8	.328	7	'50	53/1
LF -	* T.Williams	3	(+1) e11	.406	37	'41	79/10
	* Yastrzemski	1	(-2) e4	.326	44	'67	55/12
	J.Rice	3	(0) e4	.315	46	'78	42/12
RF -	Dw.Evans	1	(-5) e3	.296	22	'81	54/7
	# Re.Smith	2	(-2) e8	.309	25	'69	44/7

Red Sox con't

SP	W-L	ERA	Yr	Card		W-L	ERA	Yr	Card
C.Young	33-10	1.62	'01	9/0	J.Dobson	18-8	2.95	'47	24/0
* D.Leonard	18-5	1.01	'14	11/0	S.Jones	16-5	2.25	'18	25/0
J.Wood	34-5	1.91	'12	12/0	* Parnell	25-7	2.77	'49	26/2
C.Mays	22-9	1.74	'17	17/0	RP				
Hughson	20-11	2.75	'46	19/0	Kinder	10-6	1.85	'53	24/1
Eckersley	20-8	2.99	'78	22/4	B.Stanley	12-7	3.10	'82	25/0
Tiant	15-6	1.91	'72	23/0					

Chicago White Sox

	Field		BA	HR	Yr	Card
C - S.Lollar	1 (-4)	e3	.293	11	'56	43/2
Schalk	1 (-4)	e8	.266	1	'15	44
1b - * C.May	4	e17	.308	12	'72	50/3
Sheely	3	e12	.320	3	'24	50
2b - * E.Collins	1	e32	.365	3	'11	61
* N.Fox	1	e13	.296	4	'56	38
3b - Melton	4	e32	.263	33	'70	37/10
Kamm	2	e35	.308	1	'28	48
SS - Appling	2	e31	.388	6	'36	63
Aparicio	1	e31	.272	6	'61	32
CF - J.Landis	1 (-1)	e6	.283	22	'61	42/5
Mostil	1 (-1)	e6	.328	4	'26	49
LF - Minoso	2 (-2)	e9	.316	21	'56	53/5
* B.Falk	3 (+1)	e4	.352	6	'24	48/1
A.Smith	2 (-1)	e8	.278	28	'61	39/8
RF - C.Reynolds	2 (0)	e14	.359	22	'30	46/7
* Baines	2 (-1)	e7	.304	29	'84	40/8
* J.Rivera	2 (-3)	e8	.255	12	'56	34/7

SP	W-L	ERA	Yr.	Card		W-L	ERA	Yr.	Card
E.Walsh	40-15	1.42	'08	10/0	* G.Peters	16-11	2.28	'67	19/1
* D.White	18-6	1.52	'06	11/0	Donovan	16-6	2.77	'57	20/1
F.Smith	24-17	1.80	'09	13/0	T.Lyons	22-14	2.84	'27	21/1
* W.Wood	24-17	2.51	'72	15/2	B.Pierce	15-10	1.97	'55	20/1
Cicotte	29-7	1.82	'19	16/0	RP				
Faber	25-15	2.48	'21	18/0	Wilhelm	7-7	1.81	'65	7/2
Hoyt	24-10	3.66	'83	18/3					

Chicago Cubs

	Field		BA	HR	Yr.	Card
C - Hartnett	1 (-2)	e7	.339	37	'30	48/13
Hundley	1 (-2)	e6	.255	18	'69	36/5
Kling	1 (-1)	e15	.312	2	'06	44/0
1b - C.Anson	1	e14	.371	10	'86	61/3
F.Chance	1	e9	.319	3	'06	54/0
* B.Buckner	2	e10	.324	10	'80	41/2
2b - Sandberg	1	e5	.314	19	'84	44/4
B.Herman	2	e20	.341	7	'35	48/1
* J.Evers	1	e34	.341	1	'12	45/0
3b - S.Hack	2	e14	.311	4	'35	52/0
Santo	1	e17	.289	29	'69	48/7
SS - Banks	2	e16	.313	47	'58	45/13
W.English	2	e33	.335	14	'30	52/2
Tinker	2	e20	.288	3	'10	32/0
CF - H.Wilson	3 (0)	e16	.356	56	'30	58/16
LF - Stephenson	4 (+2)	e13	.362	17	'29	57/5
* B.Williams	2 (0)	e6	.322	42	'70	47/11
RF - Cuyler	1 (-4)	e8	.355	13	'30	52/2
Sauer	4 (0)	e4	.288	41	'54	40/12

Readers roll 'em

TOO MUCH BASEBALL

I enjoy your magazine, but I have one gripe: There's too much baseball talk.

The new football cards are already out and you've never given the readers one preview of them.

Baseball is always on the cover. Hey, give us football fanatics a break. Other than that, keep up the good work.
TERRY NASH
Cassville, MO

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Review annually reviews the football cards as soon as they come out. Last month's issue did have a football story on the cover and this month football is again out front.

USAGE TIPS FOR 1950

This letter is being written to make several corrections, or playing improvement suggestions for the 1950 season.

First, I would like to say that I enjoy the Review very much and look forward to its arrival every month. I'm 27 and have been playing S-O-M for a little over a year, but have played over 500 baseball games.

Currently, I'm engaged in a 1950's replay (both leagues, currently at 188 out of 1,232 total games) and I've noticed several mistakes on the roster sheet.

At the bottom, three team-less players are listed. It says the last team mentioned is the player's team at the end of the season, but they're accidentally reversed. Here is how it reads:

Mickey Haefner – Boston Braves, 8; Chicago White Sox, 24. Johnny Hopp – New York Yankees, 19; Pittsburgh, 106. Al Papai – St. Louis Cardinals, 13; Boston Red Sox, 16.

The teams should be reversed (Hopp played in the '50 World Series for the Yanks), but the game totals are still correct.

Also, here are several tips for anyone involved with a 1950 entire year replay, or a single team:

(1) It is mentioned to restrict the usage of Ted Williams. Williams broke his elbow in the All-Star game. For a realistic replay, he should not play after the All-Star break.

Note that Williams played 88 games in the season, but the Red Sox only played 83 before the All-Star game. You may reactivate him the last week of the season (I don't know if this actually occurred, but there is a five-game gap, not including rest days, and also Williams played every day in 1949.

(2) In the N.L., Philadelphia almost collapsed due to circumstances involving its pitching. (a) Curt Simmons was recalled by the National Guard on Sept. 10; (b) Bubba Church was hit in the face by a line-drive on Sept. 15 and didn't pitch again, and (c) Bob Miller had a sore arm over the last six weeks (no exact date) and was seldom used and his effectiveness was severely reduced (I would suggest starting him weak).

Placing similar restrictions on these players would add to the realism.

(3) In 1950 it was not uncommon for team aces to pitch on limited rest in the stretch drive (Don Newcombe of the Dodgers pitched 16 innings in two games in a doubleheader). I suggest that one pitcher on any staff be allowed to pitch on one day's rest in the last week of the season.

(4) Jim Konstanty of the Phillies is only listed as a reliever. He did start one game in the World Series, due to the Phillies' pitching crisis. Allow him one emergency start with an endurance rating of "6" (he allowed one run over eight innings in his World Series start).
WILLIAM JEMPLY JR.
Boca Raton, FL

EDITOR'S NOTE: You are correct. The order of teams played for should be reversed. The number of games is correct. For anyone conducting a realistic replay using the '50 cards, your tips will come in handy. To use Williams more, or to ignore the pitching problems of the Phillies, would certainly affect such replay efforts.

BACK TO THE FUTURE

I am very pleased with the reality of the baseball game, as well as the reprinted seasons, but they are receiving too much attention.

