Nigel's Webspace News

A newsletter distributed by Nigel's Webspace, a website dedicated to the history of English football cards 1965/66 to 1979/80.

Issue 12

Topps US and UK

Brian Fleischer, Senior Market Analyst from Beckett Media in the US (http://www.beckett.com/) has written in before to discuss the similarities between the Topps US issues and the Topps UK issues after they took over from A&BC Chewing Gum. Brian writes:

"Your note on the 1974-75 Topps Scottish uncut sheet caught my attention. While I wouldn't call uncut Topps baseball sheets from the 1970s 'common', they do show up on eBay and at auction houses from time to time. I went through our archives and found a sale of a lot of four 132-card sheets of 1975 Topps baseball cards that sold in May of 2010 (Robert Edward Auction) for \$1,293 - or \$323 per sheet. Not surprisingly, the Scottish cards look almost identical to the Topps baseball release from the same year!



I also found your <u>variants</u> note pretty interesting too. There are many, many printing variations, "errors", etc. that can be found in the 1950s and 1960s Topps baseball sets. Some of the most popular are from the landmark 1952 Topps set:

Black back







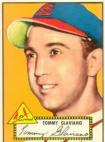
White back



White logo



Yellow logo



One of the most expensive variations is on a Frank Campos card. On the left,

you'll notice that the both stars on the bottom of the card are red. The variation has one red and one black star. A 'Black Star' version in pretty rough condition recently sold on eBay for \$1,552. The same card, in the same condition, with the two red stars sells for about \$10-\$20".

Many thanks to Brian for continuing to educate us about the links between the Topps US and UK productions.

FRANCISCO JOSE CAMPOS (LOPEZ) SOT Control you be the property of the property

Panini - Frederick (Bobby) Moore



Russ sent in this interesting image, which he thinks is from Panini from 1967/68. Russ says 'I think it may be the Panini Mira range and it is unusual that the name on the card is MOORE FREDERICK. It has a plain silver back and measures approx. 68 x 45mm'.

Are there any 1960s Panini experts out there who can date this?

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Top Sellers 1977

From their Football 73 series onwards Top Sellers (Panini) began including Team Badges as part of these large sets. The team badges usually came as one card (sticker) with two team badges and a split down the middle. Presumably you could peel off the sticker of your favourite team and either trade or bin the other team.

It's quite hard to identify the checklists for these Team Badges as not many badges survive intact. My Top Seller checklists are not complete for the Team Badges for many of

these sets. Del sent in the two images above from his Football 77 collection. He points out that his team, Villa, appear on two different Football 77 Team Badge combinations. Was this a simple error by the designer, or a closet Villa fan getting one over on their rivals?



WEST HAM UNITED



If you have information on the Top Sellers Team Badge combinations please get in touch so that I can publish some definitive checklists for these sets.

Recent sales - A&BC Chewing Gum complete sets

A seller recently listed some complete sets of A&BC Chewing Gum cards, together with the special items which came with them. The ebay auctions give us a good opportunity to note the current prices in the marketplace:

Item	Selling
	price
A&BC 1967/68 black back set (55 cards) in excellent condition, plus all 12 England's Stars pin-ups	£ 160
A&BC 1968/69 yellow backs, set of 26 Pennants in excellent condition (no cards)	£ 287
<u>A&BC 1968/69 yellow backs set</u> (102 cards, including variant and unmarked checklists) in excellent condition, plus all 20 <u>Emblems</u>	£ 262
A&BC 1969/70 green backs set (178 cards, including variants and unmarked checklists) in excellent / near mint condition, plus all 36 Crinkle-cut photographs	£ 310
A&BC 1969/70 World Cup Footballers set (37 cards) in excellent / near mint condition, plus all 16 World Cup Posters	£ 320
A&BC 1970/71 Action Transfers / Transparencies (55 out of the set of 72) in excellent condition	£ 464
<u>A&BC 1970/71 orange backs set</u> (259 cards, including variants and unmarked checklists) in excellent / near mint condition, plus all 14 <u>Pin-up posters</u> , plus wrapper	£ 320
A&BC 1971/72 Footballer Superstars (22 out of the set of 23)	£ 118
A&BC 1971/72 purple backs set (291 cards, including variant and unmarked checklists) in excellent condition, plus all 23 Football Club Crests, plus wrapper	£ 360
A&BC 1972/73 orange/red backs set (221 cards, including variants and unmarked checklists) in excellent / near mint condition, plus all 22 Football Game cards, plus wrapper	£ 261
A&BC 1973/74 Giant Team Posters (14 out of the set of 16) in 'lovely' condition, plus wrapper	£ 340

Congratulations to the seller, who presented his items well on ebay. And congratulations to those buyers who have instantly added complete sets in excellent condition to their collections. Surely a wise investment for the future!

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The same seller also sold a complete set of 96 <u>Daily Mirror 'My Club'</u> cards in mint condition. This is a very interesting set, as you had to send away to collect them individually. I'm going to guess that collecting a full set in mint condition was a matter of picking up the spares once the offer was finished, as I doubt anyone would have collected 96 one at a time. The seller tried very hard to promote this set: 'never before seen on ebay in a full mint set. Forget Typhoo, Barretts, Bassetts, The Sun Cards etc, this was the only set that could stand alongside A&BC and Topps for quality, and value. These were part of the Bobby Moore Gallery of Soccer Sides, along with the small Mirrorcards. These cards usually sell for between £8~£15 each in good condition...these are Mint!'

The final selling price for the set was £262, with a total of 3 bids. I'm not sure how to read this. Is this a good price or not? Does it suggest that this is not a collectable set? £262 is a reasonable sum, but it values the cards in mint condition as a set at less than £3 each. What do others think?

The Laws of Soccer?





THE LAWS OF SOCCER

186. Inside the goal area, the goalkeeper cannot be fairly charged when he has the ball in his hands or arms, nor can he be obstructed by an opposing player.

Colin sent in these interesting stickers, which may or may not be English? I'm not aware of them in the period covered by my website (England and Scotland from 1965/66 to 1979/80), but can anyone help identify them i.e. maker, date, number in set etc?

Update: These Laws of Soccer stickers have been identified as a set of 300 from Quadriga in 1983. There is an album that you stuck the stickers into. Thanks to those who wrote in with the answer.

Until next time...Nigel