



# PEYTON MANNING

and the

# Indianapolis Colts

**SUPER BOWL XLI**



by Michael Sandler

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Columbia University

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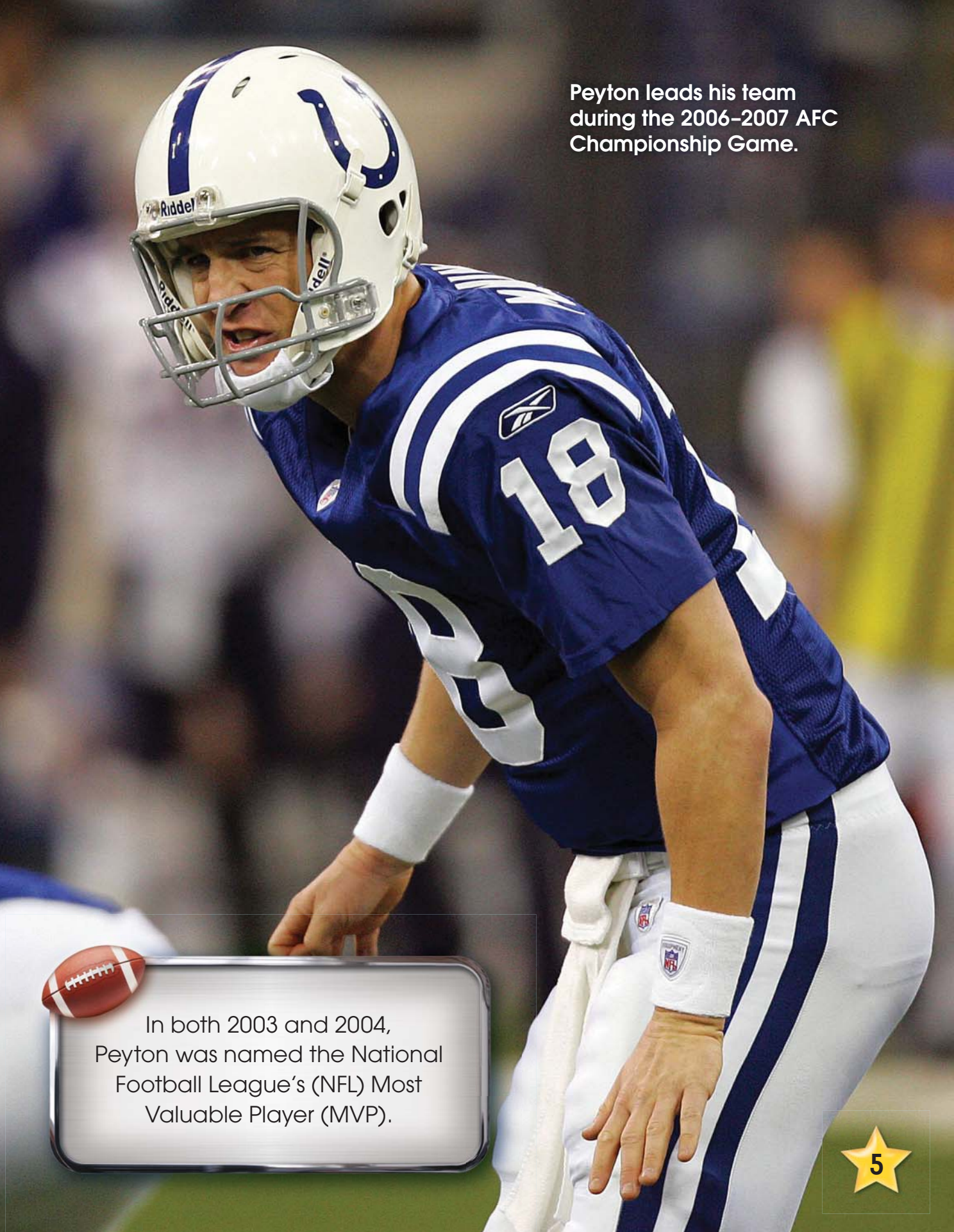
# Not Again

Peyton Manning held dozens of passing records. He had won countless awards. At the moment, however, these **honors** weren't important. Only one thing mattered to the quarterback—beating the New England Patriots in the 2006–2007 **AFC Championship Game**.


Twice the Patriots had defeated Peyton's Indianapolis Colts on the way to the Super Bowl. Now they were doing it again. New England was ahead by 18 points. Could Peyton stop another painful loss?



Peyton Manning

A full-page photograph of Peyton Manning in his Indianapolis Colts uniform. He is wearing a white helmet with a blue horseshoe logo and a blue jersey with white stripes and the number 18. He is in a three-point stance, looking forward with a focused expression. The background is a blurred stadium crowd.

Peyton leads his team  
during the 2006-2007 AFC  
Championship Game.



In both 2003 and 2004,  
Peyton was named the National  
Football League's (NFL) Most  
Valuable Player (MVP).



