



STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW



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

Vol. II-4 June 1972 35¢

Everything But Color Socks Included In Baseball Yearbook

If the lights in a particular trailer in Beelman's Trailer Court, Luverne, MN, seem to burn late into the night, there's good reason for it; resident SOM baseball player Gregg Gropel is probably putting another page of statistics together to add to one of the most comprehensive "leaguebooks" ever seen.

Gropel, you see, is a member of a six-manager SOM baseball league in which player cards from both leagues were drafted and a 162-game season run off. Nothing unusual, perhaps, but the set of statistics turned out at season's end is definitely out of the ordinary.

The league itself was divided into two divisions, South and North, based on the 1970 player cards, with the winning teams in each division meeting in a post-season world series to determine the overall champion.

Teams could be composed of any number of players at draft time, but the roster had to be reduced to 25 after 20 games. Extra players were thus the "Farm Club" and still the manager's property. These players, in addition, could be added to the regular roster by paying ten cents into a league kitty and dropping another player to the "Farm Club."

Players would belong to the manager the following season as well, with a reverse-order-of-finish draft held of the new players.

As far as the most recent league (1971-72) played by Gropel and his cohorts (they've played two now), Gregg's Yankees ran off with the South Division title (108-54) but lost in the world series to the Royals, who despite a below -.500, 78-84 record, still managed to come out on top in the North.

The "leaguebook" is the thing that sets the league apart from so many, however. Not only is it 28 pages long and comprehensive to the zenith degree, but it's also so error-free and neat in typing that it looks like the work of a professional typist. Gropel doesn't mention who put the book together, but it's a job well done.

Now for a look at the "leaguebook", which is completely mimeographed in blue ink with no cover design. Standings and complete team statistics (the Royals, for instance, hit the fewest homers, 153, but stole 56 more bases, 181, then its nearest challenger comprised the first page. Then came a list

of the league's trophy winners (batting champ, etc.), followed by nine pages of batting and pitching statistics. "Top Tens" were listed in hits, runs, runs-batted-in, walks, stolen bases, doubles, triples, home runs and batting averages for the hitters, and complete games, innings pitched, strikeouts, wins, won-lost percentage, shutouts, saves and earned run average for the pitchers.

The stat fun was only beginning, however, as next came a complete list of all qualifiers for the batting title (based on 502 plate appearances) with each player listed for manager games, at-bats, hits, runs, runs-batted-in, stolen bases, sacrifices, walks, doubles, triples, home runs and batting average. After the list of qualifiers came shorter lists of those who had 178-501 plate appearances and those 177-or-less. Even the pitchers were included in the batting stats. Although the color of socks worn by the ballplayers was not.

Next came the pitchers. First it was those pitching 162 innings or more. After the player and manager's name came number of games, games started, games completed, shutouts, wins, losses, won-lost percentage, saves, innings, hits, runs, earned runs, walks, strikeouts and earned run average. Subdivisions for the pitchers included those who toiled 60-161 innings and 59-and-below.

Gropel was just warming up as next came all-time team records, all-time individual batting and pitching records, a game-by-game account of the recent world series, including highlights; world series team and individual stats, league rules and complete team rosters.

A sampling of some of the records found included: "Most Home Runs in Single Game: 7 by Dodgers (Shaw) 1971; Most Games Ahead of Runner-up: 28 by Yankees (Gropel) 1972; Most Home Runs (season): 61 by Ruth (Shaw) 1971; Highest Batting Average: .354 by Clemente (Gropel) 1972; Most Games Won (season): 27 by Tom Seaver (Gropel) 1972; Most Consecutive Scoreless Innings: 25 by Mike Cuellar (Gropel) 1971; and Fewest Walks per 9 innings: 0.87 by Dave Roberts (Ohme) 1972.

Standings and leaders:

<u>SOUTH DIVISION</u>	W	L	PCT	GB
Yankees (Gropel)	108	54	.667	--
Dodgers (Shaw)	80	82	.494	28
Giants (Phelps)	80	82	.494	28

<u>NORTH DIVISION</u>	W	L	PCT	GB
Royals (Ohme)	78	84	.475	--
Twins (Eidahl)	73	89	.450	4
Brewers (Schneider)	67	95	.414	10

BATTING

<u>HITS</u>		<u>RUNS</u>		<u>RBIs</u>	
Clemente, Yankees	204	Rettermund, Dodgers	122	Bonds, Royals	144
Oliva, Dodgers	203	Yastrzemski, Yankees	120	Howard, Yankees	129
Tolan, Royals	201	Bonds, Royals	112	Yastrzemski, Yanks	112

PITCHING

<u>INNINGS PITCHED</u>		<u>STRIKEOUTS</u>		<u>WINS</u>	
Singer, Dodgers	370.2	McDowell, Dodgers	374	Seaver, Yankees	27
McDowell, Dodgers	358.2	Seaver, Yankees	362	Perry, Yankees	23
Gibson, Brewers	355.1	Singer, Dodgers	319	Gibson, Brewers	22

The Editors

For those of you who have been readers of the Review for some time, you know that many times we have answered questions about fielding ratings. Here are parts of two letters we received lately.

Dear Sirs:

SOM is truly realistic except for one major factor, the fielding ratings. This year you really blew it. Why aren't Roy White (Yanks), Al Kaline (Det.) and Walt Williams (Chi) "ones"? None of them made a single error. How could you put Williams as a "4"? Is this realistic? I'm a Minnesota Twin fan and Leo Cardenas was fantastic at shortstop, better than Belanger. Cardenas made 5 less errors than Belanger but 17 less chances than Belanger. Why isn't Cardenas a "one"? I was very disappointed.

