



STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW



Devoted exclusively to the
Strat-O-Matic game fans, with
the consent of the Strat-O-Matic
Game Co.

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Popular 'Zone Defense'

Andrew Fischer, the SOM Football enthusiast from Philadelphia, PA whose playing tips were in the September issue of the Review, has come up with a zone pass defense that advanced students of the game might wish to incorporate into their dice rolling.

Weeks of research went into Fischer's development of the zone defense, a defense he says should be "attempted only by advanced and veteran players."

When the defensive coach wishes to employ the zone defense he simply calls out "zone" (of course, a pass defense must be called as well and not a run) and manipulates his players in the following manner: "The three linebackers are moved into the Short Pass Zone and the tight safety and right cornerback are moved into the Long Pass Zone. This results in four men in the Short Pass Zone (the left cornerback and the three linebackers) and three men in the Long Pass Zone (tight safety, free safety and right cornerback)."

This defensive alignment will be very tough against the long pass and good against the short, but the weakness is the linebackers vacating the Flat Pass and Look In Pass Zones, leaving them completely vulnerable.

Here's how the defense would work against a Short Pass: First of all look under the Four Men in Short Pass column and, if defender occurs, use the following chart:

RECEIVER
Flanker
Tight End
Fullback
Halfback
Split End

DEFENDER
Left Cornerback
Left Linebacker
Left Linebacker
Middle Linebacker
Right Linebacker

For a Long Pass look under the One Man Column and, if defender or free safety occur, check the following chart:

RECEIVER
Flanker
Fullback
Tight End
Split End or Halfback

DEFENDERS
Tight Safety & Free Safety
Tight Safety & Free Safety
Tight Safety & Free Safety
Free Safety & Right Cornerback

When a defender's rating is needed on a long pass play you take the higher of the two ratings. If both defenders are rated the same, go to the next higher number in figuring whether the pass is completed or not. For example, if both the tight safety and the free safety are rated "5" on a play involving the flanker, the rating will be upped to a "6" on the zone coverage. Only exception to this example would be if both defenders are rated "0", here an "0" would remain the rating.

Also, if Receiver comes up on a long pass, look under the Rec. 2-tmd column. On a short pass look under the Right Column. DO NOT, however, look under the Rec 2-tmd column of the quarterback on a short pass.

All-Time SOM Dream Grid Team

Pete Crockett, no stranger to the pages of the Review, has sent in the first Strat-O-Matic all-time football team, based on cards covering the 1968, '69 and '70 seasons. Here's the way Crockett's dream football team from those years would look:

Specialist card - 1970 Miami Dolphins
 Offensive & Defensive rating card - 1969 Kansas City Chiefs
 Lineback-Off-Tackle card - 1969 Detroit Lions
 End run-flat pass card - 1968 Los Angeles Rams
 Short pass-Long pass card - 1970 Minnesota Vikings
 Quarterback - 1970 Greg Landry (Detroit). Particular emphasis on "must run" and end run.
 Halfback - 1968 Gale Sayers (Chicago Bears)
 Fullback - 1968 Robert Holmes (Kansas City Chiefs)
 Split End - 1970 Paul Warfield (Miami Dolphins)
 Flanker - 1969 Lance Rentzel (Dallas Cowboys)
 Tight End - 1969 Bob Trumpy (Cincinnati Bengals). Doesn't include blocking rating.

Pete, along with his all-time lineup, also passes on info that Baltimore Orioles, '69, put together a 19-game winning streak in baseball and that Oakland, '70 replay, walloped Miami in football, 63-38, setting a new personal record for most points scored in one game by two teams.

Pete also likes realism when he's playing SOM baseball so, in keeping with the times, he's glued felt to the baseball playing board (except on base lines, pitcher's mound, split deck box, dugouts, and outs box), thus creating his own version of "astro-turf."

'27 Yanks Champs Again

The '27 Yankees again laid claim to the "greatest team" title in a 32-team (both modern and old-timer) single-elimination tournament played by Kevin Ford, Lombard, Illinois. The Yanks defeated the '53 Dodgers in the finals, 5-4, after scoring 11 runs in the bottom of the eighth inning to rout the '61 Yanks, 13-4, in the semifinals. Bill Singer of the L.A. Dodgers, '60, twirled a no-hitter against the '65 Twins and the '70 Indians, no modern-day power by any means, outlasted the '35 Cubs in 15 innings, 2-1, in highlights.

Coming next issue, a preview of the NEW 1972 SOM Baseball Game, featuring many MAJOR changes.

They're Texas, Monarchs And Crabbers Now

By David R. Stoker
Owner and Manager
Monarchs Baseball Club and Affiliates,
House of David and Crabbers

I have enjoyed every issue of the Review and thought I would try to contribute with some information and history concerning our Strat-O-Matic League. We established our "Federal" League in 1963, using the all-star draft system similar to the GKSML method. Our league has always been based on a 60-game schedule, however. In the beginning we formed a three-team loop with players drafted from the '63 Yanks, Cards, Braves, Houston, Colts, Dodgers and Giants. The clubs in the league were named Texans, Giants and Monarchs, and Monarchs being mine.

The Texans, managed by Joe Lee Smith, captured the first four seasons and in 1964 we added a fourth member whose manager tagged them the Mets, mainly because they were composed of ragnots and humpty-dumpty castoffs from the other clubs. With our expansion, player cards from the '64 Orioles were added to beef up league player personnel. We completed two more seasons before the league disbanded and the Giants, managed by Dave Frank, took the last two pennants while Smith steamed in frustration and disbelief. Our league folded because league members were separated by moves to different and distant cities. It was one of life's little tragedies.

Recently, fate has allowed Joe Lee Smith and myself to be reunited and we revived our Federal League by setting up two three-team divisions. In one division (the North) are my old Monarchs competing against Smith's new entries, the Rebels and Roughnecks. In the South, Smith's mighty Texans are grouped with my Crabbers and House of David. Presently my teams never play each other and Smith's never play each other. This is weak but unavoidable, competitively speaking. We are hoping to someday bring in a new member to adopt two teams to make things more interesting.

Still, we have found this setup fun if you have only two members who want to have a league. Under this new setup we had a very flexible draft which included all the original Federal League players plus players from oldtimer sets who were still active in the "bigs" from 1950 and after. The Monarchs and Texans, being charter members, were allowed to retain most of their old stars.

We just finished our first season under this new setup and the Texans, usually slow starting, put on a fabulous second-half drive to tie the House of David for the division flag. The Texans then whipped the House two out of three for the title. In the other division, my Monarchs, after leading through 56 games, became incredibly incompetent the last four games and let the Roughnecks win it. In the World Series, played solitaire by Smith, the Texans won in seven games.

Some of the highlights of this first season included Stan Musial ('46 Cards) of the Monarchs leading the league with a .405 mark, our first .400 hitter ever. Musial collected 87 hits to tie John Pesky ('46 Red Sox) in that department. The 'Necks' Ron Perranoski ('69 Twins) led the pitchers with 12 victories while Willie Mays ('64 Giants) of the Monarchs was the leader in homers with 15. Mays hit but .220 in the process. The RBI crown was shared by Musial and the Crabbers' Pete Reiser ('41 Dodgers) with 43 apiece.

