

Yep--another issue of that other zine from south Minneapolis.

Hoo boy, I thought that having finally taken care of most of the initial moving-in things (bank account, etc.) that this would be a pretty tranquil issue to produce. Fooled me. I definitely had a bit of a struggle getting this out the door, and it's only through good fortune that this isn't a few days late as well. (The best laid plans, etc., etc.) You'll get an idea of why if you check out the editorial on page 6, which will also give you an idea of why this issue is, once again, a little light on the non-game reading.

That does not mean, however, that it's completely devoid of stuff for those not actually in a game at the moment. Once again, you get to be subject to my attempts at editing a letter column, which this issue starts on page 7. Lo and behold, the topics of conversation are slowly beginning to diversify, which I take as a good sign. See if there isn't something someone says to which you want to respond, why don't you? Of course, the IT letter column wouldn't be the IT letter column without a bit about movies, would it?

But getting back to those of you who aren't in a game in IT, this is your chance. Sandwiched in between the two current Diplomacy games (Andy Panda's on page 2 and Bullwinkle's on page 4), there's an announcement of two more Diplomacy gamestarts. One's open to anyone, but I'd like the other to be a novice game. Thus, if any of you come across any newcomers looking for a postal Dip game, you can get a few free issues for pointing them in this direction.

Response to Sopwith, the WWI aerial combat game whose rules appeared here last issue, has been disappointing. There's a bit written up about that on page 7, following Bullwinkle. If you were somewhat interested upon reading the rules but have held back from signing up for one reason or another, keep an eye on the announcements about it. Or better still, let me know why you decided not to sign up and I'll see what I can do to make it more palatable.

Not a lot of action in Twixt this month (I was a little slow returning moves), so that's been axed. It should return next month.

And there's United, of course. Division III starts out by taking after some notorious clubs in the other Divisions, a development which has prompted me to solicit input from managers on a very serious matter concerning the league. All of that starts on page 12, and I look forward to hearing what you all have to say about the matter in question.

Is that all? It's not much of a zine, then:

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IT'S A TRAP!

An amateur publication devoted to postal games and anything else the editor feels like; edited and published by Steve Knight, 2732 Grand Ave. S #302, Minneapolis, MN USA 55408. Subscriptions are 50¢ + postage per issue.

1985A2

- *In case Russ does not return, I am asking Matt Fleming (4290 Chateau de Ville #C St. Louis, MO 63129) to submit standby orders for England.
- *In case Bob does not return, I am asking Robert Acheson (P.O. Box 4622, Station SE Edmonton, Alberta T6E 2A0 CANADA) to submit standby orders for Russia.
- *Please note that I neglected to print Eric Diamond's correct address last issue; the above is current.

AUSTRIA: A BOD S TURKISH A bul-rum; A SER S TURKISH A bul-rum;
A VIE-gal; F TRI H.
ENGLAND: NMR! A YOR U; F LON U; F NTH U; F NWY U.
FRANCE: A BUR S ITALIAN A tyo-mun (nso); A PAR S A bar; A por-SPA;
F bre-MID; F spa(sc)-WES.
GERMANY: A ber-MUN; A bel-PIC; A hol-BEI; A kie-RUN; A mun-BOH;
F DEN H.
ITALY: A VEN-tri; A TYO-vie; F nap-APU; F tun-ION.
RUSSIA: NMR! A GAL U; A MOS U; A RUM U (r-ukr.otb); A WAR U;
F SWE U; F SEV U.
TURKEY: A bul-RUM; A gre-BUL; A smy-ARM; F ank-BLA;
F CON S F ank-bla.

Orders for Fall 1902 (which may be made conditional upon the Russian retreat, or whether or not Russ or Bob or both have returned) are due 20 December 1985 at 8:00 p.m., Central Time.

- 2 -

ANDY PANDA
Spring 1902

The map shows Europe with various regions labeled with letters in boxes. Some regions are also marked with circles containing letters. A shaded area is present in the Iberian Peninsula. Dashed lines indicate boundaries or travel routes.

111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111

(continued from the previous page)

have three, maybe four newcomers who have been ready to get started for a few months now, waiting for me to fit some additional games into the schedule. So if you're a recent addition to the postal hobby, check out how fierce the competition can be when you get together with six others who are as eager as you are to start their hobby involvement with a win! For all of you who aren't novices, I'd greatly appreciate any help you can give in steering novices towards this gamestart; in return you'll receive the standard coin of the realm around here (three free issues per novice who signs up on your account).

The other game, open to the first seven players of any stripe to sign up, will complete the trilogy of press flavors being played in IT by being one of those dreaded black press games (cover the kids's ears, now!). Both games require the standard \$5.00 gamefee and are subject to the ferocious IT (but copied from Greg Ellis) \$5.00-per-NMR NMR deposit. Also, if you wish to, please send in a preference list when you send in your fees and sign up for the game; we'll be able to start more quickly.

I've got a new set of Houserules in the works, which I'll publish next issue and which will govern these new games (and the old ones, unless there are any objections). There are no major changes (at least not as of this writing). I'm mainly dropping "neutral" S'OI orders, clarifying some things regarding press, and rewording to make it all in first person.

Let's see now...a cartoon character whose name begins with the letter C...
Anyone care to guess who it'll be?

Winter 1901

BULLWINKLE

1985AY

AUSTRIA: Don Sigwalt 133 Sedgefield Cir. Winter Park, FL 32792
ENGLAND: Marc Peters 1814 Cameron Dr. #3 Madison, WI 53711
FRANCE: Jake Walters P.O. Box 1064 Brookline, MA 02146
*GERMANY: Paul Rauterberg 4158 Monona Dr. Monona, WI 53716
ITALY: Pete Gaughan 3121 E Park Row #165 Arlington, TX 76010
*RUSSIA: Robert Anderson Room 13 Robinson Hall Central Michigan
University Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
TURKEY: Kevin Brown 100 Patton Dr. Warner Robins, GA 31093

*Please note the COA for Paul Rauterberg as of 1 December 1985.

*I am asking Conrad Von Metzke (4374 Donald Ave. San Diego, CA 92117)
to submit standby orders for Russia.

BULLWINKLE WINTER 1901 RESULTS:

AUSTRIA: A rum r SER. Even. Has A ser, A vie, F alb.
ENGLAND: Even. Has A yor, F nrg, F nth.
FRANCE: Build A Par, F Bre. Has A bur, A par, A spa, F bre, F por.
GERMANY: Build A Ber, A Kie. Has A ber, A den, A kie, A mun, F hol.
ITALY: Build A Ven, F Nap. Has A tri, A tun, A ven, F ion, F nap.
RUSSIA: NBR! Will play one short. Has A ukr, A war, F rus, F swe.
TURKEY: Build A Con, A Smy. Has A bul, A con, A sev, A smy, F bla.

