



## 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-6 August 1972 35¢

### Signals 'Go' For SOM Convention

As the first SOM Convention approaches, all of the preparations have been made. The Convention will run from 12:00 noon to 9:00 PM at the Comstock North Elementary School on Saturday, August 12, 1972. No admission will be charged, and the convention is open to all SOM game players. You need not subscribe to the Review to attend - all are welcome. Both a football and baseball tournament will be held with the football tourney beginning at 1:00 PM and the baseball tourney starting at 4:00 PM. The Game Co. is supplying trophies for these tournaments. The reason for the late starting time of the baseball tournament is to allow those who get bumped from the football tourney in the early rounds to be able to play in the baseball tournament. There will be no charge for playing in the tournaments, just be on time. Also, you do not have to participate in the tourneys, there will be plenty of room for isolated games. (If you get knocked out of the tournaments in the early rounds, there will be many game players from all over to talk with and strike up some games. Word from the Game Co. is that a representative from there may attend the convention, possibly even Mr. Richman. However, at the time of this printing, definite plans for their attendance had not been made. Liquid refreshments will be on hand to cool you off during the day, compliments of Pepsi Cola.

It is important that as many people as possible attend so that future conventions can be held. If you're planning to come, try to get a couple of friends to come with you. Not only does this make for a larger turn out, but can be cheaper for you by sharing expenses. So far, we have received word from as far away as New York, Iowa, and California of players definitely planning to attend.

If you are coming, please bring along your game if possible and if you want to participate in either one or both of the tournaments bring along the team(s) you want to use. If you don't bring your own teams we will have a few on hand that you may borrow, however, the selection may not be the greatest.

Below we have for you, directions on how to get to the convention site, and a list of motels, their rates and telephone numbers (area code= 616) in the event you care to make reservations. Once you get into Kalamazoo, if you are in need of directions, any gas station should be able to help you or give a call to Mike Allison (342-4416) or Del Newell (381-2578).

**DIRECTIONS TO CONVENTION SITE:** Take Sprinkle Road Exit off I-94. Go north approximately three (3) miles to H Avenue. Turn right about one (1) block.

**MOTELS:** (NOTE: 1 stands for single room; 2 for two persons, one room; 4 for four persons, one room.)

40 Winks Motel, 2605 Douglas 345-3961 1-\$ 8.35 2-\$10.40

Comstock Motor Court, 6302 King Highway 345-0029	1-\$10.40	2-\$12.48
Downtowner, 739 West Michigan 349-6743	1-\$12.48	2-\$13.52
	4-\$16.64	
Holiday Inn, 220 Crosstown Parkway 349-6711	1-\$13.00*	2-\$18.20
	4-\$18.20 plus \$4.00	each additional person
Holiday Inn, 3522 Sprinkle 381-7070	1-\$14.04*	2-\$18.20
	4-\$18.20 plus \$4.00	each additional person
Howard Johnson's, 1900 East Kilgore 382-2303	1-\$14.04	2-\$17.68
	4-\$27.56	
Kalamazoo Motor Inn, 5682 Stadium Drive 375-1777	1-\$ 8.32	2-\$ 9.36
	4-\$16.64	
Kalamazoo Travel Lodge, 1211 South Westnedge 381-5000	1-\$12.48	2-\$14.56
	4-\$20.80	
Ramada Inn, 5300 S. Westnedge 382-1000	1-\$13.00*	2-\$16.50
	4-\$21.50	
Rest Wall Motel, 7127 S. Westnedge 327-9096	1-\$ 9.00*	2-\$11.00
	4-\$17.00	
Southgate Motor Inn, 5630 S. Westnedge 343-6143	1-\$12.00*	2-\$15.50
	4-\$24.00	
Valley Inn Motel, 200 North Park 349-9733	1-\$13.00*	2-\$16.50
	4-\$23.50	
Westnedge Motel, 1900 S. Westnedge 343-6101	1-\$ 9.60*	2-\$12.00
	4-\$17.50	
Y-Master Motor Inn, 2333 Helen 345-8603	1-\$10.40	2-\$13.52
	4-\$18.72	

(\*connotates rates without taxes included)

See you August 12th!!!

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Q: CAN NON-SUBSCRIBERS RECEIVE A COPY OF THE STRAT-O-MATIC DIRECTORY UPON DEMAND?

A: Yes. For easy ordering, use the back page.

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BULLETIN: JUST BEFORE WE WENT TO PRINT WE WERE NOTIFIED THAT MR. HAROLD RICHMAN WOULD BE MAKING ALL POSSIBLE ATTEMPTS TO ATTEND THE SOM CONVENTION.



Many subscribers letters give testimonial to how great the SOM games are. I'll just let the beginning of my tenth season speak for what I think of the games.

## Tempo Picking Up In Play-By-Mail League

Jeff Fleischman's (Downey, CA) Greater United States SOM Organization is picking up the tempo in its play-by-mail baseball replay using actual teams.

Jeff's newest newsletter reveals that St. Louis has a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  game lead over Pittsburgh in the National League East, that San Francisco is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ahead of surprising San Diego and Los Angeles in the West and that Boston is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in front of Detroit ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  ahead of Baltimore) in the AL East and Chicago has a  $4\frac{1}{2}$  game bulge over Oakland in the West.

The replay, using the '72 cards (based on '71 season), has advanced to the 40-game stage for most of the teams.

Glen Beckert of the Chicago Cubs is hitting a whopping .404, with Hank Aaron second at .386, while Merv Rettenmund of Baltimore is the leading AL swinger with a .399 mark. Aaron is also the homerun leader with 16, plus he has 37 runs-batted-in. Detroit's Norm Cash has 11 roundtrippers and 34 RBIs in the AL. Top pitchers have been Ferguson Jenkins (8-1) of the Cubs and Dick Drago and Jim Kaat, both with 7-2 records.

Highlights of league play have included Steve Carlton, Cards, throwing a no-hitter; Ron Hunt going six-for-six at-bats for the Expos against the Pirates; Juan Marichal just missing a no-hitter as Tony Perez clouted a two-run, two-out homer in the ninth, Perez' belt the only Cincy hit; and Boog Powell unloading four consecutive homeruns off Washington Senator pitching.

Trading is big in the league, as most of the managers have been changing players like the late Gil Hodges used to shuffle New York Met lineups.