Why should S-O-M reprint all those 1960s seasons when most of the best teams from them have already been released as either old-timers or part of the reprinted 36 past-season teams?

My suggestions are to convert the existing 36 all to the two-sided format (post-1971 already is) and reprint, in that same smaller format, teams from the '70s and early '80s in another set.

Some teams that could be included are: 1979 Pirates, 1977-78 Yankees and Dodgers, 1980 Phillies and Royals, among others. This would not be very complicated (S-O-M must have records of these teams).

As for the seasons, my choices are of a new variety (no more 1960s and 1950s): 1. 1911 - 9 teams stole over 200 bases; 2. 1908 - 15 teams with ERAs under 2.80; 3. 1936 - 10 teams with batting averages over .280; Joe DiMaggio and Bob Feller were rookies.
ADAM BAACKE
Rockville, MD

COMPARING COMPUTER VERSIONS

I recently purchased S-O-M's computer baseball game (IBM version) and I wanted to drop you a line with a few of my thoughts.

I have played the Commodore version of the computer game for some time and, although I found it to be very enjoyable, certain frequently used functions took too long to process (advanced stealing, lineup changes, etc.). Thankfully, the IBM version of the game performs these functions very quickly.

There are a few things about the computer games that I hope will change. The most important change that could be made would be to allow the use of a hard disk for all phases of the game. It just doesn't make sense to have a hard disk available and not use it for saving statistics or holding team rosters. Why was this limitation placed on the game to begin with?

I also think that the menus could be rearranged into a more logical structure. The menus do not clearly spell out if the function you are selecting pertains to the automatic or manual versions of the game.

One other thing that would be very useful would be to expand the maximum number of players in the automatic game from 25 to at least 40.

When the computer game was first introduced, I thought S-O-M was making a major mistake by not divorcing the computer game from the cards. After playing other computer games and comparing them to S-O-M's computer version, I now realize just how wrong I was. The best part about S-O-M Baseball is holding those cards in your hand - it really gives you a feeling of control not attainable by computer simulation alone.

I am very pleased with the new look of the baseball cards. I think all this year's changes are good ones and I hope to see more enhancements in the near future.

One area where I disagree with S-O-M is its argument against clutch pitching. I think that clutch pitching can be defined as the difference between an "expected" ERA and an actual ERA. I believe that for any combination of innings pitched, hits allowed, walks allowed and home runs allowed, you could calculate a

Readers roll 'em

theoretical "expected" ERA. If a pitcher's real-life ERA were lower than his "expected" ERA, then he would be considered a "clutch" pitcher. This would simply mean that his ERA is lower than one would expect based on his other pitching statistics.

I do believe that there are certain major league pitchers who perform exceptionally well in clutch situations. As a matter of fact, I think it is this ability that separates great performers in any sport from his peers.
ROBERT WINBERRY
Selden, NY

****

Gamer puts together 18 all-time rosters from card collection

Chicago Cubs con't

SP	W-L	ERA	Yr.	Card		W-L	ERA	Yr.	Card
TF Brown	17-9	1.31	'09	10/0	G.Bush	18-7	3.66	'29	28/1
* H.Vaughn	22-10	1.74	'18	16/0	RP				
F.Jenkins	22-16	3.39	'70	16/3	Sutter	7-3	1.35	'77	6/0
C.Griffith	26-10	1.88	'98	20/0	Pfister	19-9	1.56	'06	6/0
Warneke	20-13	3.05	'35	22/0	Reulbach	20-4	1.65	'06	28/0
R.Reuschel	20-10	2.79	'77	23/0	T.Lown	9-8	3.57	'56	33/2
B.Lee	20-5	2.96	'35	26/0					
C.Root	19-6	3.47	'29	27/0					

Cleveland Indians	Field		BA	HR	Yr.	Card
C - S.O'Neill	1 (-2)	e9	.321	3	'20	49/0
J.Hegan	1 (-3)	e6	.248	14	'48	32/4
L.Sewell	1 (0)	e10	.294	0	'27	32/0
1b - * H.Trosky	2	e12	.343	42	'36	45/12
G.Burns	2	e14	.358	4	'26	45/0
A.Thornton	4	e10	.273	32	'82	43/7
2b - Lajoie	1	e20	.422	13	'01	65/5
Avila	3	e21	.341	15	'54	49/3
3b - A.Rosen	3	e27	.336	43	'53	58/10
Keltner	3	e12	.297	31	'48	48/8
SS - Boudreau	1	e18	.355	18	'48	60/4
J.Sewell	2	e32	.353	3	'23	60/0
R.Chapman	1	e31	.303	3	'20	45/0
CF - * T.Speaker	1 (-4)	e7	.388	3	'20	66/2
* E.Averill	1 (-1)	e16	.378	28	'36	55/8
LF - * J.Jackson	1 (-1)	e9	.408	7	'11	64/2
RF - Colavito	2 (-5)	e9	.290	45	'61	51/12
* L.Doby	1 (-4)	e6	.326	25	'50	54/7

SP	W-L	ERA	Yr.	Card		W-L	ERA	Yr.	Card
Joss	24-12	1.16	'08	10/0	* S.McDowell	15-14	1.81	'68	21/1
* H.Score	20-9	2.53	'56	18/1	B.Feller	26-15	2.18	'46	22/0
M.Garcia	19-8	2.64	'54	18/0	Uhle	27-11	2.83	'26	24/1
Covaleski	24-14	2.49	'20	18/0	Bagby	31-12	2.43	'20	26/0
M.Harder	20-12	2.61	'34	19/0	W.Ferrell	25-13	3.31	'30	27/0
E.Wynn	23-11	2.72	'54	19/2					
B.Lemon	23-7	2.72	'54	20/0					

Next month more all-time teams will be presented, including the Detroit Tigers, New York Yankees and Cincinnati Reds.

TBA heads into fall season

The TBA (Table Baseball Association) tournament beat continues for John Kreuz of Glenview, IL.

Four more TBA gatherings – including one that was staged under Strat-O-Matic Baseball's version of the Big Top – were held in the past month and Kreuz reports that first-time tournaments in Minneapolis and Dallas were as pressure-packed as any he's been witness to.

When this issue of the Review went to press, 13 more TBA tourneys were still on Kreuz's busy docket, including one in Philadelphia where he hoped to shatter the high of 56 participants.

ROLLING 'EM UNDER THE BIG TOP

Kreuz's first TBA stop was in San Diego and 36 folks showed for the dice-rollin'. "We had an unusual situation in San Diego," relates Kreuz. "Because the meeting room was double-booked, we were forced outdoors and played under a tent. It was 90 degrees, but at least it didn't rain. Some lights were strung up, but it was kind of eerie.

"I don't know the footage of the tent, but it was large enough to accomodate 36 people. Zack Simon, from VanNuys, CA, won it with a 23-90 record. Myles Clemente (as in Roberto), from Lakewood, CA, finished second and was 19-13."

Next up was Baltimore, where Jim Schwanebeck, a math professor at Montgomery College in Baltimore, compiled a 24-11 record and won it all. "He also won a Bostock Tournament last year," pointed out Kreuz of Schwanebeck's past gaming feats.

Lex Rozin of Philadelphia was the runner-up with a 22-13 record.

IT'S NOT OVER UNTIL IT'S OVER

At Minneapolis, 30 showed up for the first TBA tournament ever held in that city. Jim Jasper, a veteran TBA player, won his first title ever, going 24-13 and edging Rick Fox, who wound up 23-14.

