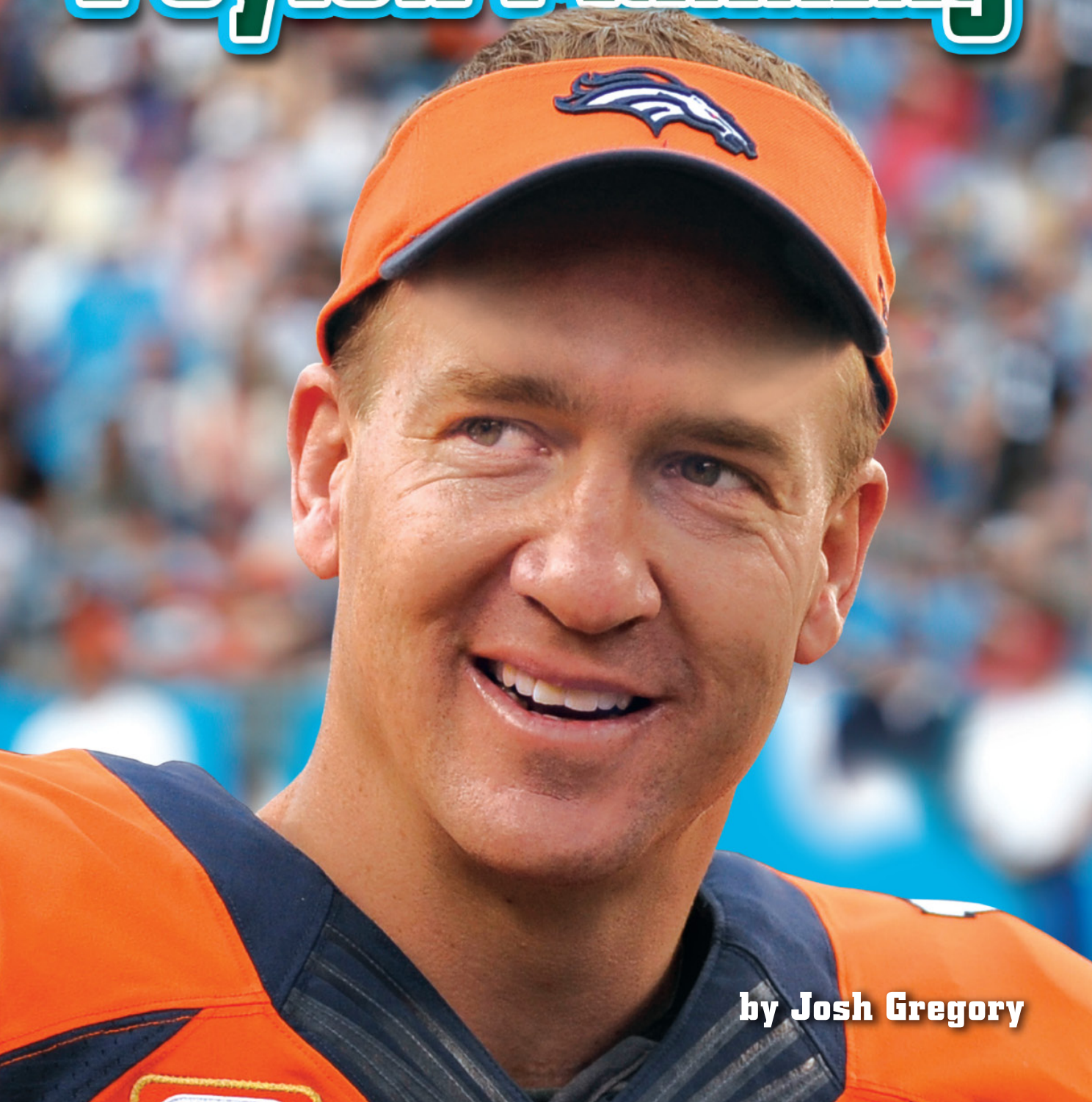




Peyton Manning



by Josh Gregory

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Consultant: Barry Wilner
AP Football Writer