Most of the leaders have been active in the trade market, too, with some really big deals having been consummated. For example: (1) In a deal involving the Chicago White Sox and Cincinnati, the Sox sent away Walt Williams, Carlos May and Tom Egan and received in exchange Johnny Bench, George Foster and Wayne Granger. Who do you think fared better in that one? (2) The Sox, keeping the trading turnstile active, also dealt Rich McKinney, Don Eddy and Steve Kealey to Minnesota for Steve Braun, Jim Nettles and Tom Hall, plus they got Luis Aparicio from Boston for Vincente Romo and Rich Morales. Then, in another swap, the Sox shipped Tommy John, Mike Hershberger, Jay Johnstone and Pat Kelly to Washington (now Texas) for Don Mincher, Joe Grzenda and Del Unser. (3) St. Louis and Atlanta also had a big swap, as St. Louis parted with Frank Linzy, Don Shaw, Bob Gibson, Matty Alou and Ted Simmons, while the Braves sent away Jim Nash, Pat Jarvis, Hank Aaron, Al Santorini and Earl Williams. Gibson, Aaron...hummm.

The Review will be looking forward to hearing from Jeff again and, hopefully, he'll pass along the final results and let us know which managers got the better of those big swaps.

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Back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review which are now available include the following months: October and November, 1971; January, February, March, April, June and July, 1972. These may be purchased for 35¢ per issue.



## 'Luck In SOM Football'

Keywood C. Cheves  
Littleton, North Carolina

This is a different type of article for SOM Reviewers. Rather than tell of how the New Orleans Saints upset everyone to win the Super Bowl or how Larry Brown carried the ball 51 times for 800 yards which Sonny Jurgenson completed 20 of 20 passes and still lost, I have decided to relate some memorable games in which dice rolling by my opponents and sometimes by myself contributed to some heartbreaking losses. I have decided to entitle this article, "Luck in SOM Football." By the way, the above statements about the Saints and Redskins were, of course, fictitious but all of the following actually happened.

First of all, I won't say that my brother cheats at rolling dice, but in some games he can be extraordinarily lucky (and I have yet to figure out how he does it). He is the only person I can completely outguess for three plays and still end up with a 4th-and-19 situation. By completely outguessing, I mean that he guessed wrong and also did not have an extra man in the zone, i.e., only three men in the short pass zone or only one off-tackle. By one-half guess, I mean that either he guessed right but did not have a man in the zone, or had a man in the correct zone but guessed wrong. My brother is one of the few people which it seems you have to completely guess to stop. Witness this game between the 1970 Bills and Dolphins.

My brother, playing the Bills, has the ball on his own 20-yard line. Now my brother likes to throw on first down so I call pass and doubleteam Marlin Briscoe, the all-pro receiver. It's a pass all right, but to split end Haven Moses. My brother promptly rolls "receiver" and then the "7" on Moses' card for 45 yards. First down again. I call pass again while moving my free safety into the short pass zone. It's a pass again, this time a look-in to Austin Denny. He rolls a "6", Buoniconti is only a "5", short gain and another first down, tough luck. This time though I really think I've got him as looking for the run I go into my short yardage defense and key on C.J. Simpson. It's Simpson all right but right over tackle where I neglected to put a linebacker. My brother rolls snake eyes, eg., long gain, and I have to greatly restrain myself to keep from tearing my Dolphin defensive cards in half.

The above game brought to mind another league game in which my own atrocious rolling almost snatched defeat from the jaws of victory. This time with the Eagles, I led the Redskins 20-10 with about five minutes remaining, a seemingly safe lead but don't go away yet, Lady Luck is about to smile on the 'Skins. The comedy of errors begins as Bradley gets off a great 16-yard punt giving the Redskins the ball on the Eagle 40-yard line. This time, though, I held him and even pushed him back so that Bragg comes in to punt. Walik, however, fumbles the ball and it's first-and-ten Redskins inside the twenty. This time they get the TD, but with only a minute left I only have to run out the clock, right? Wrong! Pinder fumbles on the first play and the Skins take over on the 20. Jurgy gets them to the six-yard line but as time runs out my brother kicks the tying field goal.

My most memorable game, however, concerned the 1969 Chiefs and my old nemesis the Buffalo Bills. In our league with the title contending Chiefs, I certainly can't afford to lose to the Bills, so after receiving the opening kickoff, I decide to open the game up a bit to establish my passing attack and call a short pass to Pitts. My opponent from across the street, intent on stopping the KC running offense, moves into the short yardage defense. Here I have completely outguessed him but underestimated the dice. Dawson throws the interception and my opponent rolls snake eyes on the return. TD Bills! The very next play I have the ball once again and remembering what Lombardi said about running a play until you make it go, I called short pass



again, this time to Otis Taylor. My opponent, not one to quarrel with success, is in his short yardage defense again. Once again Dawson throws it to a Bill and on the return this time, boxcars, TD Bills. Now, I'm down 14-0 in a big game and my defense has yet to come on the field. The Bills of course went on to win in a game punctuated by more Chief fumbles and interceptions and finally even a Stenerud missed field goal from inside the ten-yard line.

I will have to admit though that not all of my games have ended with defeats such as those described above. I have even on occasion been quite lucky myself such as the time I kicked the winning field goal by rolling a two thru four or scored the winning touchdown even though the receiver was double-teamed. The only thing, though, that I have learned from all of this and would like to pass along to everyone is that no matter how bad a first quarter, or half, or first three quarters you may have, don't give up but keep on trying because sometimes you just can't overestimate the power of the dice.

P.S. This article is not written to criticize the game as being one of only luck. It was of course written in fun and as you can probably tell, I think SOM football is a great game and one depending very much on the skill of the players.

## Readers Roll 'Em

### LOYAL TO ROYALS

I received the 1972 baseball cards in February and have been playing ever since. I have completed about half of a 96-game season for an eight-team league composed of the first and second place teams in the four divisions in 1971. The Cards, who caught fire about one-fourth of the way through the season, are on top in the east, 2½ games ahead of Baltimore, while the Royals hold a two-game lead over Oakland in the west. Joe Torre (.398, 7 homers), Lou Brock (.350, 5 homers), Dal Maxvill (75 putouts, 250 assists, 3 errors, 29 double plays, .991 fielding average) and Steve Carlton and Jerry Reuss (both 8-3) are the Card leaders. Mike Hedlund (7-4), Jim York (3-0, 8 saves) and Fred Patek (37 stolen bases) are the reasons the Royals are where they are.

Concerning the Royals, I must compliment Harold Richman and SOM. The Royals' ability to come up with the big play, the big hit and the big strike-out are all there. I never thought that certain quality, the ability to work together as a team, could ever be captured on cards so well.

Craig Barto  
Emporia, KS

### DEFEAT ONLY STEP AWAY

Thanks a million for the advanced baseball game. Strat-O-Matic has outdone any other game on the market. Right now I am having a 1971 National League replay. After the first 20 games Willie Stargell had 12 homers and 28 RBIs. I have had some tremendous football games. Like one between Baltimore and Detroit. Detroit had the ball on its own one-yard line, leading 20-19 with 15 seconds left. Steve Owens, on a linebuck, was tackled for a safety to give the Colts a 21-20 victory.

