

STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW

Devoted exclusively to the Strat-O-Matic Game fan. The Review is printed with the consent of the Strat-O-Matic Game Company

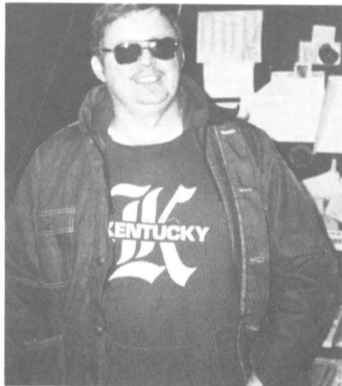
* VOL. 18, MARCH, 1988 *

Typical 'opener' at S-O-M

Gamers came in by planes, trains and automobiles

Nope, John Candy and Steve Martin weren't there. But, yes, they did come by planes, trains and automobiles - to opening day at Strat-O-Matic!

It was Friday, Jan. 22, and hundreds of gamers descended on Glen Head, NY, to pick up their cards and save the time awaiting UPS delivery. Ernie Farley (below left) of Cincinnati was the first in line, arriving at S-O-M at 2 a.m. and spending the night in the (continued on next page)



ERNIE FARLEY



AIR CANADA'S NICK YURCHUK

parking lot. The trip took 17 hours for Farley, a 15-year gamer who was picking up cards for a 10-player draft league.

Nick Yurchuk, meanwhile, flew in from Montreal via Air Canada, which he is employed by. He picked up cards for three face-to-face leagues.

At right are Larry Kidd, his son Matthew, Robert Bruno, Bruce Fogg and Joe Hults, all from Connecticut. All, except Matthew, are in two PBM leagues (one with 26 players, the other with 20).



LARRY KIDD, MATTHEW, ROBERT BRUNO, BRUCE FOGG, JOE HULTS OF CONNECTICUT

Paul Moore and Glenn Guzzo (left), both are in Philadelphia Inquirer S-O-M League. Guzzo, a frequent contributor to the Review, has been playing S-O-M for a quarter of a century.

Another member of the Philadelphia news staff (see next page), Buzz Bissinger, also was in the 'lineup' awaiting the new cards. Bissinger, an S-O-M gamer since 1965, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1987 for investigative reporting.

Representing a 20-manager, 10-year face-to-face league (John Wockenfuss League) were John Brown, John Christie, John Corradir and JayJay Records, all from Delaware. Wockenfuss actually attended one of the post-season banquets and Chris Short was at another. Winner receives 4 1/2-foot high trophy.

Perseverance Award has to go to the quartet of Paul Bourdeau, Kent DeGroodt, Steve Wentzell and Mark Tavern, who drove from Worcester, MA. They came in two cars (continued on next page)



PAUL MOORE, GLENN GUZZO



BUZZ BISSINGER, SON GERRY (4)

and had an accident that wound up totaling one car which rammed and slightly damaged the other car. They rented a second car for the trip home.

It was a time of excitement at S-O-M, for sure. And most gamers, according to game company officials, were pleased with the new-look cards (the advanced side is blue vs. left-handed pitchers and red vs. right-handed, making it easy to quickly read the play results).

One discordant note that was sounded immediately was that the new cards appeared to be of a lighter weight stock.

"We thought that, too," said Harold Richman, S-O-M's creator. "They felt lighter, but the printer assured us that they weighed the same but that, because of the high speed (and multi-colored) printing, the cards had to be 'puffed up'. The cards are bulkier. We were concerned about it so we weighed a set of the new cards and last year's set. The

new card set, with 10 more cards, weighed 2.6 pounds, last year's 2.5.

And, as far as the perforated cards, Richman says most gamers, after some initial concern, have accepted them. "The edges wear off," says Richman.

Separating the cards, while an inconvenience, has also been accepted. In fact, many gamers are reporting how much time it took, almost like it was a contest.

"Glenn Guzzo said it took him 25 minutes and John Kreuz (of TBA fame) said 35 minutes," reports Richman.

(continued on back page)



JOHN BROWN, JOHN CHRISTIE, JOHN CORADIR, JAYJAY RECORDS FROM WOCKENFUSS LEAGUE

Ellenby is newest TBA champ

Prize money totals \$6,300 at latest 'World' tourney

Alan Ellenby, a 28-year-old gamer from Deerfield, IL, is \$1,000 richer today, thanks to John Kreuz's Table Baseball Association World Tournament.

Ellenby was the biggest winner in a 70-player field that gathered in Chicago in late January to decide, at least momentarily, who is the best manager, drafter and, to some degree, the luckiest Strat-O-Matic Baseball player.

For compiling a 24-8 record against the finest gamers in Strat-O-Dom, Ellenby earned a check for \$1,000 from Kreuz. "Detroit was his park and he had very fine hitting," says Kreuz of the third TBA world champion.

"The runner-up was Rick Jones of Quakertown, PA, who won \$500," continues Kreuz. "Overall, \$6,300 in prize money was given out and 26 checks were written out. Forty percent of the entry field won money, with the smallest check for \$100."

Those receiving checks included the final eight in the tournament, plus winners and runners-up in a number of consolation tournaments for those who failed to advance beyond first-day play on Saturday.

Also making the final eight, in addition to Ellenby and Jones, were Bob Haden (Hoffman Estates, IL); Keith Desposito (LaHabra, CA); Al Hartley (El Segundo, CA); Chris Kramer (Palatine, IL); Bill Fenlon (Chicago, IL) and Dennis La Fevre (Canton, MI).

Also winning tournaments - in this case consolation - in Kreuz's share-the-wealth system were Ray Reott (Chicago, IL); Jeff Watson (Upper Darby, PA); Jeff Schwarze (Palatine, IL); Mark Herrick (Kalamazoo, MI); Dan Lord (Chicago, IL) and Kreuz, who reeled off nine straight wins. "Nobody has ever gone undefeated in any complete round of a TBA tournament before," points out Kreuz.

TBA IS TRULY NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Even though the World Tournament was again staged in Chicago and Kreuz is from the Chicago area, other sectors of the country were well represented.

Ten gamers came in from California, for instance, another eight from Canada and two flew in from Florida.

Jay Rader (Yonkers, NY) and Jim Battista (Yeadon, PA), Nos. 1 and 2 in the final National Ranking Points (Jan. 1988 Review), both had 10-8 records but didn't reach the quarterfinals.

"There were a large number of professional people at the World," continues Kreuz. "Doctors, lawyers, CPAs, etc. Strat-O-Matic is definitely in the mainstream."

So much in the mainstream, in fact, that Kreuz and his wife Joyce went on the S.S. Norway, a Norwegian Cruise Line luxury ship that makes ports of call at St. Martin, St. John, St. Thomas and the Bahamas.

Kreuz (rhymes with crews or cruise, which is appropos) was invited on the cruise ship to teach passengers how to play Strat-O-Matic Football and conduct three tournaments.

"I was contacted by an official of the Cruise Line," says Kreuz. "He had heard of Strat-O-Matic and was impressed with the games. And since they're always looking for new forms of entertainment, he asked me to teach the game and run tournaments (while the ship was at sea).

"My pay is the trip," says Kreuz, who's put in countless hours turning the TBA into a viable organization and one's that recognized wherever S-O-M is played.

"I'll report on the cruise when I return," promised Kreuz.

(continued on next page)

KREUZ PASSES WILLPOWER TEST

Along with running the World Tournament and the myriad of detail that needed to be attended to, Kreuz had to act uninterested in the new baseball cards - even though he had 53 sets of the new cards at his home in Glenview, IL.

"They arrived at my house the Monday before the tournament that weekend," relates Kreuz. "I didn't want to touch them until Saturday night. All I was thinking about was the tournament. It was a supreme test of willpower. But I had promised Harold Richman (S-O-M's creator and president) that I wouldn't open them early."

After the first day of play was completed, Kreuz did pass out the new card sets to those who had previously ordered them. Even those who were big losers on Saturday became big winners later that evening.

EIGHT...FOUR...TWO...AND THEN ONE

In the quarterfinals of the playoffs, Ellenby defeated Fenlon, 4-0; Haden topped La Fevre, 4-2; Desposito edged Kramer, 4-3; and Jones ousted Hartley, 4-2.

Ellenby then disposed of Haden in the semifinals, 4-1, with Jones getting past Desposito, 4-3.

"The semifinals series between Jones and Desposito was the most exciting," enthused Kreuz. "The winning run in game seven was scored when (Ryne) Sandberg singled, stole second and moved to third on a catcher's throwing error and then scored on a Flyball B, one of the few on Mark Eichorn's card."

"Jones also won a close game in the quarterfinals, when Rick Dempsey hit a two-run homer off a 2-2 shot on his own card."