Sincerely,

Dix Kaufman
Minneapolis, MN

Dear Sirs:

I have a suggestion that would make the number of errors and fielding ability more accurate. Change the X-chart. Instead of having 4 ratings have 8. A 1 would be the excellent fielder with great range and makes few errors. A 2 would be a person who is a good fielder, but doesn't have a good range. A 3 would be a good fielder but an average range. A 4 would be a person who makes a good amount of errors, but has great range. A 5 would be average fielder. A 6 would be a person who makes a good amount of errors and good range. A 7, little worse than a 6. An 8 would be the real bad player who makes a lot of errors and has bad range. Double plays would be included somehow.

Sincerely,

Joe Belzer
St. Louis Park, MN

As we have mentioned many times, a fielding rating is not made on how many errors a man committed over the season. But mainly on his range and how he handled his position. Although this may give a distorted number of errors, it does represent his worth to the team.

As for changing the X-chart, Joe seems to be on the right track. However, talking with Mr. Richman, he mentions having thought on this subject and believes 16 not 8 ratings would have to be made. Like 1a, 1b, 1c and 1d; and the same would work for the other numbers. Next issue, with the permission of the game's creator, the Review will print a proposed fielding chart with the added ratings. We want to state here, that this would only be for those who desire statistical accuracy in fielding averages. It will not be printed by the Game Co.

We agree with Mr. Richman that such a chart would tend to discourage the average player, because it would slow playing time and make playing a little more complicated. Most of us are happy with the chart the way it is.

Readers Roll 'Em

SUGGESTS CHANGES

I would like to compliment Mark Chergosky for his suggestions which were printed in the April issue. The individualization of fumbles is a necessity. Many players are noted for their lack of fumbling, especially Larry Csonka. But if a player that fumbles little is on a team whose three other running backs fumble a lot, this player's low percentage of fumbles will not show up. This is very important when running out the clock, to protect a lead in the final quarter.

Kickoffs also should be individualized. This can be done in one of several ways. Lengthen or shorten the kickoff distances on all kickers, according to his real-life kickoffs. This could allow Jan Stenerud to kick off further than most other kickers. Another improvement would be to give each team a "return rating." Teams which are good defensively against kickoff returns will also have this advantage in Strat-O-Matic. For example, a team could be given a rating like -2 or +2 to subtract or add to the yardage returned. Either or both of these ideas could be used. The latter could also be used for punt returns, since men who punt high, like Donny Anderson, are tough to return against, even though their punting average may not be that good.

The losses for quarterbacks attempting to pass should be minimized. In one game, Kansas City tackled Joe Namath 17 times. John Brodie, who in real-life was tackled only eight times, has been tackled in my league six times in his first six games. The reason for this, I think, is the large amount of "pass rush" in the right column, and the large number of dumpings in the double-teamed column. Also, if the defensive manager blitzes all three linebackers often, a quarterback will be dumped every time a "pass rush" occurs (except for the few times he will be intercepted).

I think that on the pass rush chart situations should occur when even if three linebackers are blitzing, an incomplete pass will result. Also, the amount of "pass rush" and automatic dumping on the quarterback's card should be lessened.

Flat passes with zero men in zone should also be individualized. This will reflect more accurately the team's defensive averages, (specifically the average of yards gained per completion). Injuries should also be individualized to prevent such injury-prone players like Namath and Mel Farr from playing whole seasons.

Paige Miller
Hicksville, NY

TWO NO-HITTERS

I have had the Strat-O-Matic baseball game since the 1968 cards came out and the football game since the 1969 cards and have been very satisfied with the results. I have had two no-hitters--both with the '69 cards. One was by Bill Hands of the Cubs, who missed a perfect game by walking Richie Allen in the fifth inning, the second by Phil Niekro of Atlanta, who outdueled Mike Cuellar of Baltimore in a 1-0 thriller. An error by Elron Hendricks, Baltimore's catcher, allowed the only run to score.

The football game has had its moments, too. The best performance has been by Daryle Lamonica, 1969, who led the Raiders to 10 straight wins, averaging 30.8 points per game, and blitzed Baltimore's defense for 556 yards in a 54-13 romp.

Jim Thayer
Quincy, WA

NEW YORK'S 'GREATEST'

First off, let me thank you for

your fantastic publication. I can't wait till the end of each month when I get your Review. I would like also to thank Harold Richman for his great game. This is going to be my third year of both Strat-O-Matic baseball and football.

In the past two years I have had many highlights and thrills. In the last exciting football season, Terry Bradshaw hit Ron Shanklin on an 80-yard touchdown pass with 15 seconds left as Pittsburgh defeated Cleveland, 20-17. In a later game, Pittsburgh's Gene Mingo kicked a 32-yard field goal with only 30 seconds left to defeat the same Browns, 16-14.

Each year I play a 27 and 14-game schedule for all teams in baseball and football respectively. This winter, in addition, I plan an All-New York series in baseball, using the eight greatest teams that ever played in New York. The teams will be the '27, '41, '50 and '61 Yanks, '22 and '54 Giants and '41 and '53 Dodgers. I plan on playing a 100-game schedule and keeping complete stats.

Also, I can't wait until SOM comes out with a basketball game. All the others are too time consuming.

Alfred Fabrizio
Shirley, NY

WANTS MORE 'CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM'

I would like to make a few comments on the Review and SOM also.

First, in regard to the Review, I really liked the idea in the beginning, and the magazine, too. However, I feel it is slipping a little. Of late, the Review letter section has been a managerie of letters praising SOM. Now, I'm certainly not criticizing this. I've been playing SOM since '65, and although I've wandered from time to time, I've always come back. However, I think enough has been said to the good of SOM. I would like to see more letters that offer constructive criticism and ideas of

what people want, like the letters from people who want an SOM Hockey.

I myself have many additions that I would like to see made to both baseball and football, most of them minor. Some are, catchers throwing arms, individualized flyball b's (for Sacrifice Fly purposes) and double fielding ratings to account for range and "hands."

I would also like to see a poll taken on what SOM owners would like to see next, more old-timers, football old-timers, college football, Canadian League, basketball, hockey, etc.