"Jasper is over 50 and has to be the oldest TBA player," says Kreuz admiringly. Jasper is fromm Schaumburg, IL, while Fox hails from Jacksonville, IL.

The last seven games pitted the two in a high noon shootout as Jasper had the big bats (Jack Clark, Eric Davis, Mike Schmidt, etc.) and Fox had an outstanding pitching staff (Orel Hershiser, Dennis Eckersley, DeWayne Buice, etc.).

It all came down to a winner-take-all seventh game. And, fittingly, the lead changed hands four times. Finally, going into the ninth, Jasper trailed by two. He had runners on first and second, two were out, and Buice was pitching against Kent Hrbek.

In the bullpen was southpaw Rob Murphy. And on-deck was Eric Davis, a lefty-eater if there ever was one. "I've asked a lot of people what Fox should have done," says Kreuz. "Should he have brought in the lefty to face the lefty batter in Hrbek? Remember, he only needed one out."

Fox opted to stick with Buice - and Hrbek rolled a 5-11 (diamond home run chance) in Atlanta's park (1-15 HR). The 20-sided die roll was home run all the way and Jasper won an 8-6 thriller for a final 24-13 record (Fox was 23-14).

The following weekend, Kreuz, drained as much as the gamers by the thrilling action, pulled into Dallas for another first-ever TBA tourney. Paul Patrick of Goodard, KS, captured first place with a 24-13 record, with Glen Wheeler of Dallas a close second at 23-14.

"Again the two teams with the best records had the last seven games against each other," says Kreuz, feeling that a rerun of Minneapolis could be in the offering.

Wheeler won the first game and went up 2-0 when Rickey Henderson rolled a 1-5 against a right-handed pitcher and nailed a three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning of the second game.

After four games, Wheeler was wheeling along with a 3-1 advantage. He only needed one more victory to claim the championship.

But in game five, with Wheeler up by two runs in the ninth inning with two outs and ace reliever Dave Smith hurling, the tables were turned. "All Glen needed was one out from one of the best pitcher's in baseball," said Kreuz.

Instead there was a walk, single, two more walks — trimming Wheeler's lead to a run — and, finally, a two-run single by Lloyd Moseby that won the game. "In a span of 90 minutes," marveled Kreuz, "both managers had won games in the ninth inning after being one out away from defeat."

Patrick won game six — in the ninth inning, naturally — and again a TBA tourney came down to a seventh and final game. This time it wasn't decided in the ninth inning, rather it was an eighth-inning two-run homer by Jose Uribe, an unlikely slugger, that won it for Patrick.

"The pressure has been unbelievable on Sunday the last two tournaments," says Kreuz. "I will admit I do get tired, with tournaments almost every weekend, but this kind of finish keeps it exciting for me."

Here are the latest 1988 TBA point standings and the lifetime top 10:

POINT STANDINGS - 1988

1. Jim Battista, W. Chester, PA   124
2. Steve McGuire, Cape May, NJ   105
3. Jim Schwanebeck, Baltimore, MD   102
4. Alex Lopez, New York, NY   95
5. Scott Kuklinski, Palatine, IL   92
6. Jim Jasper, Schaumburg, IL   87
7. Chuck Pugsley, Warwick, RI   83
8. Greg Jeffrey, Jersey City, NJ   81
9. Lex Rozin, Philadelphia, PA   79
10. Rick Fox, Jacksonville, IL   78

To enter a TBA tourney, contact or call:

John Kreuz
4732 Laurel
Glenview, IL 60025
312-635-6747

Entry fee is $50.

LIFETIME TBA POINT STANDINGS

1. Jim Battista, W.Chester, PA   292
2. Bill Meinhardt, Malden, MA   223
3. Jay Rader, Yonkers, NY   216
4. Bob Schofield, Stratford, CT   214
5. Jeff Watson, Upper Darby, PA   193
6. tie, Rich Domovic, Cicero, IL   188
     Greg Jeffrey, Jersey City, NJ   188
8. Jeff Schwarze, Glendale Hts.,IL   180
9. Bill Fenlon, Chicago, IL   177
10. Jim Jasper, Schaumburg, IL   173

Upcoming TBA Schedule
Aug. 26-28 – Kansas City
Sept. 9-11 – Toronto
Sept. 16-18 – Los Angeles
Sept. 23-25 – Milwaukee
Sept. 30-Oct. 1 – at
     Gainesville, FL
Oct. 7-9 – Chicago
Oct. 14-15 – Boston
Oct. 21-23 – Sacramento

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The Review staff

Football playing tips

Here are short, long gain, interception return charts

One of the areas that innovative football gamers have been tapping their creative resources has been in short and long gain charts. Most of them have enlarged the charts that come with the game so as to create more of a variety of results.

Now on center stage is the Philadelphia tandem of Ira Wolins (remember him from all the cartoons contributed to the Review?) and Norman Brahen.

"The old charts were too repetitious," says Wolins. "Nearly every long gain results in 35, 38 or 41 yards. What about 33, 39 or 47 yards? Why neglect those gains?"

"What we did was to allow for a wider range of results to occur," adds Brahen. "It's definitely a more realistic addition to the game."

A 20-sided die is needed to use the charts prepared by Wolins and Brahen.

LONG GAIN

1 - 80+ yards*		11 - 30+ yards*
2 - 30+ yards*		12 - 30+ yards*
3 - 60+ yards*		13 - 40+ yards*
4 - 30+ yards*		14 - 30+ yards*
5 - 50+ yards*		15 - 50+ yards*
6 - 30+ yards*		16 - 30+ yards*
7 - 40+ yards*		17 - 60+ yards*
8 - 30+ yards*		18 - 30+ yards*
9 - 30+ yards*		19 - 70+ yards*
10 - 30+ yards*		20 - Touchdown

SHORT GAIN

10+ yards*

Key: * add 20-sided
     roll/20= zero

INTERCEPTION RETURNS

1 - Lateral @	11 - 0 yards
2 - Roll 20-sided die #	12 - Roll 20-sided die
3 - 30+ yards*	13 - Re-roll (F)
4 - Short gain	14 - Roll 20-sided die
5 - Roll 20-sided die	15 - Long gain
6 - (-) 0 yards	16 - Roll 20-sided die
7 - Short gain	17 - Short gain
8 - Roll 20-sided die	18 - Roll 20-sided die #
9 - Long gain	19 - Short gain
10 - Roll 20-sided die #	20 - Touchdown

Key: * add 20-sided roll/20= zero

(-) minus 10-sided roll/10= zero

Flat pass only - touchdown

(F) plus fumble

@ player laterals to teammate
   (2-die roll of 7 = illegal lateral)
   New player re-rolls, using same chart

Editor's note: Neither Wolins or Brahen mention anything about the effect new charts have on realistic yardage totals for passers, runners and receivers. These are calculated into the cards in S-O-M and maybe Wolins/Brahen's charts take that into consideration, too. Anyway, all the charts do present a variety of chances and that second roll many times could add excitement as to whether a long gain is going to end up a touchdown or fall a yard or two short. Sort of like a split number situation in the baseball game when the batter has a hit, but the type of hit has yet to be determined.

Questions & Answers

QUESTION: Do you adjust the safe/out proability to account for the pitcher's hold rating if the baserunner in question is a pitcher, thus governed by the old "e" rating, if you are otherwise using the supplementary stealing system? Is the pitcher's hold rule an advanced or super-advanced rule? (John McGuire, Edwardsville, IL)

ANSWER: No adjustment is needed. As far as the pitcher's hold rule, S-O-M considers it to be optional and thus either advanced or super-advanced. Optional rules are considered super-advanced by some gamers, but not the game company.