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Contents

The Pressure Is On	4
Super Bowl Hero.....	6
Like Father, Like Sons.....	8
School Days.....	10
A Rough Start	12
Terrific Turnaround.....	14
Becoming a Superstar.....	16
On the Sidelines	18
A Strong Comeback	20
 Peyton's Life and Career.....	 22
Glossary.....	23
Index	24
Bibliography	24
Read More	24
Learn More Online	24



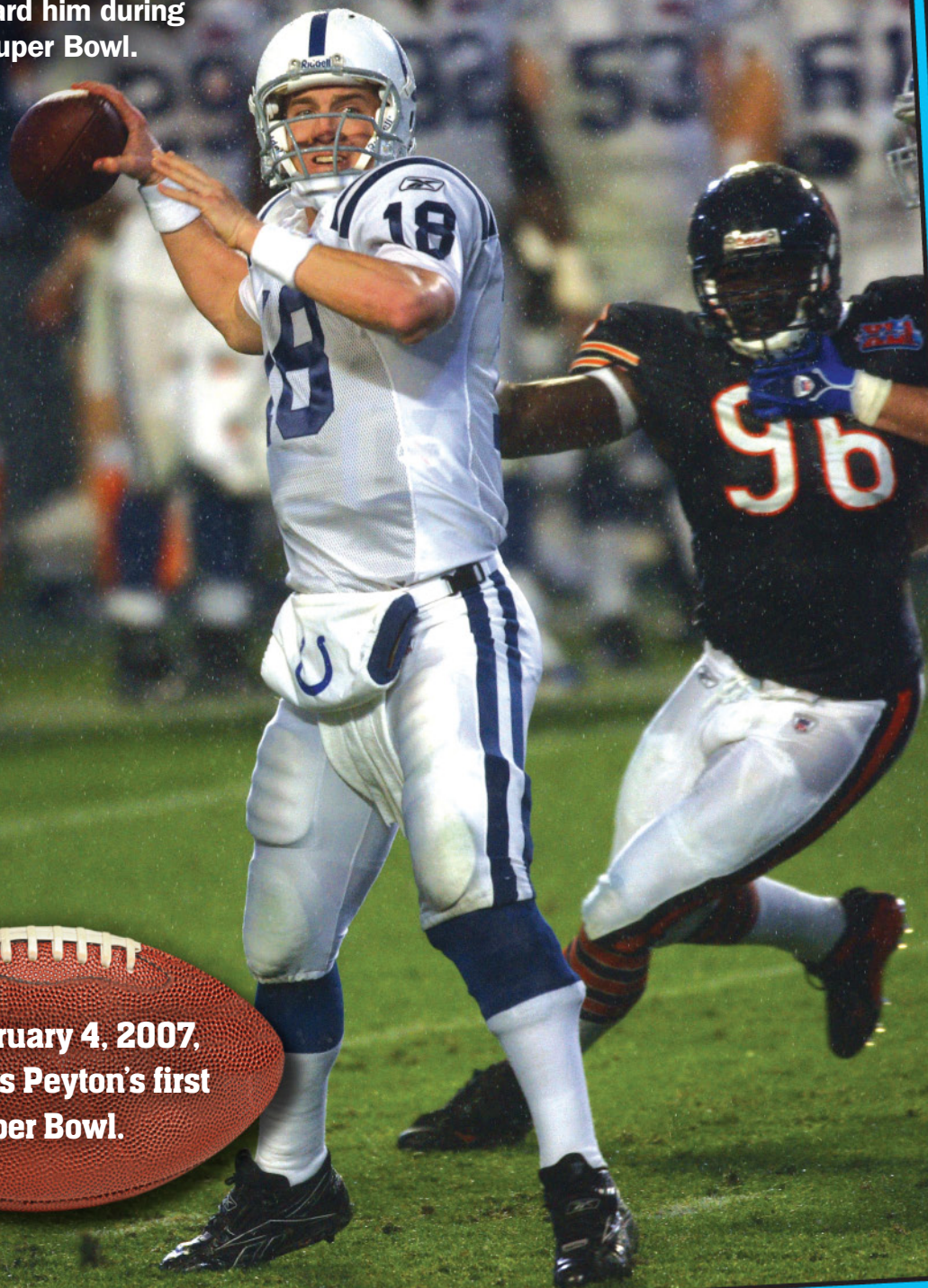
The Pressure Is On

On February 4, 2007, the Indianapolis Colts faced off against the Chicago Bears in **Super Bowl** XLI (41). The Bears