Ellenby, who qualified for the World by reaching the playoffs of the first TBA tourney held in Chicago last year, almost didn't get into the final eight. He appeared to have lost a game Saturday. His opponent had used an ineligible pitcher in relief, however, and Kreuz decreed that the game be replayed from the point where the ineligible pitcher came in. It was and Ellenby won the game and clinched a playoff berth.

Kreuz also mentioned that when Kramer lost out to Desposito in the quarterfinals, Kramer missed out on a 1-17 diamond chance (in Seattle's park) for a game-tying home run in the seventh game.

One gamer, even though he didn't make the final eight, who left with a big smile was Dennis Flannery of Pittsburg, CA. "Flannery was the guy who lost a game once 30-1 and also had the misfortune to go 0-5 with Clemens," said Kreuz. "He won \$100 in a consolation tournament and was extremely happy."

CHANGES FOR '88

Kreuz, looking ahead to the 1988 TBA season which begins April 15-17 in Chicago (see January, 1988 Review for complete schedule), says a few player limitation rules have been added to ensure realism.

"Batters have to have 200 plate appearances (at-bats, walks, etc.) on their cards. A relief pitcher must have 50 innings on his card, a reliever/starter 75 innings, starter/reliever 100 and pure starter at least 125 innings."

"Also, 10 is the maximum number of pitchers on a team and eight is the minimum," continues Kreuz. "A starting pitcher has to pitch five innings or give up four runs before he can be removed."

Kreuz is also introducing a "30-second clock" for making moves. "We experimented with it at the World. We didn't really have to use it. But it will be there for those gamers who are really slow."

For more information on the TBA, write or call: John Kreuz, 4732 Laurel, Glenview, IL 60025 (1-312-635-6747).

Who's the best right-fielder in N.L.?

Is it Gwynn, Murphy, Dawson, Strawberry...?

Who would you, if you had your choice of players in an open baseball draft, pick by positions? Would you select Don Mattingly as your first choice of first basemen in the American League? Or how about rookie slugging phenom Mark McGwire?

And what about over in the National League at the same position - would it be Jack Clark or Will Clark?

Or how about a right fielder in the N.L., where such awesome talents as Tony Gwynn, Andre Dawson, Darryl Strawberry and Dale Murphy roam?

How about the starting pitchers, the relievers and also the rookies in each league?

Well, Jeff Green, the Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League's card-evaluation expert, has revealed his ratings of the new cards. He rates players, in order, by listing fielding rating, 'e' number, throwing arm and on-base chances (hits, walks, hit-by-pitch, etc.) against left-handers and righties.

Pitchers have their holding-on rating listed and on-base chances they give up to left-handed batters and right-handed batters.

Rookies are also listed, but in this case its mostly opinion or conjecture. A rookie's potential also came into play in these ratings.

All on-base ratings are figured on 108 card chances, adds Green, who's always at or near the top in GKSML replays (Review co-editors Warren and Del Newell are pioneer members of the league that calls Kalamazoo, MI, home).

"In most cases, I went by the cards," says Green of his evaluation process. "I didn't include players with few at-bats or innings. These are the regulars. The rookie ratings were based on their cards and future potential."

Here are Green's player ratings for the 1988 baseball card set (remember the first on-base number is against LHPs/second against RHP):

NATIONAL LEAGUE

First Base

1. Jack Clark 4e19 59/58
2. Will Clark 2e16 38/38
3. Von Hayes 3e15 42/47
4. Keith Hernandez 1e11 36/44
5. Andres Galarraga 1e11 38/38
6. John Kruk 4e7 35/47
7. Mike Aldrete 3e8 32/47
8. Glenn Davis 4e13 23/29
9. Leon Durham 3e16 26/31
10. Gerald Perry 3e18 28/31

Second Base

1. Ryne Sandberg 1e13 52/43
2. Bill Doran 1e6 47/36
3. Juan Samuel 3e18 30/34
4. Tom Herr 2e8 45/28
5. Glenn Hubbard 2e13 51/40
6. Tim Teufel 4e22 49/41
7. Rob Thompson 2e24 40/34
8. Vance Law 3e16 42/34
9. Steve Sax 4e16 33/38
10. Ron Oester 3e24 17/29

AMERICAN LEAGUE

First Base

1. Mark McGwire 3e12 45/37
2. Don Mattingly 1e6 33/39
3. Wally Joyner 1e11 36/35
4. Dwight Evans 4e25 55/46
5. Kent Hrbek 2e6 24/45
6. Alvin Davis 4e9 28/44
7. Eddie Murray 2e10 30/35
8. Darrell Evans 4e5 29/41
9. Pete O'Brien 2e12 26/37
10. Greg Brock 3e10 37/40

Second Base

1. Willie Randolph 2e17 62/47
2. Marty Barrett 2e11 52/34
3. Lou Whitaker 2e20 25/43
4. Billy Ripken 2e8 48/38
5. Frank White 2e11 34/24
6. Harold Reynolds 2e21 33/34
7. Jerry Browne 3e16 48/35
8. Steve Lombardozzi 2e18 35/23
9. Mark McLemore 2e22 26/31
10. Fred Manrique 3e13 37/18

(continued on next page)

Shortstop

1. Ozzie Smith 1e10 36/51
2. Jose Uribe 1e24 26/43
3. Jose Oquendo 2e27 43/54
4. Hubie Brooks 3e32 36/23
5. Al Pedrique 3e24 35/38
6. Barry Larkin 3e27 37/26
7. Garry Templeton 2e23 22/18
8. Steve Jeltz 2e24 19/36
9. Shawn Dunston 3e25 20/27
10. Rafael Santana 3e22 27/26

Third Base

1. Mike Schmidt 2e15 51/38
2. Tim Wallach 1e23 35/34
3. Terry Pentleton 1e28 43/34
4. Howard Johnson 4e27 39/30
5. Buddy Bell 2e8 38/44
6. Bobby Bonilla 4e29 35/37
7. Denny Walling 3e25 14/43
8. Ken Oberkfell 3e10 41/34
9. Kevin Mitchell 4e22 46/33
10. Keith Moreland 4e32 39/24

Left Field

1. Tim Raines 1e5 (+1) 58/43
2. Pedro Guerrero 4e8 (+2) 52/46
3. Barry Bonds 1e6 (+1) 27/33
4. Vince Coleman 3e10 (-1) 40/42
5. Kal Daniels 4e11 (+2) 26/52
5. Billy Hatcher 2e5 (-1) 35/43
7. Kevin McReynolds 2e4 (-1) 29/33
8. Chris James 2e4 (-2) 31/40
9. Jeff Leonard 2e10 (-2) 30/32
10. Carmelo Martinez 4e11 (+2) 43/41

Center Field

1. Eric Davis 1e5 (-3) 48/41
2. Andy VanSlyke 1e5 (-3) 28/44
3. Dion James 3e1 (+1) 60/43
4. Dave Martinez 2e8 (-2) 27/43
5. Gerald Young 2e8 (0) 55/39
6. John Shelby 2e11 (-3) 40/23
7. Willie McGee 1e8 (0) 29/29
8. Len Dykstra 2e5 (-1) 25/39
9. Chili Davis 3e9 (-1) 27/32
10. Milt Thompson 2e5 (0) 25/40

Right Field

1. Tony Gwynn 1e6 (-2) 59/56
2. Dale Murphy 1e8 (-2) 55/41
3. Darryl Strawberry 2e9 (-2) 31/50
4. Andre Dawson 1e4 (-4) 29/29
5. Mitch Webster 2e6 (0) 35/39
6. Kevin Bass 3e4 (0) 27/34
7. Candy Maldonado 3e7 (-3) 38/35
8. Mike Marshall 3e2 (-2) 28/35
9. Glenn Wilson 1e12 (-4) 30/31
10. R.J. Reynolds 3e2 (-1) 24/28

(continued on next page)

Shortstop

1. Alan Trammell 1e21 50/46
2. Tony Fernandez 1e17 39/44
3. Julio Franco 2e26 46/48
4. Cal Ripken 2e20 27/35
5. Scott Fletcher 3e26 45/36
6. Dale Sveum 3e25 30/16
7. Ozzie Guillen 2e21 13/34
8. Alfredo Griffin 2e29 25/29
9. Dick Schofield 2e12 34/28
10. Greg Gagne 2e24 28/30

Third Base

1. Wade Boggs 2e16 47/61
2. Paul Molitor 4e22 51/56
3. Kevin Seitzer 4e26 44/49
4. Brook Jacoby 4e25 44/43
5. Gary Gaetti 1e12 14/23
6. Mike Pagliarulo 2e20 22/23
7. Larry Parrish 4e27 27/27
8. Carney Lansford 3e8 32/41
9. Rance Mulliniks 4e31 28/42
10. Jim Presley 2e24 27/22