****

QUESTION: What is the new cutoff rule? The game company neglected to include a copy of the rule with my new cards. (McGuire)

ANSWER: The new cutoff rule is implemented in two instances: (1) With runners on first and second or bases loaded with a reading of single with no *s, or (2) with the bases loaded and less than two outs with a fly B? reading. In both these instances, the offensive manager has the option to take an extra base using the lead runner's running rating and the outfielder's throwing arm. If the offensive manager elects to try for an extra base, the defensive manager is asked if he wishes to "cut-off" the throw to the plate. By cutting off the throw on a single, he allows the runner from second to score, but "holds" the runner from first on second base. On a Fly B?, the runner on third scores, but the runner who was on second remains there. By not cutting off the throw on a single, there is a play at the plate with the runner who was on second and the runner on first will go to third. On a Fly B?, if the runner from third base is safe, the runner from second will go to third and the runner on first remains at first base.

Editor's note: The game company's cutoff rule is found in the instruction booklet and also the computer instruction booklet. The cutoff rule can be used for IBM and Commodore computer models, but not for Apple. Some gamers play the cutoff rule in all situations where there's a single or double without an asterisk. Also, previously the Fly B? rule called for all other runners (excepting the runner on third base) to hold, with no advancement. We like the new cutoff rule for Fly B? situations because now the defensive manager hasn't got a "free" throw on attempting to throw out the runner on third.

****

QUESTION: When a team pulls its goalie at the end of a game and it reads the power play section, would a reading on the

player's card of (GOAL +) be a goal, or a shot, save and faceoff? Also, if the team that did not pull its goalie wanted to pass, would you read passing (even) or passing (shorthanded)?   (Rob Gallamore, Quesnel, B.C.)

ANSWER: S-O-M says when the goalie is pulled it's not considered a power play situation. You would still use even for the team with the man advantage in passing situations.

****

QUESTION: Does Strat-O-Matic have any plans for designing Canada Cup or Olympic hockey cards in the future? (Gallamore)

ANSWER: No.

****

QUESTION: In the super-advanced stealing system, can a runner on first roll for a good jump for every batter that comes up in the inning, or roll for a good jump only once while he is at that base? (Gallamore)

ANSWER: Only one stolen base attempt is allowed for each baserunning situation unless there is a pitching change. With a pitching change, the runner is allowed another attempt. But a runner on first, for example, who failed to get a "good lead," cannot attempt to get a "good lead" again until his base situation has changed.

****

QUESTION: Is there a way to delete an automatic team roster once it has been saved? (Paul Malo)

ANSWER: S-O-M doesn't recommend deleting as it could foul up the program when you try to put in the next team. The game company refers to it as creating "little ghosts" in the system. So don't do it - for now anyway - unless you know of some "Little Ghostbusters."

****

QUESTION: Does the game company have plans to form an old-timer's set for the 1970s baseball era? And if so, what teams would be created? (Pat Wahl, Pleasanton, CA)

ANSWER: Not at this time. But S-O-M does plan to come out with another Hall-of-Fame type set, which will include some players from the 1970s. This set should be coming out in the very near future.

****

QUESTION: What are 1970 Johnny Bench's throwing arm and "T" rating and what is Bob Gibson's weakness inning? (Charles Marshall, Bridgeton, MO)

ANSWER: Johnny Bench has a "-4" throwing arm and 1-11 "T" rating. Bob Gibson has a "9" weakness inning.

Guest columnist

By DAVID CADWALLADER JR., Auburn, NY

While many gamers would like to see complete past season sets from the late 1950s through the 1960s, I, like Rod Peltonen, would be more interested if the game company would conduct a project that would give us the greatest teams of the century, setup for advanced play.

Strat-O-Matic should give this idea some serious thought before casting it aside. Here's why:

(1) TIME - Since 1981 the game company has been putting out past seasons. To date we have three sets that are pre-1960. Obviously it takes quite a long time to go through past boxscores from those days for an entire season. Just ask (S-O-M's) Steve Barkan (cover story, July 1988 Review).

At age 27 I'm only being realistic to realize there is no way the game company can get the teams I'd like to have printed in my lifetime at this pace. By printing a greatest teams set, S-O-M could finish this project in less time than it would take to complete two past seasons.

(2) FUN - This is what S-O-M is all about; it's in their yearly brochures, as well as in the Review. It seems to me that the greatest teams concept would be the epitome of fun to a baseball fan.

In 1927 the Yankees ran away with the pennant by 19 games. I can honestly say that there is little chance of me replaying this season when it is released. I do, however, hope to purchase this season. Why? So they can play my 1961 Yankees and 1950 Red Sox, etc., to see how they would fare against these teams.

If I had the '34 Cardinals or the '39 Yankees, they'd be playing them, too. Just by glancing through a baseball encyclopedia I can find that the '27 Yanks kicked the tar out of their peers that year.

My point is, what is the fun of playing what's already been done? One of Strat's greatest values is that it is set up better than any other baseball game on the market today for playing teams from different eras. Let's not forget this.

(3) SALES - I think what I've mentioned above can also fit into this category.

I believe a set like this would sell out many times over. Jim Elliott, Mark Frobom, Stanley Schick, David LeSuer, Richard Guiezian and James Overmeyer are just a few who have recently written to the Review either asking for past teams or have/are conducting replays of teams from long ago.

I'm sure there are many others out there who would also enjoy Strat printing a set of these sadly forgotten teams.

I've sure enjoyed Harold Richman's (S-O-M's founder and president) games over the years. I've played many others and when I say Strat is the best of its kind, I speak from experience.

I hope that Richman can see a future for a greatest teams set in S-O-M.

Editor's note: Although it isn't exactly what you're looking for, Joe Walker, a longtime sports writer at the Saginaw News in Saginaw, MI, has sent to the Review his compilation of the best players for each of the original 16 teams, plus two expansion teams. Walker added, after diligent research, "e" ratings for the players, but most of the other advanced features on today's cards could not be incorporated and the basic side was used. The two expansion teams were the best players from the N.L. and A.L. teams that were expansion. The National had players from Montreal, San Diego, New York Mets and Houston, while the American League expansion team was composed of players from California, Seattle, Toronto and Milwaukee.

NYMSL II's philosophy: have fun

'Tis better to have rolled dice and lost, than to never...

"The philosophy of the league is to have fun and to be competit-ive. 'Tis better to have rolled them dice and lost, than never having rolled them dice at all."

Those words, from an unknown bard by the name of Marty Toder - better known as the founder and former commissioner of the New York Metro Strat League II - could easily be the philosophy of any Strat-O-Matic league.

Everyone likes to have fun. Being competitive leads to winning and that results in more fun, too. And, as everyone who has ever rolled dice in a league will attest, that's really the most fun of all. Call it getting HIGH on S-O-M.

Many folks travel miles to participate in leagues. And on more than one occasion gamers have turned down job opportunities that would have caused them to relocate and have to give up their gaming endeavors with long-time friends.

The New York Metro league isn't the largest in S-O-M (it currently has 16 managers) and it doesn't even play a full schedule (instead the schedule is for 120 games plus playoffs). But all of its members live in New York state and the organization of the league, judging by a vol-uminous yearbook, is big league all the way.

"I pride myself in running a first-class league," says Anthony Abilo, NYMSL II's current commissioner. "Our membership includes Howie Belgrod, the founder and president of the Pro-Strat tournaments. We have several top-notch members; many, including myself have won Pro-Strat or TBA (Table Baseball Association) tournaments."