earned a quick lead by scoring a **touchdown** on the very first play of the game. Colts **quarterback** Peyton Manning knew he would need to help his team even the score. Would he be able to rise to the challenge?

A Bears player makes the first touchdown. The early touchdown was the fastest score in Super Bowl history. It happened about 14 seconds into the game!



Peyton prepares to pass the ball as a Bears player rushes toward him during the 2007 Super Bowl.



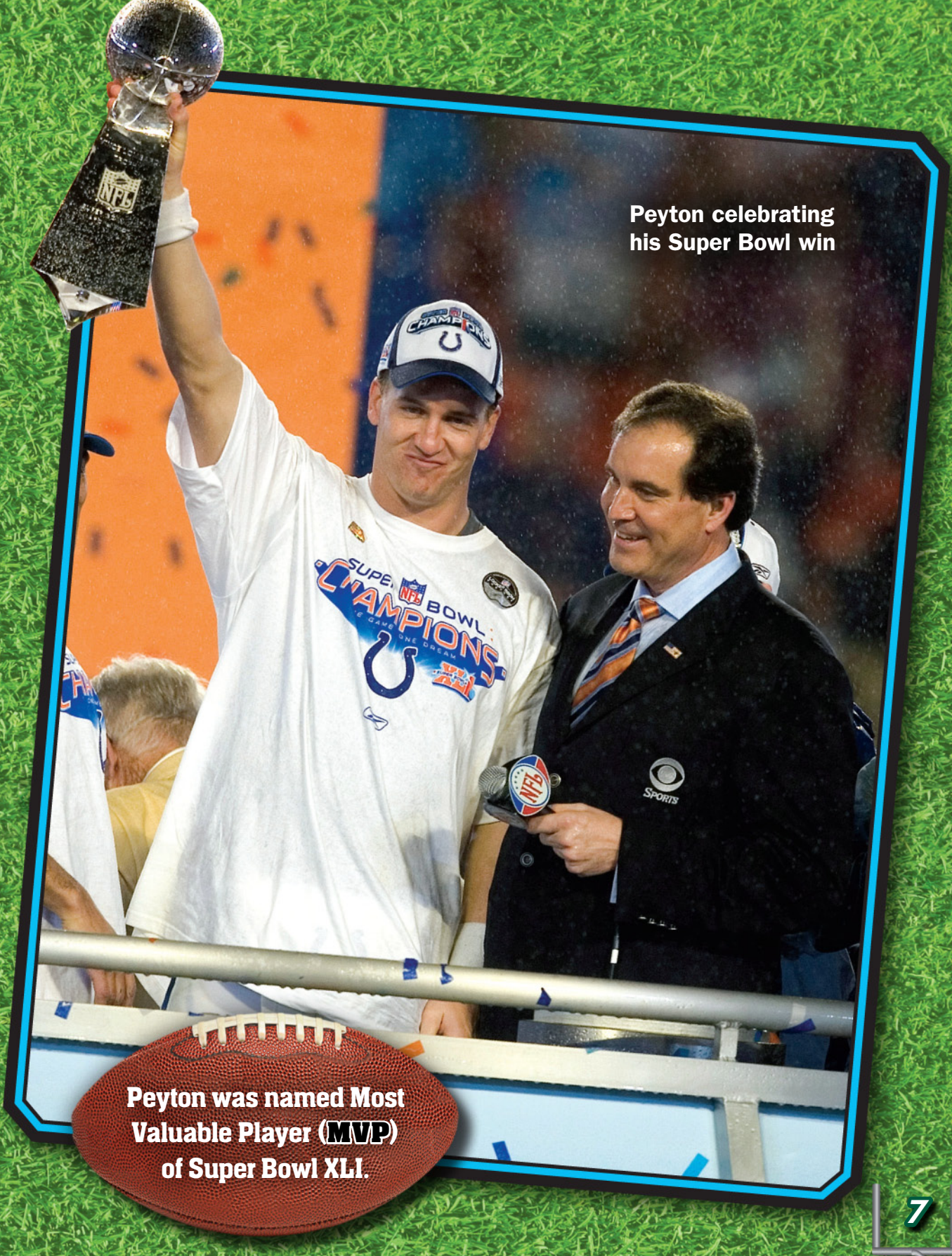
The February 4, 2007, game was Peyton's first Super Bowl.

