



STRAT-O-MATIC REVIEW

Devoted exclusively to the
Strat-O-Matic Game fan,
with the consent of the
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Turnout Small, But Fun On Large Scale

Champaign-Urbana Convention A Success

BY RICK SHAPIRO

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. -- Bart Ewing, after a 20-hour bus ride from Mississippi, was the first to arrive for the third national Strat-O-Matic Convention. As it turned out, Bart was also the last to leave, arriving Wednesday afternoon and not departing until Monday, July 29. He didn't leave empty handed, though, as, after staying up until 4:30 a.m. Sunday, he was crowned the first national Strat-O-Matic Basketball champion.

All told, counting four wives, 40 people attended the two-day (and part of Sunday morning) convention. The turnout was smaller than hoped for, but all who made the scene immensely enjoyed themselves, made a lot of new friends and gave me encouragement toward hosting another such convention next summer--which I plan to do.

After Ewing's arrival, Al Hartley and Kevin Eisenberg (after a 2200-mile drive from California, Brad Furst (Flying in from New Mexico) and Robert Henry (with his huge card collection) and Brian Simmons arrived by car after motoring from Detroit, MI. J.G. Preston and Jeff Guterman, from New York, also arrived Thursday.

Friday morning I was the first to arrive at the Illini Union at the Urbana-Champaign campus. The room the tournaments were held in was the nicest a national convention had been held in. Four glass chandeliers jutted out from the ceiling. At the north wall in front of the curtains covering the windows were four display cases (for Henry's collection), a speaker's stand with a microphone, and three tables to collect scoresheets, distribute rules and scoresheets.

Lining the east and west wall were a single row of chairs. By the south wall there were three rows of 15 chairs each and in the middle of the room were 12 tables. The first people to join me were Mr. and Mrs. Steve Walters (Potosi, MO) and Mr. and Mrs. Chub Gross (Texas). As the day went on Friday, about 35 more people arrived.

All told, S-O-M enthusiasts arrived from such states as California, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Texas, Michigan, Minnesota, etc., as well as the host state Illinois.

Robert Henry's card collection was a big hit. He exhibited Willie Mays, Hank Aaron and Roberto Clemente cards from 1960-1973, plus also displayed some of the older teams, from 1960-63.

Four tournaments were held: advance baseball (26 entries), advance football (15), basketball (10) and elementary baseball (18). Both advance baseball and football tournaments were double-elimination--which caused the final rounds of play to stretch into the wee hours of Sunday morning.

ELEMENTARY BASEBALL

This single-elimination tourney moved rapidly to a completion. I was even forced to play (because of an uneven number of participants). I tried Roy Daiell's method of selecting a lineup used at last year's convention in Brooklyn, NY--shuffling the cards--but was soon eliminated. Dena Cummins, wife of Mike Cummins, made a strong bid to become the first woman to win a national tourney. She defeated Mike Gilbert (remember him, with his Old-Timer series?) and Randy Popp in the first two rounds. Then Steve Uher, Urbana, IL, finally forced her to the sidelines in the quarter-finals.

Steve met the winner of the Stan Austin (Calumet City, IL)-Bob Anderson (Chicago, IL) matchup, with Anderson, behind Jim Bibby's 3-0 shutout of the '71 Cubs for the '73 Texas Rangers the springboard to success. Remember the teams are traded for the second game and the overall winner is the one scoring the most runs (hits, or left on base). Stan, behind Sonny Siebert's 1-0 triumph, won the second game but lost the series, 3-1.

Uher was using the 1968 Reds for the finals and he quickly jumped on Bibby for eight runs in the first four innings. Anderson fought back, however, and made it close at the finish, 8-7. Then in the second game, Jim Maloney tossed a three-hit shutout and even smacked a home run in a 4-0 win for Anderson. Bob Anderson had become the new elementary baseball champion!

ADVANCED FOOTBALL

The 1972 teams were used and, of course, the teams were switched at halftime to make it a test of football skill for the coaches rather than what team they were guiding. J.G. Preston tasted early defeat in the double-elimination tourney, with Jeff Guterma administering the coup de grace in round five.

Another highlight was Randy Popp scoring the most points (44-10) in defeating Steve Walters in another early-round battle. Popp, from Hutchinson, MN, soon lost to Harold Roughton, Urbana, as Roughton, Brad Furst, Al Hartley of Beverly Hills, CA, and Jeff Guterma all made their way into the semifinals. Furst, incidentally, had lost 31-3 to Steve Uher in the first round and battled back to reach the semi's.

In the semifinals, Roughton (starting with Minnesota) outscored Brad (starting with Los Angeles), 38-23, and Hartley (Atlanta) edged Guterma (Pittsburgh), 27-21. For the finals, Roughton picked the Los Angeles Rams and Al the Dallas Cowboys. Surprisingly, Roughton shut out the stronger Cowboys in the first half, 10-0. In the second half, Harold took over the Cowboys and knocked out 20 more points on the way to a 30-3 win and recognition as the new national advanced football champ.

ADVANCED BASEBALL

Some of the well-known names of the Strato world--J.G. Preston, Larry Steinberg, Furst, Bryan Simmons, Jim Chanos, Robert Henry, Mike Cummins and myself, the "Wolfman"--were entered, but not one made it to the quarter-finals. Reaching the quarters were Steve Walters, Potosi, MO (5-0), Fred Floreth,

itchfield, IL (5-1), Bart Ewing (4-1) and Bob Galvin, Amherst, OH (5-1). Steve used the 1973 Orioles vs. Fred's 1972 Phillies. Baltimore led 2-0 in the top of the ninth when Paul Blair committed a two-base error and Oscar Gamble knocked a three-run homer for an eventual 4-2 win for Fred. Fred won the round in a 7-5 run margin, but both advanced. A possible meeting between the two would occur in the finals--if both continued to win.

Next Bob Galvin, using the '71 Red Sox, blasted Bart's '72 Reds, 6-3, and, after the switch, Bob destroyed the Red Sox, 12-2, as Bart futilely used seven pitchers. In the second part of the semifinals, Bob faced Fred. In game one Steve Carlton threw a one-hit shutout at Bob's '71 Bosox. It was the beginning of the end for Bob as Ray Culp (take a glance at his card!) surprised with a three-hit shutout as Fred won by 2-0 and 5-0 scores.

The rematch between Steve Walters and Fred Floreth pitted the same teams as before. The first game, matching Carlton and Jim Palmer ended in a 1-1 tie, with both teams leaving seven on base. The second game was the most exciting of the tournament as both teams were scoreless going into the top of the ninth inning. Then Fred loaded the bases with two outs and Don Baylor at bat. It was a long drive--going!, going!, GONE! A grand-slam homer gave Fred Floreth the advanced baseball championship.

ADVANCED BASKETBALL

Only eight people vied for honors in the first hardwood tournament at the national level. Early results had Furst ousting J.G. Preston, Mike Cummins trimming Bryan Simmons, Bart Ewing defeating Larry Steinberg and Harold Roughton topping Jim Chanos. Next, Bart, starting with Los Angeles and switching to Chicago in the second half, eliminated Roughton, 110-104, making sure Roughton couldn't win two tournaments. In the other semifinal, Brad's Warriors tied Mike's Lakers at halftime, 39-all, before Brad rolled up a 65-44 second half advantage to win, 104-83.

So the finals matched Bart Ewing and Brad Furst. Brad started with Boston and Bart Baltimore, with Brad seizing a 62-57 halftime lead in a slow, deliberate game that was to eventually take five hours to complete. Ewing had a big third quarter, however, scoring a whopping 44 points--a one quarter high for the journey--and moved in front, 101-93, going into the fourth period. Brad couldn't lose the gap and Bart finally won 128-123. Leading scorers were Phil Chenier, 7; Dave Cowens, 23; Don Nelson, 23; Don Chaney, 20; John Havlicek, 22; Mike Jordan, 20, and Archie Clark, 24. Bart Ewing is now the reigning basketball champ, and he's only 16 years old.

The five-hour marathon in the finals of basketball contrasted noticeably with the advanced football final, which was all over in 45 minutes. The new basketball rules (with the greatly reduced playing time elements and elimination of most of the pawn moving) will certainly be a welcome addition. Right Brad and Bart, both of whom were rollin' dice as the clock struck 4 a.m. Sunday?

NEXT MONTH: Pictures of the convention held at Champaign-Urbana, IL, will be presented in the October issue of the Strat-O-Matic Review. Also, a report on the meeting that took place at the convention regarding a Strat-O-Matic "Union".

***** BASEBALL PLAYING TIP

Glenn Thompson, Long Beach, CA, uses index-type cards (larger than 3-by-5, however) to keep individual stats for batters and pitchers for his S-O-M Baseball games--but while the game is in progress. He claims it only takes him an average of seven minutes per game to record at-bats, hits, runs, RBI, walks, strikeouts, singles, doubles, triples, home runs, stolen base attempts and stolen base successes for batters and innings pitched, hits, walks, strikeouts, runs allowed, games started, games completed, appearances, wins, losses, shutouts and home runs allowed for pitchers.

The cards, subdivided into the above categories, are stacked each game as the regular player's cards and marked each at-bat, thus eliminating the compiling of stats afterward. The idea has merit, but drawbacks include not only the time, the cost of the index cards, but also the problem of scoring the individual game and keeping track of inning-by-inning happenings. What do the readers think?

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Dolphins Should Dominate '74 Tabletop Football Campaigns

Although at press time the players' strike threatened the opening of the pro football season, many of these same striking players were clashing head-to-head through the use of dice as Strat-O-Matic Football wars begin to heat up.

After looking through the new cards it's obvious such teams as the Miami Dolphins, Oakland Raiders, Los Angeles Rams and Minnesota Vikings--all playoff teams--are going to be just as strong as in real-life. Plus Philadelphia should be exciting with Roman Gabriel filling the air with passes--even though most are of the shorter variety. The Eagles, however, along with Houston, are atrocious on defense and coaches of these clubs are certain to have nightmares when foes go on the attack.

If you're coaching Houston it would be best to dip your running backs' hands in glue before each game, since the offensive cards have fumble chances on both Nos. 5 and 10. Meanwhile, fumbles won't be much of a problem for L.A. or the New York Giants, as the offensive cards don't have any since both lost the ball via bobbles only nine times in real-life.