Probably our greatest disappointment was Joe DiMaggio ('41 Yanks) who hit only .265 for the House.

'27 Yanks Easy Winners

Jim Davis
Toledo, Michigan

I finished my first season of the Old-Timer series in November, 1968, and I thought the readers would be interested in my results. I broke my set into two leagues; one consisting of the '27 Yanks, '48 Indians, '40 Reds, '50 Indians, '50 Yanks, '24 Senators, '53 Dodgers, '41 Dodgers, '54 Indians, '50 Phils and '60 Pirates; the others were the '31 A's, '35 Cubs, '41 Yanks, '61 Yanks, '46 Cards, '34 Cards, '54 Giants, '57 Braves, '22 Giants and '46 Red Sox. This, incidentally, is also the order they finished.

The '27 Yanks (114-48) won their league by 14 games while the '31 A's (101-61) won by two games. Leading hitters were Lou Gehrig, with a .421 average, and Al Simmons, .404. The home run kings were Babe Ruth, 65, and Mickey Mantle, 60.

Pitching leaders were Satchel Paige (38-4, 1.03 ERA) and Charlie Root (31-5, 1.32 ERA). Augie Galan led in stolen bases with 47 and Earle Combs had 31 triples, while George Earnshaw hurled 375 innings and struck out 311. Preacher Roe of the '53 Dodgers was staggered for 52 home runs and wound up with a 7.61 ERA.

The World Series belonged to the Yanks, who won the first three games on the way to a 4-1 triumph.

My season would not have been completed if three of my friends and my brother had not helped.

Home Run Derby

Neal Lerner borrowed Jeff Perigoni's idea for a "Home Run Derby" (September Review) and recently completed one of his own. He took 16 sluggers and let 'em swing from the heels 20 times apiece. Here's the way the tourney came out:

1st Round: Del Ennis ('50 Phils) d. Reggie Jackson ('69 A's), 1-0; Hank Aaron ('57 Braves) d. Rusty Staub ('69 Expos), 3-2; Ed Mathews ('57 Braves) d. Willie Horton ('68 Tigers), 6-5; Roger Maris ('61 Yanks) d. Don Mincher ('69), 3-2; Mickey Mantle ('61 Yanks) d. Art Shamsky ('69 Mets), 4-3; Babe Ruth ('27 Yanks) d. Frank Howard ('69 Senators), 4-1; Willie McCovey ('68 Giants) d. Lou Gehrig ('27 Yanks), 3-1; Deron Johnson ('70 Phils) d. Mike Epstein ('69 Senators), 4-1.

Second Round: Aaron d. Ennis, 2-1; Maris d. Horton, 2-1; Ruth d. Mantle, 5-1; Johnson d. McCovey, 3-2.

Third Round: Maris d. Aaron, 3-2; Ruth d. Johnson, 4-2.

Finals: Maris d. Ruth, 6-2.

Johnny Edwards Pounds Four Homers

The baseball world lights up at the mention of Johnny Bench's name, but Johnny Edwards' name causes hardly a stir. Cincinnati fans may have forgotten Edwards, who caught B.B. (before Bench, not Brigett Bardot), but George W. Barkell has fond memories. In 1965, Edwards produced a .267 batting average, hit 17 homers and drove in 51 runs. In a replay of that season, Edwards opened the season by hammering four home runs against the Giants--three off the slants of Juan Marichal-- and drove in eight runs in a 9-0 victory. Quite a feat for one of these "other" Cincy catchers.

Readers Roll 'Em

Dear Sir:

I enjoy your paper very much. In recent issues most of the letters sent to you concerned a platoon system for the baseball game. After careful study of the subject, I think I have found an answer. I think the following steps must be taken (1) each player card should tell if the player bats right-handed or left-handed or both. And it should also state what hand the pitcher throws with. (2) the company should create a batting chart much like the fielding chart presently used. With the ratings as follows: 1-excellent, 2-good, 3-average, 4-poor. (3) the next step is that the players should be given the ratings above as to how they hit pitchers who throw from either side.

For example, take Tony Perez a powerful right-handed hitter from Cincinnati. On the top of Perez's card would be something like left-handed-1, right-handed-3. This would mean Perez has an excellent rating against left-handers and also has an average rating against right-handers. But all this would not be good unless it fit easily into the game format. So to fit in, the game company should put "X's" on the batters card there "X's" should be like the ones on the pitchers (example GROUND BALL SECOND BASE X) and when these "X's" come off the batters the game player should refer to the batting chart and see what the batter's rating is against the type of pitching he is facing. Since these ratings on the chart would be greatly different, it would be a great advantage to play a righty batter over a lefty batter against a left-handed pitcher. But the company must not put too many "X's" on the batting chart because this would distort the average and ruin the statistical accuracy of the game.

Yours truly,

Robert Barbieri
Philadelphia, PA

Dear Publishers:

Thanks for a great sport paper. Enclosed is my check for \$4.20 for another year renewal of the Strat-O-Matic Review, I wouldn't want to miss even one issue, you are doing a fine job, as is the Strat-O-Matic Game Co. who put out a wonderful game. I'm glad I am the owner of their fine baseball game, they are wonderful people to do business with. I have never dealt with better people, so reliable, and on the job; a fine example where the customer comes first. I can sincerely say the same goes for you folks. I appreciate your promptness in putting out a great sport paper.

Sincerely,

Douglas Latourelle
Mapleton, Minnesota

Dear Sirs:

I was flipping through my old Reviews and re-read a letter from Terry Mann (July issue) concerning the lopsided game between the '57 Braves and '48 Indians. Mr. Mann seemed to think that the nine-year difference between the two teams was responsible for the 53-0 score.

I take exception to this. Baseball was not drastically changed in those nine years. The Indians could not rattle off one-sided wins like that time after time.

Also, I think Mr. Mann is concerned over apparent "time travel" in such a game. Physically such a game would be impossible. But thanks to games like Strat-O-Matic, we can simulate games and see what might have happened had such a game ever been played. In addition to sports, there are simulation games for war, politics, management, investments, etc., for general consumer use as well as complex games for the Pentagon, corporation executives, etc, some made for computers.

I think it is tremendously exciting to match great teams over the last fifty years to see who emerges as all-time champion.

Sincerely,

Eric O. Wallace

Dear Sirs:

I have thoroughly enjoyed your fine paper. It is one of the finest game newsletters I've ever seen.

I enjoyed immensely your article about the GKSM (Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League) final standings and statistics. The constitution the league had was most interesting. Also the "Meet the Editors" story was fine reading in the September issue.

I have had SOM baseball for about a year and now own 26 teams. Like many SOM baseball game owners, I have yet to have a no-hitter. I have had two one-hitters--by Steve Blass and Gary Nolan. Don Kessinger spoiled Nolan's bid when he rolled a "6-9" leading off the seventh inning and then drew an "11" split number on a "1-11" single, "12-20 lineout" chance.

Yours truly,

John Peterson
Montpelier, VT

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in defense of Jim Phelps' letter in the October issue of the Review. I think that if the company would make separate hitting cards against righty or lefties that it would ruin not only the speed with which the game is played, but also that it would be unrealistic as shown in Jim's letter.