And, I wonder about two things. Will the old-timers that are coming out soon (1906 Cubs, etc.) have an advanced version? It seems to me that if you can go through the box scores of 24 teams for a season, you could go through the boxes of one team for a season. And, do any of you other readers have trouble reading the blue print on the advanced side? I don't mean the printing on the advanced is faded, it's just that black on white is much easier for me to read at a glance.

Brad Titus
Delmar, NY

WOULD LIKE TO VISIT SOM

The new cards are unreal! Only in a dream could I imagine such realism. Your magazine will share my thoughts about these great cards and inform other people about my opinion.

A question I would like answered is on Bill Freehan's card. There is no strikeout number on the card. What is the correct number?

Also, I am thoroughly amazed at the rapid mailing and receiving of the cards.

What interests me most, though, is the thought of visiting the Strat-O-Matic Game Co. Is there a tour available? Could I actually see the stock and the office of my greatest hobby? I would appreciate a reader's thoughts on their view of this building in New York (Port Washington, on Long Island, to be exact). I live

and run method, because it is not used very much in the first place and just adds to the confusion.

Speaking for myself, I do not want the game too accurate. Much of the thrill and excitement comes from watching a Dal Maxvill better his hitting expectations and surprise everyone. Too much realism takes the fun out of the game. I do not want to know exactly what is going to happen. In my opinion, it's up to the individual as to which version is player. I would suggest that if a long season is being played, use the elementary version, the season would not take as long to play and the percentages would pretty much even out. However, if it is a short season, tournament, etc., the advanced would be better because of its more immediate accuracy.

In conclusion, I will say that I am glad the company invented the advanced version and I appreciate its value. I would like to congratulate Mr. Richman once again, and thank him for his shrewd judgment in doing just about the best thing possible. As for myself, I will probably continue to play the "Elementary" version most of the time. I realize that many veteran game players are tired of playing the same old way year in and year out, and I respect their feelings. But I urge you to make your own choice and not to condemn or discredit those who remain with the old version. I don't think you should belittle those who prefer playing the old version as is done with the elementary football game. The most important thing to remember is that you can still sit down and play the world's greatest table baseball game no matter which version you use.

Surprise Surprise

Baseball Replay

Batting .400 or hitting 60 home runs in a season are quite rare happenings indeed. So it has come as a surprise to Kent Mitchell of Long Beach, CA, that two National League hitters are currently stroking the ball at better than .400 clips after 70 games of a '70 Strat-O-Matic replay.

The Reds have been running away with the West Division--no surprise--while Philadelphia has taken the lead in the East--that's a surprise. Biggest surprises of all, however, have been provided by Roberto Clemente (.434) and Rico Carty (.406). "I've never had a .400 hitter this late in a season," enthuses Mitchell.

We'll see what happens when the hot weather of July and August set in to melt down those lofty averages.

Mets Foil Orioles

The New York Mets, behind two no-hitters, were World Series champs in Wesley Eagleson's (San Francisco, CA) replay of the 1970 baseball season. The Mets got a no-hitter from Tom Seaver to start them on their way to a three-to-two series playoff victory over Cincinnati's powerful hitting Reds, then Nolan Ryan wrapped up a four-to-two World Series triumph by no-hitting the Baltimore Orioles in the final game.

Amazingly, Met hurlers held Cincy's hitters without a hit for one 12 2/3 inning stretch, while the New York moundsmen silenced Oriole bats equally effectively. Merv Rettemund had belted six home runs earlier for the Birds in their American League playoff victory.

Trailing 15-1, NL Hall-Of-Famers

Like the old adage that you can't tell a book by its cover, you can't always tell the outcome of a Strat-O-Matic baseball game by what happens in the early innings.

A classic example is a Hall-of-Fame game matching the American and National Leagues that was played by Scott Stanfield of Des Moines, Iowa.

The American League jumped away to a quick lead and looked like it would breeze to an easy win as Baby Ruth homered in the first inning and six singles, a pair of walks and a grand slam homer by Lou Gehrig produced seven more tallies in the second for a seemingly invincible 8-0 AL lead.

The game was far from being over, however.

First, the National League got on the scoreboard--in the sixth inning--when Rogers Hornsby tripled and galloped home as Stan Musial lifted a sacrifice fly. That made the score 8-1.

Back came the AL to pad its margin after reliever Christy Mathewson (who had replaced Carl Hubbell after the second inning uprising) had blanked it for three innings.

This time four singles, a pair of walks and a grand slam by Ruth resulted in seven runs. The score was now 15-1, and you could almost picture fans streaming for the exits after their fill of watching a rerun of "Custer's Last Stand."

Unlike at the Little Big Horn, the NL still survived despite the one-sided score. In the top of the seventh the NL hinted there was still life in the old bats when Roy Campanella walked, went to third on Pie Traynor's single and scored when Ed Rousch rapped another single. Then the "Fordham Flash," Frankie Frisch, belted a three-run homer to make it 15-5. The next two batters went out, but then Rogers Hornsby smashed a homer and Stan Musial followed with another roundtripper--the NL's third of the inning.

Trailing now 15-7, the NL mixed up another run-brew when Traynor, Frisch and Willie Keeler singled, Wagner slashed a line single to right field that Cobb had trouble fielding, Musial doubled and Zack Wheat singled. The result: four more runs and the AL margin being trimmed to 15-11.

Momentum seemed to be with the NL now. Perhaps it might climax an unbelievable comeback by overtaking the AL and pulling out a victory.

But the AL wasn't finished with its run production, either, as in the bottom of the eighth inning Ted Williams unloaded a home run, Gehrig walked and Joe DiMaggio sent another drive into the seats. It was the AL by a seven-run margin again, 18-11.