Left Field

1. Phil Bradley 2e5 (0) 51/45
2. George Bell 2e13 (-2) 38/31
3. Jose Canseco 3e9 (-2) 37/24
4. Brian Downing 4e3 (+2) 52/44
5. Larry Sheets 4e8 (+1) 31/34
6. Kirk Gibson 3e10 (0) 43/35
7. Rob Deer 3e10 (-2) 40/33
8. Pete Incaviglia 4e16 (-1) 46/23
9. Jim Rice 4e7 (+1) 39/36
10. Bo Jackson 4e14 (-2) 27/23

Center Field

1. Kirby Puckett 1e6 (-4) 38/38
2. R. Henderson 2e10 (+2) 56/50
3. Lloyd Moseby 1e7 (0) 41/34
4. Brett Butler 2e5 (0) 50/48
5. Robin Yount 2e6 (+2) 30/47
6. Chet Lemon 2e4 (-1) 43/42
7. Ellis Burks 2e5 (0) 44/27
8. Willie Wilson 1e1 (+1) 22/34
9. Mickey Brantley 3e6 (-2) 28/39
10. Fred Lynn 3e3 (0) 24/24

Right Field

1. Dave Winfield 1e (-4) 54/28
2. Jesse Barfield 1e3 (-5) 39/27
3. Tom Brunansky 2e4 (-1) 30/36
4. Ruben Sierra 2e12 (-2) 20/28
5. Devon White 1e9 (-3) 22/28
6. Danny Tartabull 4e7 (0) 44/45
7. Ivan Calderon 3e6 (-1) 33/40
8. Cory Snyder 2e11 (-4) 17/18
9. Mike Greenwell 4e10 (0) 36/44
10. Mike Davis 3e16 (-2) 33/27

Catcher

1. Benito Santiago 2e7 (-3) 40/32
2. Mike Lavalliere 1e5 (-3) 31/44
3. Mike Scioscia 2e2 (-2) 40/32
4. Jody Davis 2e6 (-1) 30/35
5. Gary Carter 2e1 (0) 30/21
6. Bob Brenly 4e2 (0) 27/43
7. Tony Pena 2e8 (-2) 18/19
8. Bo Diaz 2e3 (-2) 35/22
9. Alan Ashby 3e1 (+1) 29/43
10. Lance Parrish 2e1 (+1) 29/43

Starting Pitcher

1. Nolan Ryan (+5) 20/18
2. Rick Reuschel (-4) 20/18
3. Mike Scott (+1) 19/17
4. Bob Welch (-1) 17/18
5. Orel Hersshiser (-2) 23/13
6. Dwight Gooden (-1) 21/24
7. Danny Darwin (+1) 26/17
8. Sid Fernandez (+3) 24/21
9. Joe Magrane (+1) 23/26
10. Dave Dravecky (0) 11/29

Relief Pitcher

1. Tim Burke (-4) 12/5
2. Dave Smith (+1) 14/4
3. Pat Perry (0) 17/14
4. Steve Bedrosian (+1) 19/17
5. John Franco (-1) 20/19
6. Rob Murphy (+1) 21/18
7. Randy Myers (-2) 15/23
8. Jeff Robinson (-1) 21/19
9. Craig Lefferts (-3) 14/22
10. Scott Garrelts (0) 20/25

Rookies

1. Jose Lind PITT
2. Mike Dunn PITT
3. Chris James PHIL
4. Randy Myers NY
5. Gerald Young HOU
6. Joe Magrane SL
7. Dave Magadan NY
8. Matt Williams SF
9. Jeff Treadway CIN
10. Ken Caminiti HOU

* Only first-ever cards are considered rookies. Mark McGwire, since he had a card last year, is not considered a rookie for these ratings.

Catcher

1. Bill Schroeder 4e3 (+1) 41/45
2. B.J. Surhoff 3e5 (0) 44/34
3. Matt Nokes 4e1 (+1) 21/36
4. Terry Steinbach 3e7 (0) 38/36
5. Dave Valle 2e3 (-3) 30/16
6. Carlton Fisk 3e4 (0) 22/31
7. Bob Boone 1e1 (-3) 34/26
8. Ernie Whitt 2e2 (0) 27/29
9. Mike Heath 2e3 (-2) 39/31
10. Terry Kennedy 4e4 (0) 17/26

Starting Pitcher

1. Roger Clemens (+1) 18/18
2. Jimmy Key (-6) 21/15
3. Frank Viola (-5) 18/16
4. Bret Saberhagen (-3) 17/20
5. Ted Higuera (-1) 25/21
6. Jack Morris (+2) 21/18
7. Floyd Bannister (-2) 25/14
8. Charlie Leibrandt (-2) 17/23
9. Dave Stewart (+2) 25/20
10. Mark Langston (+1) 17/27

Relief Pitcher

1. Tom Henke (0) 8/14
2. Dan Plesac (-2) 11/15
3. Bill Wilkinson (-1) 8/21
4. Dennis Eckersley (-2) 22/8
5. Dale Mohorcic (-5) 26/9
6. Bobby Thigpen (-4) 26/14
7. Mike Henneman (-5) 24/18
8. Mark Eichorn (+9) 25/20
9. DeWayne Buice (+1) 22/16
10. Jerry Reed (+6) 23/24

Rookies

1. B.J. Surhoff MIL
2. Terry Steinbach OAK
3. Ellis Burks BOS
4. Matt Nokes DET
5. Billy Ripken BAL
6. DeWayne Buice CAL
7. Jerry Browne TEX
8. Willie Fraser CAL
9. Sam Horn BOS
10. Mike Henneman DET

Questions & Answers

QUESTION: What was the deal regarding the 1981 (based on 1980 season) pitchers cards all having the "4" column as their bad column? Did the game company later reissue these pitchers cards? (Mike Craney, Loogootee, IN)

ANSWER: Soon after the "4-column" pitchers cards were released, S-O-M issued a "regular" set of pitchers cards. The gaming public wanted a return to the mixed column format and it was done.

9

S-O-M changes ball park ratings

Montreal, Milwaukee have biggest increase — plus 6

The ball park ratings for Strat-O-Matic Baseball have changed again, just like fashions in women's wear. The changes, of course, are not cosmetic or in appearance, but rather in the ratings for singles and home runs.

Some folks thought when S-O-M issued its first ball park ratings (based on the 1985 real-life season and recent seasons prior to that), that little change would occur. Wrong. Plenty of changes have been made.

In fact, only a sprinkling of ball parks had the same ratings this time around compared to '87. Only five of the possible 26 major league parks remained the same for home run ratings, while only five - plus Boston's Fenway Park against right-handed batters - continued the status quo for singles.

Parks that remained the same for home runs were: Detroit (1-14 vs. LHB, 1-11 vs. RHB), Kansas City (1-3 both ways) and Minnesota (1-11 both ways) in the American League and Chicago's Wrigley Field (1-14 both ways) and Houston (1-2 both ways) in the National.

Having the same look for singles were the following: Cleveland (1-11 both), Detroit (1-2 vs. LHB, 1 vs. RHB) and New York (1-7 both) plus Boston (1-15 vs. RHB only) in the American League and Chicago (1-9 both) and New York (1-6 both) in the National.

MONTREAL HAS BIGGEST INCREASE

Biggest increase was for Montreal where both singles and home runs were increased by six, with each category going from 1-4 chances to 1-10, and against both right and left-handed batters.

Philadelphia also had a sizeable increase in the N.L., at least as far as singles. Base hit chances went from 1-8 in 1987 to 1-13, an increase of five. Home runs in Philadelphia slumped off, though, with the roundtripper chance dropping from 1-9 in '87 to 1-6 currently.

Pittsburgh had the biggest reduction, going from 1-10 chance for singles to 1-5. Other noteworthy reductions in home run chances in the N.L. belonged to Los Angeles (1-6 to 1-3), New York (1-10 to 1-7) and Philadelphia.

MILWAUKEE ALSO A +6

Over in the American League, Milwaukee went from a 1-6 singles chance to 1-12, a jump of six. Kansas City was next up in that category, rising from 1-11 to 1-16 for an increase of five. Chicago's Comiskey Park had a jump of four, going from a singles chance of 1-9 to 1-13.

The biggest home run increase in the A.L. belonged to Baltimore, with its park going from a 1-11 chance in 1987 to 1-14 now. Several parks were increased by two as far as home run chances.

Two parks were lowered considerably, though, in Boston and Texas. Boston, which had 1-7 vs. LHB and 1-10 vs. RHB ratings in '87, fell to 1-3 vs. LHB and 1-6 vs. RHB for a reduction of four in home run chances. Texas also went the -4 route as home run chances fell from 1-11 against both lefties and righties to 1-7.