I would like to see very much, football teams based on the 1950s and 1960s. I also would like to see Harold Richman make a basketball game.

Also, shouldn't Lem Barney (1970) of the Detroit Lions have a touchdown on his punt return card? He returned one 61 yards for a touchdown against Cincinnati on September 27, 1970.

Robert A. McGregor
Firard, Ohio

EDITORS NOTE: Although Lem Barney does not have a "touchdown" on his punt return card, he does have a 60-yard return on No. 3 and a 65-yard return on No. 12, thus covering a touchdown return of 61 yards.

Gentlemen:

I've been a Strat-O-Matic Game owner since 1962. My love of baseball has faded since then, but my enthusiasm for Strat-O-

Matic remains.

Just a few highlights of my leagues.

In 1964, the Yankees won 71 of their last 81 games to run away with the pennant. Steve Hamilton pitched 60 2/3 innings without yielding a homer, which has never been accomplished before or since for me.

Last year I played mostly with the Old-Timer teams from the 1950s and 1960s. Yogi Berra ('51 Yankees) hit safely in 35 consecutive games, stroking 61 or 147 for a .425 batting average during that stretch.

Hank Aaron of the Braves and Roger Maris ('61 Yankees) each hit 15 homers within a 15-game period. Besides that, Maris hit seven homers in a four-game span. He clouted 63 homers in 547 at-bats in a 147-game schedule.

Johnny Mize ('51 Yankees) batted a homer every 8.5 at-bats for 55 homers.

The Cleveland Indians, on their way to the world championship, left an amazing 23 men on base in a nine-inning game versus Philadelphia. The Indians had 16 hits and 13 walks, winning 6-0.

In mid-season, the '61 Yankees were losing 2-0 to Lew Burdette of the Braves with two out in the 8th inning. With the aid of an error and two homers by Maris, one a grand slam, the Yanks scored 11 runs in the inning.

The football game is just great too. One highlight from my two seasons. Kansas City 1969 run 100 plays versus the Jets while winning 27-3.

Thanks for the game.

How about Babe Ruth when he was pitching? Let's have that team.

Thank you,

Edward F. Nickl
Alexandria, Virginia

Dear Editors:

Many of us are sorry to have missed the early issues. Would you consider the possibility of reprinting, at some future date, any really constructive articles concerning methods of play and modifications of the game that appeared? I am considering modifications in the interest of realism and am intensely interested in what those who have played many more games have come up with.

Frederic C. Davis
Malden, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

The lefty-righty garbage has been tossed around a little, and that's what I think it is--garbage. "The Book" is far overdone, by managers and fans alike. Stop and think--why are lefties supposed to hit better than righties and vice-versa in the first place? Now the fast ball is usually in the vicinity of the plate anyway; wildness on that pitch does not seem to be limited to one side for lefties and the other for righties. However, a lefties' curve breaks in on a righty and vice versa. This gives the batter a better chance to pull the ball and supposedly he has more power pulling. Not true. For one thing, not everyone is a good pull hitter. And secondly, not everyone can hit the inside pitch. Say you got a lefty that bails out on the inside pitch. Well, some crafty old righty curves him inside, the kid can't touch it and everyone says, "Well, poor guy just can't hit the curve." But he murders the outside pitch and no one knows this because ever since the age of three he's been facing just righties.

In addition, innumerable examples of everyday players like Musial, Mays, Aaron, etc. hitting the "wrong" pitchers better can be recounted, but I won't bore you with that. In summary, the whole thing is trash.

Now wait a minute, I'm not quite finished. Strat-O-Matic is in desperate need of some new old-timers. I did not reply to your poll but Fox, Simmons, Gehringer, Kiner and Mantle should have Hall of Famer cards. After playing with them in Brand X game (heh, heh) I can tell you that: the 1922 Browns have the strongest batting attack ever assembled, the 1929 Cubs are second; there are many teams from the pre-1920 period deserving of printing; the 1926 Cards and 1934 Tigers should be issued immediately; the 1933 Senators and Giants should be considered (I just want another Mel Ott card); and the War Cardinals and Spahn-and-Sain Braves are long overdue.

I would like to see a few additions: a regular columnists whose opinions we could read regularly; the printing of some of the great Strato cards of all time in your paper; and a list of some of the strange things that have appeared on cards (1962 Juan Marichal's triple split or

1962 John Bushardt's 4 column--his

worst--reprinted on his 5); and a baseball trivia quiz.

Sincerely,

J. G. Preston
Port Washington, NY

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is a money order for \$4.20 to renew my subscription to the Strat-O-Matic Review. I believe that the Review is a great medium whereby Strat-O-Matic owners from all over the country may express thoughts and ideas, or even find that perhaps they had different rule interpretations.

I realize that, with the progression of the 1971 baseball season, others, like myself, have started looking forward to next season's card set. But it always seems there is one thought behind this: who will actually be on the teams? As we continue to watch the statistics of individuals in the Sporting News or some other publication, we sometimes hope for certain substitutes to make the Strat-O-Matic cut. I thought that surely Joe Keough would be with the Royals, even if it would have been in the extra players set. After all, he batted 183 times. But he didn't make it, while others, such as Gene Tenace, Jim Lyttle, and George Thomas, did with considerably less at-bats. I just can't seem to understand why some players are included while others who performed more often are excluded.

I am sure that Strat-O-Matic owners would prefer a .322 hitter with 183 at-bats over a .208 hitter with 130 at-bats. (George Spriggs, Royals) or any sub-.200 hitter with less at-bats. As for me, I will be extremely disappointed if Gene Clines of the Pirates is not included, even though he may not bat over 200 times.

Also, I would like to share some of my no-hitters with you. No-hitters for me have been pitched by Dick Stigman (1964 Twins), Gordon Richardson (1964 Cards), Sam McDowell (1966 Indians), and George Brunet (1967 Angels).

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Jim Reynolds
Odessa, MO

Dear Sirs:

I have an idea that I'd like to toss into the Readers Roll "Em "think-tank". Even though the righty vs lefty debate is interesting, there is another area of the game that can be improved that is much more important to me as far as realism is concerned. That is the area of pitcher strength and durability.

I think that the fact that a Strato pitcher is always just as strong at the end of the game as at the first and without regard to how many hits, runs, etc. have been allowed is the weakest part of the game, since we all know that it just doesn't work that way in reality. This forces you to compromise strategy. for realism if realism is important to you. For example, no one would lift Tom Seaver (2.81 ERA) for Ron Taylor (3.95 ERA) as a strategic move as long as Seaver's ability doesn't change. Yet this is exactly what must be done many times in a season's replay if final statistics are to be accurate.

While, as Jim Phelps pointed out in the October Review, adjusting for righty vs lefty would probably change the whole nature of the SOM game, I believe that pitcher durability could be added without affecting the game as a whole and in such a way that the factor could be ignored by those who wished to do so.

There are at least two options for affecting the change. Of the two, I prefer number one, although number two is a lesser change and could be more easily ignored for elementary play.