I am asking Conrad Von Metzke to submit standby orders for Russia. To
return, Robert should submit orders for next season and send me a \$5.00 NMR
deposit replenishment.

Orders for Spring 1902 (which may be made conditional upon whether or not
Robert has returned) are due 28 December 1985 at 8:00 p.m. Central Time.

BULLWINKLE 1901 SUPPLY CENTER CHART (revised following retreats):

AUSTRIA:	bud,ser,vie	(3) even
ENGLAND:	edi,lon,ipl	(3) even
FRANCE:	bre,mar,par,POR,SPA	(5) build two
GERMANY:	ber,kie,mun,DEN,HOL	(5) build two
ITALY:	nap,rom,ven,TRI,TUN	(5) build two
RUSSIA:	mos,stp,war,RUM,SWE	(5) build one
TURKEY:	ank,con,smy,BUL,SEV	(5) build two
NEUTRALS:	bel,gre,nwy	(3)

BULLWINKLE WINTER 1901 PRESS (white):

AUS to A.P. AUS: Looks like I'm winning.

PETERS to MARC: Well, another fine mess you've got us in.

BROWN to PETERS: Come on now, it wasn't that bad.

I/T to WORLD (via Italy): We felt this alliance would be particularly
appropriate.

AUSTRIA to WORLD: I didn't write to you guys the first turn, you didn't
write to me the second. Can we consider ourselves even and start
playing the game?

SIGGY to GM: Actually, I did get one letter from Italy, saying something
about Lepanto. It all worried me.

VIENNA to CON: After ignoring my 3 page letters then keeping me out of
Greece why did you write to me so fast after the S'02 results were
out?

EDITORIAL

Gosh, it was so much fun last issue, I think I'll try this again.

Speaking of last issue, wasn't I mentioning how crippling it could be if my computer ever went on the fritz? I'm going to have to or knock wood when I say things like that, or just shut up, because one of the reasons this issue has turned out relatively warehousey is that the disk on the computer started spitting up this past Tuesday, a scant four days before deadline.

Talk about panic. Although in the back of my mind I had been thinking for some time that I should make a regular habit of keeping paper copies of various vital things (United records, the sub list, etc.), being dependent kind of sneaks up on you. I thus spent the next few days after the first signs of trouble, days which I'd ordinarily spend preparing some articles or the letter column for print, trying desperately to get copies of stuff I had on the system onto paper, in order to set myself up to do the games by hand and then use the computing system at work to get a quick and very-warehousey issue out the door (doubtless several days late as well). I was able to get the most important stuff on paper for the most part, because my disk wasn't quite behaving as if it were really broken. It seemed that every other minute or so the rotational speed would increase (the pitch of the disk's hum would rise), during which time I'd get some errors on the system console and would not be able to do anything. If I waited, though, it would get unstuck and generally pick up again where it had gotten stuck, and so by being patient I got everything necessary on paper.

In the meantime, I called the Zilog service people to find out about having someone come out to do some troubleshooting and maintenance work on it. What's that? The standard yearly maintenance contract for a System 8000 is \$2200? No, thanks; what's it run for one visit from a maintenance person? \$105 an hour--with a minimum of a two hour visit? Ah-ha... All of a sudden it became clear to me why I should start looking at selling this and getting a system which is under warranty.

Fortunately, I seem to have stumbled on to the problem late Friday night when I inadvertently unplugged and replugged the cable connecting it to the controller. (I was at that point on the verge of opening it up myself, thinking that I could hardly make things any worse than they were.) All of a sudden, no problems whatsoever. I suspect what I was hearing was inconsistent power getting to the drive, but I'm no electrician. (And people wonder why I'm so ambivalent about computers...)

I guess it's time to sign off. I meant to print this last issue...



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It's a Letter Column!

From Pete Gaughan (5 November 1985):

You're a Nylons fan too? When their album came out (I have it) they got a lot of airtime on the local jazz stations but not lately.

/* I'm sure you'll be interested to know (as will any other fans of the Nylons) that One Size Fits All is actually their only U.S. release. Being a Canadian group, they apparently have several other albums out which are available only in import bins (and not very widely, at that). I have what I presume is their first such album, which is copyright 1982 and is entitled simply The Nylons. On the whole, I don't care for it as much as One Size, but even then I think they have some problems on the latter coming up with good endings for their arrangements--picky point.

*/

From Steve Langley (5 November 1985):

How is the thumb? Or, more to the point, how is the piano playing?

/* The thumb's quite healed by now. Piano playing is a little risky, however, and I'm finding myself nursing it a little more than I think I ought. If I jam it hard against something, it'll be pretty painful, which I suspect is due to the bone being closer to the surface than it was. Unfortunately, the angle of the cut is almost exactly the angle at which you strike the key when playing, e.g., left-hand octaves. Thus, I've had to particularly tone down my playing of one of my great loves, ragtime. Not eliminate it completely, but I still find myself unconsciously taking it easier with the left hand than I normally would. For a holiday present, I think I'm going to treat myself to a visit to a hand specialist to see if any kind of reconstructive surgery could be done to help that somewhat. If not, I'll get used to it.

*/

What did you buy first, a bed or a stereo? I bought a bed when I found myself in that position. Then I bought a cassette player (Ampex) with its own amplifier. Then I bought some pillows to act as chairs. I still have some of the pillows although the bed and the Ampex have long since passed away.

/* I was fortunate enough that I did have a bed--a double waterbed which I acquired from one of my former roommates. The top priority, then, was a stereo, which I did go out and buy just last weekend. Receiver, turntable, speakers and I gave in and got a CD player, which is almost distressingly addictive. Although I have a number of tapes, I decided to put off getting a cassette deck in favor of getting better speakers. I have far more albums than I do cassettes, anyway. I suppose the next acquisition should be a dinette set--or something to sit on.

*/

From Greg Ellis (5 November 1985):

I enjoyed the /* Twixt */ strategy article, though I kept getting lost in the nomenclature. Do you really think you're in trouble in the Langley game? It looks like you have taken the offensive and forced Steve to the defense. I predict you win in 10 moves.

Some banks have lost more money to people with phoney ID's than they do by turning down potential customers. Credit cards only make money by having people use them, but clearly some people are too big a risk to give them a card.

Is it really a privilege to see a woman whose best selling poster is a nude shot entwined with a snake? Do you suppose she considered Kevin a step up?