A game's never over until the final out, of course, so the NL had a final volley of its own to shoot in the ninth inning. Traynor led off with a flyout, then Rousch singled and Frisch walked. A single by Keeler scored Rousch, Wagner drew a walk, but Hornsby became the second out by hitting a sacrifice fly. Musial came through again, however, smacking a triple to produce his fourth and fifth runs-batted-in of the game. Wheat followed with a single, making the score, 18-16, then Campanella atoned for killing rallies the last two innings by belting a two-run homer and, almost unbelievably, tying the game, 18-18.

In the bottom of the ninth the AL, undaunted after watching a huge lead melt away, looked like it would put the NL under for the last time when Joe Cronin socked a double, his fourth hit, Cobb singled and Eddie Collins walked to load the bases with nary an out. Ruth then stepped to the plate and lined a drive that Musial nabbed at first, followed by stepping on first base and fired to Frisch at second to complete a triple play.

Extra innings!

The NL took the lead for the first time in the top of the tenth as Roush tripled and scored on Keeler's single. However, with two out and two on the AL in the bottom of the inning, Jimmy Collins banded his first hit, a double, scoring Gehrig and tying the game once more, 19-19.

Finally, after both clubs failed to score in the 11th, the NL took the lead for good when Roush singled, advanced on a passed ball and scored off Keeler's single in the 12th inning.

Matheson, who had been touched for 17 hits in nine innings, then retired Williams, Gehrig and DiMaggio in order in the 12th to preserve the win.

What a game! 20-19 in favor of the NL, with Matheson the winner and Lefty Grove the losing pitcher! the NL collecting 27 hits and the AL 25; a total of nine homers belted and Keeler, Musial, DiMaggio and Dickey all hitting safely five times.

A 15-1 lead? Sometimes even 14 runs aren't enough.

Keeping With The Times

Earl Cunningham
Downers Grove, IL

Baseball is now much more than the game on the field, so why not add the off-field element to Strat-O-Matic. I can just see next season's baseball cards if this happened.

1-12 reads the following results on batting cards:

VIDA BLUE--"strikeout plus offer to become a plumbing executive for \$14,750 salary."

ALEX JOHNSON--"popout plus change positions with center fielder--it's shadier out there."

CURT FLOOD--"groundball 'B' plus one million dollar court settlement. Miss rest of season while on vacation junket to Europe."

DENNY MCLAIN--"foulout to catcher plus go to jail, do not pass go, do not collect \$200."

RICHIE (DICK) ALLEN--"strikeout plus salary dispute, must go home to visit mother, stopping at race track on way."

JOE PEPITONE--"groundball 'A' plus hairstyling appointment, miss next matinee game."

JIM BOUTON--"Ball Four--Walk." I'm glad he won't take it personally.

Or, how about Strat-O-Matic coming out with a new game called "Binding Arbitration"? Or, why don't the owners see what attendance they could get replaying last season with Strat-O-Matic cards? Might be interesting, but probably crazy. Come to think of it, some of these ideas are almost as ridiculous as real-life baseball.

SOM DIRECTORY owners, here is another name to add to your Directory.
Don DiGennaro, 212 Burrows Street, Rochester, New York 14606 (716)
254-2944.

Back issues which are available of the Review include the following months:
October, November, 1971; January, February, March, April and May of 1972.

Larry Thompson's Back

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Larry Thompson
Carmel, CA

I wrote the Strat-O-Matic Review last spring concerning a two-step method of obtaining split card numbers (random numbers 1 through 20) by rolling and adding together two dice. I was quite surprised to see my suggestion included in the next edition of the Review and very pleased to note the response to my playing tip in the Reader's Roll 'Em column of subsequent issues.

Prior to developing the random number selection system which I forwarded to your publication, I developed and extensively used a one-step system of selection based upon the SOM three-dice result determinant. By reading the one white and two red dice as one normally would and consulting the chart below you can obtain perfectly random split card numbers. When a result of X appears (i.e., 2-12, 4-2 or 3-9) you simply roll again until you obtain a number 1 through 20.

I adopted the published two-step method because I felt my original one-step method infringed upon the one-dice roll per at-bat relationship which is the heart of the SOM baseball game. During the past season, I readopted my original system because of its relative brevity and felt I should pass it along to the readers of the SOM Review.

	WHITE DIE	1	2	3	4	5	6
RED DIE							
2		11	x	x	x	x	12
3		14	13	16	12	5	4
4		8	12	9	15	16	17
5		19	18	11	x	12	1
6		4	16	6	14	8	12
7		1	20	2	19	3	18
8		17	5	15	7	13	9
9		3	11	x	12	2	20
10		13	6	4	5	14	7
11	1	15	8	7	9	17	6
12		12	x	x	x	x	11

In addition to the above tip, I had developed a method of realistically determining the number of stolen base attempts to be allotted to individual players. If the number obtained by a given player on a given at-bat coincides with the dice number (s) adjacent to his stealing rating below, he is eligible to attempt one steal. Players are not obligated to utilize an allocated steal attempt during the game in which they obtain it and may allow several attempts to accrue before use.

RATING	DICE ROLL
AA	1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6, 1-7
A	1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 1-6
B	1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5
C	1-2, 1-3, 1-4
D	1-2, 1-3
E	1-2

This system is especially useful to solitaire players who find holding potential base stealers to be unrealistic. Players are no longer held. However, they cannot attempt a stolen base or be utilized as a runner on a

hit-and-run play unless they have a steal attempt still outstanding. Familiarity with the laws of probability will confirm the statistical realism of this system. Ideally, the following frequencies of attempts will be realized.

of attempts per 648 (3 x 216) plate appearances:

AA	63	(3 x 21)
A	45	(3 x 15)
B	30	(3 x 10)
C	18	(3 x 6)
D	9	(3 x 3)
E	3	(3 x 1)

How To Have Grid Draft With Players

Recent issues of the Review have followed the GKSM's (Greater Kalamazoo Strat-O-Matic League) results of its football replay and how Kansas City finally emerged as the Super Bowl champion.

Now Christopher Wise of Hanover, MA, has devised a system of drafting for football that, instead of drafting whole teams as the GKSM did, enables you to have an individual player draft like that used by the GKSM in baseball.