Option 1: Simply print four columns on each pitcher's card instead of three. The fourth column, which could be separated to the right of the regular 4, 5 & 6 columns, would be substituted for the regular 6 column when the pitchers durability rating had been exceeded. Needless to say the "substitute 6 column" would allow a far higher degree of hits, extra base hits, walks, etc. than any regular 4, 5 or 6 column does. This would force a manager to relieve his pitcher when he's having a badd day and make for much more realistic strategy. The durability rating based on the pitcher's actual record for finishing games could be based on a point system with the more durable pitcher having a higher point rating. Thus for each hit, walk, run, or extra base allowed, the pitcher could be

charged a point. When the total number of points for the pitcher is exceeded the substitute 6 column would be used for the remainder of the time the pitcher is in the game. A variation of the option would be to base the use of the substitute 6 column on the number of innings pitched or number of batters faced instead of on a point system. Another variation would be to use both ideas having each inning count as a point as well as the hits, etc.

Option 2: Instead of printing the fourth column on the pitcher's card, the column could be printed on a separate card or on the boxtop and the same substitute 6 column used for all pitchers whose durability rating has been exceeded. The other factors and variations would operate in the same way as Option 1.

I am very much interested in the reactions of the Review and of readers to the ideas.

Sincerely,

Don Miller
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Editors:

I noticed your interest in wanting to know more about your readers so I decided to write. I am twenty-four years old, married and have on child. I am a data processing supervisor with a local produce company and I sometimes use our computer to calculate my statistics.

I own both the SOM baseball and football games and I'm thoroughly satisfied with them. I usually play the football games with another person and I'm in total agreement with Bill Sarubbi (November issue) in having records only if played against an opponent. The statistics in these games are much more realistic.

I also liked the GKSM Football rundown (November issue) even though I find it difficult to believe the Cowboys record is 2-5-2. I have played three games with them and have defeated the Raiders 27-0, the Vikings, 33-10, and the Colts in a Super Bowl rematch 17-0. I'm very interested in the final outcome of GKSM because eventually that is the kind of league I would like to join.

Yours truly,

David J. Sausser
Salinas, CA

Dear Sirs:

I think your magazine is great, especially for the people who like to hear about games, replays, and highlights from other Strat-O-Matic players. My favorite part is when you show statistics from other's replays.

I had a replay with the 1969 NFL teams and in the championship game the Rams squeaked by the Cowboys 12-7, after the Cowboys had a 7-0 first quarter lead. Les Josephson had a one-yard plunge to tie the game in the second quarter and the Rams added a safety and a field goal in the second half to account for the rest of the scoring.

I have played through seven games in my 1970 replay. The Cowboys are ripping with a 7-0 record, plus they have scored more points and have allowed less points than any other team. Here are my division leaders: Rams, Lions, Cowboys, Chiefs, Oilers, Colts.

I was glad when I saw that you enlarged your magazine to 20 pages, cause it really goes good with a great game.

Sincerely,

Steve Zupan
Elsinore, California

Dear Sirs:

I have read many letters in the Review concerning two-sided batting cards. On the front side would be how the batter batted against righties, and on the reverse side, how the batter did against lefties. This issue seems to me to be very controversial.

As for myself, I am against this idea for economical and practical reasons. This would raise the price of the great game considerably and might discourage prospective new buyers. It would also hinder the ease of play, and besides, it would be hard to find statistics of how a batter did against lefties and righties.

A good solution to this lefty, righty business was offered by Marc Goldstein in the August Review. His idea was that each player's split card numbers would be added to or subtracted from depending upon the player's ability to hit a right-handed or left-handed pitcher. For example, on top of player "A's" card would be printed "Bats right:

right-handed-subtract 7, left-handed - add 5." You could also do the same thing with pitchers cards.

What I think you should do is conduct a survey among Review readers about this subject. In the survey could be questions like, "Do you think Strat-O-Matic should print two-sided batter's cards? Why or why not? If not, do you have a better system? If so, what is it?" etc. You should record these figures and send them to the company for considering. I'm sure this would receive much response from Review readers.

I received the November Review recently and I was pleased to see that it was enlarged to twenty pages. Keep up the good work on your great magazine!

Sincerely,

Duncan Jameson
Pittsburgh, PA

Dear Sirs:

I have had your football and baseball game for three years and I like them very much. I feel that the football is a lot more exciting than your baseball game. Some of the highlights I have had were: Lerox Kelly being stopped for no gain four consecutive times on the 1 yard line in a replay with the 1968 Browns and Eagles; and the Kansas City Chiefs running the ball on every play and winning the game. I have a few complaints about the game though. I think that the field goal kickers should have longer ranges and a more realistic way of connecting on the long ones. I also think that your short gain on the X chart is much too large. To remedy that, I suggest rolling both die and using the result as your gain. Outside of that, I think your game is perfect.

Sincerely,

Pat Shandorf
Amsterdam, NY

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In The Strat-O-Matic Spotlight

18 HOURS OF STRAT-O-MATIC

How about a Strat-O-Matic Baseball marathon session?

Flag pole sitting and dormitory talkathons are old hat now, so why not get with the times, gather around you your dice rolling buddies, a goodly supply of paper and pencils, and participate in your own "rollathon."

Charles Lord of Topeka, Kansas not long ago decided to open his new league composed of his "favorite" teams of the 1960s with just such a session.

Only difference was that the SOM baseball playing was solitaire, and, instead of trying to set a "rollathon" record, Charles was mainly interested in getting his new league off to a fast start since summer vacation was drawing to a close.

So, bright and early one morning Charles started in, playing game after game until 2 am. the next morning--a span of 18 hours, broken only by short breaks for dinner and supper. During the span he used up two and one-half large pens and completed 64 games.

Bleery-eyed, Charles was just going through the motions of rolling the dice and recording the results as the evening wore on into early morning. The next day, to Charles' surprise when he was going over the game sheets, he found that Jack Sanford of the 1962 Giants had faced only 28 batters in pitching a no-hitter against the 1965 Dodgers and Sandy Koufax. He remembered the game had been a good pitching duel and that Koufax had struck out around 13 somewhere about the eighth inning, but not until later, with left arm ailing from the constant dice rolling, did he discover that Sanford had walked only one batter in a 2-0 masterpiece.

REMEMBER WHEN...

The 1971 World Series is history now; the Pittsburgh Pirates are the new world champions and the Baltimore Oriole "dynasty" has come to a quick end.

It won't be long now before it'll be "new card time" and the thrills of '71 can be replayed on your tabletop.

It seems, however, just like yesterday that the Cincinnati Reds of 1970, "The Big Red Machine," were the scourge of the National League. They were the NL champs, of course, but a funny thing happened on the way to the playoffs in '71 and they never came close, falling back early and never challenging the Pirates.

Ronnie Smith of Richmond, VA, isn't likely to forget the Cincy performance of '70, however, as he recently completed a replay of that big year. The Reds ran wild, compiling an 118-44 record, a .285 team batting mark--with Pete Rose hitting .328, Bernie Carbo .318, Tony Perez .305 and Bobby Tolan .298--clouting 275 homers--49 by Perez, 45 by Johnny Bench, 40 each by Hal McRae and Lee May and 36 by Carbo--and compiling an earned run average of 2.79 with Clay Carroll finishing with a 1.71 slate and a 20-3 record, all in relief.