Bob Clineman  
Crystal Lake, IL

### JACKSON OFF TO QUICK START

The only thing I'm disappointed about in the new cards is that two ratings were not included for catchers: one for the catcher's arm and the other for his fielding ability.

I've been playing Strat-O-Matic now for five years and have had four no-hitters. I play the game alone. My best league so far has been the 1970 National League, in which the Cubs defeated the Astros, four games to two,



in the playoffs after a 60-game schedule. This year I plan on playing 150 games for each team in both leagues. I hope to finish around March 1st. So far, after eight games, Reggie Jackson has hit seven homers, collected 16 RBIs and is batting .559.

When will the new old-timer teams be done and which teams and players will be printed?

Jerry Shirtino  
Coal City, IL

EDITORS NOTE: The game company should be printing old-timer teams next spring at new baseball card time. The advanced game changes prevented new old-timer teams from being released this year. Also, it's expected that the teams released will closely follow the poll of Review readers (August, 1971 Review). The 1906 Cubs, 1919 White Sox, 1909 Tigers, 1912 Red Sox, 1909 Pirates, 1911 A's, 1910 A's, 1902 Pirates, 1929 Cubs and 1934 Tigers were the top ten teams wanted by readers as indicated in the poll.

#### RANDOM THOUGHTS

First of all, let me thank you for a truly fantastic magazine. It should have been called "Everything you always wanted to know about Strat-O-Matic, but never had the chance to ask."

I have had the game since 1968 and have played 1025 games with 7 no-hitters, 3 by the '68 McDowell.

Although I would like to see an SOM basketball game, I think that even Mr. Richman could not invent a smooth flowing game. However, if he makes it, I'll buy it. (I have the baseball and football games.)

I disagree with the reader who says that the advertisements don't make good reading. I thoroughly enjoy them, but there is one problem: unreliability of advertisers. Many times I have sent money for teams on the very day I have received the Review, only to be told that the teams have been sold. I even sent to one person for information on 1963 and 1964 teams he had for sale. I even sent him a return postage stamp.

I never received anything from him. I am sure that this has happened to many too.

My solitary system for "holding on runners" is not quite as good as Larry Thompson's but here it is: a runner may only steal if he has gotten on first via his own card, not the pitchers'. It helps keep me from stealing the Lou Brocks and Maury Wills' every time they get on.

In a newsletter for ----- (yecch) one reader cut down SOM for its use of one of four hitting ratings for pitchers. Y'know what's odd? ----- has one of four PITCHING RATINGS for pitchers! Is that realistic? By the way, when are the new OLDTIMERS coming out? I would like to see the 1919 Reds, as well as the Chisox. I am sure every SOM owner would love to replay that series!

Ronald Greitzer  
White Meadow Lake, NJ

EDITORS NOTE: In regards to Mr. Greitzer's fourth paragraph about some dishonesty among those advertising, unfortunately this does happen. The Review has received a few reports of such goings on. Our only way to combat such a thing, would be for you to send the name of a person who has cheated you out of money by way of an ad in the Review, then we will refuse to print any further ads this person sends in. True, it can't help your problem, but could save someone else some headaches and money.

#### SOM VETERAN

I guess you would classify me as a Strat-O-Matic veteran. I figure that I have played over 2000 baseball games and about 500 football games.

I have two things to note from recent issues. One is Dave Lewis' statement that it takes him 15 more minutes to play the new advanced SOM. I find this hard to believe. I can play the new game in about the same amount of time as the old one. Once you get used to it, the new game is just as quick as the old one; or at least I find it that way. Another thing that I would like cleared up is Brad Titus asking about more old-timer teams. I had not known that SOM was



planning more old-timers and would like to know what teams they are planning to make and when they will be available. I always wondered why SOM never made more Old-Timer teams so I made three of my own: 1906 Cubs (Boy! What a pitching staff!), 1912 Red Sox, and the 1911 A's. I certainly hope in the new list of teams that they include the 1930 Giants. Even though they finished third, they had the highest team batting average in modern times, .319. They had Bill Terry (.401), Fred Lindstrom (.379), Travis Jackson (.339), Shanty Hogan (.339), Mel Ott (.349), and Freddy Leach (.327).

I have had five no-hitters in my 2000 plus games: '65 Marichal and Koufax, two by Gary Nolan, 1968 and 1970, and my most unusual was the one by Jerry Johnson, who I used as a spot starter in my 1969 National League replay.

Right now I am in a league with two other managers. We each have a team in two three-team divisions. We drafted teams from the 1971 season and also made use of trades. We are planning a 160 game schedule and here's the way things look so far.

National League: San Francisco (Dale Dupli.) 25-20; Los Angeles (Gary Dupli.) 22-23; Pittsburgh (Mike Corning) 20-28. American League: Baltimore (Dale Dupli.) 33-15; St. Louis (Mike Corning) 21-27; Oakland (Gary Duplisea) 20-28. Leading hitter - Joe Torre .354. Leading pitcher - Jim Palmer 9-1. Home run leader - Willie Stargell 15.

My friends and I are completely satisfied with both the SOM football and baseball games but we would like to see a basketball game and a college football game.

Gary Duplisea  
Hermon, ME

#### WELCOME ABOARD

I am writing to praise you for your newspaper. I got my first issue recently. I've read other so-called table-game periodicals, but yours is the finest by far.

This is the first year I bought the

SOM baseball game. I've played other games, but this one is superb. The lefty-righty combinations give me a chance to really juggle my lineup, plus the game is broad in scope while remaining simple to play with little time consumption. I have 14 teams from the 1972 version. I've had great pitching from the likes of Blue, Seaver and Marichal, plus have had a no-hitter by Bill Hands against the Tigers, 8-0.

I play my games solitaire and appreciate the ease of playing; I've developed some techniques for playing the game solitaire and thought I would pass them along:

Stealing--roll one die: #1, 2, 3 hold runner on base;

Sacrifice (squeeze)--roll one die: #1, 2, 3 infield is in; #4, 5, 6 infield is back;

Hit-and-run--roll one die: #1, 2, 3 runner is held on base; #4, 5, 6 runner is not held on base;

Runner on third base--roll one die: #1, 2, 3 infield in; #4, 5, 6 infield is back.

Concerning advancement of runners, I give the defense the option of automatically allowing a given runner to advance an extra base, and holding another runner/batter hits a single, defense has option of letting runner on second score and holding runner going into second at base.

David L. Bendau  
Columbus, OH

PS: My wife is not a baseball fan, and since I've gotten the game she has been tearing out her hair!

## The Review Staff

Mike Allison - Co-managing editor; handles all correspondence; assists with subscriptions; production manager.

Jan Allison - Typist. Turns edited copy into final copy that is sent to printer.

Del Newell - Co-managing editor; does majority of editing of letters and writing.