Miami seems without a weakness. The defense has only one "4" [tackle Bob Heinz], while the offensive line has four "3s" along it. Mercury Morris will be a dazzler and a threat to go cross-country every time he handles the ball. On an end run, guessed wrong, for instance, he's got gains of 70, long gain, short gain, 33 and 53 yards. Wow! Flanker Paul Warfield has long gains on both Nos. 8 and 9, guessed right or wrong, while on defense the secondary doesn't even have a long gain on a short pass off its own card.

Los Angeles looms awesome also, with good running backs [Lawrence McCutcheon and Jim Bertelson], John Hadl's 22 TD passes, four "3s" on the offensive line and all "5s" and "6s" manning the defensive line and linebacking spots. End Harold Jackson's 21.9 per reception average doesn't hurt the offense one bit, either. Minnesota returns to its glory days on defense, plus Fran Tarkenton completes passes at a 61.7 per cent rate (only 2.6 per cent are intercepted) and there's John Gilliam (21.6) as the deep pass threat. Dallas is another woe-to-foes team as Roger Staubach boasts a 62.6 per cent completion rate with 23 TDs and a wall of completions on short pass in the guessed "wrong" column. Both defensive tackles, Bob Lilly and Jethro Pugh, are "6s" as the defense forces fumbles on both Nos. 5 and 11.

Oakland is another to watch in the AFC with Ken Stabler (62.7 per cent) at the controls and a trio of terrific runners in Marv Hubbard, Clarence Davis and Charlie Smith. Plus the Raiders have solid people opening the holes, especially the left side of the line where guard Gene Upshaw and tackle Art Shell, both "3s", hang out.

The game company, never one to stand pat, has also added to changes to the game this year. Now it will be possible to use a three-man pass rush for those obvious passing situations, plus adjustments have been made so that in those third down and long yardage situations the run will not be as effective as in the past.

All in all it looks like another exciting Strat-O-Matic Football season ahead
ROLL 'EM!

Strat-O-Matic Spotlight

Jim Marshall is a solid believer in the designated hitter idea. He used it in his recent leagues and found there to be many more runs and hits produced. In a survey of 51 teams from 1922-1972 in league play, here is how hitting stats compared for the pitchers:

	AB	H	2B	3B	HR	AVG	K	K%	HR%	SLUG
Pitchers	14,906	2,152	331	57	113	.144	4,732	31.7	0.8	.197
DH	2,104	511	92	13	65	.243	307	14.6	3.1	.392

[continued on following page]

SHORT SHAKES

...Since most of the discussion when it comes to pitchers in Strat-O-Matic Baseball centers on no-hitters, near misses, etc., here's something a little different for you: Woody Fryman, pitching for the Detroit Tigers against the Pittsburgh Pirates, both 1972 vintage, allowed 15 hits over nine innings yet still recorded a shutout. Tim Cawley of Downers Grove, IL, who was on the dice-rolling end of the game, reports that the final score was Detroit 7, Pittsburgh 0, and that Fryman's performance established a new Major League record for most hits in a regulation game that was a shutout...An error in time would have saved more than nine innings in a 21-inning marathon witnessed by Richard Bello of Dallas, TX. The Baltimore Orioles and Milwaukee Brewers hooked up in the lengthy contest, with the Brewers finally winning 6-5 when second baseman Bobby Grich committed a two-base error, his second of the game, in the 21st and allowed the decisive run to score...Cleon Jones, now in the twilight of his career, put on some fireworks in a recent baseball game for brothers Jim and John Norquist of Bloomington, MN. Jones rapped a bases-loaded home run in the first inning and followed it by belting another grand-slam in the second. Both homers came off his own card on No. 1-10...Ever have those seemingly sure home runs miss on a split number? We all have, that's for sure. Ken Hutchings, Harbor City, CA, had an early-season game with the new baseball cards between Oakland (Ken Holtzman) and Texas (Jim Bibby) that lasted 15 innings, with the Rangers finally winning, 3-2. Bibby went all the way, allowing only nine hits and striking out 20. The most aggravating situation occurred in the eighth inning, however, when Sal Bando lifted a shot (Home Run 1-18, Flyball LF 19-20) with two runners aboard that seemed destined to be a homer. So, what happens, a "19" was drawn, and that "sure" homer was held up by the wind and Elliott Maddox allowed to make a catch up against the fence...Ricky Marshall of Springfield, MA, is slowly working his way through a 20-game per team basketball replay. Nate Archibald is the league's leading scorer with a 34.9 average, with Spencer Haywood second at 31.0 and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar third at 30.0, while Boston has a 12-2 record and Milwaukee is 13-1...Remember, some of the first sets of the new Strat-O-Matic Football cards did not have a rating listed for Chicago Bear linebacker Bob Pifferini. His rating, if your set has nothing listed for him, should be a "0", according to the game company.

Baseball Playing Tip

A dancing knuckleball has bedeviled catchers since the pitch first began. Some catchers, who could do little else, made their living off their ability to handle such a pitch. Others had their careers shortened because of the worry and grief, not to mention the passed balls, attributed to the knuckler.

Now Charles Wolfson of Ann Arbor, MI, has come up with some changes that reflect a catcher's woes when catching a knuckleballer such as Wilbur Wood, Charlie Hough, Bruce Dal Canton, Phil Niekro, etc.

"The advantage it [the knuckler] gives baserunners in stealing and the increased number of wild pitches and passed balls are the primary effects," says Wolfson. "To adjust for knuckleballers I increase my catcher's fielding rating by one [e.g. 2+1=3] for passed balls and wild pitches only. An error which occurs on the increased rating is not an error, but the original rating is referred to. Baserunners' steal ratings are also increased by two. Thus a "C" [1-11] becomes a "B" [1-13]; a "AA [1-17], however, remains at 1-17, although he becomes a "AAA".

Directory Additions

Pete Florio, 42 Browers Lane, Roslyn Hts., Long Island, NY 11577, 516-484-1482. Age: 18. Plays baseball in play-by-mail league.

Mike Rennick, 3523 Eden Place, Carmel, IN 46032
 Jeff Merklin, 5520 King Pike NE, West Jefferson, OH 43162 [614] 879-8502; age: 14; plays all three games.

Bucs Sail To N.L. Title

No one would ever dispute that the Pittsburgh Pirate attack can be awesome, that it can destroy the best of opposing pitching staffs, and that if the pitching would hold up the Bucs would probably be the best team in the National League.

Well, Pittsburgh was just that in the first complete-season replay of 1973, conducted by Dan Hoffman of Elmira, NY. The Bucs, after a slow start, warmed up on the attack in a hurry and won three more games than in real-life and ended up tying the surprising Chicago Cubs for the N.L. East title. Then in a playoff, Pittsburgh whipped the Cubs twice, 4-3 and 12-6.

The New York Mets, despite a team 2.84 pitching earned run average, wound up tied for third with St. Louis with an 81-81 record, only one less victory than recorded in real-life. Pittsburgh was only 13-25 after 38 games, but then went on a 20-3 tear as Manny Sanguillen batted .537 and Willie Stargell socked 11 homers and batted .439 during the push. The Bucs had the season's longest win skein--12 games.

Over in the West, Los Angeles didn't pull an El Foldo and the Cincinnati Reds couldn't overtake them, with the Dodgers winning by four games. In the NL playoff, however, the Bucs cruised again and swept the series, 4-0, 6-1 and 6-4.

Atlanta second baseman Dave Johnson was selected by Hoffman as the NL's most valuable player after hitting a league-leading 53 home runs and knocking in 145 runs. Don Sutton, who won 25 and lost only seven while compiling a 1.82 ERA for the Dodgers, was the Cy Young winner. Gary Matthews of the S.F. Giants was the Rookie of the Year and Mike Marshall, who made 74 appearances for Montreal, was the Fireman of the Year.

Andy Messersmith of the Dodgers pitched a perfect game against San Francisco, Tommy Agee of the Cardinals stroked three home runs in one game, while Atlanta had the highest team batting average, a whopping .300.

Standings and individual leaders:

East	Won-Lost	GB	West	Won-Lost	GB
1. Pittsburgh	83-79	--	1. Los Angeles	97-65	--
Chicago	83-79	--	2. Cincinnati	93-69	4
3. New York	81-81	2	3. San Francisco	87-75	10
St. Louis	81-81	2	4. Atlanta	86-76	11
5. Montreal	80-83	3	5. Houston	78-84	19
6. Philadelphia	73-89	10	6. San Diego	50-112	47

Batting	Home Runs	RBI
Helms .346	D.Johnson 53	D.Johnson 145
Garr .340	Stargell 47	Stargell 130
Aaron .338	Aaron 44	Aaron 129
Grubb .336	L.May 40	L.May 125
W.Davis .331	Cedeno 34	D.Evans 124
Maddox .329	Perez 34	Luzinski 109
Stargell .328	Luzinski 34	Singleton 109
Oliver .328	D.Evans 33	
Lum .326		
Sanguillen .322		

Strikeouts	ERA	Won-Lost
Seaver 302	Bonham 1.50	Sutton 25-7
Sutton 279	Messersmith 1.71	Messersmith 23-6
Carlton 270	Sutton 1.82	Seaver 22-12
Twitchell 221	Seaver 1.90	Hooton 21-10
Reuschel 221	Hooton 1.92	Wise 20-11
Harrison 209	Koosman 2.26	Billingham 19-12
Moore 200	Gibson 2.30	
	Wilson 2.41	Innings - Seaver 341
	Wise 2.70	Saves - Marshall 23
	Caldwell 2.70	Losees - Arlin 20
		Comp. Games - Sutton 30

No-Hitters

Sutton, Earnshaw, Mathewson Hurl 'Perfect' Gems

Perfect games in Strat-O-Matic Baseball are, for most people on the dice-rollin' end, comparable to striking oil in the backyard. No-hitters are hard enough to come by--but a perfect game, that's a rarity indeed.