DRAFT IS HELD AT MOTOR INN

Early in March the NYMSL II gathers its managers for a draft that is held at a motel. The league dues are $40 and the money is used to purchase a new set of baseball cards, mailing expenses, trophies for the playoff teams and for food served on draft day.

The league's been around for five years and the managerial ranks have been growing every year.

Trading is allowed, although restrictions are imposed after the season begins. There were 131 trades last season (using the 1986-based cards), 13 after the league began play. Ten pages of the latest year-book are taken up with trades/transactions.

SNYDER FIRST DRAFT CHOICE

Cory Snyder was the first pick in the rookie draft and Mike Witt went second. Also drafted in the first round were: 3. Rob Murphy, 4. Phil Bradley, 5. Dick Schofield, 6. Pete O'Brien, 7. Kirk McCaskill, 8. Jose Canseco, 9. Mark Eichhorn, 10. Larry Parrish, 11. Danny Tartabull, 12. Wally Joyner, 13. Barry Bonds, 14. Darnell Coles, 15. Benito Santiago, 16. Curt Young.

A total of 18 series are played in a 120-game schedule. The regul-ar-season ends by Oct. 31.

The NYMSL II league has strict guidelines for player usage as well as rules of play.

All players issued a card are eligible to be drafted. But a player (batter) with less than 120 plate appearances (at-bats/walks) is out for the season if injured. For players that have two cards, the card with the most at-bats (innings) is used.

Every team has a 25-player roster plus an eight-player minor league roster. Before each series a team is allowed one roster move.

Rosters can be expanded to 33 players for the final eight games of the regular-season. As far as injuries (see chart on next page), they carry over to the playoffs. Players out for the season miss the playoffs.

Each team retains 25 players per season.

The league voted not to use a DH, although the supplementary stealing system and clutch hitting are used. Ballparks are not used, however.

The NYMSL II does have a rule enabling a manager to sacrifice with runners on first and third, using the sacrifice chart. The runner on first goes to second if the bunt is successful, with the other runner staying at third. The runner on third, however, holds third even if the bunt results in a single.

OUT OF POSITION PLAYERS

If an injury during a game removes the last player listed for that position, the following rules are used for the substitution:

* Outfield - Use any other outfielder, but change fielding to 4e16. Arm remains the same. If no outfielder is available, then use non-pitcher and all Flyball X's become a double (runners advance two bases) and the throwing arm is +3.

* Infield - Substitute any infielder. Make 'em 4 with the highest e possible. If no infielder available, use any non-pitcher and all Groundball X's are a single, runners advance two bases.

* Catcher - Substitute any non-pitcher. The ratings are: 4e16 (+3) T 1-20.

The defensive manager picks the substitute player.

RULES REGULATING PITCHERS

On the schedule consecutive games are played on consecutive days. There is a day off between every series, however.

For regulating the use of STARTING pitchers, the NYMSL II does the following:

1. If he pitches more than 200 innings, he must rest three days before his next start.

2. If 199 or less innings, he needs four days rest.

3. A starter can pitch a maximum of five innings past his tire factor inning.

RELIEVERS

1. Can pitch in three consecutive games if the total number of innings in the two previous games did not go 1/3 of an inning past his tire factor inning.

2. Cannot pitch in four consecutive games.

3. If a 1 or 2 inning tire factor pitcher pitches before the seventh inning, he can only pitch for two innings.

4. Can pitch a maximum of six innings for two consecutive relief appearances in two games.

5. Can pitch a maximum of five innings in a game.

6. If a team is down to its last available relief pitcher, then that pitcher is automatically weak after his dot inning has passed.

STARTER/RELIEVER and RELIEVER/STARTER

1. A pitcher needs two days off after starting before he can relieve.

2. Needs two days off after relieving before he can start.

3. He can relieve in three consecutive games if his total innings pitched for the previous two games did not go 1/3 of an inning past his relief tire factor innings.

4. Cannot pitch in four consecutive games.

    5. Can pitch a maximum of six innings for two consecutive relief
appearances in two games.
    6. Can pitch a maximum of six innings in a game.

INJURY CHART

Split	PA	0-120	121-200	201-300	301-400	401-500	501-600	601+
Number	IP Starters			0-99	100-149	150-199	200-250	251+
	IP Relievers			0-49	50-64	65-79	80-90	91+

Split Number								
1-2..........	S	—	*+5	—	*+1	—	*+1	—	0	—	0	—	0
3-4..........	S	—	*+5	—	*+2	—	*+1	—	0	—	0	—	0
5-6..........	S	—	*+5	—	*+3	—	*+1	—	*+1	—	0	—	0
7-8..........	S	—	*+10	—	*+4	—	*+2	—	*+1	—	0	—	0
9-10.........	S	—	*+10	—	*+5	—	*+3	—	*+2	—	*+1	—	0
11-12........	S	—	*+10	—	*+6	—	*+4	—	*+2	—	*+1	—	0
13-14........	S	—	*+15	—	*+8	—	*+5	—	*+4	—	*+2	—	0
15-16........	S	—	*+15	—	*+10	*+6	—	*+4	—	*+2	—	*+1
17-18........	S	—	*+20	—	*+12	*+8	—	*+5	—	*+3	—	*+1
19-20........	S	—	*+20	—	*+14	*+10	—	*+5	—	*+3	—	*+2

      Key: 0 = no injury. * = out for rest of game. S = out for rest
of season. Injuries do carry over to playoffs.

MANAGERIAL LINEUP

     Here are the managers in the NYSML II: Anthony Abilo, Bayside; Dan
Benscher, Great Neck; Eric Ferber, Freeport; John Giuntta, North Bell-
more; Ron Licesse, Queens Village; Bill Mallon, Wantaugh; Steve
Melchione, Mineola; Pete O'Leary, Plandome; Howie Belgrod, Massapequa
Park; Joe Catanzaro, Lindenhurst; Franz Gritsch, Bellerose; Bill Kroli-
kowski, Floral Park; Bill Luongo, Long Beach; Ed Mallon, Massapequa;
John Miller, Seaford; Mark Ralske, Westbury; Corey Shorr, Oceanside;
Jeff Steinberg, Brooklyn; and Mike Shumann, Brentwood.

     Standings, playoffs and leaders:

East	Won-Lost	GB	North	Won-Lost	GB
Dan Benscher	74 46	—	Steve Melchione	67 53	—
Howie Belgrod	71 49	3	Bill Krolikowski	60 60	7
Anthony Abilo	61 59	13	Ron Licesse	59 61	8
Franz Gritsch	43 77	31	Jeff Steinberg	38 82	29

West	Won-Lost	GB	South	Won-Lost	GB
Joe Catanzaro	70 50	—	Bill Mallon	68 52	—
Mark Ralske	62 58	8	Pete Miller	64 56	4
Eric Ferber	54 66	16	Cory Shorr	61 59	7
John Miller	53 67	17	Bill Luongo	55 65	13

Playoffs: Abilo d. Shorr, 1-0; Abilo d. Benscher, 4-3; Belgrod d.
Ralske, 4-0; Miller d. Catanzaro, 4-2; Melchicone d. Mallon, 4-2.
Semifinals: Belgrod d. Abilo, 4-1; Miller d. Melchione, 4-2. World
Series: Miller d. Belgrod, 4-1.

