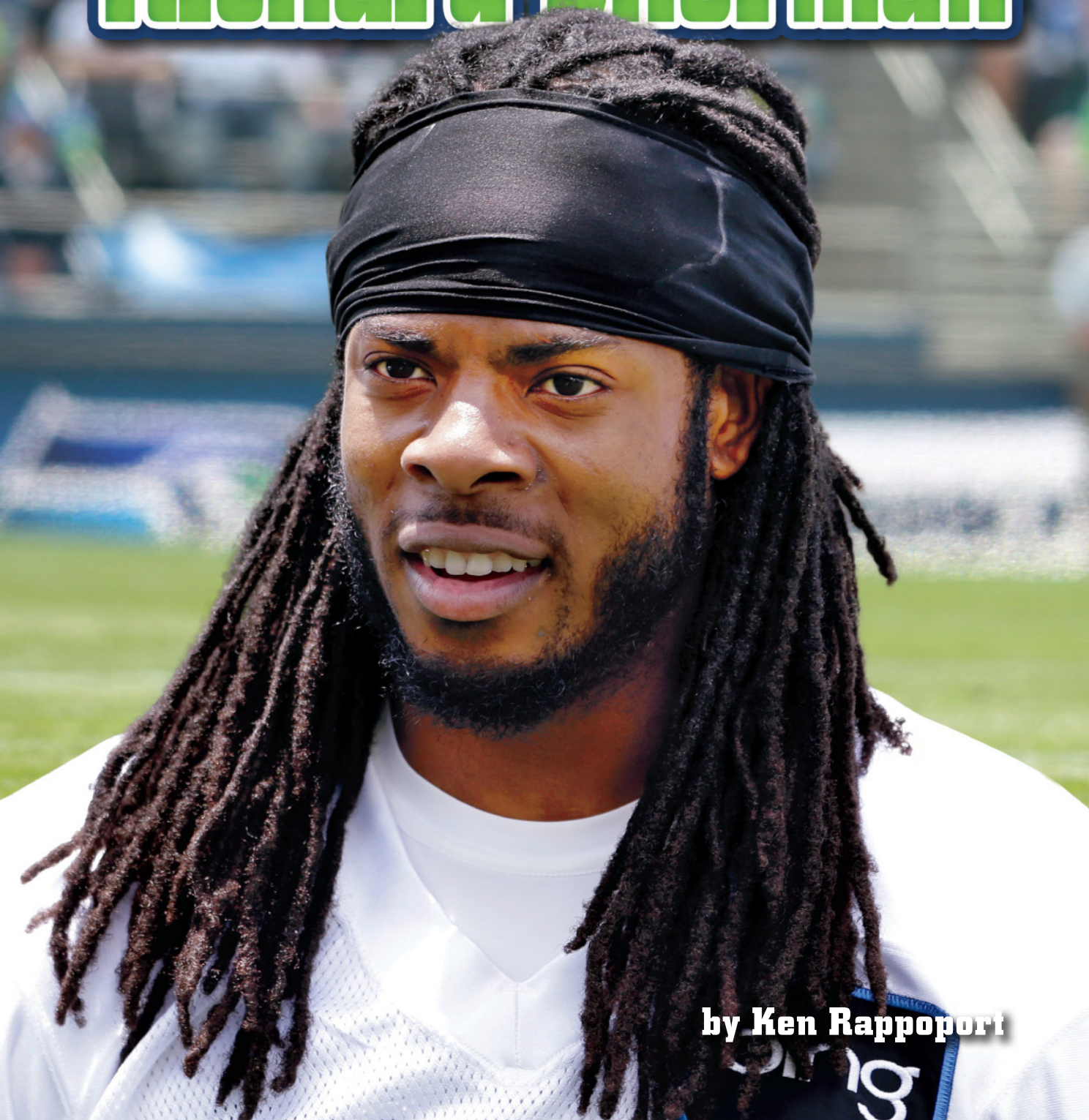


FOOTBALL STARS
UP CLOSE
★★★

Richard Sherman



by Ken Rappoport

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Richard Sherman



By Ken Rappoport

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Contents

Ready for Action	4
The Greatest Play	6
A Tough Childhood	8
High School Hotshot	10
Stanford Superstar	12
Drafted by Seattle	14
Rookie Year	16
Richard Versus Calvin	18
A Super Victory	20
 Richard's Life and Career	 22
Glossary	23
Index	24
Bibliography	24
Read More	24
Learn More Online	24