Now here's a look at the new ball park singles and home run ratings for 1988 (increases or decreases from 1987 are underlined):

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Ball Park Singles				Ball Park Home Runs			
Baltimore	L SI* 1-6	LO (2b) 7-20	<u>+3</u>	L HR 1-14	FLY (rf) B 15-20	<u>+3</u>	
	R SI* 1-6	LO (ss) 7-20	<u>+3</u>	R HR 1-14	FLY (lf) B 15-20	<u>+3</u>	

Boston	L SI* 1-18	LO (2b)	19-20	<u>-1</u>	L HR 1-3	FLY (rf)	B 4-20	<u>-4</u>
	R SI* 1-15	LO (ss)	16-20	<u>S</u>	R HR 1-6	FLY (lf)	B 7-20	<u>-4</u>
Cleveland	L SI* 1-11	LO (2b)	12-20	<u>S</u>	L HR 1-7	FLY (rf)	B 8-20	<u>-1</u>
	R SI* 1-11	LO (ss)	12-20	<u>S</u>	R HR 1-10	FLY (lf)	B 11-20	<u>-1</u>
Detroit	L SI* 1-2	LO (2b)	3-20	<u>S</u>	L HR 1-14	FLY (rf)	B 15-20	<u>S</u>
	R SI* 1	LO (ss)	2-20	<u>S</u>	R HR 1-11	FLY (lf)	B 12-20	<u>S</u>
Milwaukee	L SI* 1-12	LO (2b)	13-20	<u>+6</u>	L HR 1-7	FLY (rf)	B 8-20	<u>+2</u>
	R SI* 1-12	LO (ss)	13-20	<u>+6</u>	R HR 1-7	FLY (lf)	B 8-20	<u>+2</u>
New York	L SI* 1-7	LO (2b)	8-20	<u>S</u>	L HR 1-11	FLY (rf)	B 12-20	<u>+2</u>
	R SI* 1-7	LO (ss)	8-20	<u>S</u>	R HR 1-9	FLY (lf)	B 10-20	<u>+1</u>
Toronto	L SI* 1-8	LO (2b)	9-20	<u>-1</u>	L HR 1-9	FLY (rf)	B 10-20	<u>-2</u>
	R SI* 1-8	LO (ss)	9-20	<u>-1</u>	R HR 1-9	FLY (lf)	B 10-20	<u>-2</u>
California	L SI* 1	LO (2b)	2-20	<u>-4</u>	L HR 1-13	FLY (rf)	B 14-20	<u>+1</u>
	R SI* 1	LO (ss)	2-20	<u>-4</u>	R HR 1-13	FLY (lf)	B 14-20	<u>+1</u>
Chicago	L SI* 1-13	LO (2b)	14-20	<u>+4</u>	L HR 1-3	FLY (rf)	B 4-20	<u>-1</u>
	R SI* 1-13	LO (ss)	14-20	<u>+4</u>	R HR 1-3	FLY (lf)	B 4-20	<u>-1</u>
KansasCity	L SI* 1-16	LO (2b)	17-20	<u>+5</u>	L HR 1-3	FLY (rf)	B 4-20	<u>S</u>
	R SI* 1-16	LO (ss)	17-20	<u>+5</u>	R HR 1-3	FLY (lf)	B 4-20	<u>S</u>
Minnesota	L SI* 1-13	LO (2b)	14-20	<u>-3</u>	L HR 1-11	FLY (rf)	B 12-20	<u>S</u>
	R SI* 1-10	LO (ss)	11-20	<u>-3</u>	R HR 1-11	FLY (lf)	B 12-20	<u>S</u>
Oakland	L SI* 1	LO (2b)	2-20	<u>-2</u>	L HR 1-4	FLY (rf)	B 5-20	<u>-1</u>
	R SI* 1	LO (ss)	2-20	<u>-2</u>	R HR 1-4	FLY (lf)	B 5-20	<u>-1</u>
Seattle	L SI* 1-5	LO (2b)	6-20	<u>S</u>	L HR 1-18	FLY (rf)	B 19-20	<u>+1</u>
	R SI* 1-5	LO (ss)	6-20	<u>S</u>	R HR 1-18	FLY (lf)	B 19-20	<u>+1</u>
Texas	L SI* 1-10	LO (2b)	11-20	<u>-1</u>	L HR 1-7	FLY (rf)	B 8-20	<u>-4</u>
	R SI* 1-10	LO (ss)	11-20	<u>-1</u>	R HR 1-7	FLY (lf)	B 8-20	<u>-4</u>

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Chicago	L SI* 1-9	LO (2b)	10-20	<u>S</u>	L HR 1-14	FLY (rf)	B 15-20	<u>S</u>
	R SI* 1-9	LO (ss)	10-20	<u>S</u>	R HR 1-14	FLY (lf)	B 15-20	<u>S</u>
Montreal	L SI* 1-10	LO (2b)	11-20	<u>+6</u>	L HR 1-10	FLY (rf)	B 11-20	<u>+6</u>
	R SI* 1-10	LO (ss)	11-20	<u>+6</u>	R HR 1-10	FLY (lf)	B 11-20	<u>+6</u>
New York	L SI* 1-6	LO (2b)	7-20	<u>S</u>	L HR 1-7	FLY (rf)	B 8-20	<u>-3</u>
	R SI* 1-6	LO (ss)	7-20	<u>S</u>	R HR 1-7	FLY (lf)	B 8-20	<u>-3</u>
Philadel.	L SI* 1-13	LO (2b)	14-20	<u>+5</u>	L HR 1-6	FLY (rf)	B 7-20	<u>-3</u>
	R SI* 1-13	LO (ss)	14-20	<u>+5</u>	R HR 1-6	FLY (lf)	B 7-20	<u>-3</u>
Pittsburgh	L SI* 1-5	LO (2b)	6-20	<u>-5</u>	L HR 1-10	FLY (rf)	B 11-20	<u>+1</u>
	R SI* 1-5	LO (ss)	6-20	<u>-5</u>	R HR 1-10	FLY (lf)	B 11-20	<u>+1</u>
St. Louis	L SI* 1-10	LO (2b)	11-20	<u>-1</u>	L HR 1-5	FLY (rf)	B 6-20	<u>+1</u>
	R SI* 1-10	LO (ss)	11-20	<u>-1</u>	R HR 1-5	FLY (lf)	B 6-20	<u>+1</u>

Atlanta	L SI*	1-12	LO (2b)	13-20	<u>-1</u>	L HR	1-15	FLY (rf)	B 16-20	<u>+2</u>
	R SI*	1-12	LO (ss)	13-20	<u>-1</u>	R HR	1-15	FLY (lf)	B 16-20	<u>+2</u>
Cincinnati	L SI*	1-11	LO (2b)	12-20	<u>-1</u>	L HR	1-13	FLY (rf)	B 14-20	<u>+2</u>
	R SI*	1-11	LO (ss)	12-20	<u>-1</u>	R HR	1-13	FLY (lf)	B 14-20	<u>+2</u>
Houston	L SI*	1-11	LO (2b)	12-20	<u>+1</u>	L HR	1-2	FLY (rf)	B 3-20	<u>S</u>
	R SI*	1-11	LO (ss)	12-20	<u>+1</u>	R HR	1-2	FLY (lf)	B 3-20	<u>S</u>
L.Angeloes	L SI*	1-9	LO (2b)	10-20	<u>-2</u>	L HR	1-3	FLY (rf)	B 4-20	<u>-3</u>
	R SI*	1-9	LO (ss)	10-20	<u>-2</u>	R HR	1-3	FLY (lf)	B 4-20	<u>-3</u>
San Diego	L SI*	1	LO (2b)	2-20	<u>-3</u>	L HR	1-14	FLY (rf)	B 15-20	<u>S</u>
	R SI*	1	LO (ss)	2-20	<u>-3</u>	R HR	1-14	FLY (lf)	B 15-20	<u>S</u>
San Fran.	L SI*	1-2	LO (2b)	3-20	<u>-2</u>	L HR	1-10	FLY (rf)	B 11-20	<u>+2</u>
	R SI*	1-2	LO (ss)	3-20	<u>-2</u>	R HR	1-10	FLY (lf)	B 11-20	<u>+2</u>

Baseball playing tip

By WILLIAM FEDOCK, Baltimore, MD

I have a playing tip involving batters attempting to sacrifice-bunt runners into scoring position. Batters may find themselves in a position of having to choose whether to attempt to bunt when down by two strikes. This is an attempt to eliminate the "automatic" advancement of runners with relatively good bunters. Often, good pitchers are effective at getting bunters in a hole, and batters have to swing away.

-Sacrifice bunt attempt with two strikes: When attempting to sacrifice bunt, check bunting rating and roll the 20-sided die (split card) to determine whether the batter has acquired two strikes. Refer to chart below:

Bunting Rating	2 Strikes (1-20)*
A.....1-2	
B.....1-4	If batter acquires 2 strikes he has
C.....1-6	a <u>choice</u> as to whether to attempt a
D.....1-8	bunt or not.

* Batter has two strikes on him if these numbers come up on the 20-sided die, or split number.