Super Bowl Hero

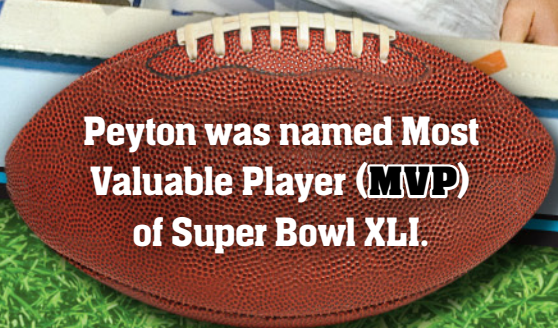
Peyton knew exactly how to take back control of the game. A few minutes after the Bears' touchdown, he threw an incredible 53-yard (48.5 m) touchdown pass to teammate Reggie Wayne. The Colts were back on track! For the rest of the game, Peyton was on fire. He completed 25 out of 38 passes and gained 247 yards (226 m). His fantastic plays helped lead the Colts to a 29–17 win. Peyton and his teammates were **NFL** champions!

Peyton (#18) looks down the line of players during Super Bowl XLI.



A photograph of Peyton Manning celebrating his Super Bowl win. He is wearing a white Indianapolis Colts t-shirt with "SUPER BOWL CHAMPIONS" and "GAME ONE GREAT TEAM" printed on it, along with a blue and white Colts cap. He is holding the Vince Lombardi Trophy high in his right hand. To his right, a man in a dark suit and tie is holding a microphone with the NFL logo, appearing to be interviewing him. The background is a blurred stadium setting. The photo is framed with a blue border and set against a green grass background.

Peyton celebrating
his Super Bowl win

A graphic of a brown football with white laces, positioned behind the text.

Peyton was named Most
Valuable Player (MVP)
of Super Bowl XLI.

Index

Chicago Bears 4–5, 6	injury 16, 18, 22	records 10, 12, 14, 17, 20, 22
childhood 8	Manning, Archie 8	rookie year 12–13
Denver Broncos 18, 20, 22	Manning, Eli 8–9	Super Bowl 4–5, 6–7, 16, 20–21, 22
draft 12–13, 22	Most Valuable Player (MVP) award 7, 16, 20–21, 22	touchdown 4, 6, 11, 15, 17, 20, 22
height 11	passing 5, 6, 10–11, 14–15, 17, 20, 22	Wayne, Reggie 6
Indianapolis Colts 4, 6, 12–13, 14–15, 16, 18–19, 22	playoffs 14, 20	weight 11
	Pro Bowl 17, 22	

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To learn more about Peyton Manning, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/FootballStarsUpClose

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Peyton Manning

Quarterback Peyton Manning is one of the best players in the NFL. Growing up in a football family, he showed extraordinary talent from a young age. In high school, he was a star on his football team. After college, Peyton was chosen by the Indianapolis Colts as the first pick of the 1998 NFL draft. He has played in multiple Super Bowls and has been named MVP more than four times!

Look inside to learn about this quarterback's inspiring journey from his childhood in Louisiana, through his college years at the University of Tennessee, 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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