I dislike movies with an obvious moral. preaching can ruin an otherwise entertaining film. A moral behind E.T.? Maybe accept things that are different rather than try to understand it. If that was it then it certainly didn't get in the way of the entertainment.

/* Agreed; I don't think anyone likes a film that preaches--but that's why I said that you should have to scratch the surface to find such a moral. It shouldn't hit you over the head (I doubt the lessons you can find hidden in Wizard of Oz have ever kept anyone from being entertained by it), but I still think fantasy is best when, in addition to entertaining you, it can provide you with some valuable insight about "real life."

I guess I didn't make myself clear. I wasn't applying for a credit card at the bank which turned me down, but for a simple interest-bearing chequing account. Particularly since they could have just not issued me any cheques for my account until my initial deposit cleared, it seems to me that the only risk they'd be taking by giving me an account would be that my initial deposit bounce--in which case they could just close the account before I wrote any cheques, and only be out some minor bookkeeping expenses. Small stake, it seems to me, for a potential good customer.

As a recent article in Games magazine said, in connection games such as Twixt the best offense is often a good defense. I have a good wall in the center in my game with Langley, but it's very vulnerable to being completely cut off at the west end, which would render the entire chain worthless and force me start anew elsewhere cutting off his developing chain. Unfortunately for me, Steve is playing it completely correctly.

*/

From Kevin Brown (7 November 1985):

I didn't say that Amadeus didn't have much to say, only that A Soldier's Story had more. I still stand by my statement in that respect. Part of that feeling may be because, since I live in the South, I get to see the discrimination first hand as it happens now, and I tend to be more familiar with it in all respects. I did enjoy Amadeus, however, and looking back at what I did say, it sounded like I was much more down on it than I really am. I do agree with Rich Reilly about the Amadeus soundtrack. It's easily the best soundtrack record of last year, and one of the best records overall. The only real problem with it is that it's all Mozart and no Salieri, which irritates me somewhat. I tend to like a little more variety. It's still a wonderful album though.

/* The Usenet computer network into which I'm tied at work has a number of bulletin-board-like discussion groups. A short time ago, someone made the comment in the group devoted to discussing music that they thought Neville Mariner and the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields were, collectively, God. (Those wondering at the relevance of that comment should be reminded of the fact that Neville Mariner conducted the soundtrack recording of Amadeus.)

I can easily see how living in a place with a stronger tradition of racial prejudice would create a context for A Soldier's Story to make more of an impact. Let's not, however, delude ourselves into thinking that the South has a monopoly on bigotry. Just witness incidents like the mayor of Philadelphia having to declare part of the city an emergency area last week (as you read this) since people were near-rioting because, God forbid, a black couple had moved into a previously all-white area. I've always been particularly struck by a comment that a colleague of my father's made, that racism was in some ways easier to deal with (deal with, not necessarily combat or solve) in the South, because white Southerners were at least more familiar with dealing with blacks on a regular basis. It's an echo from the 1960's, when one of the black leaders of the civil rights movement (I can't remember who, and I'm only paraphrasing) made the comment that white Southerners liked many blacks individually but disliked them collectively, while Northerners liked blacks as a whole (conceptually, if you will) but disliked them individually.

*/

From Michael Burstein (5 November 1985):

Back when they made the Woody Allen movie The Front (do you remember the year?) /* 1976, according to Maltin's TV Movies */ there was a scene where they needed a whole bunch of kids as extras to play an audience. Well, being that I'm 15 years old now, I was young enough back then to be in the movie. And when it came out, there I was, right in the front of the audience, the cute little boy in a white shirt. That was my movie debut, and that's five issues you owe me.

The second time I worked on a movie was The Goodbye Girl (again, what year was that?). /* 1977, same source */ I was one of a bunch of kids in coats, carrying bookbags, leaving a school. Unfortunately, that was cut.

Now I'm working on a movie for the 3rd time. Woody Allen is making a movie called (under its working title, that is) Fall Project '85, and I'll be an extra in it, also. Once it comes out (after Hannah and Her Sisters does) I'll check for myself. If I'm in it, that's another five issues.

If you don't trust me, I'll gladly lend you some photos so you can check for yourself. Thanks for the offer!

I agree with Rich Reilly that we should talk about other things, so I have a suggestion. Let's talk about television shows! And what better to discuss than Amazing Stories, from Spielberg? After all, Steven, you did enter soapbox mode last issue. Well, in my basic opinion of the show (being a big SF reader) is that the first few episodes ("Ghost Train" and "The Main Attraction") were terrible, that "Alamo Tobe" was OK except for the end, and that "Mummy Daddy" was great. But the show is not living up to my expectations. Still, Spielberg is not my favorite director, but I expected more from him. (By the way, if you haven't seen the episodes, forgive me for mentions them so fleetingly, but at the same rate, I haven't seen all the movies you discuss in the column.)

/* I saw the first episode of Amazing Stories (the aforementioned "Ghost Train") and agree that it was terrible. Given my prejudice, I unfortunately caught myself feeling rather smug, an emotion for which I do not care. Nevertheless, I haven't seen any since, but a most of that is due to the fact that I don't have ready access to a television since moving, and the only viewing which I deem important enough to barge in on my parents for is the NBC Thursday night lineup (all the way from Cosby to Hill Street, although I find Night Court to be expendable, with the exceptions of Harry Anderson and John LaRoquette

when the writers stretch them beyond their characters's stereotypes). I expect I'll want to catch the segment of AS which Paul Bartel directed ("The Secret Cinema"), as I read his article in American Film about the making of the show and became intrigued.

And I thought offering free issues for films was such a safe gesture of magnanimity! Okay, five free for being in The Front, although I'd welcome a photo or something so I know who to look for when I see it! How did you get picked as an extra for the new/latest Woody Allen film? I remember reading an article which illustrated the fact that he screens even extras very carefully for the look he wants, the author describing queuing up in a long line and marching past Allen while a secretary made notes, based on some undetectable signals, as to who was in and who wasn't. Did you have to do something like that, or were you part of a larger crowd scene for which he was less meticulous?

*/

From Mike Barno (6 November 1985):

Sorry to call your brother wrong, but when Michael J. Fox first played the Alex Keaton role on "Family Ties" two years ago, I noted that his appearance and the character's traits reminded me of you. I suppose the "Newcomer hit" comparison is valid, though.

/* A resemblance between myself and Alex Keaton? Me--a materialist economics major? Please tell me you're not serious!

*/

Have you noticed the lack of racial balance in Spielberg's movies? Some of the characterizations are more anti-non-WASP than anything this side of Rambo.