- If batter decides to bunt with two strikes, a strikeout may occur. Roll 20-sided die (pull split number) to determine whether batter strikes out. Refer to chart below:

Bunting Rating	Strikeout (1-20)
A.....1-2	
B.....1-4	If batter chooses not to bunt due to
C.....1-8	two strikes, but instead tries to
D.....1-16	hit-and-run, a "missed pitch" results in a strikeout.

Questions & Answers

What is the difference between starter/relief and relief/ starter on pitchers' cards? (Jaime Garza, Delphos, OH)

The first listing is how the pitcher is most frequently used. Some leagues limit use by adhering to starts or relief appearances for pitchers with such listings.

Oklahoma wins football 'playoff'

12

Penn State upset by Washington in third round

There's no playoff in college football, right? That's correct, even though the pollsters oftentimes attempt to make one of the bowl games a battle to determine No. 1.

But, thanks to Strat-O-Matic, you can conduct your own playoffs. And that's exactly what Tom Lyne of Cambridge, OH, did recently. Lyne, playing the new college football game solitaire, and basic version to save time, rolled the dice through a 43-game playoff.

Neither Penn State, winner of the Fiesta (or No. 1) Bowl, or Miami, which lost to Penn State, reached the final. When the last die had been cast it was Oklahoma whipping Nebraska, 24-10.

"The two major upsets were Michigan State beating Ohio State (20-14) and Washington shutting out No. 1 seed Penn State (16-0)," says Lyne. "The AP (Associated Press) top 20 was used to seed teams. The other 24 teams were placed by blind draw."

Results:

FIRST ROUND

Southern Methodist 23, Oklahoma St. 0	Georgia Tech 31, Temple 24
Air Force 35, Army 10	Indiana 20, Mississippi 14
USC 31, Texas Tech 7	Notre Dame 21, San Diego St. 7
Minnesota 24, Virginia Tech 10	Georgia 31, Navy 24
Texas 20, Tennessee 14	Iowa St. 24, Stanford 21
Brigham Young 24, Colorado 14	Michigan St. 16, N.C. St. 14

SECOND ROUND

Florida St. 20, Baylor 13	Washington 34, Arkansas 24
Nebraska 47, Southern Methodist 0	Boston College 21, Iowa 7
Louisiana St. 21, Air Force 3	Miami 31, Georgia Tech 7
Arizona St. 20, Southern Cal 17	Alabama 14, Indiana 3
Michigan 28, Minnesota 10	Auburn 20, Notre Dame 17
Arizona 20, Texas 10	Michigan St. 20, Ohio St. 14
Penn St. 17, Brigham Young 0	Georgia 16, Texas A&M 7
Oklahoma 58, Iowa St. 0	UCLA 31, Clemson 0

THIRD ROUND

Nebraska 30, Florida St. 17	Miami 48, Boston College 21
Louisiana St. 32, Arizona St. 22	Auburn 14, Alabama 13
Arizona 20, Michigan 10	Michigan St. 14, Georgia 0
Washington 16, Penn St. 0	Oklahoma 31, UCLA 3

QUARTERFINALS

Nebraska 20, Louisiana St. 13	Miami 45, Auburn 17
Arizona 23, Washington 21	Oklahoma 41, Michigan St. 13

SEMIFINALS

Nebraska 16, Arizona 13	Oklahoma 29, Miami 6
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CHAMPIONSHIP

Oklahoma 24, Nebraska 10

Questions & Answers

QUESTION: What is Strat-O-Matic's policy regarding the printing of two separate cards for baseball players who are traded during the course of a season? (Dan Bauer, Birchwood, WI).

ANSWER: There's no hard-and-fast policy. Usually players that have two cards have stats that are dissimilar, or maybe played many more games (had more at-bats or pitched more innings) with one team than another. Players with two teams but with similar stats are usually listed with the last team played.

Advertisements

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

Wanted

WANTED: 1962, 1963, 1965, 1971 and 1973 baseball seasons, in reasonably fair condition. Complete sets with extras (when available) and original roster sheets only. Mack Smith, P.O. Box 128, 200 East Pottawatomie, Silver Lake, KS 66539-0128, or call 913-582-4353

WANTED: 1975 Jets and Giants; 1968 Mets and Yankees (both with extras; two-sided, reprinted teams only); 1971 Mets and Yankees (both with extras; two-sided); 1965 Reds, Cubs, Braves, Astros, Phillies, Cardinals. Contact: Alan Cohen, 5907 North 5th Road, Arlington, VA 22203

WANTED: Baseball - 1982 St. Louis, Milwaukee, California, Atlanta. Extras should be included. James I. Marshall, 202 Bartram Lane, Ocean City, NJ 08226 (1-609-398-6924, or 9 to 3, 1-800-345-7863).

WANTED: Football, 1982, 1983 complete seasons. 1981 Bengals new version. Baseball - 1978 Red Sox, Blue Jays; 1984 Cubs. Please no cards that are written on. Send me your bid prices airmail. Include the weight of the teams as I will want them sent to me airmail. I believe the overseas airmail rate is \$7.35. We are probably talking about at least \$50 for postage. Please allow at least five weeks from when you send me your bid before expecting a reply. All letters received will be replied to. Jeff Bejach, c/o A.K. Shrestha, Pasupati Soap Factory, Lazimpat,

Ranibari, Kathmandu, Nepal

WANTED: Cardinal baseball teams. Any year, minimum good condition, must include extras. Provide complete description, prices, SASE to: Rick Lepley, 4204 Burnham, Portsmouth, VA 237036

WANTED: Player(s) needed to play games for established PBM league. Due to ownership problems the following seasons are incomplete: 1981 National League, 1984 National League (second half) and 1985 National League. You must have complete card sets (A.L. and N.L.) for years in question. Schedule and rosters provided with suggested lineups. Stats will be compiled for you and a newsletter made up. All you have to do is play the games. For complete information, write to: IBA, 18 Cottage Place, Trenton, NJ 08618, or call Bob at 609-392-0710.

WANTED: Football - 1975, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980 or 1981 seasons. Complete sets only. Please state year, condition and price. Call or write: Mike McMonagle, 201 Chariot Lane H-4, Norristown, PA 19403 (215-630-0835)

WANTED: Would like to buy Super Bowl teams from the past. Except for Miami and San Francisco '85, Oakland, Philadelphia '81 and LA Rams, Pittsburgh '80. Please call collect: 203-875-8489.

WANTED: Baseball - 1975, 1980 or 1981 seasons, with extras if
(continued)

possible. Football - 1971 or 1978 seasons. Bob Johnston, 1678 Brockway, Saginaw, MI 48602 (517-792-4863)

WANTED: 1983 Chicago White Sox. Will meet any price. Contact: Dana Yost, Box 173, Minneota, MN 56264 (507-872-6539)

WANTED: Football teams - 1967-1982. Baseball teams - 1975-1983. Please state list, condition and price. Ronald Theroux, 343 Mason St., Woonsocket, RI 02895

WANTED: Any Super Bowl or Dallas Cowboy teams of the past. Call collect or write: Harry Schroeder, 687 Conover, Crestwood, MO 63126 (1-314-962-1103)

WANTED: 1967 Los Angeles Rams; reasonable condition. Mark Andrews, 3928 Kilmer Avenue, Allentown, PA 18104

WANTED: Baseball - advanced version only. All or any 1971, 1972, 1977, 1978. Complete sets with roster sheets desired. Write and include price to: Chuck McMullan, 500 Yew Court, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714. If possible, send phone number and time you can be reached.

WANTED: Mature face-to-face opponents in Puget Sound area. Stress friendly competition and sharing of sports knowledge. Call 206-526-2988, or write: Jonathan Kelley, #3C-1406 NE 50th, Seattle, WA 98105

WANTED: Baseball - 1971 season with extras and roster sheet; 1972 Los Angeles Dodgers with extras or 1972 Duke Sims card with the Dodgers (he had two cards that year). Hockey - 1979-80 season with extras and roster sheet; 1978-79 New York Islanders with extras; 1980-81 Winnipeg Jets with extras. Write or call with condition and price, including postage: Michael V. Baird, 167 South Frey Avenue, West Jefferson, OH 43162-1451 (614-879-6315)

WANTED: 1976, '77, '79, '80, '82

Oakland-L.A. Raiders and 1983 complete season. State price and condition. Dave James, 14-E Briar Circle, Fayetteville, NC 28306 (919-483-9571)

WANTED: Football teams - 1969. Complete set desired. State condition and price. Mark Moore, 1840 Burton #177, Austin, TX 78741 (512-447-6955)

WANTED: 1971 (nearly complete okay), 1974, 1975 and/or 1976 baseball sets. Also seek original 1971 and 1974 roster sheets; offer \$1 apiece. Jonathan Kelley, #3C 1406 NE 50th, Seattle, WA 98105