Mary Newell - Assists with subscriptions and prepares mailing labels.

## Guest Columnist

Clyde Matsusaka, Honolulu, Hawaii, is this month's guest columnist. He's 14 years old, attends Central Intermediate in downtown Honolulu and participates in both basketball and baseball. Currently he's president of the Greater Honolulu SOM Baseball Association and also a football league. Later this summer he plans on running a play-by-mail football league using the old AFL alignment with the new cards.

### SOM Graffiti

...Strat-O-Matic is kind of limited here in Hawaii as there are only three players I know of on the rock who play the games a lot. The three are Fritz Rohlfing, Gregory Yamamoto and myself. Gregory lives about five miles away and Fritz about seven...quite a distance apart here but probably ridiculously close on the mainland.

...Here are some more chapters to add the the "SOM-Doesn't-It-Burn-You-Up-When Book": You hold Frank Howard on first base as a joke and the rival manager all the while smiling, has big Frank steal second off your Johnny Bench to get the last laugh...You find that the split cards have the edges marked...You call the infield in, hoping to stop the runner on third from scoring, and the batter hits a flyball 'B'...You receive "your" team in the play-by-mail league and find out it wasn't one of the top ten teams you had listed...When a key player is injured for 15 games and, after becoming "healthy" again, is injured in the very next game...Your eight-year-old brother beats you in SOM football by just throwing 'bombs' to Paul warfied...

...Are you really protecting the innocent by using George Egroeg as a pen name for the innocent person who cheated??? (REVIEW: No, we are really protecting the guilty)...

...The Review makes your interest in Strat-O-Matic 75 percent higher. You practically always play a game on the day when the Review arrives...

...Definition of a Babe Ruth home run: A Bye Bye Baby!!

...Comments on the baseball game: I think the game company should use Steve Goldstein's injury chart in next year's game for advanced players. The "hit-by-pitch" should also be included on the elementary side of the cards.

### Playing Tip

Victor Garcia, Ft. Thomas, KY, has a playing tip that provides for drag bunts. If a batter with a "B" or above stealing rating hits "groundball ++", roll one die. If "3" or "4" batter drag bunts, is safe at first and other runners advance one base.

Also, on "groundball ++", if it is an "A" groundball, change that to a "B" if batter has an "A" or-above stealing rating.

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Q: SHOULDN'T ROGER METZGER OF THE HOUSTON ASTROS BE LISTED AS A SWITCH-HITTER? HE IS CURRENTLY LISTED AS BATTING LEFT-HANDED ONLY.

A: It was a typing error, make him a switch-hitter.



## Scoring SOM Baseball

Every table-gamer has his own method of baseball scorekeeping. And there's probably as many different systems as there are states in the Union and provinces in Canada.

The Editors of the Review thought readers might be interested in their method, however, and have decided to pass it along. True, in many respects it is probably little different than many others, but for speed, clarity and comprehensiveness, we feel it's a good one.

First off our philosophy of scorekeeping revolves around the idea that you want to spend most of your time actually playing the game and as little time recording results--but at the same time having an accurate and clear record of the game.

We prefer the inning-by-inning scoresheet that is available from the Strat-O-Matic Game Co., rather than the type of scoresheet that has the at-bat, hit, etc. columns. The first mentioned scoresheet makes it easier to find when the "key hits" were delivered and your inning-by-inning breakdown, although admittedly slower when sifting through for final results to be tabulated on a "stat" sheet.

Since most of us have little background or practical experience working with Egyptian hieroglyphics, the easier and simpler the method of recording results the better off you are. It should be easy to go back over the game sheets and tell the singles from the doubles and triples, when a new pitcher came into the game, and so on. When someone asks you in a head-to-head replay game, "What in the world does this mean," you know "your system" needs some work.

Okay, what is the method used by the Review Editors?

Keeping it simple, if a batter makes an out just record an "O". Or if he strikes out mark a "K". If you're a bug for fielding stats, you can go further, of course, adding which fielder(s) made the plays.

A key for recording fielding results is as follows: Pitcher--1; Catcher--2; First Baseman--3; Second Baseman--4; Third Baseman--5; Shortstop--6; Left Fielder--7; Center Fielder--8; and Right Fielder--9.

Going on that basis, a ground ball hit to the shortstop and turned into a putout at first would read "6-3." A double play, short to second to first base, "6-4-3." A flyout to left, "F-7." A fielder's choice play would read "FC" for the batter and how the putout was made above the runner and however he reached base. If he had walked it would look like this,  $\frac{5}{4}$  That shows the batter had walked and been forced at second base after the batter hit a groundball to third.

Since we're not that much interested in fielding statistics, we prefer just the plain "O" for an out.

Now here are the rest of the symbols used for scoring:

- Out O
- Strikeout - K
- Walk - W
- Single - -
- Double - =
- Triple - ≡
- Home Run - HR
- Run - place • beside how the runner reached base
- RBI - record to left of player's name on scoresheet
- FC - fielder's choice
- DP - double play (also place O above first result on runner doubled up)
- / - means end of inning; place after last batter
- ~ - means that relief pitcher pitched to next batter
- E - error

PB - passed ball by catcher, also counted as error to catcher  
 WP - wild pitch by pitcher  
 SB - stolen base  
 OS - runner is out trying to steal  
 HBP - batter is hit by pitched ball  
 SF - sacrifice fly  
 SAC - sacrifice

As you can see, there's really nothing unique about this. Many of you have a system very similar. Remember, though, this is a method we have found to be very quick, so if you desire something more comprehensive, this may not be enough. How does this method look on paper? Here it is. Give it a try and see what you think.

Del Newell	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Boswell 2B 3	0		=	SB			0	0	
Williams LF 3	0		0	0			E	-	
Mays CF 2 <sup>2</sup>	0		0		K		0	1	
Torre 3B 3		-	W		=		DP	0	/
Fairly 1B 2		C	W		0		.HR		
Clemente RF 1 <sup>5</sup>		=	FC		0		=		
Grote C 1		0	0	/		W	1		
Maxvill SS 2		-		W		LF	1		
Wise P		0	/	DP		0	/		
Day PH							K	/	
Ray 8 inn.									
	0	2	3	1	0	1	0	1	1

	IP	H	ER	BB	SO	HR
Wise	7	9	4	2	6	1
Ray Loser	1	3	3	0	1	1

Actually, this is one-half of a total scoresheet, the other half belonging to the other team. Notice that runs/hits are recorded for each inning, plus a complete pitcher's record is listed when he is removed from game. An inning-by-inning listing is also included for both teams (not shown). At the game's conclusion, the scoresheet can be cut in two and each manager can take his half. Stats thus can easily be compiled by each manager. There is no need to pass game sheets back and forth or to have one person in the league responsible for figuring all the stats.