A couple of perfect games were recently etched into the memory banks of delighted S-O-M managers this summer. One such memorable pitching performance was viewed by Seth Goldberg of Downey, CA, a ten-year S-O-M Baseball vet who previously had watched no-hit history being made on only one occasion. Unfortunately for Goldberg, both Steve Ranko (1973 Expos) and Bill Singer (1973 Angels) just missed no-hitters--both tossing one-hitters, with Singer losing his in the ninth inning when Baltimore's Mark Belanger singled.

Fortunately, however, along came L.A.'s Don Sutton, 1973 vintage, and he notched the perfect game against Montreal. Willie Davis' two home runs supplied the offense in a 6-0 win, while Sutton's only close call came when Boots Day had a 1-7 roll ("Single 1-5, Lineout 6-20") but drew an "8" split number. "I noticed the perfect game in the fourth inning and almost had a heart attack waiting it out," said Goldberg later. Surprisingly, Sutton had a minuscule 0.64 earned run average entering the game and Goldberg felt certain it was his "time" to get clobbered.

James Perkins also got into the perfect game act. He watched George Earnshaw of the 1931 Philadelphia A's set down the '69 California Angels, 6-0. Earnshaw struck out 10 in pitching the first no-hitter for Perkins, who has played well over 500 solitaire S-O-M contests.

A more remarkable feat was that by Christy Mathewson, 1905 Giants, who duplicated Johnny VanderMeer by tossing back-to-back no-hitters, the second a perfect game, in a short series against the 1941 New York Yankees. In the first game Mathewson struck out three and walked two and in the second he fanned six in setting down 27 straight hitters. In a replay for Scott Foust of Johnstown, PA, who had played over 1,000 games without a no-hitter before Mathewson came along, the Giant ace has a 5-1 record, three shutouts and an ERA of 0.81.

Other recent no-hitters included:

* Carl Erskine, '53 Dodgers, did a no-hit job on the '54 Cleveland Indians, 6-0, walking only one and striking out nine. Rich Grant of Regina, Sask., watched the happening, his second no-hitter since purchasing S-O-M over a year ago.

* Scott Kallgren of Farmington Hills, MI, owns all the S-O-M games, and is a fanatic of the diamond version. However, he's never had a no-hitter. But, lending the game to his brother Ted, who plays about 20 games a season, a no-hitter was pitched by Detroit's Joe Coleman ('72) against Cincinnati, 2-0. Coleman allowed five runners to reach base, four via walks and one on an error, plus struck out 12. Scott has his game back now...and he's still rollin', seeking that first no-hitter.

* Add Mark Zillinger's (Phillipsburg, KS) name to the list of charter members of the S-O-M no-hit "club". He watched his first not long ago when Ron Bryant of the '73 San Francisco Giants set down the Phillies, 5-0. Bryant struck out five and walked four and never was in serious danger of having a base hit spoil his pitcher's dream.

Back Issues Of Review?

The following back issues of the Strat-O-Matic Review may still be purchased. Send to the Strat-O-Matic Review, P.O. Box 27, Otsego, MI 49078.

- 1974 -- June, May, April, Jan.; 40¢ per issue. Feb., March, July and August were complete sellouts.
- 1973 -- Dec., Nov., Oct., Aug., July and April; 40¢ each.
- 1972 -- Dec., Nov., Aug.; 35¢ each.

Some months are in extremely short supply so please list a second choice in case your first is no longer available.

Dennis Yost Oversees Giant Basketball Project

Kubis Khan League Completes Replay

Dennis Yost is one young man who doesn't give up easily. Despite having been a part of two play-by-mail Strat-O-Matic leagues that folded, he embarked on what we consider the toughest, and also the newest, PBM trip--a pro basketball league.

Because of the newness of the basketball game [thus the probability of more questions arising] and the length of an 82-game season, it appeared Yost might be tackling a project too much for one person.

An ad in the Review got the Kubis Khan league off the drawing board as 27 applications flowed in to Yost. So far, so good. He quickly whittled the list of candidates down to 16 (plus himself) and the first Kubis Khan league was launched. Almost immediately, however, seven coaches quit and it looked like the newly-formed league was going to run aground.

"When the seven coaches quit, I was justifiably worried and thought of call-it quits right there," says Yost, looking back at the time of troubles. "Then the thought hit me that instead of looking for seven replacement coaches, that I should just forget about them and reset the league with the survivors. This turned out to be a smart move, as I was left with 10 reliable coaches and this enabled me to finish the season with ease."

Yost is quick to praise his fellow league members for the successful season that then unfolded. "It is not the commissioner that makes a PBM league a success, it is the coaches...The commissioner can only tell the coaches to mail their stuff out on time; the coaches must do the mailing."

SEASON IS A SUCCESS

Yost sent the Review a 25-page yearbook that documented the success of the Kubis Khan league. Included were playoff reports, standings, an all-star game resume, the history of the league, a team analysis, a listing of rules used by the league and a noting of all-pro teams.

Milwaukee, not the New York Knicks, wound up champion of the Kubis Khan league after a hotly-contested seven-game championship series. The Bucks, Knicks, Los Angeles Lakers and Chicago Bulls were the playoff teams--with won-and-lost records the determining factor for which teams advanced into post-season play. The season wasn't completed when the playoff teams were chosen, however. In an effort to have the playoffs completed shortly after the regular-season was history, the teams were selected late in the season but before its completion. Thus the reason for the Bulls making the playoffs, but later falling into last place in the Western Division.

MILWAUKEE IS KING

In the first round of the playoffs, New York ousted Chicago, three games to one, with Dave DeBusschere averaging 16 rebounds per outing and Walt Frazier netting 35, 32 and 39 points the last three games. The Knicks finished the Bulls in a 161-153 double-overtime thriller. Milwaukee, meanwhile, had to go five games before eliminating Los Angeles, three games to two. Jabbar was sensational, scoring 45, 43 and only once being held under 30 points in the series.

The championship series was a thriller, with the teams trading victories until Milwaukee's 113-111 final-game win ended the suspense. Jabbar scored 35 points in the opener as the Bucks posted a 120-116 victory, despite Frazier's 25 tallies. The pattern was set by the second game, however, as New York burned the Bucks behind an attack that had six players in double figures, led by Frazier's 35 points, 136-98. Jabbar, who else, poured in 34 for the Bucks and grabbed 19 rebounds.

The third game belonged to Milwaukee, 124-115, with Jabbar netting 41 and pulling down 21 rebounds (DeBusschere had 27 points, 12 rebounds for N.Y.). It was the Knicks' turn in game No. 4, 116-111, as seven players broke double figures for the winners. Frazier had 24 points and Jabbar finished with 39. Excellent Milwaukee defense and erratic Knick shooting led to a 101-88 Buck win

in game No. 5 as Jabbar had 32 points and Frazier 28. Back came the Knicks, though, and salvaged the sixth game, 94-89, hanging on despite a 42-point burst by Jabbar. Frazier again led the Knicks with 24. And then, in the showdown seventh game, Lucius Allen gave Jabbar a big lift, helping Milwaukee to a 13-point halftime bulge, as the duo accounted for 52 points--26 each. Earl Monroe and Walt Frazier led a furious Knick second half counterattack, but time ran out. Monroe had 31 points.

WEST WINS ALL-STAR GAME

In the Kubis Khan All-Star game, played by Yost, the West overcame a 43-point performance by Elvin Hayes to sink the East, 119-113. Dave Bing rang up 23 points for the West and he was backed by Rudy Tomjanovich's 19, 18 from Jerry West and 14 by Bob Dandridge. Jabbar was limited to only eight points, surprisingly. Ten first quarter turnovers put the East in the hole early, 13-2, and the West was never headed.

PRESSING DEFENSES ALLOWED

The Kubis Khan league also permitted pressing defenses to be used every other time an opponent had the ball. The following chart was used when a pressing defense was employed:

- 2 -- Ball is stolen for layup by either defensive guard.
- 3 -- Defense forces turnover.
- 4 -- Defense forces turnover.
- 5 -- Defense forces turnover.
- 6 -- Offense breaks press; resume normal offense.
- 7 -- Offense breaks press; resume normal offense.
- 8 -- Offense breaks press; percentage shot for LG.
- 9 -- Offense breaks press; percentage shot for RG.
- 10 -- Offense breaks press; dazzler pass to center.
- 11 -- Offense breaks press; dazzler pass to left forward.
- 12 -- Offense breaks press; dazzler pass to right forward.

STANDINGS, LEADERS

Eastern Division				Western Division			
Won-Lost	Pct.	GB		Won-Lost	Pct.	GB	
N.Y. Knicks (Jim Stewart)	52-28	.650	--	Los Angeles (Mike Takagawa)	60-22	.732	--
Baltimore (Mark Lewis)	48-33	.593	4%	Milwaukee (Max Weder)	59-23	.719	1
Golden State (Stan Hyatt)	40-41	.494	12%	Detroit (Tom Hurley)	49-33	.598	11
Atlanta (Dave Lewis)	39-43	.476	14	Houston (Bob Doty)	48-34	.585	12
Portland (Bill Radcliffe)	29-54	.349	24%	Chicago (John Hrick)	45-37	.549	15
<u>Scoring</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>Rebounding</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>FG %</u>			
Petrie (Port)	39.5	Chamberlain (LA)	21.7	Chamberlain (LA)	64.0		
Jabbar (Mil)	36.8	Lanier (Det)	17.1	Jabbar (Mil)	57.6		
Bing (Det)	31.3	Unseld (Balt)	16.7	Clark (Balt)	55.8		
Maravich (Atl)	30.2	Jabbar (Mil)	16.1	Riordan (Balt)	55.6		
Lanier (Det)	28.9	Thurmond (GS)	15.2	Bing (Det)	52.9		
Hudson (Atl)	27.5	Neal (Por)	15.0				
Frazier (NY)	26.2	Hayes (Balt)	15.0	<u>Free Throw %</u>			
Clark (Balt)	26.1	Barry (GS)	14.8	J.Walker (Hou)	93.3		
Barry (GS)	24.7	Bellamy (Atl)	13.8	Barry (GS)	91.3		
Chenier (Balt)	24.5	Tomjanovich (Hou)	13.5	McGlocklin (Mil)	89.2		
Goodrich (LA)	24.2			Hudson (Atl)	87.0		
Love (Chi)	23.6	<u>Assists</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	Bing (Det)	87.0		
Wicks (Port)	23.1	Bing (Det)	12.9				
C.Walker (Chi)	22.7	West (LA)	10.1				
West (LA)	22.2	Clark (Balt)	8.8				
Tomjanovich (H)	22.1						

Questions & Answers

Editor's note: Questions regarding individual and team ratings, which are adjudged by the game company after the most careful research, will not be answered unless a mistake has been made in the rating. Many questions come into the Review asking why a certain rating was given. The game company, if it gave out reasons for such ratings, in many instances would have to disclose its entire card-making formula. This, in turn, could jeopardize the future of the game company. So, if your question regarding a rating doesn't appear within three months after being sent to the Review, you may assume the rating is correct.