WANTED: Baseball - 1975 season, complete with extra players. Also 1971 Oakland A's, Los Angeles Dodgers, San Francisco Giants, St. Louis Cardinals, Pittsburgh Pirates; 1972 Pittsburgh; 1973 Baltimore, New York Mets, St. Louis, all with extra players. Also need extra players for 1975 Boston, Cincinnati; 1972 Oakland; 1973 Mets; 1971 Pittsburgh. Please state price desired and condition of cards. John Luczynski, 21 Hoosac St., Adams, MA 01220

For Sale

FOR SALE: Unbreakable 20-sided dice in red, white, blue, black, yellow, green, orange, purple, brown. Choose numbering from 1-20 or 0-9. Also 6-sided dice available. Only \$2 each, postage included. Specials: 3 for \$5 or 7 for \$10. David de la Fuente, 56 Oakdale Ave., Apt. 2, Akron, OH 44302

FOR SALE: Baseball (original sets - 1967, 1969-1976. Football - 1967-1976. Most sets complete, many duplicate teams. Basketball - many complete sets, 1970s. Hockey - some complete sets, late 1970s; most teams excellent to mint condition. Send SASE for list of available teams. Steve Forester, 7441 Windsor Woods, Apt. 2-D, Canton, MI 48187

FOR SALE: Have your league forms and strategy sheets typeset for copying. Desktop Publishing makes it all possible. \$4 for first page, \$2 for second page and \$1 for each additional page. Send SASE for sample or your rough draft to: Joe Hornback, D.C., 4707 East McDowell Road #1179, Phoenix, AZ 85008

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

FOR SALE: 1963 Yankees, Giants (fair); 1968 Mets, Red Sox (very good); 1969 Twins, Red Sox, Reds (very good); 1970 Yankees, Red Sox, Dodgers (very good); original issues. Send offers and SASE to: Mark Andrews, 3928 Kilmer Ave., Allentown, PA 18104

FOR SALE: New College Football supplement. Includes 1986 season schedule, standings, game scores, bowl game results and final top 20 ratings. Also included to help your replay are special numerical ratings for 96 teams that enable you to get realistic game scores instantly. Send \$3.50 to: Mike Keeley, 2524 Stillwater Road, Maplewood, MN 55119

FOR SALE: 1981 football cards, mint condition. Sold as complete set only. Includes pro football book. I pay shipping. Send bid to: Ralph Rink, 46 Barber St., Auburn, NY 13021

FOR SALE: Improve the realism and detail of S-O-M Baseball with my super-advanced rules, which

preserve the game's speed of play and fun. Included are easily memorized rules for more realistic base advances on hits, outs and errors; outfield throwing errors and misplayed hits; trail runners advancing on throws (or being thrown out on cutoffs); injury chart with rare plays; balks, pickoffs, pickoff errors, run-downs; 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 that also takes into account the pitcher's abilities and characteristics, fielding and the runner's speed; and much more, all blended into the game so as not to disturb statistical accuracy or ease of play. Fully tested and refined. Over 200 satisfied customers. \$8, with money-back guarantee. Richard Robb, #305-7100 Gilbert Road, Richmond, B.C., Canada V7C 5C3

FOR SALE: Baseball, complete sets with extras; 1930, 1950, 1956, 1961, 1969 (reprint) and 1970 (reprint). Excellent condition. 36 reduced-sized teams, Hall of Famers and 42 old-timer teams. \$50 plus \$5 postage buys all. Leon Majer, 2313 S. Walnut #90, Stillwater, OK 74074 (405-743-0172)

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

FOR SALE: Accuracy - At last, easy-to-use systems to improve S-O-M hit-and-run and Catcher's Card. Both systems add realism and strategy without increasing play time. Hit-and-run uses results directly from player cards, giving each player truly individual
(continued)

ual H&R ability. Catcher's Card incorporates individual wild pitch ratings for pitchers, passed ball ratings for catchers. Statistically accurate for all '87 pitchers and catchers. Works equally well playing stock teams or draft leagues. Just \$3 for each system, \$5 for both. Check or money order to: Glenn Guzzo, 317-21 N. Broad St. #835, Philadelphia, PA 19107

FOR SALE: All cards mint condition unless noted. Basketball - 1972-73, 1973-74 (used), 1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77, 1977-78, 1978-79, 1979-80, 1980-81, 1981-82, 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-1985. Hockey - 1977-78, 1981-82, 1982-83, 1984-85. Baseball - 1985 season. All sets sold by season only and to highest bid. Also available over 40 teams from 1971-74 (baseball); \$2 each. Larry Salay, 121 Prospect Ave. #3C, Mamaronock, NY 10543

FOR SALE: Baseball, 1987 A.L., N.L. with extras. Advanced side perfect condition. \$7 plus \$2 postage. Keith Miller, 318 Dale, Willard, OH 44890

FOR SALE: Defensive ratings comparison chart. Is a 3e12 at first base better than a 4e4? This chart allows you to easily compare defensive ratings such as these. Good year after year. Only \$3. (By the way, a 4e4 is better than a 3e12) Rohn Morin, 2510 Hotel Road, Auburn, ME 04210

FOR SALE: Complete advanced game ratings for all 1987 real-season player cards (latest set of cards). Available two months after I receive cards. These ratings were instrumental in my second place TBA finish in Kansas City and have led me to many PBM championships. I factor in HR, 3B, 2B, 1B, BB, gb(a), steal and running ratings, N or W ratings, 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, 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: Football - 1973 set, all teams, minus NY Giants (good) 1974 complete (mint). 1975 complete, all teams (mint), except Miami (good). 1976 complete (good). 1977 complete, all teams (mint), except Dallas, Chicago (good). Basketball - 1973-74 complete (good). 1975-76 complete plus ABA teams (good). Baseball - 1968 original teams, complete (excellent). I pay postage. Send bids to: Jim Reilly, 1041 Franklin St., Grand Haven, MI 49417

FOR SALE: Tired of counting ratings? I have a program that will read the computer team disks and compute all advanced game ratings (excluding ball park). Computes all the basic stats (SI, DO, TR, HR, BB, HP) plus total hits, on-base, GB, GB(a), FB, SO, LO/PO and clutch hitting in seconds. Handles ratings for lefties and righties. Reports all miscellaneous players ratings (running, stealing, fielding, etc.) and even computes advanced stealing percentages. Send the output to screen, printer, or disk (great for spreadsheets). Do individual teams (screen, printer, or disk) or entire league (disk only). Works on any season disk. Can use against automatic drafted teams/leagues. On-line help. Color displays. Available only for the IBM. Package includes set of 1-2-3 skeleton spreadsheets to handle disk output files. Price: \$10 (includes shipping and handling). Send to: Jim Murphy, 3057 Cheryllyn Lane, Anaheim, CA 92804

FOR SALE: Serious baseball enthusiasts - Tired of all the time and expense that it takes to follow your players/teams during the major and minor league seasons?
(continued)

Subscribe to the Baseball Observer for complete stats (including all positions played, transactions, ages, minor league stats, etc.). For price and options brochure, send 50 cents to: Griff's Baseball Observer, Suite #211, 704 Stony Hill Road, Yardley, PA 19067

FOR SALE: Complete 1972 S-O-M Football cards set will be sold to the highest bidder. No bids under \$50 will be considered. Send bids to: Nick Baldassano, 28947 Shadow Creek Ln., Highland, CA 92346 (714-862-4624)

FOR SALE: Fanatics - Make your season more realistic with Baseball Replay '87. Exact day-to-day 1987 schedules and actual starting pitchers; comprehensive list of roster changes (not just trades, but disabled players and minor-league callups); plus a unique lineup guide to assure realistic player use. Ideal for playing one team's season or a whole league. More than 100 hours of research at your fingertips for only \$6 for AL or NL, \$10 for all 26 teams. Also available: Baseball Replay '68, Baseball Replay '61, Baseball Replay '86 and Baseball Replay '85 - \$10 each (roster changes for '61 and '68 are trades only). Order now and have your replay ready when the new cards arrive. Check or money order to: Glenn Guzzo, 317-21 N. Broad St. #835, Philadelphia, PA 19107

FOR SALE: Baseball, complete sets with extras - 1982 season (mint), \$30; 1983 season (good), \$20. Carson Riley, P.O. Box 575, Vesuvius, VA 24483 (1-703-377-2134)

FOR SALE: Drafting your own team? Want to win? Baseball Yardstick is your key to a winning season. Allows you to quickly spot the best player available at any point in the draft. And, brother, does it work. Based on 15 years of testing and verification. Satisfaction guaranteed. Get the ultimate winning edge - better players.