## Dick Allen, Johnny Bench Tops In MVP Balloting

One hundred and eighty-five MVP entry blanks were sent into the Review for the June 15 deadline contest, where you were to pick who you thought would be the MVP in both leagues at years' end. Upon totaling the ballots, it's easy to see why the National League continually outdraws the AL at the gate. Only three American League players received more than ten votes, one a former National Leaguer (Richie Allen), while ten National Leaguers received votes totaling in the double figures.

In the American League, the balloting was never close. Richie Allen took the lead at the beginning and never gave it up collecting 82 votes while Reggie Jackson was a distant second with 37 votes, and Mickey Lolich had 34 votes for third.

With Johnny Bench becoming red hot in real-life, the final days of the voting vaulted Bench into the top choice with 32 votes, Tom Seaver ran a distant second with 20, and close behind were Torre with 18, Kingman 18, May 16, Staub 13, Clemente 13, Sutton 13, Stargell 12, and Frank Robinson 11.

Of the predicted winners for the divisional races, the voting was close in only one division, that was the American League's Eastern Division, where Detroit collected 89 votes to Baltimore's 86. Oakland was an easy winner in the West with 141 votes. The Mets were the game players choice in the NL's East by 36 votes over the Pirates, and Los Angeles was by far the pick of the West with 115 votes. Below are the results of the balloting for both MVPs and pennant races.

<u>AL</u>		<u>NL</u>	
<u>VOTES</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>VOTES</u>	<u>NAME</u>
82	Allen	32	Bench
37	Jackson	20	Seaver
34	Lolich	18	Torre, Kingman
7	G. Perry	16	May
4	Wood	13	Staub, Sutton, Clemente
3	Murcer, Cash, Rudi	12	Stargell
2	Pinson, Duncan	11	F. Robinson
1	Holtzman, Melton, McNally, Petrocelli, Johnson, Yastrzemski, Piniella	6	Sanguillen
		3	Aaron
		1	Williams, Matlack, Mays, Garr, Davis Bonds, Colbert, Wynn, Tolan, Watson

  

<u>AL EAST</u>		<u>NL EAST</u>	
<u>VOTES</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>VOTES</u>	<u>TEAM</u>
89	Detroit	106	New York
86	Baltimore	70	Pittsburgh
3	New York, Cleveland	5	Chicago
2	Boston	2	St. Louis

  

<u>AL WEST</u>		<u>NL WEST</u>	
<u>VOTES</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>VOTES</u>	<u>TEAM</u>
141	Oakland	115	Los Angeles
26	Chicago	36	Cincinnati
15	Minnesota	30	Houston
1	Kansas City	2	Atlanta

That's how the voting went, thanks for participating and Good Luck!

## ADVERTISEMENTS

Rates: Per Issue - up to 30 words, 50¢; 31-50 words, 70¢; 51-70 words, \$1.00; and 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: 1965 Mets, good condition or better, and must be complete. Will pay \$2.00. Write: Peter Jackson, 7947 West 4th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90048

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

WANTED: '61, '62, '63, '64, '66 Cleveland Indians. If you have any to sell write: Ken DiVincenzo, 1122 Washington Blvd., Mayfield Hts., OH 44124

WANTED: Any pre-1970 Dodger teams in good condition, must be complete. Willing to pay up to 75¢ apiece. Send list and prices to: R.J. Stinstrom, 85 W. Longden Ave., Arcadia, CA 91006

WANTED: Baseball: Houston and Cleveland, 1962-65. Also Cleveland 1967-69 and any world series champion team. Name your price. Steve Nivens, 3587 Raber Ter, Uniontown, OH 44685

WANTED: Will pay any reasonable price for any baseball teams, 1963-68 in almost any reasonable condition. Also- need to borrow for two weeks 1969 Nagy, Yastrzemski and Petrocelli. Ron Greitzer, 102 Cayuga Ave., White Meadow Lake, NJ 07866

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

WANTED: Complete sets or teams from any pre-'67 season. State price and condition in your first letter. Write today. Steve Birrer, 25 SE 154th Ave., Portland, Oregon 97233

WANTED: '63 and '64 Twins, '66 Pepitone, 1969 Jim Perry. Contact Randy Havens, Box 637, Stanton, Nebraska 68779 with your price.

WANTED: 1960-1968 baseball sets. I need these sets very badly and will top all previous offers. State your prices. Write: Gary Stoller, 77-38 79th Place, Glendale, NY 11227

WANTED: 1970 National League. Will pay \$7.00. with additional players will pay \$8.50. Write: Kevin Kious, Box 49, Rochester, IL 62563

WANTED: Any pre-1969 baseball teams; preferably Cubs, White Sox or Reds. Send information and prices to Jim Belza, 9111 Tiverton Way, Louisville, KY 40222

WANTED: Any football teams '68 or older and any baseball teams '69 or older. Will buy from lowest offers. Richard Keyes, 608 Oak Drive, Dover, Delaware 19901



WANTED: I am desperately after several teams. They are: 1962, 1963 LA Dodgers; '62, '63, '64, '66 Orioles; 1964 Chicago and NY; 1966 Pittsburgh; 1965 Giants. I will pay high prices! I will also consider buying other teams. Send me a list of teams and their conditions. I repeat, I am desperate, and I will pay well! Jim McLean, 10105 Tipperary Road, Baltimore, MD 21234

WANTED: Football: '67 Jets, Oilers, Raiders, Chiefs, Browns, Cowboys, Packers, Bears, Rams, Colts. 1968 Jets, Chiefs, Cowboys, Colts (all teams must be complete, decent condition). Will buy, and/or trade the following for these teams: assorted collection, over 1,550 baseball cards (1964-1970) fair-excellent condition depending on age. All 28 old timers, complete, excellent condition, Hall of Famers, complete mint condition. 1969 and 1970 football complete excellent condition. Peter O'Leary, 32 Westgate Blvd., Plandome, NY 11030

WANTED: Complete baseball sets from 1961-1970 and the sets that have extras to have them. Will accept cards in excellent to mint condition and no marks on them. WILL PAY WELL. Please send me your seasons and the prices you want for them. Richard York, 19171 Derby Street, Detroit, MI 48203

WANTED: 1964 Tigers, Angels, 1963 Dodgers, Yanks, 1962 Dodgers, 1965 Major League set. I will pay postage. James H. Overmeyer, 11 Bird Lane, Roughkeepsie, NY 12603

WANTED: The December, January and/or May issue of Review. Will pay lowest bidder. State your price and write to Tom Seidel, 620 McClellan St., Wausau, Wisconsin 54401