Here is his system of drafting:

"Each player is first checked to see if he plays more than one position (as a kick returner and receiver). If he is drafted, he still plays both positions for his new team. For defensive cards, we drafted individuals here, too. First, the following scale is used: an excellent defense is given a 7; good-to-excellent 6; good 5; average-to-good 4; average 3; poor-to-average 2; and poor 1. Thus, when a player is drafted from a team with a pass defense that is excellent and a run defense that is average, he carries a pass defense 7 and a run defense 3. Flat pass-end run is an average of the two, in this case 5. The pass rush rating of the team is also carried by the player. The same is true for offensive linemen.

In both cases, the player retains his actual individual rating found on the offensive-defensive card. When the drafting is finished the team with the highest total (for starters only) for pass defense receives the best pass defense card. The same for run and flat pass-end run defensive cards. The second highest gets the next best, etc. In this manner a team can have Dallas' pass defense, Kansas City's flat pass-end run, and Boston's run defense cards. Pass rush and blocking ratings are found simply by averaging the total of the starters. The specialist and offensive-defensive cards are then pieced together or typed over putting in the drafted players.

We conducted such a draft with eight coaches and eight selected teams. The No. 1 choice was Mel Renfro since he was a 6 and carries Dallas' line buck-off-tackle defense of 5, short pass-long pass of 7, end run-flat pass of 6 and rush 4. The rest of the first round was: Greg Landry, Ed Podolak (my choice since he also returns kicks), Jan Stenerud, Duane Thomas, John Fuqua, John Unitas and Dennis Shaw. On defense, for example, I ended up with Kansas City's pass and Baltimore's flat-pass-end run and run. My individual ratings, however, were not that high.

With this system you are directly responsible for the success or failure of your team. You also have unusual teams such as Bill Munson with Ed Podolak, Jim Nance, Don Maynard and Otis Taylor on offense. This system could then be extended from year to year by replacing the '71 Podolak with the '72 and then drafting new players like Jim Plunkett.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Rates: Per Issue - up to 30 words, 50¢; 31-50 words, 70¢; 51-70 words, \$1.00; 71-100 words, \$1.50. When you send in your ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE or LEAGUE, name any card sets by the year upon which they were based. NOTE: Only advertisements regarding Strat-O-Matic products, related merchandise and leagues will be accepted. No other brand names may be mentioned or advertised. No advertisement concerning photocopied Strat-O-Matic player cards or related products will be accepted.

Wanted

WANTED: Reds-Red Sox teams pre-1969+ 1968 Tigers and/or cards. Pay up to \$2.00. Also, old roster sheets. Hurry! Jon Freedman, 20 Sunset Rd., Needham, MA 02194

WANTED: Any baseball teams in any condition, any football game set with teams. Send your complete descriptions and prices to Mike Boesen, 2021 West E, North Platte, Nebraska 69101

WANTED: 1968 Athletics, Bosox, Indians, Tigers, Cards, Reds. Also 1969 Senators. Teams must be in good condition - will buy from lowest bidder. Write: Randal Cook, 22 Bentley Lane, Chelmsford, MA 01824

WANTED: Any baseball teams '68 or older or football teams '69 or older. Write stating what you have, condition and price for prompt reply. Larry Wold, 7602 Redding, Houston, TX 77036

WANTED: A person to figure out team and individual stats for a 150 game schedule. The league was started in 1969 and only half completed. I would like to finish the league and would like a responsible person to do the stats for the first 150 games. Send bid, lowest accepted. Will give complete details to that person. Randy Havens, Box 637, Stanton NB 68779

WANTED: 1968 Detroit Tigers and/or 1969 Seattle Pilots. Will pay \$1.50 for each. Would like them to be in fair condition or better. Kevin Kirk, 400 Mitchell Avenue, Salisbury, NC 28144

WANTED: 1967 Packers, Cowboys, Raiders, 1968 Colts, Jets, 1969 Chiefs. Baseball: 62-68 Yankees, 63-64, 66 Dodgers, 64 Cardinals and 66 Orioles. Name your price. I am desperate and will pay well. Please write: Daryl Grew, P.O.Box 535, North Bend, WA 98045

WANTED: The 1967 football teams listed. Will pay a good price. Rams, Dallas, Cleveland, Chicago, Jets, Green Bay, Baltimore and Oakland. Contact Don Jacobus, 1812 E. 215th Place, Carson, CA 90745

WANTED: The 1967 football teams listed willing to pay the price listed. Green bay, \$7.00; Chicago, \$4.00; Baltimore, \$4.00; Rams, \$3.50; Cleveland, \$4.00; Jets, \$3.50 and the Oakland Raiders, \$4.00. Contact Dean Jacobus, 1757 E. 215th Place Carson, CA 90745

WANTED: 1967 season Cleveland, Dallas, Green Bay, Chicago, LA, Baltimore, Houston, Jets, Oakland, Kansas City. 1968 season: NY Jets, Dallas, Kansas City. Top dollar paid - N. Hunter, 6533 Gray, Arvada, CO 80002

WANTED: 1968 St. Louis Cards and 1968 Cleveland Indians. Willing to pay up to \$1.50 each. Michael Milhoan, 666 Prospect, Salem, OH 44460

WANTED: The '69, '68 and '67 baseball teams. Must be in good condition. I would like it if the extra players and rosters were included. State the condition, price and set in your letter. Send offer to: Tim MacArthur, R#5, Box 263, Cheboygan, MI 49721

WANTED: 1961, 1962, '63, '64, '68, '69, '70 complete baseball seasons. Also, 1965 Milwaukee Braves and issues 1-5 of Strat-O-Matic Review. Send price and condition. Write: Sheldon Wright, 13001 York Blvd., Garfield Hts., OH 44125.