# Football Family

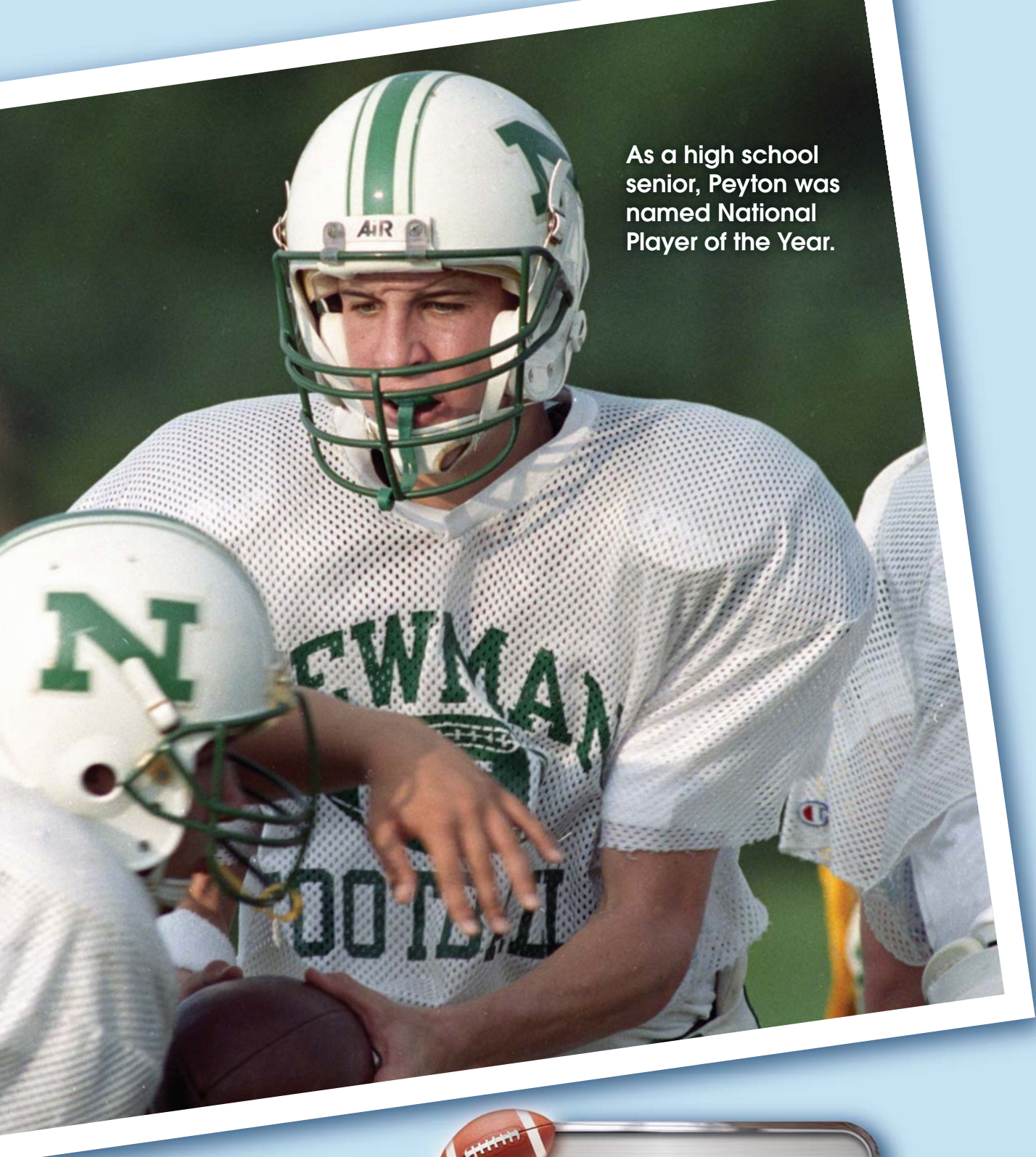
For Peyton, football was a family game. His father, Archie, was a star quarterback in the NFL. His two brothers, Eli and Cooper, liked to play as well. To the Manning kids, picking up a football was as natural as learning to crawl.

Like his dad, Peyton became a talented passer. With Peyton as **starting** quarterback, his high school team won 34 of 39 games. Coaches of **opposing** teams were happy to see him leave for college.



The Mannings (from top left):  
Cooper, Peyton, Olivia, Archie, and Eli.





As a high school senior, Peyton was named National Player of the Year.



Peyton's brother Eli is the quarterback for the New York Giants.

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## Learn More Online

To learn more about Peyton Manning, the Indianapolis Colts, and the Super Bowl, visit [www.bearportpublishing.com/SuperBowlSuperstars](http://www.bearportpublishing.com/SuperBowlSuperstars)

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**SUPER BOWL XLI**

Peyton Manning held dozens of passing records and had won countless awards. At the moment, however, these things weren't important. Only one thing mattered to the Indianapolis Colts quarterback—beating the New England Patriots in the AFC Championship Game. Twice the Patriots had defeated Peyton's Colts on the way to the Super Bowl. Now they were doing it again. Could Peyton stop another painful loss and get his team to the big game?

**Tom Brady**  
**and the New England Patriots**  
SUPER BOWL XXXVIII

**John Elway**  
**and the Denver Broncos**  
SUPER BOWL XXXIII

**Dexter Jackson**  
**and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers**  
SUPER BOWL XXXVII

**Peyton Manning**  
**and the Indianapolis Colts**  
SUPER BOWL XLI

**Hines Ward**  
**and the Pittsburgh Steelers**  
SUPER BOWL XL

**Kurt Warner**  
**and the St. Louis Rams**  
SUPER BOWL XXXIV



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