/* Hmm...Spielberg's never struck me as being consciously (or even unconsciously) racist, just thoughtless about how his portrayals will come across to the groups being portrayed--i.e., he's got his story to tell, so to heck with anyone whose feelings may get hurt on the way. I have to admit, though, that despite the negative way in which I have phrased it, I have a lot of sympathy for this sort of position. Any creator in the arts should have the bravery to not let external considerations obscure what he has to say. I just don't think Spielberg has much to say.

I have wondered, though, if Spielberg isn't a bit of a sexist. Unless you go all the way back to The Sugarland Express, I can't think of a female protagonist in a Spielberg film who is portrayed very favorably. Karen Allen in Raiders of the Lost Ark comes close--she has a great deal of spunk--but she's still subordinate to her man. Kate Capshaw's character in Indiana Jones and the Temple of Icky Things is a complete washout (get that bullwhip at the end out of there, Steven!), as are the girls in The Goonies. Were there any women at all in Jaws? And I think Terri Garr gets a few precious minutes of screen time in Close Encounters, doesn't she?

In any event, the project he's working on is The Color Purple, so we shall see how he handles the diametric opposite of the white males he's concentrated on heretofore. Unfortunately, given my predisposition, this strikes me as a somewhat self-serving, see-I-can-too-be-serious move for him, but I know that I'm not being fair to the man. I just saw an advert in the paper for it to open December 20th, I believe, so we shall see soon enough.

Okay, enough Spielberg-bashing for this issue. Instead, how about a partial non-answer to one of this letter column's recent mysteries-- where did Matt Fleming see Tootsie?

From Matt Fleming (6 November 1985):

I can't remember where or when I saw Tootsie, but I normally head for the matinees or the \$1 shows or the art houses (or museums) so most of the crowds tend to be small. To be honest with you, few first run films have peaked my curiosity in the last year, so I don't pay to see most of the more commercial films anyway. I probably will try and see After Hours.

/* I've been feeling much the same way about the recent commercial releases, which is one reason why you people have been blessed with a respite from my movie reviews. Tell you what, though--let's slip in plugs for two of the better movies I've seen in the past few months.

Being the "kid's" film fan that I am, I did run out and see The Journey of Natty Gann. I found this to be a very good film, people: don't let the "Disney" label dissuade you. If it has a problem it's that it takes them awhile to warm you up to the heroine, but after that things are fine. Parents who key in on the Disney name and assume that this is something to take the kids to should be forewarned that this gets rather gritty, albeit mild by modern standards. Still, it's the first Disney film that I know of with the 'S' word in it...

I just recently saw the Japanese film The Makioka Sisters for the second time (the first was several months ago in Washington), and was even more stunned by it the second time around. The photography is exceptionally beautiful, and the story, about four daughters of a Japanese shipping magnate experiencing the late 1930's shift to a more modern way of life, I found very touching without being maudlin. I had been wondering recently whether my being a sucker for sentiment had ruined me for less overt emotion, but this film made me cry from the simple, honest portrayal of relationships within a family. If you don't have an aversion to foreign films, I recommend it.

So how's about giving us one last parting shot, Matt.

From Matt Fleming (10 November 1985):

Barf! They have done it again! They have taken a troop of fairly good actors (Hackman, Burstyn, Sheedy, Dennehy), stuck them in a syrupy melodrama, and tell us it's great movie time! Why, one critic even had the nerve to degrade this fiasco (Lifetime) by saying "This year's successor to Terms of Endearment." Yuck!!

/* Ah, but did you...

If you ask, "But did you see it?" Of course I didn't! With a recommendation like that it's time to get out the insulin, with crap like this floating around diabetes can't be too far behind!

/* Gosh--are you absolutely sure you don't want to see it?

I suppose if I wanted to be picky, I could fault you for coming down so hard on it without having seen it, but I'm sure I've done the same, so let it pass.

UNITED

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Alright, it's decision time. I had hoped to wait on this until the end of the season, but from the looks of things, I think it's best that we deal with it now. I'm speaking, of course, of the infamous goal-scoring formula currently in use--and, specifically, the effect it has had on the play of United in this league.

Back in issue #4 I went a little bit into the thinking I put in behind the formula, and what led me to decide to try it in this league. There were several criteria I was trying to fulfill, the two main ones being to incorporate both GK and SW shot-blocking into a single percentage roll, and to prevent overlarge, unrealistic scores by cutting down on the chance that shots would score. In order to do this, I spent a long time playing with many different methods which I either had seen in other soccer games or invented myself, before arriving at the formula in use today. I compared the various formulas mainly by generating tables of percent of shots blocked for all GK/SW combinations, and reducing the various methods to lowest-common-denominator equations for direct comparisons. It turns out there is a fair amount of comparability between many aspects of the table generated by the original 14/15 formula and the table generated by the current formula, with the major exception being that the current formula generally yields lower percentage chances of shots scoring for the lower ranges of GK and SW, which was where, I had reason to believe, overlarge scores occurred. I thus thought that the current formula showed promise and decided to try it in this league--to playtest it, if you will.

There's a flaw in this kind of cold analysis of different formulas, however--and that is that when you're managing a club in a league, you don't manage it vis-a-vis how some other league figures whether or not a shot scores, but against the other managers in the same league. In other words, no amount of analysis can accurately predict the effect one goal formula or another will have on the way managers manage the clubs in the league. Nevertheless, I think it's obvious, almost distressingly so after seeing the lineups and first match results for Division III, that this formula has had a radical effect on the playing styles in this league, namely the emergence of a number of clubs with very strong forward lines.

I suspect that what made this sort of roster attractive was initially the thought of 40% of the shots missing the target, this leading to thoughts of experimenting with letting the miss percentage take care of most of the goaltending duties. I want to stress, however, that there is a world of difference between why managers started using strong forward lines and why that formation has been particularly effective--but I won't go into all of that now. What's important right now is that, for whatever reason, the apparent success of teams with strong forward lines has created a psychology which has fueled a mad scoring inflation, as clubs try (and sometimes succeed) in doing nothing but maximizing their shots, in order to duplicate the success of the strong forward line. Hardly a development which I foresaw when I decided to experiment with the goal-scoring formula, and therefore regrettable, but one which is real and with which I feel we should in some manner deal.