WANTED: In good shape - '63 Yanks, Dodgers, '64 Yanks, Cards, Phillies, '65 Yanks, Redsox, Giants, White Sox, '66 Yanks, Redsox, Dodgers, Tigers, Giants, A's, '67 White Sox, Twins, Tigers, Giants, Reds. Will buy for your price or trade with '68 Braves, '67 Packers, Rams, Browns, Chiefs, '68 Raiders, Cards, Vikings. In great condition. So send your trade or price and a stamp for reply to: Stephen Kayatta, 6 Bentley Lane, Chelmsford, MA 01824

WANTED: Dodgers, Pirates, Twins, Yanks, Orioles. Will pay well. Write stating condition and price. Dave McColester, 193 Dorsey Rd., Rochester, NY 14616

WANTED: Any baseball teams except 1969 and 1971. Please state what you have, condition, price, and if they include the additional players. Lonnie Hildreth, 1015 South 5th Street, St. Charles, IL 60174

WANTED: 1962-1966 complete year baseball sets. Will pay \$7.00-\$10.00 per complete year set. If you send teams immediately, I will add \$1.00 per set. Payment will be sent immediately. Send cards to Chris Heck, 1865 West Haven, San Marino, CA 91108

WANTED: Anyone who has the whole set or some teams from the 1968 baseball season and wants to sell them, write to: Ernie Moncada, 2800 Munson Street, Wheaton, MD 20902

WANTED: National League, 1962 through 1968. Please state condition, will pay your price. Richard Gulezian, Rt. 1, Box 347, West Shore Road, Windham, NH 03087

WANTED: I would like to acquire Yankee teams from 1960, '62, '63, '64 and '65. Willing to trade or buy in order to get these teams. David Mendonca, 1211 Park Grove Dr., Milpitas, CA 95035

## For Sale

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FOR SALE: 1968, 1969 (AL, NL) 24 players per team, perfect condition, \$8.50 postpaid per set of best offer. '67 AFL & other AFL, NFL teams to 1970 available, list wants & offers. Harold Chen, 5804 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, MD 20034

FOR SALE: (year condition) baseball: '62 National-good; '63 National-average; '64 National-good; '65 National-average; '66 National-mint; '67 both-excellent; '68 both-mint; '69 both-excellent; '70 both-mint; '70 both-excellent. Plus following teams - all mint. '66 Boston, Kansas City; California, Washington, Cubs, Houston, Mets, St. Louis. Football: '67 NFL-good; '68 both-excellent; '69 both-excellent; '70 both-mint. Bids will be accepted through Sept. 15th. Write: Tom Clark, 9927 De Soto Ave., #2 Chatsworth; CA 91311

FOR SALE: Free list offers over 750 SOM baseball and football teams for sale. Old issues of SOM Review also available. Free SOM baseball card included with each list. Send now for your free list in one of the largest sales of SOM items in history. Robert Henry, 15919 Ferguson, Detroit, MI 48227.

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

FOR SALE: 1964 (both leagues) baseball teams (very good condition); 1965 AL baseball teams (excellent condition). Highest bid accepted. Write: Peter Jackson, 7947 West 4th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90048

FOR SALE: Strat-O-Matic cards. Baseball: 1969 American League - \$6.00 1969 Dodgers - \$1.00. Football: 1968 NFL + AFL - \$20.00, 1969 NFL + AFL - \$20.00. All cards in excellent condition. Rosters included, I will pay postage. Send money orders only. Satisfaction guaranteed. William Hansen, 45 W. Ravenwood, Youngstown, OH 44507

FOR SALE: '69 Colts, Packers, Cowboys, Raiders, Rams, Redskins, Dolphins, Browns, Lions, 49'ers, Bengals, Patriots. '70 Eagles, Cards, Bears, Broncos, Oilers, Chargers, Bills, Steelers, Saints. \$1.00 each. All teams in very good condition. I pay postage. WANTED: '65 and '66 NY Mets (also '62 and '66 Met yearbooks). Will pay a ridiculously high price for any or all--or willing to trade the football teams. Richard Muller, 1820 Loring Place, Bronx, NY 10453

FOR SALE: '27 & '41 Yanks, '34 & '46 Cards, '22 & '54 Giants, '35 Cubs, '48 & '54 Indians, '24 Senators, '31 A's, '40 Reds, '41 Dodgers, '50 Phils, nameless players, both Hall of Fame teams, 1970 baseball teams except Padres, Astros, Expos, Brewers, roster sheets included. Football: 1970 Chiefs, Raiders, Cowboys, Falcons, Colts, Dolphins, Eagles, Bengals, Lions, Rams. Good condition. Buy individually or as a set. I'll sell to best offer after 10 days. Dave Lengel, 24 Lincoln Drive, Wernersville, PA 19565

## League's Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: Want to form a league in the Mentor area. If interested write: Tim Earley, 7950 Mentor Ave., Apt. C-1, Mentor, OH 44060

LEAGUE FORMING: Attention all SOM players who want to join a play-by-mail league like real baseball. We will draft from the advanced 1972 cards. There will be major and minor franchises. Write preference. I only want players who play and won't quit. All teams aren't needed. Wanted: '63, '64 Twins, \$1.50. Joe Belzer, 1446 Texas Circle, St. Louis Park, MN 55426



LEAGUE FORMING: A very well thought up play-by-mail football league is now accepting entries! We'll use the old 10 team AFL alignment with the upcoming 1972 football cards. Run by Clyde Matsusaka and Frank Kastelil, dissatisfaction of this league will be impossible!!! All playing tips and suffestions will be considered and voted upon. I want players who will go the full season. If you're interested, and how can you not be, send top six choices along with one dollar and your vote if we should regulate trades to: Clyde Matsusaka, 1459 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813. The teams in the West are the Raiders, Chargers, Chiefs, Broncos and Bengals and in the East, Jets, Oilers, Bills, Patriots, and Dolphins. We'll have alot of fun, so please hurry.

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#### DIRECTORY OWNERS

Here are more names and addresses which you can add to your Strat-O-Matic Directory.

Ken Przystas 49 Racicot Avenue Webster, MA 01570	Paul Szostakowski 49 Racicot Avenue Webster, MA 01570	Keith Burgess 625 Evangeline Way Hayward, CA 94544	Jon Silver 22 Grove Drive Portola Valley, CA 94025 (415) 851-7519
Bob Lucke 34 Grove Drive Portola Valley, CA 94025 (415) 851-7634	Robert H. Routier 262 Los Altos Drive Kensington, CA 94708 (415) 525-2686	Rod Wolfson 325 S. Roberts Rd. Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 (215) LA5-6192	Mark Selle R.T. 2, Box 3390 Carmel, CA 93921 (408) 624-7542
Gene Milener IV 39 Cedar Street Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-2174 age 13	Eric Rude 88 Maple Street Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-6451 age 13	David Leonard 37 Woodside Avenue Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-5506 age 15	Mark Wolfgang 1 Swart Hollow Rd. Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-4992 age 13
Jeff Soved 62 East Street Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-5384 age 13	Brian Smith Upper East Street Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-6254 age 13	Howard Wallac 31 Elm Street Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-0690 age 13	

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#### Tenace Socks 'Em

Gene Tenace will never make the Hall-of-Fame for his hitting or catching ability, but every now and then the Oakland backstop makes noises with his bat that are heard around the Strat-O-Matic world.