QUESTION: For a starting pitcher with a starter (9)*, when is his dot in effect? Can his point of weakness be reached before the ninth inning?

ANSWER: According to the game company, there has been some confusion over how the point of weakness is applied. For a pitcher (9)*, his point of weakness could not be reached until the following inning than that shown on his card. So, for a pitcher (9)*, the point of weakness wouldn't be until the 10th inning, if there was one. The point of weakness for starting pitchers, according to the game company, goes into effect (if the combined hits/walks are reached) in the inning immediately after the inning number indicated on the card. For relief pitchers, however, the point of weakness is reached in the inning listed on the card. The game company suggests here that "outs" be counted to determine if a point of weakness has been reached, such as six outs would mean that a pitcher with a (3)* could arrive at his point of weakness since he is in his third inning of pitching.

QUESTION: Situation: runner on first, one out, batter hits a single to left field, runner tries to go to third base and makes it. Does the batter go to second on the throw?

ANSWER: No, according to the instructions supplied by the Strat-O-Matic Game Co. However, many leagues allow runners to advance an extra base when a play is made, whether successful or not, on the lead runner.

QUESTION: In the July Review in the questions and answers section, I believe the wrong answer was given to the question regarding running interceptions out of the end zone. You stated that if the defense elects to run an interception out of the end zone and is tackled short, it would be a safety. Actually, a safety would only be recorded if the runner had passed the goal line and then been tackled back in the end zone.

ANSWER: The Review goofed on that one. You are correct that a defender can attempt to run an intercepted pass out of the end zone and, if he doesn't succeed, it is still a touchback and not a safety. Our thinking on such an interception was that since the game company doesn't provide for a gain and then perhaps a loss or a fumble on its interception return chart, only by using the answer questioned could the defense be prevented from attempting a return on every interception. Many end zone interceptions--in fact, most--are not returned. But as it now stands, why not return, since there's nothing to be lost--except if you don't make it to the 20.

QUESTION: What if Team A has a runner on first and Team B puts his infield "in", expecting a bunt, and a groundball B is hit by Team A? What happens? Do you look on the infield in chart (it says the runner on third is out, but there isn't one)?

ANSWER: Since the infield is in, looking for the bunt, the batter would be out at first base and the runner on first safe at second.

QUESTION: You answered the question ("In S-O-M Basketball, may a defensive rebounder, ineligible to shoot, be given credit for an assist if a player who does shoot scores?) incorrectly in the July Review. You said "yes, this may be done". When I wrote the game company last year, it answered "no" to the same question.

ANSWER: The game company now says an assist may be credited (such as a long pass to the scorer). The game company changed its mind on how to interpret the play since the time your question was posed.

QUESTION: Is a groundball A exactly the same as an "Out 3", in that in both if no runners are forced, runners hold? My friend has maintained on an "Out 3" runners advance regardless of a doubleplay.

ANSWER: Runners would hold. With a runner on second base, the runner would hold on a groundball "B" or "Out 3". Some leagues, however, will allow a runner to advance on an "Out 3" if the ball is hit to the right side of the infield (second or first base). This is optional, however, and not in the game company's rules. With first and second occupied, the runner would go to third on a doubleplay.

QUESTION: The situation has runners on first and third bases, one out and the batter hitting a flyball [CF] B? Then you add two to the runner's rating on third and take into consideration the arm of the outfielder. If the runner scores, does the runner on first go to second? Also, if the runner was out at the plate does the runner go to second base?

ANSWER: No, under either circumstance. The first base runner would not advance.

QUESTION: Why does the 1911 Eddie Collins Hall-of-Fame card look different than the one representing him on the 1911 A's?

ANSWER: The statistics are the same, but you are right the card itself is different. Collins' original HOF card was made up in 1969. The 1911 A's and the new Old-Timer set was programmed through a computer, thus the reason for the difference. Both are correct.

QUESTION: On the sheet furnished with the extra players in baseball, the company has given guidelines for ratings for all areas except throwing arms of outfielders and catchers. Could guidelines be given using the excellent to poor ratings for these areas?

ANSWER: No, the game company, because of the nature of the ratings (no stats, Golden Glove awards, etc., to use as a rating basis) has no guidelines to offer. This would be strictly an arbitrary decision on your part, if attempting to give throwing ratings. Assists by outfielders could be used as somewhat of a guide, but the game company's ratings involve much, much more than that and a voluminous amount of research.

QUESTION: In the basketball game, how do you know which fouls are to be shot and which are to be taken out of bounds? Also, when does the penalty situation go into effect?

ANSWER: The penalty or bonus situation goes into effect after the fourth team foul, starting with the fifth, in a quarter. Also, the second foul of the last two minutes of every quarter would put the bonus into effect. In the bonus or penalty situation a foul 1 would become a two-shot foul, a foul 2 would give the offense three shots to make two and an X + 1 would give the offense the basket and then two shots to make one.

Readers Roll 'Em

HE'S NO SUPERMAN, SO...

With all the recent talk about a new hockey game, Canadian Football League teams, Old-Timer football cards, Old-Timer basketball cards, ABA Basketball and even college football, a lot of people must think that Harold Richman (Strat-O-Matic's creator) is some kind of superman.

After looking over one of the Reviews and seeing his schedule, it just blows my mind how much overtime work he must have to put in.

If more games are put out by Strat-O-Matic, don't you think less quality will be put into them? True, some game companies have a game for every sport--but they can't match the quality which Strat-O-Matic has.

Since the National Football League has changed a lot of its rules this season, it'll be interesting to see how some of the S-O-M leagues will be affected. This is because the upcoming card set is based on last year's football season and people at the same time will be watching a new type of football on television.

Clyde Matsusaka
1459 Punchbowl
Honolulu, HI

REPRINT CARDS OF 1960s

I agree with Mike Cummins, who recently said he didn't like the idea of a college football game being produced by Strat-O-Matic--and yet no reprinting of the baseball teams of the 1960s.

The announcement by the game company caught me, as well as Cummins, by surprise. The ABA, CFL, or the reprinting of the 1960 baseball teams would get a much better response, judging from the letters in the Review.

Also, I would like to thank Mike Gilbert for his great series on the Old-Timer baseball teams. I use his ratings a lot and they really help.

Steve Gross
31 Easton Rd.
Syosset, NY

HAPPY ABOUT COLLEGE FOOTBALL

I was glad to hear about the college football and hockey game plans and I hope they'll be released as soon as possible.

I also hope the WHA isn't left out. Plus the ABA is a must soon, too. My favorite player is Dr. J (Julius Erving) and I'd love to see him perform in S-O-M. Thirdly, old-timers for both basketball and football would be super. I'd like to see football old-timers from the 1930s, 40s, 50s and 60s, but I'd settle for just the 60s.

Concerning baseball, I think there should be two more old-timer sets released from the 1920-1939 and 1940-1959 eras. And, of course, I'm in favor of reprinting baseball teams of the 1960s, plus I agree with Dennis Yost's idea about reprinting the 1960 and '61 all-star sets.

Jim Williams
9044 Cline Ave.
Highland, IN

REVIEW IS PREJUDICED

I noticed a couple of letters saying the Review is prejudiced. I think it is. Notice, my name is not J.G. Preston or "Wolfman" Shapiro. I'm just a "little person" who coaches football teams the way I want to. I don't have limitations for the teams, otherwise I would be coaching the same as the likes of Don Shula, George Allen, Chuck Noll, etc.

When us "little people" send in our stats that are different, or unusually high, the "big people" don't believe them, saying we somehow pulled a few strings to create the weird happenings.

I for one want to see if other people have had the 1972 Miami Dolphins score 500-plus points in a season, or Houston go all season without a victory.

Dave Kuznicki
Alpena, MI

'STRANGER THINGS HAVE HAPPENED'

In recent issues of the Review there have been questions raised as to the validity of some "All-World Feats". I'll be the first one to admit that some of these feats come close to being the work of a good imagination. But to borrow a remark from a well-known sports commentator: "Stranger things have happened".

We must keep one thing in mind, though

Sports are unpredictable. For example, a brief look through the baseball record book will boggle the mind. Here are just a few things you will find that will make most veteran baseball buffs think twice:

(1) Stan Hack chalking up 190 RBI's in a 154-game season; (2) Ted Williams collecting at least one walk in 19 consecutive games; (3) second baseman Andrew Leonhard once making nine errors--honest!--in one game; (4) the Boston Braves committing 24 errors in a single game; (5) one game in which the Chicago Cubs and St. Louis Cardinals produced 23 doubles; (6) and Babe Ruth scoring 177 runs during a 154-game season.

Now, if I saw some of those happenings and statistics in an S-O-M League, I admit I'd think about it awhile before believing it.

But there all in the baseball record book. So, when judging those "All-World Feats," remember anything can happen in baseball. Strange things have been known to happen.

Tim Cawley
Downers Grove, IL

WATCH AUTHENCITY OF ARTICLES

Of all the features of your magazine, I enjoy most the statistical analysis sections, discussing the importance of lineups, fielding, etc., in Strat-O-Matic baseball.

However, recently you have published articles by writers who know little about the laws of probability involved in the game. For example, one article discussing the relative worth of numbers such as 1-12, 3-6, etc., completely fouled up on the statistics involved.

Then in the July issue, Mike Gilbert based most of his article on the "fact" that when one player gets something in the 2-column when rolling dice, the next batter has less of a chance for a similar 2-column roll. This is ludicrous!