Now this is where it gets tricky. I cannot, after all, arbitrarily force you, as a manager, to change the management style which you believe will best help your club succeed. The best I can do is tweak various aspects of the rules to make other styles more attractive. My initial plan was to complete this season using the current formula, mainly because I did not want to be hasty in my evaluation. There are, believe it or not, some

(continued on page 22)

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DIVISION I

STANDINGS	TEAM	PT	PL	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	GF	GA	VP	SK	PN	DP	MANAGER
4311	H.M.S.S.	16	11	5	0	0	3	2	1	58-41	5+	-13	0	4		Kleiman
3122	Heroes	15	11	4	1	1	3	0	2	40-18	3	178	10	46		Fuchs
2243	Relief	15	11	5	0	0	2	1	3	40-30	4	-241	2	22		Becker
5434	Juventus	12	10	4	1	0	1	1	3	26-24	3	-405	4	26		Williams
6755	Enzymatix	10	10	2	3	0	1	1	3	33-31	3	-62	8	40		Barno
1576	Gormenghast	9	11	3	0	3	1	1	3	24-35	3	16	6	32		Hare
8867	Buds	8	10	3	0	2	1	0	4	21-23	1+	-88	0	22		Tighe
9688	Breakfast	7	11	2	2	2	0	1	4	26-35	3	-37	0	8		Marciao
7999	Volkswirt	2	11	0	1	4	0	1	5	16-47	1+	-187	5	54		Hanson

Guide to the abbreviations is on page 13.

NOTES: AARGH! After being extremely careful with the DPs last time, I counted one of Volkswirtschaft's away draws as a home draw; they should have been 0-1-3 both home and away. Juventus, Enzymatix and Buds get the extra \$20K and 1/2 VP for having idle matches this session.

MATCH 10

Komic Relief: 6 Humboldt Buds: 5
 Scr: Groucho, Larry, Harpo(3), Scr: Blanc(2), Astro, Dino(2)
 Fribble
 Bkd: Rumble

Blanc starts a Buds comeback attempt, but Harpo goes wild in the second half and puts it out of reach despite the good late-game effort. Half: 3-1
 Shots: 12-9

Gormenghast: 3 Jose's Heroes: 3
 Scr: Rottcodd(2), Steerpike(1P) Scr: Ekeler(2), Martin

Gormenghast get two before Heroes find the net. Things look even bleaker for the home side after the penalty, but the extra effort brings them a draw. Half: 2-1 Shots: 3-7

Her Majesty's Secret Service: 8 F. C. Volkswirtschaft: 6
 Scr: Goldfinger(3), Day, Broccoli(2), Scr: Lufthansa(2), Springer(2)
 Fleming(1,1P) Telefunken(2)

FCV take the early lead only to have HMSS catch up twice and then leave the field ahead at the half; the penalty kick for HMSS puts them ahead and signals the end, although FCV get one more. Half: 4-3 Shots: 21-10

Endwell Enzymatix: 5 Breakfast Buddies: 5
 Scr: Dibble, Fiddle, Spanky(3) Scr: Chockle, Sam(2), Chocula, Snap
 Bkd: Griddle

Brilliant goaltending shuts down the Buddies early on, but the Breakfast fans cheer them on to the draw with two late goals. Half: 3-1
 Shots: 12-17

MATCH 11

Jose's Heroes: 0 Komic Relief: 3
 S/O: Morgan, Wampler Scr: Chico(3P)
 S/O: Chico

Both clubs are really out for blood. Chico's three penalty kicks prove invaluable before the big brawl late in the game. Half: 0-2 Shots: 4-0

Humboldt Buds: 2
Scr: Dino, Astro
Bkd: Dino, Rubble
S/O: Astro

Her Majesty's Secret Service: 3
Scr: Fleming(2), Bond
Bkd: Blofeld

Both sides hold each other to 1-1 until the flurry of activity in the last ten minutes as each try to take it all, Astro kicking his last goal right before kicking an opponent's shin. Half: 1-1 Shots: 5-9

Breakfast Buddies: 3
Scr: Chocula, Snap, Vitamin(1P)

Gormenghast: 4
Scr: Sourdust(2), Rottcodd, Steerpike
Bkd: Sourdust

The Gormenghast goaltending proves decisive when the home side concede a total of three penalties in a match that keeps the crowd on their feet. Half: 1-3 Shots: 12-12

F. C. Volkswirtschaft: 0

Redlands Juventus: 6
Scr: Voltaire(2), Conrad, Donne(2),
Buckley

Bkd: Karstadt

Juventus get a quick start against initially tough opposition, but are too far ahead by the half for FCV to muster many shots, let alone goals. Half: 0-4 Shots: 9-25

MATCH 12

Redlands Juventus: 4
Scr: Donne, Voltaire(2), Conrad
Bkd: Voltaire
S/O: Buckley

Breakfast Buddies: 6
Scr: Snap(2), Chocula(2), Sam(2)

Juventus intimidate the Buddies at first, but the latter hit their stride and have the lead at halftime, which Lucky plays his heart out to preserve. Half: 2-3 Shots: 11-12

Her Majesty's Secret Service: 3
Scr: Broccoli, Fleming, Goldfinger

Endwell Enzymatix: 3
Scr: Kibble, Spanky, Tribble
Bkd: Humble, Trumble

Endwell jump ahead and keep HMSS off-balance, giving the away side's defense good practice. HMSS catch up, though, and the end turns into a nail-biting goalie duel. Half: 1-1 Shots: 9-11

F. C. Volkswirtschaft: 0

Jose's Heroes: 6
Scr: Adams, Morgan(2), O'Connell,
Ekeler, Wampler

Bkd: Springer

Heroes simply control the match throughout, barely letting FCV touch the ball. Half: 0-3 Shots: 0-10

Comic Relief: 5
Scr: Moe, Harpo, Fribble, Chico(1,1P)
Gormenghast: 2
Scr: Muzzlehatch, Steerpike
Bkd: Play, Muzzlehatch

Gormenghast let one by, then shut down the Relief and take the lead, but a successful penalty kick early in the second half signals the beginning of the end. Half: 1-2 Shots: 14-10

DIVISION II

STANDINGS	TEAM	PT	PL	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	GF	GA	VP	SK	PN	DP	MANAGER
1111	Fire	24	12	6	0	0	6	0	0	94-31	5	-231	1	4		Stafford
5532	Doers	15	12	5	0	1	2	1	3	25-26	3+	-15	8	42		Hise
3343	Composers	14	12	4	0	2	3	0	3	21-20	5	670	4	38		McIntyre
2224	Giants	14	12	3	1	2	3	1	2	18-21	2	-418	3	20		Gaughan
4455	Chessmen	12	12	3	1	2	2	1	3	23-20	3	83	4	26		Courtmanche
6566	Changers	10	12	2	2	2	2	0	4	21-23	3	-186	4	24		Langley
8887	Carioca	4	12	1	1	4	0	1	5	13-42	2	-395	8	136		Danceape
7778	Eagles	3	12	0	1	5	0	2	4	10-42	1	-229	12	48		Brown

Guide to the abbreviations is on page 13.