For instance, in a game between Joe Belzer and Dix Kaufman, both of St. Louis Park, MN, Gene ('72 cards) smashed four straight home runs. Making the feat even more noteworthy was that Tenace (Dix' player) socked a circuit shot off 1-7 (1-16 home run, 17-20 double) all four times.

## Another Look At Football Draft

Richard Curtis  
Rochester, New York

My brother Dave, and myself have developed a method of drafting football players for a league which we'd like to share with all Review readers. It is somewhat like Chris Wise's (June Review) but takes into account the individual defensive ratings of players more than the team they played for as Wise's does.

Players are chosen in normal manner until all teams are filled up. Then in order to figure out which team gets which defense, you go through the following procedure:

Players draft one of each of the three defense cards.

- (1) The coach with the highest combined total of the defensive points from his starting right and left defensive tackles and his middle linebacker gets first pick of the Lineback-Off Tackle cards available. The coach with the second highest total gets second pick and so on down the line.
- (2) A similar procedure is followed for the End Run-Flat Pass card, but this time the coach with the highest total of his left and right defensive ends and left and right linebackers gets first pick.
- (3) For the Short Pass-Long Pass card, total the two cornerbacks and two safeties to determine the picks.
- (4) In case there is tie in the number of points for any of the cards, total all the defensive starters on both teams and give the coach with the greater total the higher pick.

For deciding which player gets which pass rush and pass blocking rating, decide how many of each number rating there will be available for each of the two ratings. For example, in a five-player league, you might want to have one rating of 5, one rating of 4, one rating of 3, one rating of 2, and one rating of 1 for both pass block and pass rush ratings. Then whoever has the highest total of his offensive line (including both ends) gets the highest rating for pass blocking. The coach with the highest total of his defensive line (you might want to also include linebackers, we don't however), gets the highest pass rush rating.

The one problem with this system is that in some cases the ratings don't really represent a player's ability (as Mr. Richman states), but this is only a minor hangup. The advantages of the system are that players are not given an advantage simply because they played on a good defensive team, even though they might have been no better than another player on a poor defense. Examples of this are Spider Lockhart and Paul Krause who are both free safeties, rated "6". Under Chris Wise's system, Paul Krause would be much more desirable to choose since he played on an excellent defense, while Spider played on an average defense even though he is considered one of the best free safeties in the NFL. Another advantage is that the players directly responsible for a certain area of defense determine how good that card is for each coach.

We've played two draft leagues with this system and it worked out well. The first year we drafted from the 1968 AFL and had eight teams. The next year we used the 1969 AFL but were down to four teams due to players leaving for college.



## In The Strat-O-Matic Spotlight

### PLAY-BY-PLAY

Shades of Curt Gowdy, Jack Brickhouse, Harry Carey and Howard Cosell, as George Watkins, Sunnyvale, CA, is a sports announcer too.

You won't pick George up on TV or radio, however, since his play-by-play accounts of his Strat-O-Matic baseball games haven't branched out that far as yet. If you happen to get near his home on a summer evening, though, you won't have to listen closely to pick up the broadcasts, complete with crowd cheering.

"When I play SOM I actually broadcast the game to myself," says George. "I mean I'll have the game all laid out on the floor, then as each batter comes up I'll announce his name--trying to duplicate the public address announcer. While broadcasting the game I also include sound effects. Such as the crowd cheering, plus I can also do a great air-horn.

"However, it can be a bit embarrassing. There have been numerous times where my voice has reached a near scream when the excitement just gets too unbearable. This leaves people in the near vicinity, who can hear, a little puzzled as to the strange goings on behind those closed doors. At times I catch myself before I let go, but those 'other' people just don't know how exciting it is when Bobby Bonds hits a two-out homer in the bottom of the ninth inning to win a game."

Maybe announcing it isn't your thing, but for George it certainly has doubled his SOM pleasure. "I don't blame myself for getting overly excited. Baseball can only be as exciting as you want it to be. By announcing a game to yourself or others, consciously or unconsciously, you'll create a lot more tension, action and drama out of an already super game."

### OLD-TIMERS POLL

Many readers continue to write the Review asking about Old-Timer teams and when new ones will be available.

The baseball changes made this year prevented Strat-O-Matic from coming out with new Old-Timer teams, but hopefully next year will see some additions made.

For readers who missed it, the Review ran a poll (August, 1971) to find out what Old-Timer teams were most in demand. Here is what the response was, in order of voting: 1. 1906 Chicago Cubs; 2. 1919 Chicago White Sox; 3. 1909 Detroit Tigers; 4. 1912 Boston Red Sox; 5. 1909 Pittsburgh Pirates; 6. 1911 Philadelphia Athletics; 7. 1910 Philadelphia Athletics; 8. 1902 Pittsburgh Pirates; 9. 1920 Chicago Cubs; 10. 1934 Detroit Tigers; 11. 1959 Chicago White Sox.

### ANOTHER BABE RUTH CARD?

Occasionally, letters cross the desk of the Review asking about why Babe Ruth's card (Hall of Fame) didn't have the 1920 or 1921 stats on the flip side rather than the 1927.

Readers such as Kelly Huey of Nashville, TN, Steve Constant of Midland, TX, and Harry Davey have put in plugs for another Ruth card based on either of those seasons.

Huey points out that Ruth in 1921 was superior in every category except home runs to his '27 counterpart. The '21 version had more hits (204-192), scored more runs (177-158), had more doubles (44-29), more triples (16-8) and drove in more runs

(144-138). In homers it was 60 in '27, 59 in '21--only a difference of one.

For historical purposes (omitting Roger Maris' 61 homers in 1961), the 1927 Ruth would certainly be worth having, so it's not hard to see why SOM picked that year. However, knowing the game company's response in the past to popular changes that have been recommended, we wouldn't be surprised to see another Ruth card come along in the future.