What possible mystical tie could one die roll have on another? Any book on probability, poker, or gambling will attest to this fact. Thus an otherwise interesting article goes down the drain.

Please take more care in the articles you publish!

Stephen Schumacher
431 E. 20th St.
New York, NY

Editor's note: Mike Gilbert's article dealing with batting lineups and the placing of hitters because of their "hit column(s)" was based on his own experience. He points out in his article that his suggestions might prove to be helpful to some people, and not so to others. He was not basing his ideas on the laws of probability, rather on his own experiences.

CONVENTION A GREAT THING

I have been reading about the S-O-M Convention [recently held in Champaign-Urbana, IL] and feel it is one of the greatest things being done for S-O-M gamers. I also feel there should be more than one convention held.

For some people it is impossible for them to attend the convention because it is too far away. It would cost too much money for many gamers to have to travel so far. If there were more than one convention, more people would be able to attend a convention. I feel every S-O-M gamer deserves the chance to play in a convention tournament.

Doug Cochrane
685 Oshawa Blvd.
Oshawa, Ont., Canada

Editor's note: The convention held in Champaign-Urbana came about primarily because of the efforts of Rick [Wolfman] Shapiro in organizing and staging it. Regional conventions are always a possibility--and the Review would certainly be glad to see them and publish stories relating to them. However, the biggest problem lies in the fact that it's a huge undertaking to organize such a gathering. Plus it may cost a lot of money. These are the major reasons why there are not more such national, or even regional conventions.

WANTS REPRINTS OF TEAMS OF 1960S

I'm in favor of seeing the following produced by Strat-O-Matic: (1) reprints of baseball and football teams of the 1960s; (2) Old-Timer football teams and a Hall-of-Fame set; (3) an all-star baseball card set from the 1960s; and (4) a pro tennis game.

I believe there is an obvious demand

For teams of the 1960s. Mike Cummins pointed that out in the Review recently. Also, the want ads are full of cries for these teams.

Why can't there be an increase in prices for these teams if the expenses would be so high? After all, I have more fun playing with the game cards than I do counting my money.

As to why some of us did not purchase the baseball game in the early 1960s, I never knew the game existed. I found out about the game in 1971. Since then I have bought all the Old-Timer teams, the Hall-of-Famers, 1973 season, most of the '70, '71 and '72 seasons, many of the teams from 1967, '68 and acquired the '65 National League. I've also got almost all the football teams, too.

Still, I thirst for more teams and players. True, I don't have extensive seasons with all the teams, but at least the guys are there when I do want to use them. I have the basketball game, too.

Which reminds me. Yeah! For the new college football game and the new changes in the basketball game. And, yeah! for the new Hall-of-Fame set for next year.

I think the Review is doing an excellent job.

In conclusion, as for those that "have a legitimate gripe if cards were re-issued," I feel sorry about the drop in their money bags, but popular demand will ultimately win and the game company will sooner or later reprint these teams.

Hob Fisher
RD#2
Mechanicsburg, PA

HOW DO PRE-1900 PLAYERS COMPARE?

In my Hall-of-Fame selections, I listed such players as Rodbourne, Nichols, Keefe and Anson as well as Mays, Aaron, Mantle and Banks. I did this so as to see how players of different eras would play against each other.

For instance, how would Hoss Rodbourne (60-12 one year!) have done against Mickey Mantle? Or Willie Mays against Smoky Joe Wood? The possibilities are endless.

Other suggestions I have are for

an all-star baseball team for each of the 20 teams (or even the original 16), having RBI stats printed on the cards, and penalties for football. I also think that P.J. White's "Game Plan Sheet" has much merit.

Jody Eisenman
577 East 82 St.
Brooklyn, NY

REPRINTING OLD CARD SETS

I would like to offer my opinion on the reprinting of older S-O-M Baseball teams. Last month I put an ad in the Review to buy such teams. I got many offers of \$10-\$25 for the more recent years and \$20-\$50 for the older ones. Even though I may not be able to afford all the teams I want, I'm still not for S-O-M publishing the teams again.

First of all, if the teams were reprinted the originals would lose all their value. It would like the U.S. government re-issuing gold or silver dollars with old dates on them. Then the collectors who paid a lot for them, and are proud of their collection, would see others buying those sets for prices many times lower than what they may have had to pay for them.

Secondly, if the baseball teams were reprinted, football and basketball fans would also clamor for teams to be re-issued as well.

I also agree with your answer that such a reprinting wouldn't be economically feasible for the game company. But, maybe an All-Star set might be a good idea. It would show if people are truly interested in buying older players and teams if they were made available. Who, honestly, would buy the last place teams? Maybe the first and second-place teams, but not the last.

Dan Hoffman
76 Evergreen Ave.
Elmira, NY

BRING 'EM BACK

I am 12 years old and have been an S-O-M fan for 1½ years. I've read books about the 1968 Detroit Tigers and the 1969 New York Mets and I would really like to see you bring back some of the teams of the 1960's so I could replay these seasons.

I think Strat-O-Matic games are the greatest.

Joe Gatz
3293 Frederick St.
Grand Blanc, MI

'68 Football Replay Provides Surprises

Football fans are not likely to forget the 1968 season--the year the American Football League showed the established, older National Football League that it came of age.

Donald Frankfort of Pelham Heights, NY, a frequent contributor of grid playing tips, replayed that memorable season in its entirety and plenty of interesting events took place. One thing, however, there wasn't to be a Joe Namath of the New York Jets promising to whip the NFL's Baltimore Colts on the eve of the Super Bowl between the two leagues. That was because neither Joe and the Jets nor Baltimore made it to the championship game.

A human tornado in the form of Leroy Kelly, who swept off of Lake Erie crumbled the dream of Baltimore reached Super showdown. Kelly led Cleveland to first place in the Century Division of the Eastern Conference, finishing second in rushing, and then ran wild in the playoffs. First he rambled for 153 yards in 22 carries in a 20-17 Eastern Conference championship game win (Four interceptions of Don Meredith passes didn't hurt Cleveland's cause, either). Then, after Baltimore routed Green Bay, 34-14, for the Western title, Kelly churned out 142 yards in 31 cracks and Nelsen (Bill) completed 16 of 22 passes for 252 yards in two TDs to Paul Warfield as the Browns stunned the Colts, 40-21, for the NFL championship.

Meanwhile, in the American Football League, New York was winning the Eastern Division and Kansas City the Western. When the two collided, the Jets got in deep trouble at the outset when bruising fullback Matt Snell carried for 18 yards on his second carry of the game but was knocked out of action with injuries. Namath was not his usual accurate self, either, completing only 11 of 28 passes. Len Dawson, meanwhile, hit on 13 of 24 for 237 yards for K.C. Finally, Jan Stenerud's last-minute field goal was the difference for the Chiefs in a 25-23 cliffhanger.

Next the Super Bowl. It turned out to be a table-top thriller just as in real-life, only minus the Jets and Colts. Fullbacks Kelly and Robert (Tank) Holmes, both of whom were over 1,000 yards during the regular season, carried on a joust with Kelly ringing up 184 yards in 24 carries and Holmes 137 in 20. Kansas City's defense turned the tide, however, holding Nelsen to only 12 completions in 30 attempts and that was the difference in a 27-20 thriller.

Frankfort also sent the Review complete standings, individual stats and an interesting rundown on each division's teams. Here, in summary form, are Frankfort's contributions from his 1968 season's replay:

NFL											
Capital			Eastern Conference			Century			Central		
Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied
Dallas	10	3	1	Cleveland	9	4	1	Green Bay	9	5	0
Philadelphia	6	8	0	New Orleans	9	5	0	Chicago	8	6	0
NY Giants	5	9	0	St. Louis	6	5	3	Minnesota	6	8	0
Washington	3	10	1	Pittsburgh	3	11	0	Detroit	5	8	1
Coastal			Western Conference			Central			Central		
Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied
Baltimore	10	4	0	Green Bay	9	5	0	Green Bay	9	5	0
Los Angeles	9	5	0	Chicago	8	6	0	Chicago	8	6	0
S. Francisco	8	5	1	Minnesota	6	8	0	Minnesota	6	8	0
Atlanta	2	12	0	Detroit	5	8	1	Detroit	5	8	1
AFL											
Eastern			Western			Western			Western		
Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied	Won	Lost	Tied
NY Jets	10	3	1	Kansas City	11	2	1	Kansas City	11	2	1
Houston	9	4	1	San Diego	9	5	0	San Diego	9	5	0
Miami	7	7	0	Oakland	7	7	0	Oakland	7	7	0
Boston	6	7	1	Denver	5	9	0	Denver	5	9	0
Buffalo	1	11	2	Cincinnati	2	10	2	Cincinnati	2	10	2

Passing	Att-Comp	Yds.	%	TD-Int.
<u>NFL</u>				
Meredith (Dal)	311-166	2488	53.4	20-11
Nelsen (Clev)	301-151	2498	50.2	21-9
Morrall (Balt)	341-173	2653	50.7	21-13
Jurgensen (Wash)	291-152	2148	52.2	16-9
<u>AFL</u>				
Namath (NY)	360-187	3203	52.0	18-10
Dawson (KC)	254-132	2099	52.0	23-12
Lamonica (O)	413-201	3049	48.7	22-17
Griese (Mia)	336-172	2263	51.2	19-17
Hadl (SD)	439-209	3525	47.6	26-34
<u>Rushing</u>				
	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
<u>NFL</u>				
Woodeshick (Ph)	247	1553	6.3	5
Kelly (Clev)	274	1467	5.3	12
Sayers (Chi)	144	985	6.8	4
Willard (SF)	237	901	3.8	5
Crenshaw (SL)	206	851	4.1	6
<u>AFL</u>				
Robinson (Cin)	250	1071	4.3	8
Holmes (KC)	181	1045	5.8	7
Dixon (O)	203	799	3.9	2
Granger (Hou)	212	783	3.7	4
Snell (NY)	186	730	3.9	6

Receiving	No.	Yds.	TD
<u>NFL</u>			
McNeill (SF)	71	991	7
Jefferson (Pit)	56	1128	8
Warfield (Clev)	55	1243	12
<u>AFL</u>			
Alworth (SD)	67	1281	10
Sauer (NY)	66	1207	5
Biletnikoff (O)	60	1030	6
<u>KO Returns</u>			
	No.	Yds.	Avg.
<u>NFL</u>			
Haymond (Phil)	34	1121	33.0
<u>AFL</u>			
N.Smith (KC)	26	632	24.3
<u>Punt Ret.</u>			
	No.	Yds.	Avg
<u>NFL</u>			
Hayes (Dall)	23	350	15.2
<u>AFL</u>			
Atkinson (O)	46	674	14.6
<u>Intercept.</u>			
	No.		
<u>NFL</u>			
Williams (NY)	10		
<u>AFL</u>			
Grayson (O)	10		

Scoring: NFL - Michaels (Balt) 122, Clark (Dall) 118; AFL - Stenerud (KC) 157, Turner (NY) 140.