NOTES: Composers NMRed this turn (but came through it surprisingly well; sometimes the fates are kind).

MATCH 10

Carioca Football Club: 0

Chessmen of Hastings: 7

Scr: Lopez(3), Greco(2), Staunton,
Bourdonnais

Bkd: Fonseca, Xe Xe

S/O: Zavaia

With two players out of comission, Carioca heat it up as usual, which makes the Chessmen mad enough that they run up the score in the last ten minutes.
Half: 0-7 Shots: 0-14

Northside Eagles: 0

Decomposing Composers: 1

Scr: Vivaldi(1P)

One early penalty kick, and that's all she wrote, as the Eagles can't capitalize on the absence of the Composers's manager. Half: 0-1
Shots: 2-0

Evil Doers: 3

Dublin Fire: 9

Scr: Reaper(1P), Demon, Bullseye
Bullseye(33)

Scr: Hewson(3,2P), Clayton, Mullen,
Evans(2)

Bkd: Demon

S/O: Enforcer

Doers take the early lead, but Fire reassert themselves with the help of some penalties. Despite some very good work in goal, Doers end up rattled by the Dublin fans and simply can't hang on. Half: 3-5 Shots: 6-29

Literary Giants: 2

St. Langlois Changers: 2

Scr: Adams, Conan

Scr: Destrier, Syngyn-Psmyth

All the scoring's over by halftime, the second half seeing Changers held to a draw despite their best efforts to crack the Giants's goal. Half: 2-2
Shots: 2-9

MATCH 11

Decomposing Composers: 0

Carioca Football Club: 1

Scr: Quintana

Bkd: Mozart

Bkd: Quintana, Ello, Gavrincha

Carioca take advantage of Composers's complete lack of preparation and to dominate the game and end up with their first victory. Half: 0-1
Shots: 0-4

Chessmen of Hastings: 1
Scr: Lopez

Evil Doers: 3
Scr: Blizzard, Bullseye, Doom
Bkd: Bullseye

Sloppy shooting leaves the teams tied at the half, but after Doers gain the lead early in the second half, the Chessmen force Doers's goalie Blob to work a bit to hang on to it. Half: 1-1 Shots: 9-8

St. Langlois Changers: 4
Scr: Destrier, Wright(1P), Mycroft,
McGoohan

Northside Eagles: 1
Scr: Foster
Bkd: Jerdon

Eagles draw first blood but can't stop the Changers, who sit on their lead throughout the second half before sneaking in one final goal. Half: 3-1 Shots: 3-1

Dublin Fire: 7
Scr: Mullen(2), Clayton(2), Hewson,
Evans(2)
Bkd: Morrissey

Literary Giants: 5
Scr: Hercules(4), Conan
Bkd: Vader, Arthur

Giants come extremely close and give the Fire quite a run for their money, leaving the field in the lead at the half but ultimately faltering due to one slight mistake in planning. Half: 3-4 Shots: 26-9

MATCH 12

Northside Eagles: 1
Scr: Ogletree

Dublin Fire: 15
Scr: Clayton(2), Evans(2),
Mullen(7), Hewson(4)

Bkd: Ivey

The Fire are a little shaken after the close call last match, so they pour it on and show the Eagles absolutely no mercy. The bullies. Half: 1-8 Shots: 1-33

St. Langlois Changers: 0

Chessmen of Hastings: 3
Scr: Greco(1P), Staunton, Lopez
Bkd: Zukertort

After a cautious beginning for both teams a penalty kick gets the Chessmen rolling, and the Changers can't stop them once they do. Half: 0-2 Shots: 2-5

Carioca Football Club: 1
Scr: Almira(1P)
Bkd: Xe Xe

Evil Doers: 2
Scr: Ultron, Bullseye
Bkd: Reaper

The early penalty kick looks like it'll be enough to assure two in a row for Carioca, until Doers find the groove and steal the victory from them in the last ten minutes. Half: 1-0 Shots: 0-5

Decomposing Composers: 2
Scr: Mussorgsky(2)

Literary Giants: 0

Giants expect an easy time of things and only field 10 players, but Mussorgsky leaves the Giants and the hometown crowd stunned when he manages to sneak by the otherwise capable Giants defense and pick up some easy goals. Half: 1-0 Shots: 2-1

DIVISION III

STANDINGS	TEAM	PT	PL	HW	HD	HL	AW	AD	AL	GF	GA	VP	SK	PN	DP	MANAGER
1	Hollywood	6	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	27-4	6	120	0	4	Roux	
2	20° C	6	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	21-6	6	20	1	10	Luedi	
3	Tyrants	4	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	29-23	5	-22	1	0	Spitzer	
4	Scientists	4	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	10-7	3	80	1	12	Kott	
5	Sockheads	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	29-27	2	-66	1	8	D. Anderson	
6	Chippewas	2	3	0	0	1	1	0	1	13-18	4	-66	0	0	R. Anderson	
7	Emerald	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	1	20-29	4	-66	2	18	Stone	
8	Traders	2	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	2-13	4	-66	0	14	Johnson	
9	Guns	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	1	4-8	3+	20	1	0	Ferguson	
t	Rats	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	2	3-23	3+	220	0	0	Ducus	

Guide to the abbreviations is on page 13.

NOTES: Emerald City should have been listed as \$-200K on the flyer I sent out. Tyrants were fined \$10K this session for failure to designate a penalty kicker. Chippewas, Traders, and Rats all NMRed.

MATCH 10

Emerald City: 5
Scr: Scarecrow(3), Tinman(2)
Bkd: Kalidah, Toto
S/O: Em

20* G: 12
Scr: Winnograd(2), Coburn(2), Lyons,
Callahan(5), Stieglitz(2).