#### THIS 'N THAT

...Sometimes watching a no-hitter being ruined is just too much to take. Daryl Grew, North Bend, WA, turned into "Daryl the Ripper" when Ted Uhlaender, unfortunately for Uhlaender, spoiled Diego Segui's no-hit bid with two outs in the ninth inning of a recent game. Daryl, shocked after finding out the result off a split number chance, ripped Uhlaender's card in half. Later, though, Uhlaender became one again when Daryl had a change of heart and taped him back together...Bob Brill, Sylmar, CA, does his home run derby a little differently than most. He uses a pitcher's card for the home run belters to hit against, but picks someone like Julio Navarro (1970 Braves) as the cannon fodder chucker...Ronnie Smith, Richmond, VA, has been playing SOM baseball for five years and has witnessed only one no-hitter; that a gem by Jim Lonborg of the '67 Red Sox against Bob Gibson and the Cards in a World Series replay...An ad in the Review has led to Dave Lengel, Wernersville, PA, joining a baseball mail league. At the same time, Dave also made some new friends. In fact, one of the league members, Don Chandler III of Grand Rapids, MI, will be visiting Dave this month and the two plan on taking in a game at Veteran's Stadium in Philadelphia...How did a Strat-O-Matic Baseball League in Clarksburg, VA, get to be called the Hopkins Baseball League? Bill Ballweg says it resulted from the fact that he was reading a book at school that belonged to Bob Hopkins, saw an ad for SOM and clipped it out and sent for the game. In memory of Hopkins and the missing part of his book, the league was named after him. Hopkins doesn't know this, however, or who dismembered his book...If you want to put a replay or letter in the Review, keep it within a reasonable length and make sure it's readable. Typing sure helps. Also, please don't send in lists of names and ask for readers to pick a most valuable player in your league. One or two was no problem, but MVP selections snowballed and there simply wasn't room to run long lists of names and stats for readers to choose from...

#### 'Iron Man' Gehrig

They called Lou Gehrig the "Iron Man" because of the consecutive number of games he played for the Yankees. To Ed Furman, who is replaying the '27 Yankee powerhouse against teams in seven-game sets, it could also mean the power that Gehrig generated with his bat.

For instance, as the Yanks were winning 20 of 27 games from the likes of the '67 Red Sox, '61 Yanks, '60 Pirates, '54 Giants and '62 Mets, big Lou smashed 14 home runs (one a grand-slam), drove in 39 runs and even swiped a pair of bases.

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Q: HOW MANY TIMES DID BILL FREEHAN STRIKE OUT IN 1971? THE TOTAL WAS OMITTED FROM HIS CARD.

A: 48 times.



## 'Pioneer' Heard From

Richard Perreault  
Sandersville, Georgia

I consider myself to be somewhat of a Strat-O-Matic pioneer. On June 16, 1963, Whitey Ford of the 1962 Yankees threw the first pitch of my SOM career. In early October of 1968, Daryle Lamonica of the '67 Raiders called on Hewritt Dixon to bust off the right side for my first SOM football play.

Now, over a million dice rolls later, I want to share some of my experiences and techniques with my fellow fanatics.

First of all I would like to comment on the number of people with journalism backgrounds who are into Strato. I hold an AB and MA in journalism and am currently the public relations director for a public school system.

I began my table game career at the age of eleven. I used baseball cards to compile charts grouping the players by ability. This was three years before the first SOM game hit the market. Now 13 years later, and after going through the usual stages of convincing my mother and then my wife that Strat-O-Matic was not something you grow out of, I find, like most of you, that this is my primary hobby.

Oddly enough, I have had few outstanding highlights in my nine previous seasons. The highlights have been even odder than their rarity of occurrence. My three no-hitters belong to Dick Farrell, 1962 Houston Colts, Dick Kelley, 1969 expansion set Padres, and are you ready, Roger Craig, 1962 Mets. In the homerun department, Jimmy Hall, 1964 Twins, hit 60 and Mack Jones of the '65 Braves, pounded out 58.

In 1971, after eight years of straight replays, I changed my league arrangement. I now operate two divisions. One is comprised of the six most westerly teams of the 12 I choose to use, the other is made up of six eastern teams and a seventh made up of players from the extra player sets who are not included in the league, and fictitious players on nameless player cards. Five of these fictitious players are drafted at random each year. The first year they must play in the minor league organization. This minor league not only gives me a chance to look at additional players, but also serves as a testing ground for playing innovations of my own creation and those found in the Review.

I have the option of bringing up a drafted player at the end of a season in the minors, or I can leave him in the instructional league, where if he plays every game at the same position, his fielding rating is lowered by 1.

There are built-in safeguards to prevent me from stocking my team with .300 hitting fringe players. I did manage a season record of 77-79 last year but I am currently 36-34.

The scheduling is such that my team plays 156 games with the others each playing 36. Near the end of the season the legitimate teams mainly play games with teams in their division, thereby creating the possibility of a pennant race.

One final feature I use is a maximum lifetime appearance factor. For instance: a batter is allowed 3,000 major league at-bats, or 3,500 including his minor league career. This is one way to prevent stockpiling a team of stars over a period of years. It also gives me career records that I can realistically break without having to play 18 or 20 years with the same team.

Another advantage of this maximum appearance system is that it provides realism in terms of a player ending his career. As he draws near the end, a player may be rested, thereby extending his career for several seasons, though appearing less frequently.

An innings-pitched limitation allows a man several years as a starter. Then he could be assigned to the bullpen and become another Wilhelm or McMahon, stretching out his career for many years.

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## Home Run Derby

Interesting thing about the finals of Barry Scheiman's (Brooklyn, NY) all-time home run derby was that Babe Ruth ('27 Yanks) and Hank Aaron ('66 Braves), the No. 1 and 2 all-time career home run belters, met in the finals.

Before exchanging long-ball wallops the two had to survive three earlier rounds of play. In the first round, Ruth edged Zack Wheat, 2-1, while Aaron decisioned Willie Mays ('62 Giants), 4-3.

Other first-round results had Jim Foxx ('31 A's) whipping Tony Lazzari ('27 Yanks), 1-0; Roy Campanella ('53 Dodgers) outblasting Bill Terry ('30 Giants), 6-2; Ted Williams ('41 Red Sox) topping Joe DeMaggio ('39 Yanks), 3-1; Mel Ott ('29 Giants) nipping Bill Dickey ('36 Yanks), 2-1; Lou Gehrig ('34 Yanks) whipping Mickey Cochrane ('31 A's), 4-2; and Rogers Hornsby ('24 Giants) downing Stan Musial ('48 Cards), 3-2.

Second round winners were Aaron, 4-3 over Campanella; Ott, 3-1 over Williams; Gehrig, 4-1 over Foxx, and Ruth, 5-2 over Hornsby.

Then Ruth and Aaron set up their meeting in the finals by Ruth taking care of Ott, 6-2, and Aaron edging Gehrig, 2-1.

Finally, with each taking 10 home run swings (with 1 and 4 columns counting the same, likewise for 2-5 and 3-6), Ruth belted six homers and Aaron three. Ruth once again proved to be the greatest long-ball hitter of them all.

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## Coming Next Month...

...Computer replay; pictures and a story on the SOM Convention; results of the "Family Affair" tournament; more on league yearbooks that seem to be deluging the SOM desk over the past month; and, much, much more. Letters, replays and adds to be considered for the next issue must be in by the third of the month.