CAPITAL DIVISION

Dallas was strong in every department. Only Don Perkins finished in the top ten in rushing, but all Cowboy runners had 4.0 averages or better...The Eagles also were strong, except for quarterback Norm Snead. Tom Woodeshick virtually held the Philly franchise together by himself. In one game he carried 31 times for 264 yards (against Detroit). He also had games of 168 and 169 yards. Sam Baker missed eight extra points and that hurt...Giants were a bitter disappointment. Tarkenton had a terrible season. The secondary was normally tough and in one game the Giants crunched the hapless Atlanta Falcons, 42-7, as Tarkenton threw four TD passes...Washington lived through the air (Jurgensen) and died on the ground. "Bill Nelsen of Cleveland gained more yardage running out the clock at the end of games, than did the entire Washington top. In a 16-team league, the Washington running placed about 4,693rd..."

CENTURY DIVISION

A three-team race featured this division. Kelly was outstanding for Cleveland, even though he had a slight fumble problem (losing 12)...New Orleans was the surprise team of the NFL. Billy Kilmer to Dan Abramowicz could not miss through the air, while the Saint defense pounced on 34 enemy fumbles and intercepted 23 passes, returning four for TDs...The running game and defense of the St. Louis Cards were solid, but the passing was lacking. Key injuries to receivers didn't improve the aerial game...The Pittsburgh Steelers were the all-1968 bust team. After a 3-4 first half, the Steelers lost their last seven games, scoring only two touchdowns those last 28 quarters. Dick Hoak was the team's lone star, gaining 840 yards from his halfback spot.

COASTAL DIVISION

One-play offense was what made Baltimore famous in the West. The Earl Morrall to Jimmy Orr or Willie Richardson "bomb" was the Colt game plan. Baltimore also had the best defense around. After a strong start, coasted at season's end and lack of momentum hurt at playoff time...Los Angeles whipped Baltimore twice, 20-13 and 17-16, in two of the best games of the season. The Rams were a solid but unspectacular team...San Francisco started poorly (1-3-1),

but made a remarkable comeback and finished 8-5-1. The poor start included 51-0 and 41-13 drubbings by Baltimore. The record might have been even better if it hadn't been for the generous give-away program by John Brodie (22 interceptions) and 18 lost fumbles by Ken Willard and Gary Lewis...Atlanta had the torch put to it early and was "burned" continually by foes throughout the season.

CENTRAL DIVISION

The Black and Blue Division was true to form, with the teams low scoring but stingy on defense. Mike Mercer gave the Green Bay attack a boot, producing 75 points worth of field goals. Bart Starr only completed 51 per cent of his passes, however, instead of his real-life 63 per cent...Chicago was another surprise team. The Bears had 29 interceptions (4 TDs). Gale Sayers was super, but had to be "held back" to conform with his real-life running attempts. Kicker MacPercival was another plus, booting 27 field goals...Minnesota, the real-life division champs, was just awful. Joe Kapp had 25 passes intercepted, the vaunted defense could steal only eight and Fred Cox had to try 51 field goals--belying the lack of Viking offensive punch--and made 27. Unfortunately, he missed two automatic field goals in closing seconds of close games that cost victories...The Lions were another team that was just awful. Munson and Landry were used as punching bags by foes, misfiring with their passes often, and with Munson being sacked for 333 yards. The defense wasn't bad--but the offensive attack was about nil.

AFL - EASTERN DIVISION

The Jets had the best all-around team. Namath was even better than in real-life, the defense was solid, Jim Turner had a great year and Snell was a bruising fullback. Only weakness was lack of backup running strength, which was brought out in championship game when Snell was injured...Houston, which no one expected, gave the Jets their toughest fight in the East. The Oilers defense was actually superior to New York's, especially the secondary, but more offensive punch was needed for team to win it all...Miami surprised league with 7-7 mark. Defense gave up less than 300 points, despite a poor running defense, while Griese made the offense go...Boston did well against many of the top clubs, whipping San Diego, 30-14, for example, and finished a strong 6-7-1. The Patriots rose up the final week, tied Houston, 24-24, and wrecked the Oilers' chance of tying the Jets...Buffalo, the pre-O.J. Bills that is, was awful. The defensive back duo of Tom Janik and Butch Byrd had the longest interception returns of the season--89 yards each.

AFL - WESTERN DIVISION

Was a scoring circus led by Kansas City, which averaged 35 points a game and totaled 492. Frankfort is convinced '68 Chiefs were Kansas City's finest. The cornerbacks were weak in '68, but the offensive weapons were so devastating that it didn't matter. Stenerud kicked 37 field goals and totaled 157 points, the defense intercepted 44 passes (the linebackers alone had 19) and the Chiefs had a knack for winning the big games (19-17 over Miami, winning on the game's last play)...San Diego put on a strong showing, helped by two wins over the Jets. One was a 38-36 affair, that was an AFL classic. Hadl had 368 yards, four TDs on 18-of-26 passing...The bust team was Oakland. Lamonica was sub-par and the team was generally unlucky...Denver was just the opposite from the Raiders, pulling some late-season upsets (Oakland and San Diego). Bobby Howfield, Floyd Little and the front four on defense were the best players at Mile-High...Cincinnati, the last team in the West, had the AFL's best runner in Paul Robinson, who rang up 1071 yards and eight TDs. There was too much offense in the West for the Bengals to ever be in contention--if they had been in the East they probably would have done better.

PIFFERINI'S RATING SHOULD BE '0'

Bob Pifferini, right linebacker for the Chicago Bears, doesn't have a defensive rating listed on his 1974 Football card (based on '73 season). His rating should be a "0", according to the Strat-O-Matic Game Co.

S-O-M Football Solitaire Defensive Chart

Remember Frank Kastelic's new solitaire charts for Strat-O-Matic Football that the Review printed last fall? Well, his solo defense chart was so well received by S-O-M gamers that the Review is printing it again, mainly for newer subscribers but to also refresh the memories of the older ones as well. Since both last year's and this year's football cards reflect the increased running attacks, Kastelic, who hails from El Cerrito, CA, is hopeful of keeping a balance between the run and pass via the following solitaire chart:

SOLO DEFENSE CHART

(Select play, then roll one die to determine defensive call and number of men in attacked zone)

Down	S Yards To Go	Line Buck		Off-Tackle		End Run	
		Right	3-Men	Right	2-Men	Right	2-Men
1	11 to 16	12	12	12	1	12	12
1	10	1234*	12	1234*	1	1234*	1
1	9 or less	1234*	123	1234*	12	1234*	1
2	11 to 16	12	12	12	1	12	12
2	8 to 10	1234*	12	1234*	1	1234*	12
2	7 or less	1234*	123	1234*	12	1234*	1
3	16 or more	1	12	1	12	12	12
3	6 to 15	123*	12	123*	12	123	12
3	3 to 5	1234*	12	1234*	12	1234*	12
3	2 or less	12345	1234	12345	123	12345	1

* Gussed right only when inside opponent's 10-yard line.

Down	S Yards To Go	Flat Pass		Short Pass		Long Pass	
		Right	1-Man	Right	4-Men	Right	1-Man
1	11 to 16	1234	1234	1234	1234	1234	1234
1	10	123	1234	123	12	123	12345
1	9 or less	123	1234	123	123	123	1234
2	11 to 16	1234	1234	12345	1234	12345	1234
2	8 to 10	123	1234	123	123	123	1234
2	7 or less	123	1234	123	123	123	1234
3	16 or more	12345	12	12345	12345	12345	12345
3	6 to 15	1234	12	12345	12345	12345	12345
3	3 to 5	123	12345	123	12345	123	12
3	2 or less	12	123	123*	123	12	1234

* Gussed right only when inside opponent's 10-yard line.

Pass Rush Chart--Advanced (Roll white die to indicate No. of blitzers)

1, 2 -- no linebackers blitzing; 5 -- 2 linebackers blitzing
3, 4 -- 1 linebacker blitzing; 6 -- 3 linebackers blitzing

Advertisements

Rates per issue will be as follows: First 30 words--50¢; 31-50 words--70¢; 51-70 words--\$1.00; 71-100 words--\$1.50; 101-120 words--\$1.80; 121-150 words--\$2.00; 151-175 words--\$2.50; 176-200 words--\$3.00. When you send in ads, specify either WANTED, FOR SALE, or LEAGUE FORMING, and name 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. Also, no advertisements concerning photocopied Strat-O-Matic player cards or related products will be accepted. If, in responding to ads, you find photocopied cards being offered, contact the Strat-O-Matic Review or Strat-O-Matic Game Co., as patent rights are being violated by any such reproduction of original cards. Ads, to be included in the next issue of the Review, must be in by the third of the month. Those people accepting bids for items should try and give everyone a reasonable amount of time to respond. The mail is notoriously slow to some areas, thus people often respond later to ads. Also, money sent in for ads will not be refunded. If you have already sent money in and do not want an ad to run, notify us and the money will be credited to your subscription.

Wanted

WANTED: 1970 Padres, all American League teams except Orioles, Red Sox, Twins and A's. Also, if possible, send additional players for 1969 and '70. Send price and condition. Will pay lowest price sent to: John Ogle, 4189 White Oaks Rd., Memphis, TN (or if you want to call, 901-685-0450).