Send \$5 for the product or 25 cents for further details to: Baseball Yardstick, 12702 Lamp-post Lane, Austin, TX 78727

FOR SALE: December was a great month. While you were buying Christmas gifts, I was busy buying S-O-M Baseball cards. A lot of S-O-M Baseball cards. I now have over 800 individual S-O-M Baseball teams from 1930-1987. Over 22,000 assorted S-O-M Baseball cards from 1930-1987. Did someone say complete sets? I have them...1978, '79, '80, '81, '83, '84, '85, '86. Send a SASE with 56 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)

FOR SALE: 1988 edition card analysis for super advanced baseball. Includes OBP, power percentages and diamond chances for both batters and pitchers. Also, gBA and clutch hitting percentages for batters. All this plus additional card information condensed into a quick-reference format. Great for drafting or setting up lineups against certain pitchers. Improves chance of winning. I'm an 11-year gamer with a bachelor's degree in math. I've enjoyed many World Series appearances using this analysis. Many satisfied customers. Only \$7. Why not get the "edge" this season? Rohn Morin, 2510 Hotel Road, Auburn, ME 04210

FOR SALE: Football - 1973-83, '85 all excellent-mint; 1971 Green Bay, Dallas, Miami, Baltimore (mint). Baseball - 1979-85 mint; 1977 (12), 1978 (18), 1956, 1961 (mint); 1965 Pittsburgh and White Sox; 1966 Atlanta, White Sox; 1973, '74, '76 Dodgers. Basketball - 1980-81 Indiana, Chicago, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Golden State, Washington, San Diego; 1981-82 Seattle, Boston, San Antonio, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, LA Lakers; 1982-83 LA Lakers, San
(continued)

Antonio, Milwaukee, Boston, Philadelphia; 1983, '84 all. Kerry Murphy, 29496 Bailer, Mount Clemens, MI 48045 (313-949-6993 evenings; 313-259-1004 days).

FOR SALE: Baseball - 1968 set with extras (some writing on backs, good condition, very playable), minimum bid \$75. 1975 set with extras, near mint, minimum bid \$65. 1977 set with extras, mint, minimum bid \$55. 1978 set with extras, mint, minimum bid \$45. 1980 set with extras, mint, minimum bid \$35. Most sets with rosters. Package price for all sets minimum bid \$250. I pay shipping. Bidding ends April 7, 1988. Randy Rogers, RR 1 Box 247, Farmland, IN 47340 (317-468-8207)

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

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

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

FOR SALE: Accepting bids on original sets of baseball, 1962-70, 1974-85, and hockey, 1979-84, containing extra and expansion cards when applicable. Good-mint condition. Grab bags of 50+ loose baseball cards (mostly early 1970s) \$2.50 each. Marc Jacobson, 555 Crown St. #3F, Brooklyn, NY 11213

FOR SALE: I no longer have spare time for S-O-M, so I'm going to sell out to some lucky buyer: \$50

and PH will get you the Commodore 64 computer game, complete with everything, along with the 1987 season disk and the 729 player cards. But that's not all. You'll also get the 1969 players set, with about 100 games worth of scorepads (Form B) as well as: Pitchers hitting cards #1-8, 20-sided die, fielding chart and original game box. Plus, as a final bonus, I'm throwing in both groups of Hall of Famers (Grade B- condition) absolutely free. The only catch is this all goes together; no partials. It may cost \$5 PH (postage/handling) for this kind of weight, but still \$55 for all of this is just too good to turn down. So come on, fellas, it's now your turn to bat. Kevin Watson, 305 Rheine Road NW, Palm Bay, FL 32907 (305-729-0481)

FOR SALE: Basketball - 1972-73 set, mint, minimum bid \$45; 1973-74 set, mint, minimum bid \$40; 1975-76 set, mint, minimum bid \$30; 1976-77 set, mint, minimum bid \$25; 1977-78 set, mint, minimum bid \$20. Rosters with each set. Package price for all sets plus game box with rules, minimum bid \$125. Bidding ends April 7, 1988. Randy Rogers, RR 1 Box 247, Farmland, IN 47340. I pay shipping. (317-468-8207)

FOR SALE: Don't spend the next month(s) doing the tedious analysis work on the new baseball cards. Get complete, guaranteed accurate analyses of the new cards in an easily readable form. Many different types of sorted lists also available (home run hitters against lefties, on-base percentage against righties, etc.). Customized requests can be generated. For price and options brochure, send 50 cents to: Griff's Baseball Observer, Suite #211, 704 Stony Hill Rd., Yardley PA 19067

FOR SALE: Drafting your own team? Want to win? Baseball Yardstick is your key to a winning season. (continued)

Allows you to quickly spot the best player available at any point in the draft. And, brother, does it work. Based on 15 years of testing and verification. Satisfaction guaranteed. Get the ultimate winning edge - better players. Send \$5 for the product or 25 cents for further details to: Baseball Yardstick, 12702 Lamppost Lane, Austin, TX 78727

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: American Texas League. Head-to-head Houston draft baseball league looking for qualified and interested managers. We play February to October, every other Tuesday night at rotating homes. Age of current managers: 25-37. We are currently in seventh season. Seven of eight teams have made playoffs in the past. We have three teams make the playoffs yearly. If interested and knowledgeable about baseball, call us. If you don't know baseball well, you will get beat like a drum. We have a lot of fun with regular in-depth computerized stat reports. If you want the best and have the time and interest, call me, today: John Blomstrom (855-4735)

LEAGUE FORMING: Two reliable owners needed immediately for established PEM league. We will finish the 1985 National League before playing the 1986-based American League with the new cards. We play 162 games with advanced rules and modifications (including a unique rotation chart). Illustrated Norting Spews newsletter and super end of year yearbook. We even keep your stats for you. Write: Bob Dormer, 18 Cottage Place, Trenton, NJ 08618

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

LEAGUE FORMING: WTSA American League. A.L. players only. Draft league. Eleven teams. 160-game schedule. Thirty-player teams with 25-player active roster. Weekly newsletters. Call or write: Rich Vioral, 2269 White Pines Dr., Pensacola, FL 32506 (904-944-4356)

LEAGUE FORMING: The HSMBL I is currently seeking six-eight dependable managers for the upcoming 1988 season. We are entering our fifth year as a basic draft league with many advanced features. Shrewd trading definitely permitted. There is plenty of talent available on teams currently formed - you'll be in the race from opening day. New season starts in April/May. We ask only that you be dedicated and serious enough to stay with our flexible timetable. All replies answered. Contact: Jim McPartland, 11 Contact Dr., West Haven, CT 06516 (203-937-5494)

LEAGUE FORMING: Twin Cities Strat Club is seeking dependable adult managers for face-to-face baseball league in metro area or out-state Minnesota. Use base teams and draft. Contact: Dave Christensen at 612-537-5947, or write: 4150 Regent Ave. No. #20, Robbinsdale, MN 55922

LEAGUE FORMING: Would like to start or join a S-O-M Baseball league in south suburban Chicago-northwest Indiana. If you have a league, or would like to join one, contact: Stan Kowalski, 14500 Torrence 3B, Burnham, IL 60633 (312-891-3203)

LEAGUE FORMING: Advanced PBM baseball league needs managers and backups. Draft league, in 10th year. Realism stressed, reliability required. Carl Kieke, 1417 N. 7th #2, Abilene, TX 79601 (915-673-3552). Call anytime and leave message.

LEAGUE FORMING: Looking for backup managers for NASOMBL PBM
(continued)

baseball league, with possibility of taking over your own team. A 16-team league in our 7th year. Super-advanced with draft, 162 games, playoffs, series, 16-man protected list each year. Call: Dennis (313-981-0101). League starts in March.

LEAGUE FORMING: The Western Ohio Baseball League (WOBL) is looking for a few new managers for our upcoming 1988 season. Currently we have 14 managers in a face-to-face/PBM system using almost all advanced rules. Our league features player retention, a newsletter, active competition and some bad jokes. We're looking for some rare enthusiasts who possesses qualities of honesty, responsibility and courtesy. First draft is at the start of April, so apply soon. Submit background information, name, age, address and phone number to: Kevin Schmidt, 075 Swing Hall, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056, or call (513-529-6718)

LEAGUE FORMING: Kansas City area league is looking for a few new managers. Our face-to-face league is entering its third season. Emphasis is on sportsmanship and having fun. Managers ages range from 26-43. We are a draft league and currently play the American League season in the spring-summer and the National League in the fall-winter. For information, write or call: Craig Trotter, 8921 Grant Avenue, Overland Park, KS 66212 (913-341-7984)

LEAGUE FORMING: Established S-O-M Baseball league seeking interested managers for vacant team(s) in Lawton/Fort Sill, OK, area. League fees extremely reasonable. Experience helpful but not required. 162-game schedule with playoffs and World Series. Interested parties call: Dan (536-0965)

LEAGUE FORMING: New managers needed for an established 15-team play-by-mail league. Super advanced rules,

144-game schedule and ability to turn around a franchise in one season are some features of the MSBL. For information, write or call: Darren Becker, 10 Jonlyn Lane, Collegeville, PA 19426 (215-489-2639)

LEAGUE FORMING: The CanAm Strat-O-Matic League is looking for a manager to take over an existing club. We are a 15-member PBM winter baseball league (Sept.-Feb.) entering its 15th year this fall, but we want you now so you may participate in our annual draft. We've been around since 1974 and most managers have been with us for many years. If you are a mature, dedicated person willing to develop a team, we are looking for you. If you are interested in joining a quality league, send personal information to: Gary Fell, 504-986 Huron St., London, Ontario T9H 4H4

LEAGUE FORMING: The Southwest Suburban Strato League (SWSSL) is a face-to-face league on the southwest side of Chicago and into the suburbs. This four-year-old league uses all the advanced rules. It is a continuous ownership, draft league that runs from September-April. We are looking to expand prior to our April draft. Current managers are 20 to 40 years old. For information, call Mark at 582-7226.