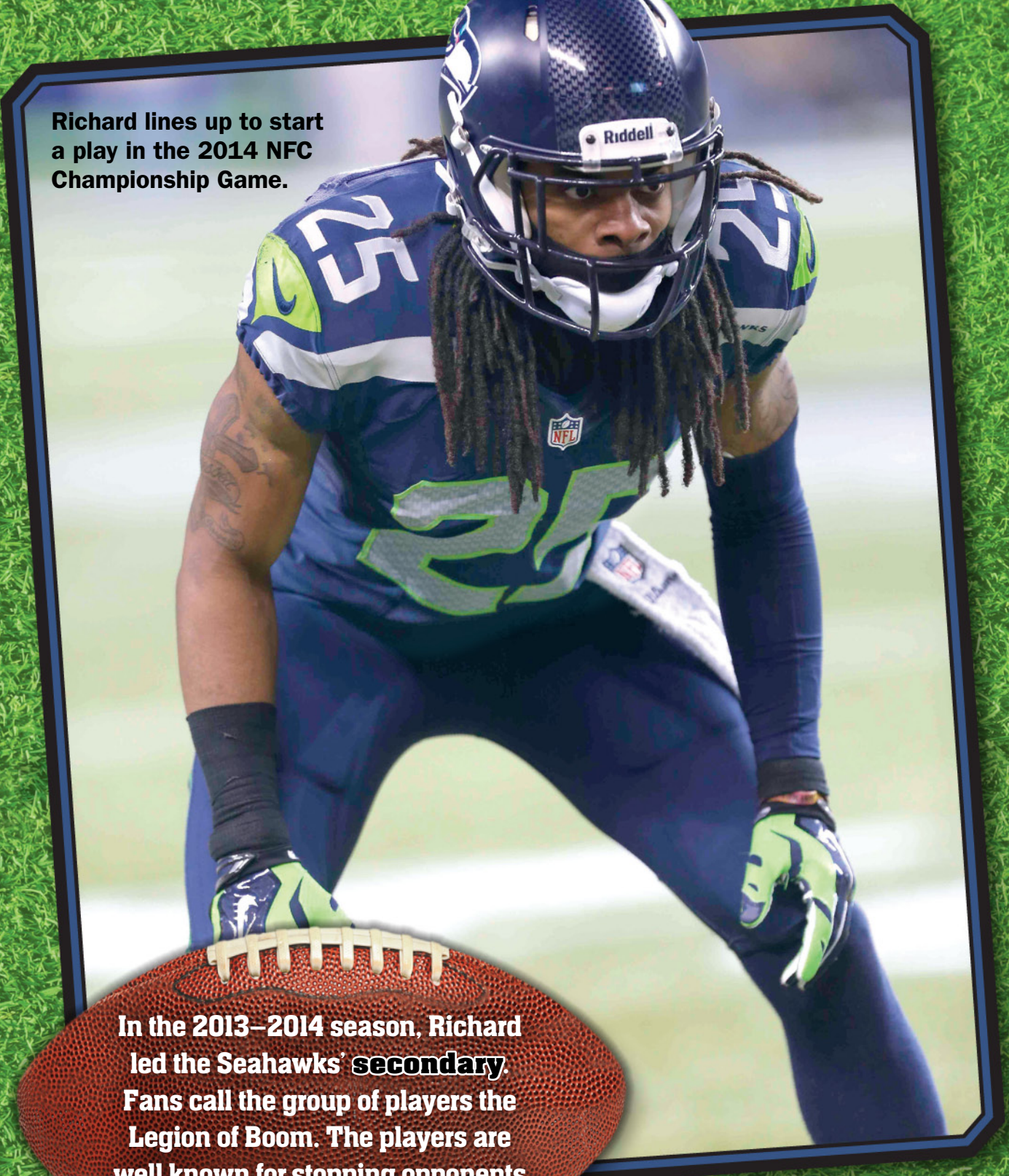
Ready for Action

On January 19, 2014, the Seattle Seahawks were playing the San Francisco 49ers in the **NFC Championship Game**. The winner would go to the **Super Bowl**. With 30 seconds left, Seattle led 23–17.