WANTED: Baseball teams from 1960 through 1973; football teams from 1967 through 1972. Write bids and condition. Send to: Steve Wolz, N. 7603 Stevens, Spokane, WA 99208

WANTED: February 1974 issue of Review. Also, 1967 baseball and football teams and earlier baseball teams. Send offers: Craig Heiland, 9336 San Luis Ave., South Gate, CA 90280

WANTED: 1968 football teams--Packers, Rams, 49ers, Dolphins, Bengals, Browns, Steelers, Oilers and Cardinals. Will trade 1971 Lions, 1969 Jets, 1971 Chargers, 1972 Raiders, 1970 Bears, 1968 Eagles, 1970 Chargers or complete '72-'73 basketball game, with Knicks, Bullets, Lakers, Celtics, Bucks. Also need 1969 Rams, 1969 Colts offensive and defensive rating cards. Contact: John A. Scalise, 412 Richmond Rd., Paoli, PA 19304

WANTED: Pre-1969 baseball. Prefer to buy individually rather than sets. Prefer pre-1966 Yankees especially. Will take teams as long as in playable condition. Will

pay up to \$5.00 per team depending on age and talent. Send price to me: Mike Custer, 500 5th Ave., Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

WANTED: S-O-M Baseball records. Have a fantastic feat, such as a player with five home runs in one game, a player with 20 wins in a season, anything? I'm writing a record book. If your league plays between 15 and 162 games, write me about any possible record. Also wanted, back issues of the Review. Write: Jerry Borton, Edon, OH 43518

WANTED: 1969 baseball cards of Don Wert, Ron Woods, Mike Kekich, Bill Russell, Bill Sudakis. Any 1967 through 1970 teams. Have some football teams to sell or trade. Ken DiVincenzo, 1122 Washington Blvd., Mayfield Heights, OH 44124

WANTED: I would like to join a baseball league which is using the 1972 cards, with additional players, being the Angels. Bill Radcliffe, 2628 Evergreen, West Covina, CA 91791

WANTED: Basketball, baseball, football statistics. Will compile at rate of 4¢ per game. Statistics returned typed and accurate. Our work is very fast, so it will be returned fast. Also wanted: baseball sets before 1972. Write: Pro Sports Statistics, 6580 S.E. Pinecreekway, Milwaukie, OR 97222

WANTED: Any pre-1974 Montreal Expos team. Also, extra players from any year. Send price and condition to: Bruce Beingessner, 3509 43A Ave., Red Deer, Alberta, T4N-3E9

WANTED: Complete baseball sets 1960 through 1968, American and National Leagues. Send price, condition and year to: Willie Frasure, 29480 Kearsley, Millbury, OH 43447

WANTED: Dodger baseball teams from 1955 to present. Individual player cards accepted. Reasonable condition. Send price to: Eric Laycock, Saltcoats, Sask., Canada RR#1, 50A 3RD

WANTED: Football--'69 Philadelphia and Los Angeles; Hall-of-Fame baseball teams. Also interested in face-to-face baseball or football in Rochester, MN area. Send condition and price of teams to: Mike Ewen, 114 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ St. SE, Rochester, MN 55901 (282-6354)

WANTED: The following football teams: 1969 Cowboys, 1969 Lions, 1969 Rams, 1969 Redskins, 1968 Cowboys, 1968 Packers, 1968 Rams, 1968 Colts, 1968 Browns, 1968 Oilers, 1968 Steelers, 1968 Chiefs, 1968 Jets, 1967 Oakland, 1967 Bears, 1967 Cowboys, 1967 Lions, 1967 Packers, 1967 Rams, 1967 Redskins, 1967 Giants, 1967 Oilers, 1967 Chiefs, 1967 Jets, 1967 Patriots, 1967 Broncos, 1967 Colts, 1967 Chargers, 1967 Browns.
Baseball: Any team or set from 1966 and earlier years (excluding Old-Timer teams). Send your bids and condition of teams to: Gary Boetticher, 2665 Sheldon Place, Oceanside, NY 11572

WANTED: Issues of S-O-M Review dated before Sept. '73 (readable condition); 1970 additional players, must be in good condition. Will accept lowest bids. FOR

SALE: Calculate split numbers within seconds with a new mathematically set up chart which is to be used with Russ Miller's System (Sept. '73). Instructions included. Send 50¢ for chart and/or offers for above items to: Steve Wicks, 5806 S. Webster St., Kokomo, IN 46901

WANTED: S-O-M Football player west of the Mississippi. Just need some one to play against. Ages 14-17. Must have 1973 cards. I will do all stats needed. If interested, pick 13 other teams than Oakland, Buffalo and Los Angeles. Need two sets of S-O-M play-by-mail instructions. Pay up

to \$2.00. Write: Rick Parkin, 647 Ave. H., Boulder City, NV 89005

For Sale

FOR SALE: I wish to trade '69 American and National sets for '68 St. Louis [baseball] and '67 Green Bay. Both sets are in excellent condition. Send reply to address below. I will send my teams first and will reimburse for postage. First bid taken. Brian Landeck, 151 So. Old Manor, Wichita, KS 67218

FOR SALE: Attention Strat-O-Matic Football fans! You can now purchase the ultimate in S-O-M Football. The second edition of last year's football "Kit" is now available. Last year's "Kit" included over 20 rules and variations for the great game of Strat-O-Matic Football. This year's second edition has been updated and now includes over 40 rules and variations. The new "Kit" has everything you ever wanted for S-O-M. It includes such things as: penalties, fumble returns, tackles, option plays, plus numerous offensive and defensive formations. It is easily the best collection of S-O-M Football rule variations ever, and a must for the true player. Ideal for both advanced and novice players. All rules and variations explained in detail. The first edition sold nearly 50 copies. So, don't delay, send \$3.00 today for this 25-page "Kit". Send to: James W. Potter Jr., RD-1, Coventry Rd., Greene, NY 13778

FOR SALE: 1961, 1969 Tigers, 1971 Pirates and 1972 A.L. and N.L. teams. 1971 Pirates used 10 times. All other teams used eight times. 1972 A.L. and N.L. teams only \$9.75. All other teams for 75¢ each. Jeff Rassoul, 1112 Weaver St., Montoursville, PA 17754

FOR SALE: An assortment of 246 [1970] cards plus 36 [1971]. Many players are average, many below average, a handful of stars. Most cards in excellent condition. 45¢ pitchers. \$3.25 postpaid. Mark Pistolese, 54 Sierra Vista, Valley Cottage, NY 10989

FOR SALE: Football--1967 NFL [16 teams], 1967 Jets, Chiefs, Raiders and Chargers; 1968 NFL and AFL [except Jets]; 1969 NFL and AFL; 1970 NFC and AFC. Baseball--1969 AL and NL [except Pirates]; 1970 AL and NL [including extra players]; 1971 AL and NL [including extra players]; HOF, all 34 teams in mint condition. Review issues--Vol. I-6 [Aug., 1971] thru Vol. IV-5 [July, 1974]. Merchandise goes to highest bidder. Teams only sold

in sets. No individual teams sold. All teams are in good to excellent condition (many are in mint condition). I will accept bids up until one month after the Review's release. I pay postage. Hurry! Mike Schwartz, 41 Irvington Rd., Teaneck, NJ 07666

FOR SALE: 1973 baseball teams, except Kansas City, selling for 70¢ a team, including the extra players (in good condition), and the 1972 Oakland A's for 70¢, not including the extra players. I also have some scoresheets to sell. Send SASE and 10¢ to: Briant Utt, 109 Elm St., Windsor, MD 65360

FOR SALE: Ever had a situation where you thought you were close to a football, baseball or basketball record, but had no way of knowing? Now you can find out. I have the latest, complete records for baseball and most records for football and basketball. No matter how many questions asked, price is 20¢ (in coins or stamps). Will also field questions on all three sports (MVPs, statistical leaders, championships, or any other miscellaneous questions). Have complete pitching and batting stats for '72-'73 seasons. Immediate service! Write: S.I.S. (Sports Information Service), 3808 Wilcox, Downers Grove, IL 60515. Remember this address.

FOR SALE: S-O-M Football teams, American and National Conferences. 1967--all teams (\$25). 1968--all teams (\$25). All teams in good condition. Steve Street, 1215 James Place, Danville, IL 61832

FOR SALE: I am selling these teams to the highest bidder. You may bid on any one team or on any combination of teams. All bids will be answered. Bidding ends Sept. 30. Baseball--all teams from 1968-1972, in good to mint condition [teams with extra players: all '71's and '72's, and '69 Cardinals]; all 34 Old-Timer teams in excellent condition. Football--all teams from 1968-1972, in good to mint condition. Michael A. Fetcho, 20 Waschuk Circle, Fairfield, CT 06430

FOR SALE: Baseball--1969 [\$30], 1970 [\$25], 1971 [\$20], 1972 [\$15],

1973 [\$10]. All sets are in mint condition and include additional players. I will pay postage and will return all losing checks promptly. Bob Ehrhard, 26 Route 9W, Piermont, NY 10968

FOR SALE: S-O-M Reviews--1972, Jan., Aug., Sept., Nov., Dec.; 1973, Feb., March, April, Aug., Oct., Nov., Dec.; 1974, Jan. thru July. 30¢ per Review, seven for \$2.00, all 19 for \$5.75. Send to: Michael Gross, 8 Concord Dr., Englishtown, NJ 07726

FOR SALE: Over 120 teams from 1962 thru 1972 seasons; plus Old-Timers. Teams sold complete; will be sold to people with most need or best offer; additional players included. Send self-addressed stamped envelope for complete listing to: Ray Smith, 3281 Loma Alta Drive, Santa Clara, CA 95051

FOR SALE: Tired of rating S-O-M Baseball players? Tired of all of the confusing rating systems? Well then, never fear, Surdam's here! After many hours of work, I have completed the 1973 Rating Book. Did you know that Horacio Pina is probably the best reliever against right-handed batters in the A.L.? Or that Tom Hilgendorf is the best against left-handed batters? If not, this little book (about 14 pages worth) will tell all about the 1973 players (all 580 rated). Send \$1.50 to: Dave Surdam, Route 8, Box 728, Pleasant Hill, OR 97401. If this guide sells well, 1974 player book will be out along with an Old-Timer Guide. This book gauges the offensive value of the player, defense and running are your own personal opinion. But, the categories reflect the offense; walks, hits, on base, hit-by-pitch, total base, non-productive outs, and groundball A's. Players are rated for advanced game only.