LEAGUE FORMING: N.T.L., an all National League draft beginning 13th season, is a unique combination head-to-head/play-by-mail league looking for one immediate manager and two backups. Must live in one of these cities or close proximity - Austin, TX; St. Louis, MO; Atlanta, GA. Ages of current managers: 24-38. Five of 10 teams have managed at least seven consecutive years in this league. Available team has Welch, Guerrero, Billy Hatcher, Worrell, Tony Pena, Kevin Mitchell and others, as well as second pick in upcoming draft. Convention and draft of new cards will be soon, (continued)

so respond quickly. John Blomstrom, 4931 Whispering Falls, Houston, TX 77084 (713-855-4735)

Contests

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

CONTEST: Twin Cities Strat Club (Minnesota) is planning baseball tourney for July 8-10 (Brewers are also in town). Two eight-team divisions are planned. Minimum of 28 games per team in round-robin format. Fee is \$40 (maximum). Contact: Dave Christensen, 4150 Regent Ave. No. #20, Robbinsdale, MN 55922 (or call: 612-537-5947)

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

CONTEST: Strato Tournament March 4-5 in Valley Stream, NY. Double-elimination tournament with cash prizes and Islander, Mets and Yankee tickets. Grand prize is an all-expense paid trip for two to the Sugar Bowl (have a wild New Year's Eve in New Orleans!). \$50 entry fee includes free lunch. For details, contact: Charlie Lachman at 516-561-6223.

MAKE IT "1-20"

There was an error in the hockey playing tip, submitted by Phil Ledesma, that appeared in the January issue of the Review.

On page 14 in the last paragraph it should have read: "Goals with AAA ratings will get penalties from the AA section of the penalty chart from splits 1-20 (instead of 1-10)..."

The Review regrets the error and hopes that it in no way detracted from anyone's use of the playing tip.

HOW TO CONTACT NBA

Also in the January issue there was a "Readers roll 'em" letter from John Oliver Kerr.

Kerr, while urging that basketball gamers submit more replays and playing tips, wanted to know how he could obtain turn-overs for individual players in the 1976-77 and 1977-78 NBA seasons.

Well, Richard Nevarez, 44 Calvados, Camarillo, CA 93010, has supplied an answer, providing the address of the National Basketball Association's league office in New York.

The NBA's address is:
National Basketball Association
League Office
645 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Usually any of the league offices can supply basic stats for the various sports.

Strat-O-Matic spotlight

MAKE IT OILERS IN SEVEN

Chris Charron, Tacoma, WA, replayed last year's Stanley Cup and found that Strat-O-Matic Hockey almost emulated real-life, right down to the championship series MVP.

Edmonton, just as for real, won out. And it took the same number of games - seven. Ron Hextall of Philadelphia won MVP honors, also just as in real-life.

Brian Propp of the Flyers was the big scoring star, tallying 11 goals and accounting for six assists for 17 points. Teammate Tim Kerr, who missed the real-life Stanley Cup because of an injury, had nine (five goals/four assists) points and Wayne Gretzky of the Oilers produced five goals, two being game-winners, and seven points.

Philadelphia won the opener, 3-2, as Propp had the game-winner at the 4:40 mark of the third period; Gretzky got the winning goal in a 2-1 Oiler triumph in game two; Propp had three goals and the same number of assists in a 9-2 Flyer romp in game three; and Gretzky's hat trick gave the Oilers a split after four games in 6-3 Edmonton blitz.

Game five belonged to Hextall, who blanked Edmonton, 5-0, with Propp having his second hat trick. It was all Oilers after that as they won game six (6-1) and the finale (4-3), scoring the last three goals, two by Craig MacTavish, in the third period for the win.

SPOTLIGHT ON 'BLACK SWAMP'

The Black Swamp S-O-M Baseball League, a nine-team, face-to-face, draft league located in northwest Ohio (the name comes from an area of the state that used to be swampy) had two unusual no-hitters.

The first occurred when, using the 1987 cards (based on 1986 real-life), Mark Gubicza, hurling for Keith Roughton's Raiders, set down Eddie Scott's team. Gubicza struck out nine and walked four as Roughton witnessed his first no-hitter in 12 years of gaming.

Two weeks later, Roger Clemens, pitching for manager Mike Brown, tossed a no-hitter at Don Scott. Clemens fanned eight and walked three. It was Brown's first no-hitter in 10 years of rollin' S-O-M dice.

The all-in-the-family aspect of the twin no-hitters is that Roughton and Brown are cousins and Don Scott is Eddie Scott's father.

SHORT SHAKES

The 1987 season was a great one for watching home runs sail out. And 1956 wasn't so bad, either. Bill Fedock, Baltimore, MD, currently engaged in a replay of 1956, watched in amazement as Cleveland and Boston combined to club seven homers in a 19-13 slugfest won by Cleveland. Preston Ward hit a grand-slam for the winners, while Bob Lemon (Cleveland) and Willard Nixon were the shell-shocked starting pitchers in a 34-hit barrage...Remember Joe MacPhee, the S-O-M gamer who taught at an Indian reserve in Manitoba, Canada? MacPhee, you may recall, passed his idle time by playing Strat-O-Matic. He's since married and returned to live and teach in Nova Scotia, his hometown. "I'm still very active in S-O-M Baseball and have formed a new face-to-face league with my old friends," relates MacPhee...Another 'first' no-hitter was experienced by the Greater Half Moon Bay Baseball League, a 16-team, four-division league operated by commissioner Blaise Castren. On the pitching end was knuckleballer Charlie Hough, while Mack Smith, Topeka, KS, was on the managing side. Hough walked six and fanned four in hurling his 12th complete game. Skip Geer skippered the losing team. It was the league's first no-hitter and also numero uno for Smith.

It's 17th season for picking baseball's best

Review's MVP Contest begins

The Review's Most Valuable Player Contest launches its 17th season this year and it could be your turn in the winner's circle. So far, 16 different gamers have won a complete set of new baseball cards by picking both or one of the MVPs, or coming the closest in selecting the division winners.

Terry Ringen of Beattie, KS, is the only two-time winner, in 1977 and '78, while in two other years, 1976 and last year, there were dual winners. In 1986 nary a gamer picked one of the MVPs and thus no winner.

Okay, enough of a look back. Let's move ahead. How do you enter the upcoming contest? Easy, just fill out (or put on a postcard) the blank below. Pick the MVPs in each league, select the division winners and their percentages and send off to the Review.

You must be a subscriber to the Review to enter and only one entry is permitted per subscriber. The entry deadline is again May 10. Entries postmarked after that are disqualified.

And, a word to the wise, use your own baseball 'sense' when making your picks. Oftentimes, gamers wait until the last moment to see who's hot and who's not - and frequently those players fall off sharply later in the season.

Winners of last year's contest were Don Miron Jr., Flushing, MI, and Jim Kelsey, Columbia City, IN, both of whom picked one of the real-life MVPs correctly. Kelsey was the lone subscriber to name George Bell in the American League, while Miron was one of seven gamers to select Andre Dawson in the N.L. Miron came the closest, percentage-wise, with his pick of Minnesota to win A.L. West honors.

Now for this year's contest:

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER BALLOT

Most Valuable Player:

American League _____

National League _____

Division Winners & Percentages:

American League East _____ % _____

American League West _____ % _____

National League East _____ % _____

National League West _____ % _____

Print Clearly:

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City/State _____ Zip _____

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Note the cost for Alaska, Hawaii, Canada and Puerto Rico is as follows:
_____ 3 months, \$4.40; _____ 6 months, \$7.30; _____ 1 year, \$12.00
The above prices for the two states, Canada and Puerto Rico include first-class mailing.

(continued from page 3)
Most folks, when separating the cards, are naturally going to give them a cursory look or two. Jeff Green of the GKSML (Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League), however, said it took him only "15 minutes" to accomplish the "Jeff the Ripper" feat.
Also, as S-O-M points out, the time taken to separate the cards is compensated for this year by listing the supplementary stealing ratings on the cards for the first time. That used to take 30-40 minutes when done manually by gamers.

The Review staff

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