Batting		Home Runs		RBI		ERA	
Raines	.348	K.Gibson	32	H.Brooks	104	Scott	2.04
H.Brooks	.336	E.Davis	32	Mattingly	98	Higuera	2.30
Mattingly	.331	H.Brooks	30	Gibson	93	Clemens	2.50
		J.Davis	30			Ryan	2.64

H: Raines	170	Wins			
2B: Mattingly	41	Clemens	19	K:	Scott 308, Clemens 273
3B: Butler	18	Cox	17	SA:	R.Murphy 22, Henke 18
SB: R.Henderson	67	3 tied with 16		SH:	D.Rasmussen 6

Every replay has 'em

S-O-M moments to remember

One of the thrills of every Strat-O-Matic replay is experiencing those memorable moments that years later you look back and marvel at, remembering the way it was.

Every league has such moments - as well as frustrating experiences - and many leagues include them in their yearbooks, etc. Poring over thrilling moments also is a great spur for someone, or a league, in the midst of a replay that is starting to bog down.

Perhaps as an inspiration to leagues/replays that are floundering, and to recognize the highlight-keeping done by some of its members, namely commissioner Larry Kidd, the Review is presenting a few of those highlight moments from A*C*T*U*A*L*'s current replay.

"In our first year of competition we've had an unusual number of 'unusual' games," says Kidd, who calls Staten Island, NY, home. "I'd like to relate them for you and possibly your readership."

The league consists of 26 teams, using the 1987 S-O-M rosters, allows trading, follows the actual Major League schedule and uses all the super advanced S-O-M rules plus a few of its own, namely an injury chart that calls for rain delays, effecting a pitcher's point-of-weakness and rainouts.

* April 6 - Bill Schroeder homers to break up a 20-inning marathon as Milwaukee edges Boston, 1-0. Roger Clemens went the first 10 innings for the Red Sox. Teddy Higuera hurled a no-hitter for six innings.

* April 11 - Another marathon as Texas nips Milwaukee in 21 innings, 8-7. Milwaukee tallied five times in the sixth inning to tie it at 7. Gary Ward's sacrifice fly scored the winning run.

* Seattle swamped Minnesota, 17-1, spraying out 20 hits.

* May 26 - Johnny Grubb's three-run homer gave Detroit a 6-3 win over Texas in a 19-inning struggle.

* Jim Clancy hurls league's first-ever no-hitter and perfect game. And he did it on the road, blanking the Yankees, 15-0. Clancy struck out eight and four Toronto players homered, including Wally Joyner who cracked a grand-slam.

* June 20 - Boston erupted for 11 runs in the fourth inning en route to a 18-2 pounding of New York.

* June 24-25 - Cleveland and Minnesota exchange 12-run games as the Indians lost the first one, 12-1, and won the next day, 12-2.

* Ageless Nolan Ryan went 14 innings and gave up only seven hits to the Giants - unfortunately one of them was a home run by Candy Maldonado in the 14th that tagged Ryan with the loss.

* June 10 - Tom Browning of Cincinnati had a no-hitter through six innings against the Giants - only to have the game rained out (remember the chart?). Browning fanned five and walked one.

* June 30 - Jimmy Key of Toronto fires a one-hitter against New York in a 2-0 triumph.

* June 18 - Baltimore scored five runs in four different innings and blitzed the Yankees, 20-14. The Orioles had 25 hits and both teams produced 42. Eddie Murray homered three times, Lee Lacy and Mike Young twice and Cal Ripken once for the Birds. Rickey Henderson, Dave Winfield and Mike Pagliarulo all homered for the Yankees.

* July 25 - Floyd Youmans of Montreal gets second no-hitter, stopping the Reds, 6-0. Youmans struck out 12 but walked eight.

* Ron Darling makes it three and counting in the no-hit department as he walked three and fanned four as the Mets blanked St. Louis, 9-0. Jesse Barfield, acquired via trade, hit home run No. 34.

* September 14 - Clemens goes 10 perfect innings but has nothing to show for it as Boston loses to Detroit in 17, 2-1.

* Worst beating was administered by the Yankees to Oakland, 22-3.

* Mets inflict worst shutout loss: 15-0 against St. Louis.

Strat-O-Matic spotlight

FOUR-FOR-FOUR AT TBA

The Inwood Table Baseball League looked outward and all-around-ward at the recent Newark stop on John Kreuz's Table Baseball Association tournaments. The ITBL, in three words, was busting it's buttons over the accomplishments of four of its members at Newark.

The quartet placed in the top five (Aug. 1988 issue of Review) in probably the greatest one-tournament showing by a league.

"The reigning champion of our league, Alex Lopez, won the tournament," enthuses commissioner Joseph Sheehan. "Eddie Kneafsey finished second, I placed third and Michael Regan ended up fifth." Bill Meinhardt of Walden, MA, a highly successful TBA gamer, picked off the fourth spot to end the ITBL's bid for a sweep.

"What makes the achievement even greater is the ages of the four," says Sheehan. "Alex and Eddie are 18, while I and Mike are 17."

EXPRESS AND THE DOC

When Nolan (The Express) Ryan and Dwight (Doc) Gooden hook up the betting odds would favor a pitchers' duel – with plenty of strikeouts.

Well, when 13-year-old Sean Cotter matched the tqo "K" kings, 33 batters struck out. Both pitchers went the distance, with Ryan fanning a whopping 20 and Gooden 13 in a game matching draft teams.

"It was quite a game," marveled James Cotter (Danielson, CT), Sean's father. The game was played via computer, with Gooden coming away the winner, 6-4. Gooden gave up eight hits, one home run and walked five, while Ryan was touched for six hits, the same number of earned runs, two homers and walked six.

The computer printout of the boxscore had 16 batters listed as strikeout victims, including Mookie Wilson of Gooden's team who got K'ed four times. Phil Bradley, Tim Flannery and Tony Pena all were fanned three times.

REVENGE OF THE CUBS

Mark Gast calls Taft, CA, his home. But his baseball heart remains in Chicago, in particular with the Chicago Cubs.

Gast had a blast not long ago when, after trading for the 1984 Cubs and San Diego, he was able to replay the National League playoffs. Just as in real-life, the Cubs easily won the first two games: Rick Sutcliffe pitching a six-hitter in a 6-1 win in game one and Dennis Eckersley spinning a five-hitter and driving in two runs in a 4-2 second-game triumph.

After trailing for six innings, 2-1, Chicago tied the third game at 2-2 after Carmelo Martinez (a "4" outfielder) misplayed Leon Durham's fly to left into a three-base error. Ryne Sandberg followed with a run-scoring double to win the game, 3-2, and series, 3-0.

Only home run in the three games was by Durham.

"Now if I can trade for the '84 Tigers I can see how the Cubs would've done in the World Series," says Gast.