Yes, '70 was a big year for the Reds. We wonder what '72 will bring?

THIS 'N THAT

...Three years of playing SOM baseball and still not a no-hitter is Steve Keplinger's (Reisterstown, MD) plight. Sam McDowell of the Indians tossed one-hitters three times and Mel Stottlemyre of the Yanks once went 7 1/3 innings before giving up a hit...Brian Russell, St. Louis, MO, did witness a no-hitter, but he probably wished he hadn't. Immediately after acquiring the '54 Giants in a trade, Brian watched his new club go down before the no-hit offerings of Waite Hoyt and the '27 Yankees, 4-0. Babe Ruth,

incidentally, socked a pair of homers in the game...Bill Melton, the Chicago White Sox' young clubbing star, had a hot bat for Neil Currie, Moose Jaw, Sask., as he drilled eight home runs, three of 'em grand slams, and knocked in 24 runs in the team's first 19 games. One of his grand-slamers was off Bill Zepp of the Twins on a 1-2 split card chance..."Oh-so-close" award for a no-hitter goes to Steve Inkles of Port Jefferson Station, NY, who watched Diego Segui of the 1970'A s mow down the NL Mets of 1969 for eight straight innings without a hit. Then in the ninth after Tommy Agee fanned and Ken Boswell flied out, Cleon Jones lined a clean single and the no-hit dream evaporated... Some days a quarterback just can't find anybody open for his passes...except in the opposing secondary. David Jacobs reports that Steve Tensi of the Denver Broncos had that problem in a big way against Kansas City, a game the Broncos lost, 38-10. He completed 10 of 27 passes, but fired nine erratic pitches into the hands of defenders... Three home runs in one game are the most ever experienced by the editors of the Review. Bill Pennington, Farmington, CT, bettered that when Bobby Murcer of the NY Yankees turned in a herculean slugging performance and belted out five roundtrippers. Bill also mentions that a no-hitter has evaded him in six years of SOM baseball, but that Sandy Koufax ('66) once struck out 19 batters in one game...Doug Carniglia, an avid football fan of the Los Angeles Rams, has coached his favorites to a 24-3-1 in two seasons of play using '67 and '69 cards. Doug also lauds the '67 performance of Sonny Jurgensen of Washington who completed 293 of 520 passes (56.3 percent) for 4,569 yards and 39 touchdowns...Big grid days were also had by John Brodie of San Francisco, who completed his first 13 passes and fired three touchdown tosses in a 27-27 tie with the lowly Philadelphia Eagles, and OJ Simpson, who rolled up 264 yards in 21 carries and scored three times, both for Carlos Hurtado who was using the '70 cards....

There's No Stopping Jurgensen!

Sonny Jurgensen's 33 of 38 passing performance against Green Bay in a '69 game topped a list of highlights Charles Kapner of Seattle, Washington, recently sent to the Review. Jurgy's performance graded out to 86.9 percent in the completion department. Other highlights included Travis Williams returning five kickoffs for touchdowns for Green Bay in '69; Ferguson Jenkins striking out 11 Mets in succession in a '70 game; and Tommy Harper hitting four homers in one game, the last by drawing a "1" split number on a "HR-1, 2B 2-20" chance.

Another Babe Ruth Card?

"How about another Babe Ruth card?", asks Steve Constant, Midland, Texas. Steve would like to see a "bonus card" of Ruth based on either the 1920 or 1921 season. In 1920 the Bambino hit .372, walloped 54 homers and drove in 137 runs and in '21 hit .378, clouted an identical 54 roundtrippers and had 170 RBIs. Also, Steve puts in a bid for Pittsburgh, '27, for an old-timer team addition, pointing out that the Bucs won the NL with a 94-60 record and had six regulars over .300, despite losing to the Yanks in the World Series, four games to zero.

Like The Real Thing

On July 26, 1970, Johnny Bench of Cincinnati slammed three home runs in one game in real-life. On July 26, 1971, Mike Boesen, North Platte, Nebraska, rolled home run numbers three times for the same Mr. Bench in a SOM game.

Coming next issue, a preview of the NEW 1972 SOM Baseball Game, featuring many Major changes.

Wanted

Back issues available at 35¢ per copy - May 1-3, August 1-6, October 1-8, November 1-9.

WANTED: Complete in good condition - 1967 Packers, Raiders, Browns, Rams. Will pay any reasonable price or will trade any of these: 64 Cards, 66 Orioles, Dodgers, 68 Tigers, Cards, for any of above. Richard Gulezian, Spruce Hall #304, Bentley College, Waltham MA 02154.

WANTED: The following teams for the baseball teams: (in good or excellent condition) 69 Mets \$1.50 for this team; 1968 Tigers, Cards, Indians \$1.50 per team; 1966 Orioles Dodgers \$2.00 per team; 1965 Giants \$2.00 for this team. Write: Mike Schwartz, 41 Irvington Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666.

For Sale

FOR SALE: 45¢ - 1962 Dodgers, Yanks, Giants, Reds, Indians, Orioles, Tigers, Angels, A's, White Sox, Red Sox, Cubs, Twins, Mets, Colts, Cards, Pirates, Braves. 1963 A's, Giants, Cubs, Braves, Colts, Mets, Cards. 55¢ - Hall of Fame Teams; Old Timers '22 Giants, '61 Yanks; 1962 Senators, Phils; 1963 Pirates, Angels, Twins, Senators, Red Sox, Tigers, Orioles; 1964 Braves, Mets, Pirates, Reds, A's, Senators, Red Sox, Tigers; 1965 A's, Dodgers, Cubs, Mets, Yanks, Senators, Red Sox, Tigers, Orioles, White Sox; 1966 Twins, Red Sox, Indians, Giants, Cubs, Mets, Yanks; 1967 Yanks, Giants, Pirates, Indians, Astros, Twins, Orioles; 1968 Red Sox, White Sox, A's, Cubs; 1969 Tigers, Cubs. 45¢ Teams have typewriting on one or more of the cards. Otherwise cards are in excellent condition. Sent COD. Robert Owens, 621 Montgomery St., Bogalusa, LA 70427.

FOR SALE: 1968 Bears, Jets, Oilers, Rams, Raiders, and Packers. Will sell to best bidder. Also will sell individual players from 1968 Colts. Write: Michael Sjoeborg, 5701 N. Kimball Ave., Chicago, IL 60659.

FOR SALE: 1970 Set with extras \$10. Oldtimer teams except A's, 27 Yanks, 46 Cards. Football 67-68 Chargers, Chiefs, Cowboys; 67 Lions; 68 Jets, Colts, Eagles, Redskins, Browns, Steelers, Bears, Bills, Broncos, Oilers, Rams, Raiders, Cards, Bills and Dolphins. All 50¢ each. All in at least good condition. Must sell very fast. Charles A. Bathery, 125 West End Ave., Somerville, NJ 08876.

