

# Free Throw Contest Champion

## *Spencer Haywood Zeroes In!*

Who's the greatest when it comes to shooting Free throws successfully, using the 1973-74 Strat-O-Matic Basketball cards?

Mike Cummins and Jim Bradley of Peoria, IL, decided to find out not long ago and conducted a tournament to determine the "greatest." Instead of just picking out who they considered the best charity shot marksmen and running off an elimination tourney, they held eliminations for each team, with the team free throw king then advancing into a final series of shootouts.

Each player, each round, was given 10 free throws. If a tie resulted at the end of 10, then the two players would continue shooting until the deadlock was ended.

The best team battle occurred between Geoff Petrie and John Johnson of the Portland Trailblazers. Both Petrie, who went into the final round having connected on 20 consecutive chances, and Johnson swished all 10 of their attempts. Finally, in a playoff, Johnson made all five of his chances while Petrie, after making four in a row--and 34 overall--finally missed and was eliminated.

Here are the team championship results:

Kansas City Kings: Howard Komives d. Don Kojis, 10-8; Los Angeles Lakers: Stan Love d. Jerry West, 10-5; Seattle SuperSonics: Spencer Haywood d. Slick Watts, 8-6; Buffalo Braves: Ernie DiGregorio d. Jim McMillian, 9-5.

Milwaukee Bucks: Mickey Davis d. Bob Dandridge, 2-1 after tying at 9-10; Houston Rockets: Mike Newlin d. Rudy Tomjanovich, 9-8; New York Knicks: Henry Bibby d. Walt Frazier, 8-7; Golden State Warriors: Rick Barry d. Jeff Mullins, 5-4 after 9-10 tie; Bullets: Phil Chenier d. Kevin Porter, 10-9.

Atlanta Hawks: Pete Maravich d. John Wetzel, 9-6; Portland Trailblazers: John Johnson d. Geoff Petrie, 5-4, after 10-10 tie; Philadelphia 76ers: Tom VanArsdale d. Don May, 10-9; Cleveland Cavaliers: Jim Clemons d. Luke Witto, 2-1 after 9-10 tie; Boston Celtics: Don Chaney d. Henry Finkel, 9-5.

Chicago Bulls: Howard Porter d. Chet Walker, 10-9; Phoenix Suns: Clem Haskins d. Dick VanArsdale, 10-6; Detroit Pistons: Bob Lanier d. George Trapp, 10-9.

### Championship Shootouts

First Round: Haskins d. Lanier, 2-1 after 9-10 tie; Barry d. Bibby, 9-8; J. Johnson d. T. VanArsdale, 2-1 after 10-10 tie; Chenier d. Maravich, 9-7; Komives d. S. Love, 9-6; Haywood d. DiGregorio, 1-0 after 7-10 tie; Davis d. Newlin, 6-5 after 8-10 tie; Chaney d. Clemons, 9-7.

Second Round: Porter d. Chaney, 4-3 after 7-10 tie; Haywood d. Komives, 1-0 after 8-10 tie; Johnson d. Chenier, 5-4 after 10-10 tie; Barry d. Haskins, 10-8. Davis drew bye, automatically advances into third round.

Third Round: Haywood d. Barry, 10-7; Davis d. Porter, 8-7. Johnson drew bye.

Fourth Round: Davis d. Johnson, 9-8.

Finals: Spencer Haywood d. Mickey Davis, 8-5.

Haywood, with only an 81.4 percentage from the stripe, won out over such highly-touted shooters as Ernie DiGregorio (90.2) and Rick Barry (89.9), both of whom he defeated in head-to-head shootouts.

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