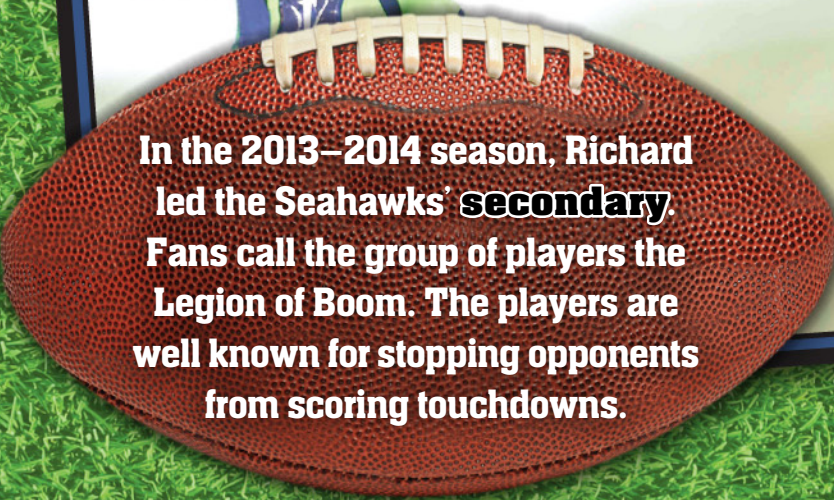
Seahawks **cornerback** Richard Sherman lined up against 49ers **receiver** Michael Crabtree. As the play began, Crabtree ran down the field. The 49ers **quarterback** launched a pass. Could Richard stop Michael from catching it?

Richard (right) covers 49ers wide receiver Michael Crabtree during the 2014 NFC Championship Game.





Richard lines up to start a play in the 2014 NFC Championship Game.



In the 2013–2014 season, Richard led the Seahawks' **secondary**. Fans call the group of players the Legion of Boom. The players are well known for stopping opponents from scoring touchdowns.

The Greatest Play

Michael leaped high to try to catch the ball. Richard leaped higher and tipped the ball to teammate Malcolm Smith. **Interception!** Richard's play sealed the game.

Moments later, a reporter interviewed Richard. The cornerback yelled, "I'm the best corner in the game!" He also said that Michael Crabtree was a "sorry receiver." Not everybody liked Richard's words. He didn't care, though. Being **outspoken** helps him believe in himself.



Richard lifts
the 2014 NFC
Championship trophy.

In the 2013–2014 regular season, Richard made eight interceptions, leading all other players in the **NFL**.

In the 2014 NFC Championship Game, Richard (right) leaps high into the air to tip away the pass that was heading toward Michael Crabtree (left).



Index

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Carroll, Pete 15 | family 8–9 | San Francisco |
| Compton, | high school 10–11, | 49ers 4, 22 |
| California 8, 10, | 12, 22 | Seattle Seahawks |
| 22 | Johnson, Calvin 18 | 4–5, 14–15, 19, |
| Crabtree, Michael | Legion of Boom 5, | 20–21, 22 |
| 4, 6–7 | 20, 22 | Smith, Malcolm 6 |
| Denver Broncos | NFC Championship | Stanford University |
| 20–21, 22 | Game 4–5, 6–7 | 12–13, 14, 22 |
| Detroit Lions 18–19 | playoffs 19, 22 | Super Bowl 4, |
| draft 14–15, 22 | | 20–21, 22 |

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Learn More Online

To learn more about Richard Sherman, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/FootballStarsUpClose

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Richard Sherman

Richard Sherman is known for being outspoken. The Seattle Seahawks cornerback often brags after making plays. Not everyone likes his in-your-face style. Richard doesn't care, though. He stays focused on playing his best game. In 2014, he even helped his team achieve a Super Bowl victory!

Look inside to learn about this cornerback's inspiring journey from his childhood in California, through his college years at Stanford University, all the way to NFL stardom.

Tom Brady

Andrew Luck

Aaron Rodgers

Drew Brees

Peyton Manning

Tony Romo

Robert Griffin III

Adrian Peterson

★ **Richard Sherman**

Colin Kaepernick

Troy Polamalu

Russell Wilson

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