FOR SALE: 63 Chisox, Phillies, Orioles, Indians, BoSox, A's, Colts, Senators, Mets; 64 Phillies, Chisox, Orioles, Bosox, Indians, Colts, Senators, A's, Mets; 66 Giants; 67 Cards, Bosox. WANTED: 64 Yankees, Cards; 65 Reds, Chisox, Yankees; 66 Chisox, Yankees. Also interested in pre-67 teams. Send bids to James Overmeyer, 11 Bird Lane, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

FOR SALE: Football 1967 Lions, Cowboys, Bears, and Redskins. 1968 Vikings, Bears, Rams, 49ers and Falcons - GOOD CONDITION and 1969 Redskins, Cowboys, excellent condition. Also baseball: 1969 American League Eastern Division except Detroit. Will accept best bids, Will wait 20 days after publication before replying - no sooner. Will sell individual teams. Write to: Jeffrey Wood, Route 2, Box 144, Mechanicsville, MD 20659.

FOR SALE: Over 40 '67, '68, '69 football & baseball teams for sale. For information, roster sheet & order blank. Send 10¢ to Sandy Tolan, 2671 N. Wahl, Milwaukee, WI 53211.

FOR SALE: 1969 Rams, Vikings, Cowboys, Jets, Redskins, Packers, Bengals, Chargers, Browns, Colts. 55¢ per team. Write to: Malcolm Marcus, Box 238, Wibaux, Montana 59353.

FOR SALE: Entire 1969 major league set for \$9.00. Entire 1971 major league set for \$10.00. 1967 Red Sox, Dodgers, Cardinals, Giants, Tigers, Yankees, Reds and Twins to be sold to highest bidder. All cards in good to excellent condition. John E. Hall, R.F.D. #2, Kingfield, Maine 04947.

League's Forming

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LEAGUE FORMING: Want to contact people anywhere in the US who have a baseball league or football league or both, now or future, that operates perennially and has a constitution governing rules, trades, rosters, drafts, statistics, etc. I am 20 years old and prefer mature, reliable and enthusiastic competitors. Write: Thomas Angel, 1312 NE 34th Ave., Ocala, Florida 32670 or call 904-622-8372.

LEAGUE FORMING: I am interested in joining a baseball league in Bronx, NY area. Am also interested in joining mail baseball league anywhere. Kindly write to: Ira Wallin, 1420 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10456.

LEAGUE FORMING: Anyone interested in forming a league in the Greater Milwaukee area. Contact, Sandy Tolan, 2671 N. Wahl, Milwaukee, WI 53211 or call 414-332-3510.

LEAGUE FORMING: SOM baseball fans, play-by-mail league forming. It should function a little bit like the "MBA". The 1971 season cards will be used (24 players to a team) so the league will start in March of 1972. If interested, write me and I'll send you a letter about how the league will work. Need 24 players, one for each team. Anywhere on East Coast. Write: Michael Schwartz, 41 Irvington Rd., Teaneck, NJ 07666.

LEAGUE FORMING: Anyone interested in joining a baseball play by mail league? If so we will use 1969 teams. Write: Joe Seidlin, 1158 Roxbury Rd., Rockford, IL 61107.

So You Want To Hit-And-Run...

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following playing tip is taken from J.G. Preston's Metropolitan Baseball Association's constitution. J.G., a 14-year-old who lives in Port Washington, NY, has set up an eight-manager play-by-mail league with some unique supplementary playing tips. The Editors of the Review feel that baseball game players would be interested in these innovations and hence will be presenting others like it in future issues.

HIT-AND-RUN: Offensive manager calls it and rolls three dice and look for result as usual. Result is applied to table below.

DICE RESULT
Home Run
Triple
Doubles (with or without**)
Single (any kind)
Walk
Groundball followed by
Strikeout

Lineout
Groundout

Flyout, Foutout, Popout
Base error

ADJUSTED RESULT
Home Run
Double**
Single**
Single**
Walk
Single**
One strike; pick card for steal result for runner on 1st
DP, lead runner caught off 1st
Runners advance 1 base (with infield in runners not forced hold)
No advance
Follow as normal

The hit-and-run may not be called with two outs or with the pitcher up. It may be called only with runners on first or first and third. This is because the object of the hit-and-run is to punch the ball through the hole vacated by the infielder who runs to cover second base.

Kansas City Rides Roller Coaster In Green River SOM Grid League

Kansas City's football team has had more than its share of ups and downs in the Green River Football league, a Strat-O-Matic grid league consisting of Kevin McLaughlin, Dennis Ostgard, Jerry Koski, Jim Osness, Paul Smith, Wayne Hiranaka, Larry Smalley, Mike Chaussee, Tom Ramsey and Dennis David.

Although Cleveland was the first football champ, defeating Baltimore in the 1968 Super Bowl, 42-29, with Ostgard calling the shots for the winners against Chaussee, the Chiefs came up with some scoring feats that will likely live on whenever great moments of SOM football are mentioned.

Quarterback Lenny Dawson, for instance, put the ball in the air 427 times, completed 2.4 for slightly over 50 percent and 2,936 yards and, most amazing of all, threw 42 touchdown passes. Favorite target of Dawson's was Gloster Richardson, who ended up with 148 catches and 37 touchdowns. The TD grabs put Richardson on top in the individual scoring race with a sensational 222 points.

Add Robert Holmes, the league's leading rusher with 1,524 yards in 250 attempts--a 6.1 average--an attack that rolled up 5,303 yards and put 494 points on the scoreboard, and it's hard to figure out why the Chiefs didn't win it all. "They were very inconsistent," points out Commissioner Kevin McLaughlin, "and couldn't win when it counted." Kevin should know; he was the coach of the Chiefs.

Kansas City, while not winning Super Bowl honors, had the satisfaction of dealing Cleveland one of the worst defeats ever in SOM football, an unbelievable 117-3 pounding.

Other teams that participate in the Green River League (Editors note: The location of the Green River League was not mentioned in the letter sent to the Review) included Dallas, Oakland, NY Jets, Los Angeles, San Diego and Minnesota.

The league, which is currently playing another football season, isn't idle during the baseball months, either. In the most recent GRBBL diamond replay, Jerry Koski (with a combined team of NY Mets and Detroit Tigers) won both the regular season and the World Series, defeating McLaughlin's Giants (A's) in the World Series.

Willie McCovey was named the MVP after hitting 36 home runs in a 100-game span and Jim Palmer, an early-season acquisition by the Mets-Tigers duo, was the Cy Young choice after becoming the only hurler to rack up 20 wins.

Stoneman 'Whiffs' 17!

Bill Stoneman, who has had his troubles pitching for the lowly Montreal Expos, came one inning away from a remarkable hurling feat for Larry Ohran, Los Altos, California, in a '70 replay. It seems Mr. Stoneman was coasting along with a one-hitter through eight innings against the powerful Cincinnati Reds, with 17 strikeouts to his credit. The Reds almost buried him on the mound in the ninth, however, when Johnny Bench, Bernie Carbo and Darrell Chaney slammed home runs and left him limping from the hill with an 8-5 victory. Stoneman, despite his last-inning letdown, still finished with a nifty 18 strikeouts.

Coming next issue, a preview of the NEW 1972 SOM Baseball Game, featuring many MAJOR changes.

Here's How To Regulate Use Of Starters, Relievers

Ssgt. George B. Lippman
APO San Francisco, CA

I enjoy very much the many suggestions that people write in concerning possible improvements in the Strat-O-Matic Baseball Game.

