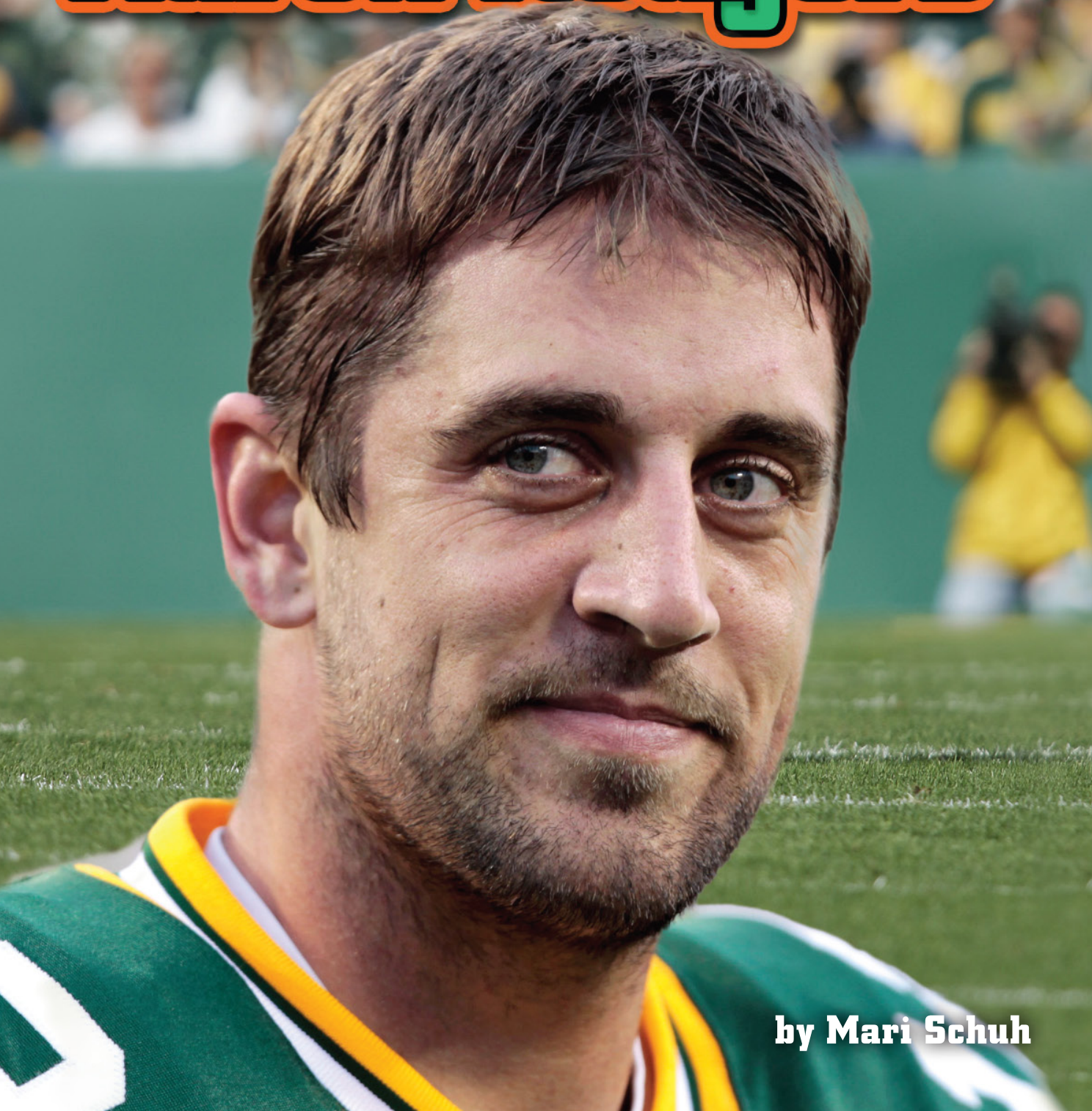


FOOTBALL STARS
UP CLOSE
★ ★ ★

Aaron Rodgers



by Mari Schuh

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by Mari Schuh

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Time to Shine

It was December 2008. **Quarterback** Aaron Rodgers glanced up at the scoreboard. His team, the Green Bay Packers, was beating the Detroit Lions 24–21 in the fourth quarter. If the Packers scored again, they would have enough points to almost guarantee a win. Aaron knew he had to make a move. So he took the **snap**, saw his teammate Donald Driver far down the field, and hurled the ball long and high. Was Aaron's throw good enough to help his team win the game?



The Green Bay Packers
play home games in Green Bay,
Wisconsin. Their stadium is
called Lambeau Field.



Lambeau Field




Aaron manages to throw the ball seconds before being tackled during the December 2008 game against the Lions.

The Long Pass

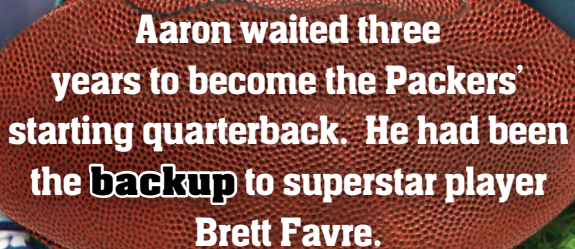
Excited Packers fans watched as the ball soared across the field right into Donald's arms. After catching the ball, Donald bolted to the end zone for a **touchdown**. Aaron had thrown a 71-yard (65 m) touchdown pass! He smiled as the crowd went wild. It was only Aaron's first season as the Packers' **starting** quarterback. Fans wondered what else this talented quarterback had in store.

Donald Driver
(#80) catches
Aaron's pass
before running
for a touchdown.





Aaron (right) and Donald celebrate after working together to score a touchdown.



Aaron waited three years to become the Packers' starting quarterback. He had been the **backup** to superstar player Brett Favre.

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Learn More Online

To learn more about Aaron Rodgers, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/FootballStarsUpClose



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Aaron Rodgers

Could Aaron Rodgers prove to Green Bay Packers' fans that he was a great quarterback? Aaron was eager to show the world that he was capable of controlling the field, and he knew exactly what he needed to do: play harder, stronger, and faster. Would he be able to achieve these goals and, at the same time, lead his team to a Super Bowl championship?

Look inside for a close-up look at the quarterback's inspiring journey from his childhood in California, through his college years at the University of California, all the way to NFL stardom.

Tom Brady

Drew Brees

Adrian Peterson

Troy Polamalu

★ **Aaron Rodgers**

Tony Romo

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