Great--someone's taking lessons from Div. II... Half: 1-8 Shots: 14-32

Diamond Gems: 3
Scr: Musial(2), Clemente(1P)

Gems spend themselves in the first half, letting the Tyrants go ahead in the second at their leisure. Half: 3-3 Shots: 2-16

Currency Traders: 1 Central Chippewas: 0
Scr: Pound
Bkd: Gulden
S/O: Franc

Traders get the one they want in the NMR bowl. Half: 0-0 Shots: 2-10

Sockheads Part II: 5
Scr: Lavender, Aqua, Gold(2), Blue
Scientists: 8
Scr: Fermi(3), Darwin(2), Curie(2)
Bkd: Copernicus

A lot of action, with superior homside goaltending in the face of heavy attack proving decisive. Half: 2-5 Shots: 21-16

River Rats: 0
Hollywood 200: 10
Scr: Arbuckle(4), Hitchcock(3),
Gleason, Morley, DeLuise

No fair, picking on a team without their manager... Half: 0-5 Shots: 0-22

MATCH 11

California Tyrants: 7 Emerald City: 8
Scr: Mugabe(2), Pot, Castro, Assad(3) Scr: Dorothy(5), Scarecrow(2), Tinman

Tyrants push hard in the second half, but superb goaltending by Glinda sees EC hang on. Half: 3-7 Shots: 30-17

Currency Traders: 1
Scr: Escudo

Scientists: 1
Scr: Fermi(1P)
Bkd: Copernicus, Curie

Diamond Gems: 1
Scr: Mays

Central Chippewas: 4
Ser: Robinson(4)

Hollywood 200: 10
Scr: Gleason(3), Morley, DeLuise,
Arbuckle(5).
Bkd: Ustinov

River Rats: 2
Scr: Happy(1P), Duke

Sockheads Part II: 12
Scr: Aqua(2), Blue(4), Lavender(4),
Brown(2)
Bkd: Black

MATCH 12

20* C: 2
Scr: Arbus (2)
S/O: Frank

Diamond Gems: 0

Central Chippewas: 9
Scr: Robinson(6), Thorpe, Saxe(2)

```
Emerald City: 7
Scr: Tinman(3), Em, Dorothy,
      Scarecrow(2)
```

California Tyrants: 17
Scr: Assad(5), Castro(3), Mugabe(4),
Pot(5)

Sockheads Part II: 12
Scr: Gold(3), Aqua(2), Blue(4),
 Brown, Lavender(2)
Bkd: Aqua

Hollywood 200: 7
Scr: Gleason(2), Hitchcock, DeLuise,
Arbuckle(2), Burr.

Currency Traders: 0

Scientists: 1
Scr: Fermi

River Rats: 1
Scr: Happy

- 19 -

UNITED PRESS

BREAKFAST BUDDIES to LEAGUE: For sale or trade: SW level 10. I would like \$2000K or two level 10 outfielders, but if you have some other deal in mind, let me know, maybe we can work something out.

CHESSMEN to DIV III: I'd be interested in hearing whatever trades you'd care to make.

MONEY! MONEY! MONEY!: If you've got the money, I've got the players. These are true pros, pros that know the value of a buck over team loyalty. Interested parties contact Don "Pardo" Williams. (Bring money.)

JOSE'S HEROES still looking for a SL10 FW. Willing to offer 400K plus a SL6 FW. Great Colorado ski trip should you wish to discuss the matter face to face.

WANTED: A 10SW, or a 10FW plus cash in exchange for lots of great vibes. Contact Tighe. If you're a Leo, don't bother.

RAT'S POINT PARLOR AND BOOK: As we near the halfway point of the season, maybe it's time to take a look at how the Divisions shape up as we go into the middle stretch.

Division I: A close division, with the top 6 teams all within 5 points of each other. Key matches in session 4 were Heroes at Relief and H.M.S.S. at Enzymatix, with Juventus needing to win two to stay in the top 3. No reason to believe F.C. Volkswirtschaft's losing streak will snap, but Gormenghast may move up one or two spots. Bet 'em: **ENZYMATIX OVER H.M.S.S., 6-5.**

Division II: A whole different story here. Look for Fire's winning margins to diminish as teams begin to key on Dublin's front-loading ways, but win they shall, unless they get a tough game from the Giants in Match 11. No change seen in the top 3 spots, but watch for Changers to move back to 5th place as the second 3 teams mix it up. Key matches in Session 4 were Doers at Fire, Fire at Giants and Changers at Chessmen. Bet 'em: **FIRE AT GIANTS, FIRE BY 4. CHANGERS AT CHESSMEN, CHANGERS BY 1.**

KOMIC RELIEF NEEDED: After miscalculating session 3 income, and getting fined to boot, and with player's checks bouncing all over Kazoo, with two fresh losses on the road, well things were not looking up for team manager K-Bill. Team owners, 'Scrooge' Gilmore and 'Tightwad' Upjohn were barely placated by the acquisition of a much needed sweeper. Now it's time to produce or else it may be the **CURLY SHUFFLE** for the league's most experienced manager.

ST. LANGLOIS CHANGERS announced the drop of young John Destrier and the acquisition of his older brother, Jack Destrier. A spokesman for the team explained that young John just wasn't showing the sort of talent of brother Jack.

LITERARY VALHALLA (ASSOCIATED PRESS): Members of the Literary Giants returned here today after a successful but grueling road trip. After losing to the Dublin Fire, the team won back-to-back matches from Hastings and Carloca; lost a heart-breaker to the archrival Gotham Evil Doers; then finished the trip 3-2 with a win in Sacramento this session.

"Losing to the other leaders hurt," admitted Coach Hemingway, "but after all, we were in enemy territory. Add to that the intimidation of the referees in the Doers' game--look, they spent the whole match biting our shins! How could we score?"

The players unanimously look forward to beating both teams here at Valhalla's Giants Stadium, outside Dallas--beating them badly.

GOTHAM STAR: A giant blok party was thrown in honor of the Evil Doers' goalie The Blob for his excellent performance in the three game sweep last month, which included a win over second ranked Literary Giants. The Blob racked up a grand total of seven saves. The party lasted for twelve hours. Reporter Lana Lang was on hand to cover this grand

event. Unfortunately nothing has been heard from her for about ten hours.

GOTHAM STAR: Lex Luther must be the happiest man in Gotham City. Last month the Evil Doers swept their series, including their revenge on the Literary Giants (the second ranked team having only lost to the Dublin Fire until now). Lex also put the National United Soccer League on its year with his acquiring rookie sensation The Abomination. Now the question on everyone's mind will the momentum gained be enough to beat the Dublin Fire in Dublin this month.

GOTHAM STAR: Clark Kent in a recent interview with Coach Egghead asked "Will the momentum gained be enough to beat the Dublin Fire in Dublin this month?" "Well, Clark," Egghead replied "The momentum gained will definitely help and if our new formation works without causing any penalty shots then we should give them a close game. If played as hoped for we will in by a score of 9 to 8." Clark went on to congratulate Egghead on the doubling of his salary.

GOTHAM STAR: The Blob said in a recent interview "Da Fire is out. The Blob is in."

MANAGER to CHESSMEN: All right men, you're getting a good amount of shots on goal but they're not going in. There are going to be kicking drills every day till I'm satisfied with the way you're playing. We've got to give more support to Morphy, he can't carry this team on his back.