SHORT SHAKES

...Don Miron Jr. of Flushing, MI, winner of the Review's MVP Contest, sent along this note: "Thanks for the set of baseball cards in your MVP Contest; it's the only contest I've ever won"...Skip Milford of the All-States PBM league introduced S-O-M Baseball to friends

Advertisements

Rates per issue are as follows: 25 words or less - $1.00; 26-50 words - $2.00; 51-75 words - $3.00; 76-100 words - $4.00. When sending in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR TRADE, LEAGUE FORMING, or CONTEST. 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. Also, no photo-copied, or reprinted, cards should ever 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: Backup managers to join the LBL, a PBM league whose members are in late 20s and 30s. If you join now, you should have a franchise by next season as expansion (from 12 teams to 15) plans are now on the drawing board. Contact: Commissioner Dave Lodwick, 131 Santa Monica Ave., Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

WANTED: 1983, 1982, 1981, 1980 complete S-O-M Baseball sets; playable condition. Geoff Hill, 121 Kenzel Ave., Nutley, NJ 07110 (201-661-2709)

WANTED: S-O-M Pro Football teams: 1977 Steelers, 1981 Dolphins and many others between 1967-1975. Willing to purchase complete sets if the price is right. Also wanted, 1984 additional players, 15 nameless players (old version) and roster sheets of various seasons. Todd Berenstein, 3050 St. Johns Court, Columbus, OH 43202

WANTED: I am now looking to purchase the 1980-81 and 1982-83 basketball seasons for a best-of Strat Basketball League just developed. Other seasons will also be considered (excluding 1985-86). Also, I have a list of loose players and teams I am looking for to complete my information of a best-of Strat Baseball League. These baseball cards are advanced version only and are from the 1971-88 seasons. If you are interested in selling the 1980-81 and/or the 1982-83 Strat Basketball seasons, or if you would like to see my baseball list which includes about 100 players and 10 teams, please contact me: Chris Malitsky 3528 Sussex Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19114 (215-632-0525, home; 215-441-1447, work)

WANTED: Any pre-1980 football teams or sets. Send list and condition to: Lance Cloud, 5124 W. Jupiter Way, Chandler, AZ 85226

WANTED: Three coaches for our play-by-mail Draft Basketball League. We've just begun our 11th year. We are a 16-team (four divisions) league with an eye for expansion in the future. We play a 64-game schedule with playoffs and a championship series. We seek serious S-O-M basketballers. We are a solid league with active trading, rookie drafts, free agent drafts, newsletters, etc. Contact: Len Greenberg, 50 Bradley Dr., Shoreham, NY 11786 (or call: 516-467-1777 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. EST)

WANTED: Baseball set for 1983 season. Preferably with extra players. Jack Little, 217 Beach Street, Northwood, OH 43619

WANTED: S-O-M Baseball manager for 10-man, face-to-face draft league. Full season is 39 weeks, 160 games. Entering 13th season. One team available in Jan., after new cards are issued. All advanced features used. League meets in
(continued)

Clinton, MA, on Tuesday nights. Clinton is 13 miles from Worcester. This franchise might be available sooner than Jan. Experience preferred. Team features Boggs, Gwynn, Raines. Call: John Joyce (508-368-0262).

For Sale

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

FOR SALE: Complete 1971 football season (in good condition). Will accept best offer for 1971 season. I am also interested in trading (an even exchange) the 1971 football season for: 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975 or 1976 complete baseball season (with extras). Stewart Kelly, RR4 Box 350, Minot, ND 58701 (701-839-7726)

FOR SALE: Football teams, 1970-1974 complete sets. Will sell complete years or individual teams. Enclose SASE for response. Send bids to: Scott Einhorn, 2645 Homecrest Avenue Apt. 5 B, Brooklyn, NY 11235

FOR SALE: S-O-M Baseball becomes even more true-to-life and fun using my super-advanced rules, which add realism and detail while preserving the game's speed of play and accuracy. Included are easily memorized rules for outfield throwing errors and misplayed hits; more realistic base advances; injury chart with rare plays; balks, pickoffs, pickoff errors, rundowns; infielders positioned in or back individually; outfield shallow; suicide squeeze, safety squeeze and sacrifice charts where fielding ability and the runner's speed play a part; hit-and-run system involving the pitcher, fielders and runner's speed; and much more, all smoothly blended into S-O-M. Nearly 300 satisfied customers. $9, with money-back guarantee. Richard Robb, #305-7100 Gilbert Road, Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5C3 (or PO Box 1776, Pt. Roberts, WA 98281)

FOR SALE/TRADE: Cards have been moving in and out of here like never before. At last count I have over 900 individual S-O-M Baseball teams from 1930-1987. I still have over 20,000 assorted S-O-M Baseball cards from 1930-1987. I also have a nice assortment of complete sets left. Send a SASE with 65 cents postage for my giant 1988 teams list and/or send your list of assorted cards that you want to: Chris Rosen, 731 Bergen Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111 (215-745-5247). Special note: I have a lot of new stock and am interested in buying more.

FOR SALE: Team slumping? Show its true colors with 6-sided and 20-sided dice in nine shades. Unbreakable red, white, yellow, blue, black, green, orange, brown and purple. Choose numbering from 1-20 or 0-9. Only $2 each, postage included. Specials: 3 for $5 or 7 for $10. David de la Fuente, 56 Oakdale Ave., Apt. 2, Akron, OH 44302

FOR SALE: Baseball teams - 1974, 1975, without extras; 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, with extras. Basketball - 1972-73, 1974-75. ABA only 1975-76. Football - 1975 Please send SASE with your want/offer list: Mike Emerson, 13684 Wildflower Lane, Clifton, VA 22024

FOR SALE: Like to play S-O-M but hate doing the stats? I will do them for 15 cents a game and have them back to you fast. I have 10 years and six leagues of experience behind me. All statistics will be printed out on my computer and everything you send me will be returned. Send games with payment to: Jeff Wright, 1095 Vine Avenue, Idaho Falls, ID 83402 or call 208-523-9036.

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FOR SALE: Complete advanced game ratings for all 1987 real-season player cards (latest set of cards). These ratings have been instrumental in developing excellent draft teams in league play and tournaments. I factor in HR, 3B, 2B, 1B, BB, gb (a), steal and running ratings, N or W rating, defensive position and defensive skill, including throwing arm. Each player receives an on-base, slugging, total offense and overall rating against both righties and lefties. (1961, 1964-basic, 1969, 1984, 1985 and 1986 season ratings also available.) For your easy-to-read printout, send $8 per season to: Paul Patrick, 3 Shenandoah, Goddard, KS 67052 (316-794-2353)

FOR SALE: S-O-M Baseball. Must sell private collection; 1960 season through 1987, every season, every card ever printed. Send SASE plus $2 for catalogue to: Grafect Studio, 176 Stuart St., Springfield, MA 01119-1014

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Review is assuming the above ad is for one (or a couple) collection of cards and that no photo-copied cards are being offered for sale. Photo-copied cards are prohibited, as mentioned in our advertisement policy. Any ads, flyers, etc., attempting to sell copied cards will be turned over to the game company, as patent rights would be violated in such cases.

FOR SALE: (1) Computer disk, automatic version baseball, brand new; (2) Computer disk with rosters (game disk). Both for Commodore 64. Cost me $50, will sell for $40, or best offer. Also, baseball cards - 1987 complete set: $15. Keith Miller, 318 Dale, Willard, OH 44890 (419-935-1760)

FOR SALE: Complete baseball game with 1987 cards. Mint condition. $15. Cal Whitbeck, 117 Peachtree, Mason, MI 48854

FOR SALE: Complete football teams, 1986, still wrapped in original plastic. Baseball teams - 1980 Phillies; 1982 Dodgers, Expos, Padres, Mariners; excellent condition. Send offer and SASE to: Terry Nash, P.O. Box 65, Cassville, MO 65625

FOR SALE/TRADE: 1966 baseball; good condition; $75 or best offer. Trade offers considered. Cal Whitbeck, 117 Peachtree, Mason, MI 48854 (517-676-6563)

FOR SALE: All my cards. Baseball - Some teams from 1962-1968 (original teams). Complete sets for 1975 to the present; most have extras. Must sell at rock-bottom prices. Example: 1966 Braves - $2. 1962-68 cards are fair to good condition. 1975 to present are fair to mint. Send offer or request price list from: Dave Larick, P.O. Box 1792, Hawthorne, CA 90251 or call 213-641-4907.