FOR SALE: All American League baseball teams of 1972; A's, Royals, White Sox, Twins, Angels, Rangers, Orioles, Red Sox, Brewers, Indians, Tigers and Yankees. Good condition. Teams 60¢ each or two for \$1.00, or all for \$5.00. Send money to: Mark Lee, R#1, Box 323, Bonner Springs, KS 66012 (phone 422-5651).

FOR SALE: 1970 Bears and Eagles; 1971 Falcons, Bears, Rams, Packers, Chiefs, Saints, Giants, Steelers, 49ers, Cardinals and Redskins; 1972 Bills, Bears, Bengals, Browns, Cowbyps, Lions, Oilers, Rams, Patriots, Giants, Eagles, Chargers and 49ers. All teams are in good condition or better. Send bids to: Pete Condorelli, 75 Second Street, Deposit,

NY 13754

FOR SALE: Announcing the birth of the United Statistics Bureau! Yes, that's right. The Paluch Statistics Bureau and the Baseball Stat Center have merged. This means better service than before. We have two offices across the country-- one in Chicago and one in Bellmore, NY. This is to insure quicker service so you don't sit around waiting for your stats. All stats will come typed and 100% accurate. We do football, basketball and baseball stats for the rate of 7¢ per game. For more information write: Mike Paluch, 3325 S. Hoyne, Chicago, IL 60608

FOR SALE: Over 200 football teams from 1967 through the present. For a list send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Richard York, 19171 Derby St., Detroit, MI 48203

FOR SALE: Baseball cards based on 1964, 1962, 1964 through 1970 seasons, and four teams from 1963 season. To be sold on auction basis. Send stamped self-addressed envelope for details to: Steve Constant, 3701 Humble, Midland, TX 79701. Cards in very good to excellent condition, glued on index cards for longevity.

FOR SALE: Complete football sets from the '67, '69, '70 seasons and '68 Packers, Jets, Bengals and Vikings. Also, complete '73 basketball set (used twice). Will trade any two of the above sets for a complete Old-Timer Baseball set. Send bids to: Bob Bentz, 3608 Ridgeway Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17109

FOR SALE: S-O-M Football teams, '69 and '70. 1969 Packers, Raiders, Jets, Patriots, Lions, Broncos, Bengals, Vikings, Dolphins, Rams, 49ers; 1970 Bears, Eagles, Patriots, Bills, Saints, Giants. Good to excellent condition. Best offer. Jeff Addison, Route 5, Box 374, Bluefield, West Va. 24701

League Forming

LEAGUE FORMING: S-O-M Baseball league, using following teams: Cincinnati, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, St. Louis, Pittsburgh. We will draft from the remaining teams. Our season

will run 160 games. When replying, state order of teams desired, plus 30 draft picks from the remaining teams to complete 25-man roster. Trading will be allowed. We will also use the DH rule. Please only responsible managers. We use the 1973 cards, no extras. Send replies to: Dan Hoffman, 76 Evergreen Ave., Elmira, NY 14905. First replies get their first team listed. Trophies to the winners. All-Star game. Newsletter every 16 games.

LEAGUE FORMING: Play-by-mail draft league organizing now so play can begin promptly shortly after the 1974 baseball cards are released next year. All interested persons are asked to send 25¢ for questionnaire, sample newsletter and description of the league to: Dave L. Smith, P.O. Box #514, Hutchinson, MN 55350

LEAGUE FORMING: 16 managers are needed for a new draft league. This league will use all of the 96 additional players from 1973 and only the regular '73 N.L. teams. There will be eight major and eight minor league teams. If interested, write to: Art Stacey, 58 Fidler Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3J-2R7. Please include age, S-O-M experience, PBM experience, etc.

LEAGUE FORMING: The Kubis Khan Basketball League is preparing for its second season. Currently there are seven teams open, including Boston and Buffalo. Kubis Khan is the oldest S-O-M PBM league in existence today. Last year we had 22 newsletters, plus a 25-page yearbook which contained full statistics, coaches biographies, team summaries and much more. This year we will combine all the good points from last year with some bright new ideas to make Kubis Khan one of the finest leagues in the country. If you are interested, write: Dennis Yost, 3146 Cornwall Rd., Baltimore, MD 21222

LEAGUE FORMING: Double-elimination tournaments--5 divisions: 1969, 1971, 1972, 1973, Old-Timer. May enter as many divisions as you like. 1971, '72 and '73 will be played by the advanced method. No cost to you. Extra players used for '69, '72 and '73. Send 10 choices in each division you would like to be in to: Jamie Parles, 5 Milleridge Lane, Smithtown, NY 11787

LEAGUE FORMING: Play-by-mail 1968 draft league, using all teams except Reds, Indians, Angels, Twins, White Sox and Phillies. Need six managers soon. Send top 100 picks in order of preference, with team name following player's name. We will use designated hitter. Chris Thompson, 1728 East Hampton, Milwaukee, WI 53217

LEAGUE FORMING: I would like to start a small, well run play-by-mail baseball league. We will use four all-star teams, one coming from each division. IF interested send list of divisions in order of preference, a small biography of yourself and \$2.00 entry fee. My name and address are: Alan Rothschild Jr., 2328 Fairway Ave., Columbus, GA 31906

LEAGUE FORMING: Two dependable people needed to help me in my solitaire football season. Must be a three-year vet, at least. Will play with following: 1973 Cowboys, Redskins, Vikings, Falcons, Eagles, Rams, Dolphins, Bengals, Raiders, Steelers, Broncos, Bills. For more information, write to: Tim Woods, 5319 Northcrest Dr., Fort Wayne, IN 46825

LEAGUE FORMING: Attention S-O-M Basketball enthusiasts. NASOMA (North American Strat-O-Matic Association) is looking for reliable managers who would like to play a franchise in a league where you call the shots just as if you were the owner, G.M. and coach of your own pro basketball team. NASOMA is a PBM draft league where as a member you will play only 11 home games every two weeks and a total of only 41 games in the entire season. You must own all 17 NBA teams from '72-73 and '73-74 and be a reliable manager, not one that will play a few games and drop out. NASOMA will soon be entering its second season and back-up managers are needed to insure the league's continued success. If you reply now, I can almost assure you of a spot in the league, whether it be as a full-time participant or as a back-up. Join America's most prestigious and best run S-O-M Basketball league. Send brief S-O-M biography and enclose 10¢ stamp. Write: Bryan Simmons, 22247 N. Brandon

Farmington Hills, MI 48024

LEAGUE FORMING: Wanted! Three more managers for a 1971 baseball draft league. You will receive a copy of the GLSDML Constitution. The league starts Oct. 1. You must own all 1971 teams and extra players. Hurry, because we want to start drafting immediately! Trading is allowed. We will play 162-game season. R. Jostes, 14546 Lexington Ave., Harvey, IL 60426

LEAGUE FORMING: Any competent and devoted persons who want to join a well run play-by-mail league using the 1968 cards, send \$1.50, a short paragraph about yourself and qualifications and your choices of 1968 teams. Do not include the Expos, Padres, Pilots or Royals. Newsletters will be sent out on a regular basis. Write: Mike Oldham, Route 4, Box 230, Libby, MT 69923

What's Available At S-O-M?

FOOTBALL

1972 - All teams available. Cost \$10.50 for entire set; 75¢ per team.

1971 - All teams available. Cost \$10.50 for entire set; 75¢ per team.

1970 - Teams available include: Atlanta, Chicago, Green Bay, Los Angeles, New Orleans, N.Y. Giants, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Washington, Boston, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Houston, N.Y. Jets, Pittsburgh, San Diego. Cost \$7.50 for entire set of teams available; 75¢ per team.

1969 - Only teams left include: Buffalo, Cincinnati, Denver, Houston, Miami, San Diego. Cost is \$3.75 for entire set of teams available; 75¢ per team.

1968 - Atlanta and New Orleans are only teams available. Cost is \$1.25 for both.

BASEBALL

1972 - All teams available. Cost is \$9.75 for entire set of teams; 60¢ per team if ordered individually. [96 additional players are available for \$2.40]

1971 - All teams available. Cost is \$9.50 for entire set of teams; 55¢ per team if ordered individually.

All orders should be placed with the Strat-O-Matic Game Co., Inc., 82A South Bayles Ave., Port Washington, NY 11050. Include 25¢ handling charge with each order.

The above-mentioned list is an up-to-date availability chart, compiled after a recent inventory by the game company.

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THIRD CLASS

If the number before your name is 9/74 this is the last issue of your subscription. To renew your subscription, check number of months desired and enclose amount (preferably check or money order, but not coins) designated.

_____ 3 months, \$1.20; _____ 6 months, \$2.25; _____ 1 year, \$4.20;

_____ Strat-O-Matic Directory (over 300 names), 70¢.

REVIEW PRICES BEING RAISED

Because of increased costs in all areas of production, The Strat-O-Matic Review will raise its subscription prices beginning with the November, 1974, issue. The new prices will be as follows: 3 months, \$1.35; 6 months, \$2.50; 1 year, \$4.70.

Coming Next Month...

...The next American and National League Hall-of-Fame teams, as picked by Review readers, will be revealed...pictures of the national Strat-O-Matic Convention at Champaign-Urbana, IL, will be coming your way...a new defensive solitaire football chart for S-O-M, which includes 10 defensive variations, will be presented for your scrutiny...Jeff Guterman of Roslyn, NY, will be the guest columnist and he'll focus in on the much-asked question of how play-by-mail leagues operate...Mike Gilbert will be back with a look at the Old-Timer baseball teams, with the 1965 Los Angeles Dodgers and 1965 Minnesota Twins sharing the spotlight...there will be an injury chart for regulating baseball injuries...pictures of the Strat-O-Matic Game Co., S-O-M creator Harold Richman and the S-O-M employees will be coming your way in the months ahead...plus the Review will take an editorial look at the re-issuing of older card sets.