Since about 1959 (when I started playing adult baseball games) I have found a great need for something to control the use of pitchers for a realistic replay. I am sure you are familiar with a person who starts an average pitcher, lets him pitch a few innings (or even just one batter) and takes him out. Then he brings in his ace reliever with a fantastic ERA and anywhere from 50-100 innings and lets him pitch for perhaps 5, 6 or 7 innings. There is nothing in the rules to prevent the manager from doing this every game! Actually this relief pitcher may have made 50 appearances in real life and averaged only an inning or two each time he came in.

I am sure you can see that this method of play is completely unrealistic and defeats the purpose of Strat-O-Matic baseball.

You have also seen the case of the one or two really bad pitchers, with maybe 100-200 innings to their credit. They hardly ever get to play.

For these and other reasons, I devised my pitcher's wait charts. I have made these up so that during any 162-game replay each pitcher has ample opportunity to get at least the number of innings he got in real life. Actually, each pitcher, if used the same as he was used in real life, would get somewhat more than his real life innings pitched.

Use of these pitchers' wait charts also forces you (as a real life manager is) to plan ahead a game or two so that you always have available for use a 'fresh' starter and reliever for each game.

By using these charts you'll also find that mediocre or poor 5th or 6th starter will get a chance to start occasionally.

To use these charts merely see how many innings each pitcher pitched in the last game. For instance lets say Vern Law just pitched a 9-inning game. Since he started you look at the starter pitchers wait chart. Check his real life record. He had between 200 and 300 innings pitched. O-K, look under the 200-299.2 (my abbreviation for 299 and 2/3 innings). Find 4-10 innings. Read across. You find he has a 3 game wait.

Use of these charts is the same for starter and reliever. If a pitcher is labeled on his card as both a starter and a reliever, use the starter chart when he starts and the reliever chart when he relieves.

For World Series replay and any other special events, subtract 1 game from each pitchers wait. This allows a pitcher in the World Series to start after only 2 games rest, which they sometimes do.

I hope you find these charts useful. I would appreciate any comments and suggestions about them.

One more thing, these are best utilized if typed on 5 x 8 index cards and left under the infield in the game box.

STARTING PITCHER'S WAIT CHART (FOR LEAGUE REPLAY ONLY)

0-50 innings	50.1-99.2 innings	# of games wait	100-199.2 innings	200-299.2 innings	300 + innings
		no wait			
		1			
		2			
		3			0 - 1.2
0 - 6	0 - 8	4	0 - 10	0 - 10	2 - 10
6.1 - 8	8.1 - 10	5	10.1 - 12	10.1 - 12	refer to
8.1 - 10	10.1 - 11	6	12.1 - 13	12.1 - 14	200-299.9
				14.1 - 15	innings column
10.1-111	11.1 - 12	7	13.1 - 14	15.1 - 16	"

STARTING PITCHER'S WAIT CHART (continued)

11+	12+	8	14+	16+	"
RELIEF PITCHERS' WAIT					
under 100 innings		# or games wait	100+ innings		
0 - 1		no wait	0 - 2		
1.1 - 3		1	2.1 - 4		
3.1 - 4		2	4.1 - 5		
4.1 - 6		3	5.1 - 7		
6.1 - 8		4	7.1 - 9		
8.1 - 10		5	9.1 - 11		
10.1 - 11		6	11.1 - 12		
11.1 - 12		7	12.1 - 13		
12 +		8	13 +		

Question & Answer Corner

Q: IS A LOSS IN YARDAGE SUBTRACTED FROM THE PLAYER'S PREVIOUSLY RECORDED YARDAGE (EXAMPLE: TRAVIS WILLIAMS RUSHED FOR +2, THEN -2, YARDS. WOULD THIS BE 0?)

A: Yes.

Q: ON KICKOFF AND PUNT RETURNS, SOME PLAYERS HAVE A FUMBLE PLUS OR MINUS YARDAGE. DO I MOVE THE BALL FOR THE YARDAGE AND THEN CHECK THE FUMBLE?

A: Yes and credit the returner with the amount of yardage shown.

Q: I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE INFIELT IS IN AND THE OPPOSITION SACRIFICES?

A: Since the infield is only in when there is a runner on 3rd, a sacrifice is against the rules. One must use the squeeze play chart and follow it accordingly.

Q: WHEN USING THE SHORT YARDAGE PLAY AND THEY THROW A FLAT PASS AND ROLL A 7 ON THE DEFENSE (WHERE IT SAYS LINEBACKER IN ZONE X OR SHORT GAIN) DO YOU REFER TO THE STRADDLED CORNERBACKS RATING OR WHAT HAPPENS?

A: You refer to the cornerbacks full rating.

Q: WHEN DOUBLE TEAMING WITH A LINEBACKER IS THE ONLY AID IS WHEN REFERING ON Q.B. YOU LOOK ON REC. 2 TMD? AND IF ONE THROWS A FLAT PASS INTO THE LINEBACKERS ZONE IS HE CONSIDERED IN THE ZONE?

A: a) yes the only benefit is on the QB's card. But remember, that is 50% of the rolls of the dice. b) the linebacker is not considered in the flat pass zone. He is considered to have dropped back for deep coverage.

Q: CONCERNING THE PROCEDURE AFTER A SAFETY IN THE RULES IT STATES THAT THE TEAM THAT WAS SCORED UPON MUST KICK OFF FROM THEIR OWN TWENTY YARD LINE. IT GOES ON TO SAY, TREAT THIS SITUATION AS A KICKOFF, BUT REDUCE THE DISTANCE OF THE KICK BY TWENTY YARDS. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THAT MEANS A 50 YARD KICK WOULD BE REDUCED TO A 30 YARD KICK AND THE KICKING TEAM WOULD KICK OFF FROM THEIR OWN TWENTY. SO THE BALL WOULD BE RETURNED FROM THE 50 YARD LINE.

A: First off, the kick off card does not deal in yards kick but in where it lands. If it says ball on -2 yard deep number 2 back. Then you would give the 2 back the ball to run on the 18.

Surprise At Levittown

Bill O'Brien
President LBA Strat-O-Matic League
Levittown, Pennsylvania

Regarding the article a few issues back on how poor teams move with a smart manager, I would like to relate to you and your readers a strange phenomenon that happened in our Levittown Baseball Association 1970 National League replay.

Early, every spring, the LBA holds an organizational meeting with its 12 members (each person receives a copy of the previous year's National League schedule, the team of their choice in the National League, and 81 scoresheets, one for each home encounter). After a few exhibition games to get acquainted with their new team, the season starts on the real opening day of baseball.

This year everything started on schedule and successfully. The good teams such as the Reds, Cubs, Mets, Dodgers, and the Pirates were doing well. By May, the Pirates and Reds were on top in their respective divisions. All was going as expected except for one thing, the Philadelphia Phillies (Managed by Chris Williams) were playing good ball, and only trailed the Bucs in the East by two games.

