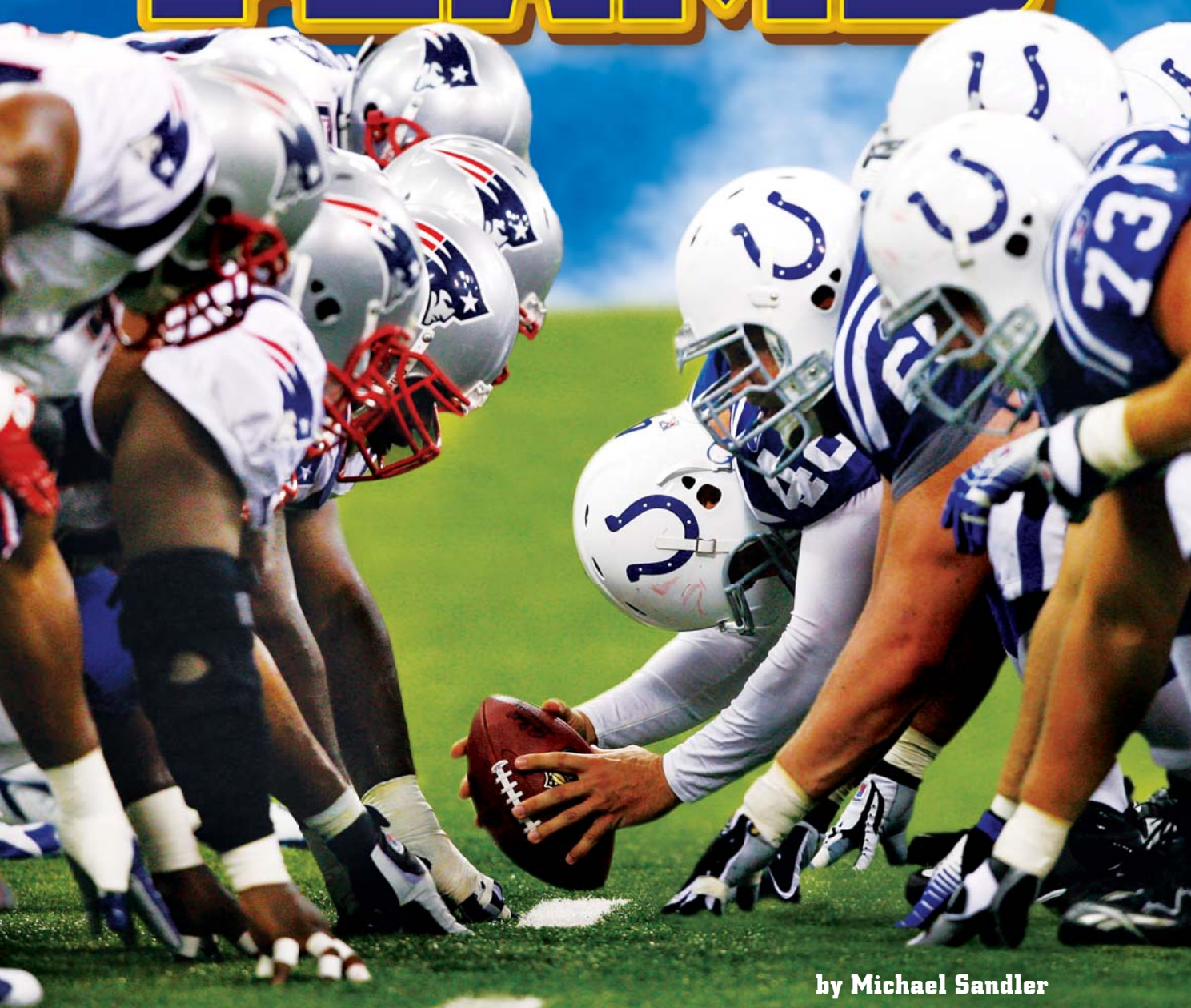




PRO FOOTBALL'S

DREAM TEAMS



by Michael Sandler

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PRO FOOTBALL'S **DREAM TEAMS**



by Michael Sandler

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DREAM TEAMS

In the NFL, success can come quickly, but it can also disappear just as fast. One season, a team may be a Super Bowl **contender**. The next, it might not even make the playoffs. Injuries and **free agency** are two reasons why keeping a winning group together isn't easy.



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (#12) hands off the ball to running back Corey Dillon (#28) during Super Bowl XXXIX (39).



Pittsburgh Steelers kicker Jeff Reed (#3) kicks a field goal as his teammates hold back the Arizona Cardinals during Super Bowl XLIII (43).

A few **franchises**, however, have found the secrets to long-term success—winning combinations of players, coaches, and **strategies**. Year after year, these teams are always right at the top of the pack. In this book, you will read about four of these clubs—the New England Patriots, the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Indianapolis Colts, and the New Orleans Saints. It will be easy to see why they have ruled the league for the last decade and are considered the dream teams of the NFL.



Quarterback Peyton Manning (#18) looks to hand off the ball to Indianapolis Colts running back Joseph Addai (#29) during Super Bowl XLI (41).

New Orleans Saints cornerback Tracy Porter (#22) runs for a touchdown during Super Bowl XLIV (44).



THE NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS



First Season: 1960 (as the Boston Patriots; renamed the New England Patriots in 1971)

Super Bowl Appearances: 6

Super Bowl Wins: 3

Playoff Appearances from 2000–2009: 7

Starting Quarterback:
Tom Brady

Head Coach:
Bill Belichick

For nearly a decade, the New England Patriots have stood in the way of any NFL team with hopes of winning a **title**. Since 2001, they have had a winning record every single year and have had three Super Bowl victories along the way.

Even in the years when they failed to win the title, New England played incredibly well. In 2007, for example, the Patriots became the first NFL team to go undefeated in a 16-game regular season. That year, they didn't just beat the other teams—they crushed them. They rolled over the Washington Redskins in a 52-7 victory. They destroyed the Buffalo Bills in a 56-10 win. In four separate games, they scored 48 points or more.

The Patriots show no signs of giving up their winning ways. In 2009, they won the **AFC East division** title for the seventh time in nine years.

HIGHLIGHTS

2001-02

Defeated the St. Louis Rams, 20-17, in Super Bowl XXXVI (36)

2003-04

Defeated the Carolina Panthers, 32-29, in Super Bowl XXXVIII (38)

2004-05

Defeated the Philadelphia Eagles, 24-21, in Super Bowl XXXIX (39)

2007-08

Won a record 16 regular-season NFL games

New England Patriots wide receiver Randy Moss (#81) avoids a tackle during the Patriots 56-10 win over the Buffalo Bills.



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PRO FOOTBALL'S **DREAM TEAMS**

In the NFL, success can come quickly, but it can also disappear just as fast. One season, a team may be a Super Bowl contender. The next, it might not even make the playoffs. A few teams, however, have found the secrets to long-term success.

In this book you'll meet the best of the best—the New England Patriots, the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Indianapolis Colts, and the New Orleans Saints. You'll soon see why they're currently considered pro football's dream teams.

Pro Football's Dream Teams

Pro Football's Most Spectacular Quarterbacks

Pro Football's Stars of the Defense

Pro Football's Stars of the Offense

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