WANTED: any SOM baseball teams 1960-1970. Football teams 1967-69, old issues of SOM Review and roster sheets. Will buy or trade. Robert Henry, 15919 Ferguson, Detroit, MI 48227

WANTED: Back issues of the Review, from Vol. I only (1971 issues). Send your price and the issues available. I'll pay postage. Write: Rich Curtis, 230 Frankland Rd., Rochester, NY 14617

WANTED: '62, '63, '65 & '66 Orioles. Name your price. '62-'68 Reds also. Write Don DiGennaro, 212 Burrows St., Rochester, NY 14606

For Sale

FOR SALE: Complete 1970 NFL football card set. All 26 NFC and AFC teams in good condition. Send best offer to: James Ianni, 83 Greenfield St., Wethersfield, CT 06109

FOR SALE: Assorted players on assorted teams, of assorted years. Available in packs of 20, 30¢ each. Specify pack team. Some great buys! Gene Milener, 39 Cedar St., Oneonta, NY 13820

FOR SALE: Entire '70 football teams - \$7.00. I'll pay postage. $3\frac{1}{2}$ x $6\frac{1}{2}$ football field. Plastic, durable - \$2.00. 27 Yanks, 50 Phillies, 54 Giants, 61 Yanks, 61 Reds, 62 Mets, 62 Giants, 67 Red Sox all for \$2.00. To be sold as a set. You pay postage. Good to excellent condition. Ray Siere, R.R.1, Bethany, IL 61914

FOR SALE: 1969 Mets & 1970 Orioles. \$1.00 apiece or highest bidder; 1970 complete football set, \$8.00; 1969 NFL, except Giants, \$4.50 or highest bidder. All in good condition. Write: Eric Martens, 1684 Maiden Lane, Rochester, NY 14626

FOR SALE: Complete 1971 SOM baseball game. In excellent condition. Hardly used. Includes all teams, instructions, all accessories. Send best bid to: James Ianni, 83 Greenfield St., Wethersfield, CT 06109

FOR SALE: I have just finished listing a very large quantity of SOM cards and sports material. For list, which includes a Sports Quiz Contest, send stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Steve Goldstein, 16 Lowell Terrace, Bloomfield, NJ 07003. You'll be glad you sent for it.

FOR SALE: Complete and in good condition, 1967 Raiders, Jets. Will buy or trade (1967 Raiders and Jets will trade '67 Rams, Cowboys, '68 Colts, Browns, Cowboys). Also have for sale 1969 AL and NL except Pitts. \$1.00 each. All teams in very good condition. Richard Gulezian, RR1, Box 347, West Shore Rd., Windham, NH 03087

FOR SALE: Complete 1969 baseball set in good condition. Cost \$7.00. If interested please contact Dan Dickerson, 647 Wimbleton, Birmingham, MI 48008

FOR SALE: 1962-65 complete season sets, first six old-timers teams, and a surprise! Bidding will close on May 18. Minimum bid is \$1.50. Wanted: old Walt Disney comic books. That's right! Will pay great rewards for certain issues. Send title, issue number, data, and S.A.S.E. for immediate cash offer. Scott Matheson, 408 West Third St., Aberdeen, WA 98520

FOR SALE: '70 Astros, Red Sox, White Sox, Dodgers, Cards, Indians, Yankees, Senators, Phillies, A's, Angels, Giants, Braves. Jeff Cohen, 85 Kersington Lane, Swampscott, MA 01907

FOR SALE: Oldtimer teams; '27 Yanks, '50 Phillies, '46 Cards, '24 Senators, '22 Giants and '35 Cubs. (.50-.65¢ each). Dan Wnorowski, 1025 Horvath St., Schenectady, NY 12303

FOR SALE: SOM Directory, a treasure book of over 330 names and addresses all over North America of Strat-O-Matic game players. Price -- 50¢. Use last page for easy ordering.

League's Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Need one manager to take over a franchise in the North American Summer Draft League using new advanced version of SOM American League cards. This is a very good team which includes Murcer and Oliva on its roster. Franchise fee is \$3.50 which includes scoresheets for games, comp sheets, report forms and newsletter to be sent at the conclusion of each series. Schedule will begin in early June and run through October. If interested, contact Michael L. McLawhorn, 504 N. Person St, Apt. 6, Raleigh, NC 27604 or call (919) 828-6903

LEAGUE FORMING: Strat-O-Matic play-by-mail league forming. Will use 1971 cards. Put teams in order you chose. Write to: Dave Baker, P. O. Box 106, Irwin, PA 15642. Hurry!

LEAGUE FORMING: ATTENTION SOM FANS! The Central Baseball League is looking for people to replay the 1970 baseball season. We will play exactly one half of the season. The charge to enter this league is \$1.00. Send your first five choices to: Steve Hippler, 1550 W. Logan, Freeport, IL 61032

LEAGUE FORMING: Interested in forming play-by-mail replay of 1970 National League? You must have all 12 teams. Send top 6 choices to: John Spellman, 8555 Balboa Boulevard, #8, Northridge, CA 91324

LEAGUE FORMING: ATTENTION! The Continental Baseball League needs managers. This is a play-by-mail draft league composed of all 1971 player cards. Only conscientious managers should apply. Advanced game to be used. (75-100 games) Reply soon so we can get started. Bill Pascoe, 935 W. Quartz, Butte MT 59701

LEAGUE FORMING: Football league forming in regard to upcoming cards. Will consist of all 26 entries in NFL. Send top 6 choices to: Bob Margeson, 1 Guilford Way, Pittsford, NY 14534. Season to start 4/6 weeks after cards are available or on response of entries and arrival of cards. League will pride itself on fair play.

LEAGUE FORMING: Last chance to join New England Baseball Association! Manage the great 1922 Giants. Players from New York welcome. John Peterson, RD#4, Montpelier, VT 05002 or call (802) 223-3891. Hurry!