During the first week of May, a four-game series was scheduled between the Phillies and the Pirates in Philadelphia. In the opening game, a Friday night encounter, Barry Lersch spun a three-hit shutout as the Phils won 5-0. The next afternoon, trailing by only a game, the Phillies banged out 16 hits and Chris Short scattered eight hits, as the Phillies won 7-2 to tie the race. Sunday afternoon the Phils swept a twinbill, 3-2 and 6-3, as Deron Johnson hit a pair of homers, and drove in five runs. They now led Pittsburgh by two games and the rest of the league took notice. Monday was an off day, and Tuesday they found themselves being challenged by the surging Cubs (managed by Mike Shearn). The Chicago team had won a twinbill the night before, and had passed the Pirates, and only trailed the Phillies by a game.

Meeting the challenge, the Phillies reeled off nine straight wins, (three key ones vs. the Cubs) and took a five-game lead into June. After losing the first three games of the month, the Phillies got hot and won 3/4 of their remaining games before the All-Star break. Despite their fine showing in the first half, only one Phillie played in the All-Star game, held between the east and the west. First baseman Deron Johnson, who had 15 home runs at the break, struck out in a pinch hitting role.

The second half of the month was a slight tailspin for the Phils. Losing six out of the first nine after the All-Star game, the Cubs now trailed by only 2 1/2 games. August opened up with three Deron Johnson home runs against the Cardinals and the Phillies caught fire. While the Cubs and the Pirates fizzled in the heat, the Phillies, backed by clutch hitting from John Briggs, Tim McCarver, and Johnson, had a splendid home stand versus Western Division clubs and built up an eighth-game lead. Into Pittsburgh, Philadelphia they went, out they came with a nine-game lead as Rick Wise just missed a no-hitter, when Al Oliver singled with two outs in the eighth, in one of the games. But, they hit a stone wall in Los Angeles when, in the opening game of the series, Don Sutton twirled a no-hitter, and the Dodgers swept a three-game series. Despite this they took a five-game lead into September. On September 3, against the Mets, outfielder Johnny Briggs started a 20-game hitting streak with a pair of singles against Jerry Moosman. But, almost like a carbon copy of the 1964 choke job, the Phillies lost steam. While the Phillies were losing, the Pirates put together a mild win streak and passed the sagging Cubs. Only a game and a half separated the two teams on September 26, when the Phillies and the Pirates met in the first of the final two games of the season. Behind a 25-hit barrage, the Pirates walloped Philadelphia 16-3, to pull within a half game.

This set the stage for the final curtain. On September 28, with Rick Wise shooting for his 19th victory, the Pirates manager (Tim Lincecum) went with Bob Moose. After a

scoreless first, the Pirates scored on a home run by Bob Robertson. This held up until the sixth when, after Tony Taylor and Larry Bowa singled, Deron Johnson hit a two-out pitch for his 31st. home run of the year. Sensing a possible big inning, the Pirate manager lifted Moose, and brought in Dave Giusti. Briggs greeted him with a double, and third baseman Don Money first a 2-run Salvo to give the Phillies a 5-1 pad. Then Giusti retired Ron Stone to get out of the inning. Rick Wise and the Phils took over from there and the Pirates never challenged. Despite another home run from Robertson, the Pirates fell 5-2, and lost the pennant. The Philadelphia Phillies had mounted insurmountable odds and pulled out the divisional title. Unbelievable, but 100 percent true.

Minnesota Breezes

The Minnesota Vikings easily captured their division 7 games over their closest opponent Detroit then struggled to beat Baltimore 13-3 in a defensive game and whipped the Cleveland Browns 27-7 in playoff games and went on to defeat the AFL champs New York Jets in the Super Bowl 23-21 on Fred Coxes last second 33-yard filed goal.

The NY Jets took a 6-3 lead at halftime then received and quickly scored to lead 13-3 but Minnesota refused to quit and scored on one after West returned the kickoff to the ten year line. In last quarter with the score 16-10 NY, they scored a field goal and safety to lead 21-10 but Minnesota came back to make 21-17 on a pass to Beasley by Cuozzo who replaced Kapp who was passing poorly. Minnesota stopped NY on the next set of downs. They scoring a field goal to cut the deficit to 21-20 with 3:45 left of playing time with NY, they stopped them cold and marched to their 17 straight victory.

POST-SEASON SCOREBOARD:

AFL - PLAYOFFS - Oakland -21, Houston - 3, KC - 7, NY Jets - 27

Oakland - 14, NY Jets - 27 (CHAMPS)

NFL - PLAYOFFS - Baltimore - 3, Minnesota - 13

Cleveland - 34, Dallas - 24

Minnesota - 27, Cleveland - 7

SUPER BOWL: MINNESOTA - 23, NY JETS - 21

WESTERN	W	L	T	P	OP
Oakland	11	2	1	427	224
KC	8	5	1	286	233
SD	7	6	1	320	343
Denver	6	7	1	337	356
Cincinnati	4	10	0	257	383

EASTERN	W	L	T	P	OP
NY Jets	13	1	0	413	197
Houston	5	6	3	243	288
Buffalo	4	7	3	219	300
Miami	3	9	2	235	275
Boston	2	10	2	217	358

RUSHING	ATTS	YDS	AVG	SCORING	XP	FG	TP	PASSING	
Little - Den	171	938	5.4	Turner, NY	45	32-46	141	Cook-Cin	55.1
Snell - NY Jets	207	883	4.3	Blanda, Oak	52	17-28	103	Dawson-KC	55.3
Post - SD	184	851	4.6	Partee, SD	36	22-37	102	Lamonica-Oak	51.0

COASTAL	W	L	T	P	OP
Baltimore	9	5	0	349	253
LA	8	5	1	289	233
Atlanta	6	8	0	303	335
SF	4	7	3	286	314

CENTRAL	W	L	T	P	OP
Minnesota	14	0	0	375	139
Detroit	7	7	0	283	264
GB	4	9	1	239	338
Chicago	4	10	0	190	403



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Continued from page 19:

CENTURY	W	L	T	P	OP
Cleveland	12	2	0	426	214
Ny Giants	8	6	0	324	275
St. Louis	3	11	0	298	473
Pittsburgh	2	12	0	242	416

CAPTIAL	W	L	T	P	OP
Dallas	12	2	0	423	184
Washington	7	5	2	390	317
Philadelphia	4	9	1	282	390
New Orleans	4	10	0	287	425

RUSHING	ATTS	YDS	AVG
Sayers - Chi	257	1251	4.9
Hill-Dallas	217	1190	5.5
Matte.-Balt	242	1133	4.6
Brown-Wash.	229	1123	4.8
Kelly-Cleve	221	1063	4.8

SCORING	XP	FG	TP
Cox, Minn	40	31-41	133
Clark, Dallas	49	23-31	115
Mann, Detroit	29	26-43	107
Gossett, LA	31	24-35	103

PASSING	PCT
Jurgensen, Wash.	61.5
Tarkenton, NY	57.3
Berry, ATL	56.7
Starr, GB	55.4
Brodie, SF	55.3

Coming next issue will be a preview of the NEW 1972 SOM Baseball Game featuring some major changes you as Review readers find out about the changes before anyone else. Also in the next issue will be more replays, playing tips, Readers Roll 'Em, Spotlight and more. With the added four pages to the Review, we urge more than ever your participation through cards and letters. Letters, replays, and adds to be considered for the next issue must be in by the third of the month.