

Thomas

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against Gray, Washington soon had a first and goal at the A&M one yard line.

With the partisan crowd screaming for their hide, the A&M defenders bowed their backs, stopped the Huskies on four plays, shut up the crowd, and sealed the victory.

McCrumbly stopped Rowland's sneak for no gain, then the fierce and indomitable Simonini plastered the quarterback for two straight five-yard losses setting up a fourth and goal from the 11.

Enter Mr. Thomas. He picked off Rowland's pass in the corner of the end zone and that was it for the home team.

The Aggies had won their first three games in a season, but the streak would die there the following week when the Kansas Jayhawks embarrassed them 28-10 in Lawrence, Kan.

Thomas wasn't through making big plays, eventually setting an A&M record for pass interceptions.

One week later in the third quarter against Texas Tech, Thomas blasted Red Raider quarterback Tommy Duniven on a fourth and three at the A&M 35 yard line, sealing that win for the Aggies.

Later in the 1974 season, Thomas scored the final touchdown of his

A&M career, in the second quarter against Rice at Kyle Field.

Williams and Simonini had blasted an Owl running back, causing the ball to squirt into the air.

Thomas picked in off in midstride and waltzed untouched into the west corner of the south end zone for the six points.

After being named a first-team All-America in 1975, Thomas was the Los Angeles Rams' second pick in the 1976 National Football League draft.

Following a distinguished pro career, which included trips to the Pro Bowl and Super Bowl XIV, Thomas was traded across town to the Raid-

ers, but had to retire due to a knee injury.

Had he been able to play, he would have teamed up with former A&M All-America and All-Pro cornerback Lester Hayes.

Thomas had a short stint as the defensive secondary coach of the defunct Houston Gamblers under another A&M former star, Jack Pardee.

This past spring he accepted that same job under Pardee, only this time at the University of Houston.

Regardless of what transpires for Thomas in his new job, he will always remain one of the best A&M football players I have ever seen play.

Giants rip Astros 4-1

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Rick Reuschel pitched a two-hitter as the San Francisco Giants won their sixth straight game by beating the Houston Astros 4-0 Thursday.

Reuschel, 13-7, pitched his fourth shutout of the season — the first since joining the Giants in late August — and his 12th complete game. Both totals are tops in the National League.

Houston's Bill Doran singled with two out in the first, and the Astros did not get another hit until Gerald Young singled in the sixth. Reuschel walked one batter, struck out five and did not allow a runner past first base.

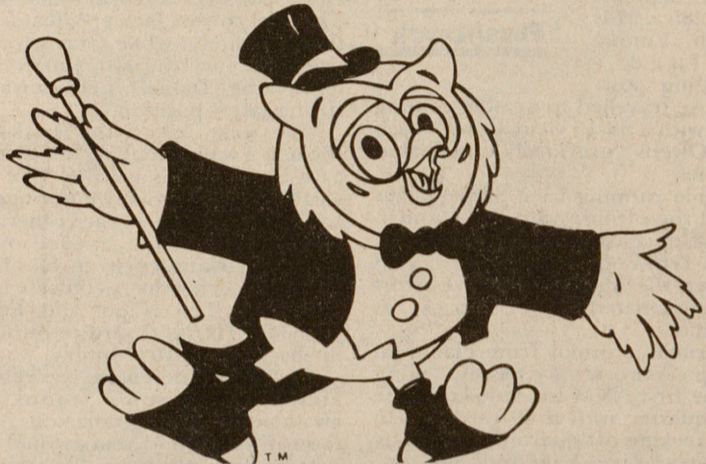
Reuschel was locked in a

scoreless duel with Danny Darwin until the sixth inning, when Darwin followed two-out walk by Candy Maldonado and Will Clark with a two-run double to break on a 3-2 pitch.

Darwin, 8-10, allowed only two hits over six innings. He walked five and struck out five.

The Giants added two more runs in the seventh on RBI singles by Mike Aldrete and Maldonado. Both runs were charged to reliever Jeff Heathcock.


The Giants' winning streak, their longest of the season, and the victory moved them a step closer to clinching their first division title since 1971.



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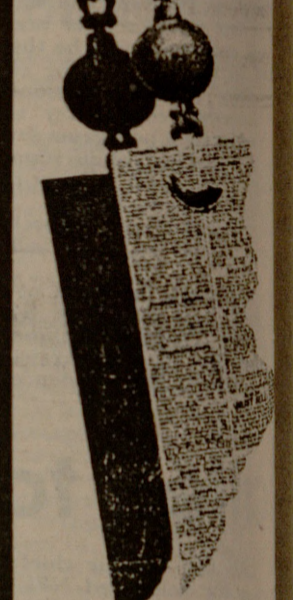
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