LEAGUE FORMING: ATTENTION SOM BASE-BALL FANS: Here is the chance to join the league you have been dreaming of. We will play-by-mail the 1969 season cards. Send in your first four choices of teams. So don't delay, write to Sandy today! Wanted: any pre-1968 Twins teams, also 1967 Giants (must have Tito Fuentes on the team). Sandy Shapiro, 8016 West 18th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55426

LEAGUE FORMING: National Football Conglomerate is looking for coaches for replay of the 1971-72 (play-by-mail) football season. Standard teams will be used, but there will be trading. Experienced coaches preferred, but will accept anyone who will play thru full season. Non-contenders will have fun too. If interested send 50¢ dues and top 10 choices to: D. Constantino, 10 East 198th Street, Bronx, NY 10468

Dallas, Miami Meet

Football Replay

John Hyde of Detroit, MI, must have been looking into the future at the same time he replayed the 1970 football season as, when it was all over, it was Dallas and Miami colliding in a Super Bowl showdown.

The real-life foes in the '72 Super Bowl happened to cross paths a year early on the tabletop when Miami won the Eastern Division of the AFC and Dallas the Eastern Division of the NFC. Miami stopped first Cincinnati (14-10) and Kansas City (10-3) to win the AFC championship, while Dallas downed San Francisco (24-7) and St. Louis (21-10) to take NFC honors.

After holding Cincy and Kansas City to only one touchdown in the playoffs, the Miami defense appeared primed to handle the Dallas offense. And for almost the entire game the Dolphin defense lived up to its reputation, limiting Dallas to two lone field goals and leading, 10-6, with only 30 seconds left to play.

Then disaster struck for Miami, as Cowboy quarterback Craig Morton lofted a "long bomb" pass to Bob Hayes that Hayes grabbed and sprinted 76 yards with for the game-winning touchdown. Making the last-second feat even more noteworthy was the fact that when the "bomb" was launched, Dallas had a third-and-28 situation.

For the record, the division champs were: AFC--Kansas City, Western, 9-4-1; Miami, Eastern, 10-3-1; Cincinnati, Central, 8-5-1. NFC--San Francisco, Western, 7-3-4; Dallas, Eastern, 10-3-1; Detroit, Central, 10-3-1. The leading rusher was Ron Johnson of the New York Giants with 1179 yards off 213 carries, a 5.5 average, and teammate Fran Tarkenton was the leading passer, completing 58.5 percent of his passes for 1924 and 22 touchdowns.

The Old Gang

Another member of the "Over-30-Gang" is Richard Phelps of Scarsdale, NY, 33, who has been a subscriber to the Review since its inception in March, 1971.

To prove that SOM dice-rollers are not part of some way out "lunatic fringe" that has lost touch with reality, Phelps, it can be noted, has a Masters degree in finance, has served four years in the US Air Force, is married and the father of two children, and is currently an investment banker in Scarsdale, where he has always lived except during his service hitch.

How did Richard become a dice addict? He first started in high school, playing a homemade game, then advanced to the product of another game company, before, four years ago, making the switch to Strat-O-Matic.

The Review editors (especially Del Newell, 31 years young) are always glad to here from members of the "Over-30-Gang".

In The Strat-O-Matic Spotlight

IMPROVEMENT PROMISED

We confess, last issue wasn't up to par from an appearance standpoint. As you probably noticed, the print seemed to be lighter than previous issues and some of the pages were not centered attractively.

Reason for this was that we have changed printers. A printing company in Otsego, MI, is now doing the work previously done by the printing firm in Allegan, 15 miles north of Otsego.

Hopefully, the "bugs" will be out of this issue. We've had a change to talk with the current printer and he assures us that the problem areas are easily corrected.

So, for those of you who have been with us for quite a while, don't be alarmed the quality of the printing job, as you will see, is as good as ever.

'STRAT-ROOM'

Mark Campbell is an avid baseball fan of the Baltimore Orioles. The Sacramento, CA, youth is also an avid fan of Strat-O-Matic, a game he's been playing for over two years. He figures he's played over 5,000 games (experiencing eight no-hitters) and, despite playing the game only a short while, has acquired all the baseball teams from 1960-1971 except the 1963 American League cards.

Mark is such a fan of Strat-O-Matic that he's set up a special room in the house known as the "Strat-Room," where he keeps the game, teams, score-sheets, as well as sport magazines and equipment.

He's had to rearrange the room to squeeze everything in, the room so abounds with sports-related paraphernalia. His "room" is probably no different than thousands of other SOM game players, except that he has added a unique touch: a lighting system connected to his game board. It's set up so when a batter hits safely he can turn a switch and a light goes on at the base the runner advances to.

'AN EYE FOR AN EYE'

Call it an "eye for an eye" or, better yet, a "pitch for a pitch", what happened when John Bollinger of Harrisburg, PA, played a recent double header between the '71 Oakland A's and Chicago White Sox joins the list of unusual SOM baseball happenings.

In the first game, Vida Blue hurled a near-perfect game, striking out eight, walking three, and, most important of all, setting the Chisox down without a hit, winning a 1-0 thriller. Wilbur Wood, who allowed only three hits, was the loser.

In the second game, however, Chicago gave Oakland a dose of the no-hit treatment as Tommy John duplicated Blue's performance by striking out six and walking four. Bill Melton hit a two-run homer for the Sox in a 3-0 victory.

Back-to-back no-hitters in a double header, one by each team, that's rare indeed.

THIS 'N THAT

...George Watkins, Jr., Sunnyvale, CA, is another who had laid claim to the title, "Mr. Strat-O-Matic." Now 21 years old and studying toward a degree in journalism (sports writing), George has played over 3,200 games of SOM baseball and completed three National League replays in their entirety. Average amount of time to complete a replay has been two years...The rare double no-hitter mentioned above was almost battered in a twinbill played by Andrew Herbst, Montreal, Quebec, matching the 1970 Phillies and Mets. In the first game, Tom Seaver went eight and two-thirds innings before allowing a hit. And in the second, Jerry Koosman matched Seaver by being touched for only one-hit--a single in the ninth inning with two outs...In answer to a recent question in the Review about which manager should roll the dice, Will Schmidt, Columbia, MO, responds: "The team in the field rolls the white die, and the team at-bat rolls the two red die. It works well for us, as it gives both managers something to do." ...Want a card holder for your SOM cards? Rod Wolfson, Bryn Mawr, PA, says he beats the lost rubber band syndrome by sealing an envelope closed and then tearing it in half. Add illustrations or whatever, and you've got a pretty nifty team card holder.

