



Hang Time

by
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'No dice' for Denver

Forget your Super Bowl parties; the Giants win 37-3.

How did I come to that conclusion? Well, last Wednesday night, my friend Marc Whitman and I recreated today's Super Bowl game with the help of Strat-O-Matic Football.

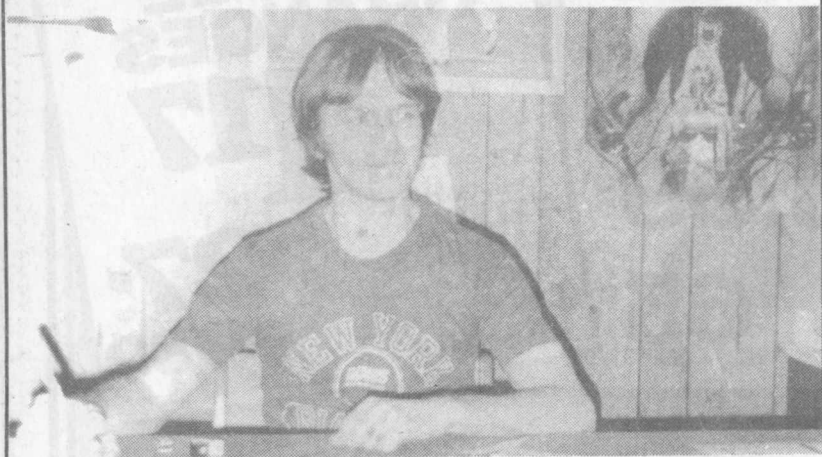
In the last issue of the Free Press we ran an interview with Strat-O-Matic inventor Harold Richman, whose sports simulation games are known the world over. With that conversation for inspiration, it only seemed natural to go one step further and play the game out in advance. (This version of the Super Bowl had one advantage over today's real thing - no commercials.)

For the record, Whitman, an Ashland Oil employee, coached the Giants, and coached them well. Luckily we weren't playing in an outdoor stadium, or else I'd still be wiping mud off my face. Not only did Whitman outsmart me, but he rolled some incredibly fortuitous dice combinations, too. That's a hard one-two punch to overcome, and I didn't.

All the statistics mentioned in the above story really happened in the game. On the other hand, I made up all the quotes, nor will we know for a few hours whether or not we actually invade Nicaragua.

While this was an interesting experiment, I wouldn't bet the house on the outcome. Guitar-playing fool Rob Rocket and myself played a Browns-Broncos game a couple of days before the AFC title clash, only this time the Browns won 13-10.

If only life *always* imitated art. . .



Giants' coach Marc Whitman prepares for the big clash at legendary Titan Stadium.