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: International Hockey League has immediate openings for head coaching positions in its inaugural season. The IHL will be a 16-team draft league with seven-year veteran commissioner who is also equipment manager for a professional hockey club. Many dollars spent on carbon professional scoresheets, computer software and more to get this project off the ground. If interested, send resume, with as much information as possible, immediately to: IHL Hockey Central, c/o Jory Leedy, 9057 W. 75th Way, Arvada, CO 80005

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for reliable managers in the Sacramento area to join a new face-to-face league. The format of the league will be voted on, as will all proposals. More than likely a 1987 replay will be the choice. We currently have four managers and would like to start the season ASAP with eight to 10 managers. If you're interested, call Pete LeBlanc at 349-0784 or

348-2744, or Stan Watson at 391-9779

LEAGUE FORMING: New PBM baseball league is looking for competitive, serious managers. We will be a 16-team league using the 1987 cards, super-advanced rules, playing a 162-game schedule. If you want a fresh start, build your team and this league from the ground up, please call or write (send SASE) for more information: Eric Spitz, 761 University Ave., Los Altos, CA 94022 (415-941-6710). I would like to begin the draft in October and begin play in November, so call or write ASAP.

LEAGUE FORMING: Gordie Howe Classic PBM Hockey League is expanding to 16 teams. Currently a 13-team league playing the advanced game, with the Bob Lopeck penalty system that includes realism in penalties, such as fights, goalie penalties, bench minors, penalty shots and misconduct ratings for each player that received one in the NHL last season (research done through Hockey News). Our eighth season will be starting in Nov. with the new cards. If interested, send brief resume about yourself. Write to: Don Miron Jr., 5500 N. Elms Road, Flushing, MI 48433

LEAGUE FORMING: Fall draft league now forming to begin play in September. The first season will consist of eight or more teams. Your new team will be formed by the following method: You will select an A.L. or N.L. team, cutting unwanted players. You will then draft to 29 players from the list of unselected and cut players. The amount of unselected players put in the draft will depend on the amount of teams the league will consist of for the first season. This will help keep the league from being an all-star type. You also own the rights to all players from that organization that have cards in the fut-

ure. To join this unique league, send a SASE with your top two choices of teams, age, past PBM history and phone number, to: Jeff Berens, 4856 G Sunset Terrace, Fair Oaks, CA 95628, or call (916-967-7511) to get that favorite team reserved. Hours to call: 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (PST) weekdays and anytime weekends.

LEAGUE FORMING: The NAHL, a 10-year, continuous draft league playing super-advanced PBM hockey is looking for two or three dedicated backup coaches. Some hockey gaming experience is required. For more detail, contact: Joseph Peto, 1226 Piacenti Lane, Chicago Heights, IL 60411, or call 312-481-8834 (home), or 312-786-7609 (work).

LEAGUE FORMING: Franchise bids wanted for newly formed Trans-Continental Hockey League (TCHL). This brand-new PBM league needs devoted Strato Hockey nuts, with honesty, integrity and a commitment level of 100 percent. We will be using a brand new design PBM hockey form. All pure Strato rules used, except injuries and four-line option - both are ignored. This is a new league with a new commissioner offering a great ground-floor opportunity. Submit application and include proposed team name (create your own, as this will be a draft league). TCHL, c/o Paul Obermayer 995 Plum Tree Drive, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

LEAGUE FORMING: The Table Basketball Association of America is looking for coaches to take over existing franchises and expansion teams. We are currently a 10-team league that will be beginning our second season in Nov. Each coach controls two actual NBA teams and plays a 44-game schedule. Existing teams available include Detroit, Los Angeles and Chicago. For more information and team rosters, call or write: Phil Meade, 512 B Landview Dr., Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32548

LEAGUE FORMING: Gordie Howe Classic PBM Hockey League is in need of two coaches for existing teams, as well as three for expansion (see other ad). Thirteen original teams will protect 13 players for expansion draft. Lemieux, Carson, Robitaille and Bourque are just some of the players without a coach. Newsletters, yearbook and a NHL-type schedule are features; a free franchise fee if you complete season ($10 deposit). Get out your pen and write to: Don Miron Jr., 5500 N. Elms Road, Flushing, MI 48433

LEAGUE FORMING: Coach/owners needed for the brand new Greater Phoenix S-O-M Football League. Super advanced-plus rules will be used in a face-to-face format. League constitution and organization open for discussion. Contact: Lance Cloud at 602-961-0937, or by mail at: 5124 W. Jupiter Way, Chandler, AZ 85226

LEAGUE FORMING: Three-man, 12-team, face-to-face draft league in its second year wants to expand to a 12-man play-by-mail league. We need nine managers to take over existing franchises. Every team has stars, but every team also has weaknesses. Perfect opportunity for rookie-to-moderate gamers to get PBM experience without pressure or great expectations. If you have time to play three games per week, you have time for this league. Send resume information and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Todd Burkes, 1002 Lake St. Apt. D-528, Kent, OH 44240. Applications will be considered primarily on a first-come, first-serve basis.

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for an "off season" baseball league? The Strato Replay Association is now forming. We will use only reprinted seasons, advanced rules, straight teams only. The winner will be determined by the highest number of games improved over real-life record.

This enables everyone to have a fair chance. The 1968 season will be our first. We plan on starting about Oct. 24, 1988. We should finish about May 1, 1989. For more information send a SASE, along with your PBM history, to: Joey Philpott, 8227 Woodhaven Road NW, Roanoke, VA 24019 (703-563-5193)

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Looking for back issues of Review?

If you are a recent subscriber to the Review, or if you've let your subscription expire and failed to renew, the offer below may be just what you're looking for to find out S-O-M happenings.

Back issues of the Review are again being offered for sale at discount prices. If you order one back issue the price is $1.25, if two the cost is $2.25 and if three it's $3.

To order, send to:
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P.O. Box 27
Otsego, MI 49078

1988

Jan., Feb., March, April (very limited), May, June, July.

1987

Jan., Feb., March, April, April, May, June, July, August, Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.

1986

Jan., Feb., March, April, April, May, June, July, August, Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.
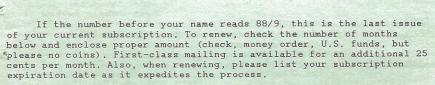
1985

Jan., March (very limited), Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.

1984

Jan., Feb., May (very limited), Aug.

If the number before your name reads 88/9, this is the last issue of your current subscription. To renew, check the number of months below and enclose proper amount (check, money order, U.S. funds, but please no coins). First-class mailing is available for an additional 25 cents per month. Also, when renewing, please list your subscription expiration date as it expedites the process.

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The cost in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico has been changed to: _____ 3 months, $4.50; _____ 6 months, $7.30; _____ 1 year, $12.00. The cost in Canada, Puerto Rico, Alaska and Hawaii includes first-class mailing.

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Jack Snyder and John Pocceschi for a matchup of the '86 Yankees and Phillies on Milford's Apple II computer. "He had to prove that Strat-O-Matic was not just a little boys game," says All-States League commissioner R.W. Smeltz, adding that "til the end of the game both managers had sweat beads on their foreheads." Dennis Rasmussen of the Yanks pitched a rare perfect game, striking out nine Phillies en route to a 5-0 win. The All-States is a 15-team PBM league that has franchises spread over seven states...Review co-editor Del Newell had one of those near-miss no-hit bids recently in the GKSML (Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League). Walt Terrell went 8 2/3 innings before switch-hitting Devon White of Gary King's team shattered the dream by belting a home run. The homer came on a 1-8 roll when "5" (HR 1-5, DO 6-20) was the split-card draw. Terrell entered the game with a 9-10 record and 6.15 ERA!