'Big Stick' Replay

"Speak softly and carry a big stick" must have been the motto of the sluggers in the 1970 National League after five of 'em unloaded 49-or-more home runs in a replay conducted by Mike Shornicoff, Dickie Goldberg, Jay Weissbrot and Larry Kapit of Laurelton, NY.

Johnny Bench led the home run parade with a whopping 63, Nate Colbert had 52, Billy Williams and Willie McCovey each 50 and Richie Allen, 49. Los Angeles' pitching staff gave up 207 homers, with Don Sutton on the serving end of 65 of the circuit shots.

Dallas Breaks Even

Lester Conley, Columbus, GA, put the 1970 Dallas Cowboys through their 1971 schedule not long ago and reports that Dallas could win only half of its 14 games. Injuries were very costly to the Cowboys, says Conley, who adds that the statistical accuracy was quite realistic.

Craig Morton, for instance, completed 48.9 percent of his passes (49.3 in real-life); Calvin Hill averages 3.8 yards each carry (3.8) and Duane Thomas averaged 22.0 on kickoff returns (21.9). Thomas also rushed for 1,552 yards in 263 attempts for a 5.9 average.

Jackson, Blue Sparks A's

When A.F. Mazeika of Oak Park, IL, received his baseball cards this spring the first thing he did was to put the top four teams in each division through their paces by running an elimination tournament.

When the smoke had cleared, the Oakland A's winning 11 of 15 games all told, emerged the winner. Reggie Jackson hit six homers in the tourney and Vida Blue had four wins, including two in a four-game-to-two championship triumph over the Boston Red Sox. Last year's World Series contestants both were knocked out in the first round; Baltimore being upset by the California Angels, two games to one, and the New York Mets ousting Pittsburgh by the same margin.

Don Williamson, '68 Jets Win It All

Crown National Grid Champion

The '68 Jets completely devastated the '69 Chiefs of Marty Cogburn, 41-6. The Chiefs' offense could not even muster a TD. The Jets took the opening kickoff, and from there Joe Namath moved them 82 yards for a TD. The TD was scored on a pass to Boozer (7 yards). Near the end of the first quarter, Stenerud kicked a field goal to make it 7-3. This was the closest that the Chiefs got. In the second quarter, Namath threw another TD pass - this time to Sauer. Turner added two field goals during this quarter, and the NY defense held the Chiefs scoreless. At half the score was 20-3. In the third quarter, Namath completed two more TD passes both to Boozer. One went for 18 yards, the other for 8 yards. Stenerud added a field goal to the Chiefs' scoring. It was too little and too late. At the end of the third quarter, the score stood: 34-6. For good measure Snell scored a TD on a short run in the fourth quarter. The Chiefs were shut out in the fourth quarter. The game ended with the Jets driving on the Chiefs 6 yard line. Final score: 41-6.

Namath hit on 32 passes of 55, for 350 yards, 4 TD's, 0 interceptions.
 Sauer caught 12 passes for 183 yards.
 Boozer caught 20 passes for 167 yards.
 Boozer carried 3 times for 4 yards.
 Snell carried 7 times for 22 yards.
 Total offense 350 PASS + 26 RUN
 First Downs 18 PASS + 2 RUN

Dawson hit on 10 of 20 for 140 yards, 0 TD's, 3 interceptions.
 Taylor caught 6 for 80 yards.
 Pitts caught 3 for 43 yards.
 Holmes carried 10 times for 20 yards.
 McVea carried 13 times for 39 yards.
 Total Offense 140 PASS + 59 RUSH
 First Downs 8 PASS + 1 RUSH

Don Williamson and his '68 Jets have been officially declared the first champion of the National SOM tourney. Don will be awarded next years teams for SOM football. Don is 14 years old and lives in New Iberia, LA, which ironically is only about 150 miles from tourney headquarters. Don has been playing SOM for 3 yards. He plays football on his high school team (guard).

Coming Next Month

A computer duel between Roberto Clemente and Vida Blue...Final results of the GKSM American League replay...In answer to requests by many readers, the Review will present a supplementary X-chart to increase your baseball enjoyment...And, for the football fans, follow the San Francisco 49ers as they win their first grid championship ever in a replay...plus much more. Letters, replays and adds to be considered for the next issue must be in by the third of the month.

STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW
P. O. Box 27
Otsego, Michigan 49078

FIRST CLASS



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Pick MVPs, Win SOM Cards

It's contest time, and here is a great chance for you to win next year's baseball cards. All you have to do is pick the MVPs in both the American and National Leagues. And in case more than one person does that, as a tie breaker, predict the winners of all four divisions and their winning percentages. We have given you an edge by waiting for the season to start, but we must receive your entries postmarked no later than June 15, 1972.

In case of a tie, the one who picks the most division winners correctly will win the new cards. If still a tie the predicted percentages will be used, with the closest winning. And if we still find a tie (WHEW!), the names will be put in a hat and a winner will be drawn.

Once again, the winner will receive next years baseball cards. Just fill in the entry blank below and send it to the Review--DO NOT send your entry to the Game Co.--entries sent to the Game Co. will be disqualified. Remember, your entry must be postmarked no later than June 15, 1972.

DIVISION WINNERS AND PCTs

MVP -- AL _____ AL EAST _____ WEST _____
NL _____ NL EAST _____ WEST _____

NAME _____
(please print clearly)

ADDRESS _____

CITY AND STATE _____ ZIP _____