CHESSMEN to CHANGERS: Nice try, but you need more shots on goal or a lucky penalty to do something to the Fire. Care to send a circular letter on how you did it?

JUVENTUS to FIRE: You losing it, Stafford? Only 57 shots on goal last time...

PETE to BRUCE: Did you try my advice in your match against Fire? Suggest you consolidate the inputs you received and mail your analysis to rival managers.

DUBLIN to MCINTYRE: I laugh at your pathetic attempts to blacklist me on the trading block. I scoff at your even more pathetic efforts to defeat me on the field of play. On the other hand, why would any one listen to a manager whos team is the absolute poorest in Becker's league TWO YEARS RUNNING!

But seriously, guy, I bear you no ill will. After all, all's fair in love, war, and United. On the other hand, you won't mind if I take particular delight in burying your band of cadavers each time we play. GRUDGE MATCH!!

JUVE to HEROES: Comu-u-u-neecate? We don' need to comuunneecate... Keeck those balls, hombre...

HEROES to ALL CLUBS: Am I the only one relying on defense? Good solid defensive positions plus great goalkeeping will eventually prevail. Muldoon proudly accepted his award for least goals allowed.

BUDS to HEROES: Thank you, thank you, thank you.

JUVENTUS to TYRANTS: Welcome, friend, and good luck.

LANGLEY to WILLIAMS: What happened to all those coaching tips you promised? Sent them to Jose by mistake, did you?

REDLANDS to CARIOGA: You recruit from Georgia chain gangs, or the NHL, or what?

JUVENTUS to CHESSMEN: Knight-QB3.

JUVENTUS to DECOMPOSERS: Where's my hero, Franz Liszt? Have you no honor?

TIGHE to BECKER: Playing against you is like playing against an old coach --I want to see you do well, but I still want to cream you.

BUDS to SOCKHEADS: Hey, this time don't forget to put eyeholes in those socks.

BUDS to 20 C: Don't expose yourself to any cheap shots.

MASS MURDERS LIVES DEPT. to HEROES: Sorry, that should have been "PRESSGANG Lives Dept." But who can argue with your conclusion?

RJ to JH: At least you understand what MMLD means...

PRESSGANG LIVES DEPT.: Peter Fuchs, mouth sucks, rectum BRUX.

CHESSMEN to RSEUDORANDOM: This is really sad. I'm getting shots on goal but not enough are getting in. I feel like I'm managing a hard-luck team like the Chicago Cubs.

HUMBOLDT to IT: Excuse me, but I've won four in a row, and may the streak continue.

BUDDIES to GM/KM/CM/WHATEVER: Gee, three well coached games and three losses. Maybe I should randomly choose a lineup like K-Bill does. His team is doing OK.

DON to KNYZ STEVE: Okay, how about UNITED ANONYMOUS? (I'm hooked, I'm hooked...)

CHESSMEN to LEAGUE: How does the Fly-By-Knight Football League sound?

(continued from page 12)

aspects of this league's progress which look very good under the current formula--but to demonstrate that, I'd have to publicize information (e.g., skill level totals) which must remain unknown. At season's end, I felt, I would be better able to take stock of the situation and come to an informed decision. In the meantime, I've been scrutinizing the league's play more closely than you can know, monitoring the success of different styles and trying to assess the impact different changes might have on the league.

In addition to watching the league, however, I returned to analyzing goal formulas, this time with an eye towards the effect each is likely to have on management style. This was when I realized the flaw in my previous analysis, which I mentioned a few paragraphs back (i.e., you don't manage against another league's goal formula). In retrospect, then, it became evident (almost embarrassingly so--"why didn't I think of that before?") that what is psychologically important in managing a team is not the absolute percentage of shots stopped, nor specifically the percentage increase you get from coaching a GK or SW, but the difference between your percentage of shots stopped, and the other club's percentage.

So in any event, the upshot right now is that I would like to throw open the question of the goal formula. The way the rules read, I do have the "right" to change the goal formula, but if you know me at all, you know that I try (not always successfully) to avoid changing expectations in midstream. In other words, I suspect a number of you have settled on a strategy which assumes the current goal formula, and might be annoyed if it were to change suddenly. On the other hand, there are a number of you who might be more annoyed if it doesn't change. Which all means I am looking for input from you on two questions: Would you like to see the goal formula changed in some way, and if so, when? To help me with my decision-making, I'd appreciate it if you could specify which of the following three options comes closest to your preference:

1. Leave the goal formula as is, at least through the end of the season.
2. Keep the same basic method (miss, GK and SW all in one percentage), but change the specific values if it will help.
3. Switch to a method based on the traditional 14/15.

Feel free to clarify your feelings (e.g., "I'll resign if you change the goal formula"). If there is a reasonable consensus, I expect to make whatever change is agreed upon right away.

I hope I don't need to impress upon you how heavily this has weighed upon my mind. My mood has been doing severe flip-flops on the question for awhile now. I'd take a look at the match results and think, my God, what have I done, then take a look at the statistics and think, no, things are all right... I only hope that I haven't inadvertently made the league too unenjoyable for anyone--and that this possible move won't do that, either.

THE LAST PAGE

111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111

DEADLINES

Sopwith:		20 DECEMBER 1985
Diplomacy:	{8:00 p.m. Central Time}	28 DECEMBER 1985
United:		28 DECEMBER 1985
For articles, etc:		23 DECEMBER 1985

111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111

GAME OPENING

Diplomacy (black press game):	\$5.00 game fee	\$5.00 NMR fee
Diplomacy (novices only):	\$5.00 game fee	\$5.00 NMR fee
Scowith:	\$2.00 game fee	NO NMR fee

111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111

WAITING LISTS

United: Berwood Bowen, James Goode
Twint: Bill Becker, Steve Courtemanche, Conrad Minshall, John
Narciso, Tom Johnson

DIPLOMACY STANDBY LIST (standbys are wanted, and receive three free issues upon completing a standby position):

Dan Stafford, Conrad Von Metzke, Robert Acheson, Matt Fleming, Steve Dycus, Kevin Brown, Michael Burstein, Chris Trudeau, Jim Ferguson

111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111

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NEXT TO LAST ISSUE for Ed Wrobel, Melinda Holley, Don Sigwalt, Paul Rauterberg, Ken Peel, Pete Fuchs, Robert Acheson, Stephen Dycus, Joe Kott

LAST ISSUE for Mark Frueh, Martin Le Fevre

111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111-111

It's a Trap! #7 has been brought to you by: Steve Knight
2792 Grand Ave. S #302
Minneapolis, MN 55408 USA
(612) 872-9571

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