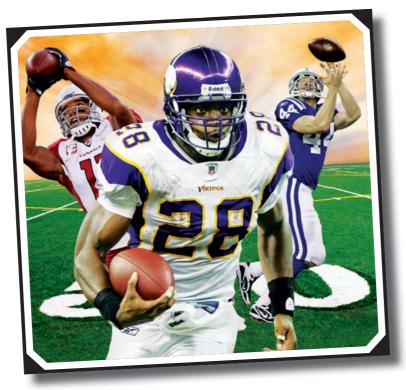


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## by Michael Sandler

Consultant: Norries Wilson Head Football Coach Columbia University



New York, New York

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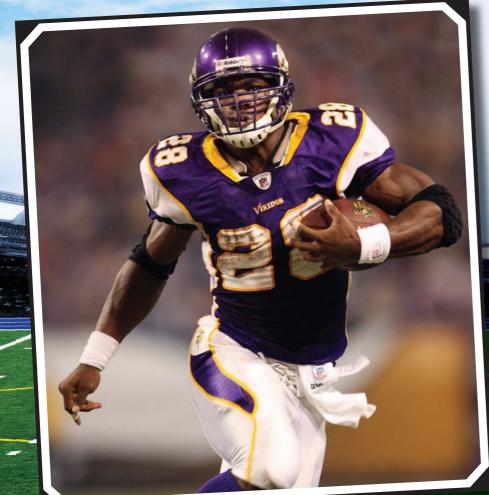
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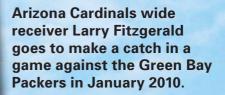
In NFL offenses, the players who often receive the most attention are the quarterbacks. As leaders of their teams, they usually get the credit for wins or the blame for losses. Ten other players, however, take the field on each offensive play. Each one has a role in gaining yards and scoring points. Each one is important in helping his team win.



Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson carries the ball downfield during a game against the Seattle Seahawks in 2009.



This book features the talented athletes who play at the different offensive positions. You will learn about **running backs**, such as Chris Johnson, Adrian Peterson, and Le'Ron McClain, who carry the ball. You'll meet Andre Johnson, Larry Fitzgerald, and Dallas Clark, the **receivers** who catch the passes. You will also discover hard-working players on the **offensive line**, such as Ryan Clady and Nick Mangold, who contribute to every play. Each one is a star of the offense!



New York Jets center Nick Mangold (#74) gets ready to snap the ball in a 2009 game against the New England Patriots.







Position: Center Born: 1/13/1984 in Centerville, Ohio College: Ohio State

Pro Bowls: 2 Height: 6' 4" (1.93 m) Weight: 305 pounds (138 kg)

Offensive linemen form a wall with their huge bodies to give a quarterback time to throw and running backs space to move. With Nick Mangold at the center of this wall, **defenders** can't get over or around it. In 2009, Nick's work keeping defenders away helped the New York Jets lead the entire NFL in **rushing** with 172 yards (157 m) per game.

Equally important, Nick did a great job protecting **rookie** quarterback Mark Sanchez. With rookies, confidence is crucial. A young quarterback can get nervous if he feels he's not protected. With Nick right in front of him, Mark felt safe all season long. So safe that the Jets advanced to the **AFC Championship Game**.

# BIG GRME January 9, 2010

In the Jets' 24-14 playoff win against the Cincinnati Bengals, Nick held off the Bengals' **pass rushers** the entire game. This allowed Mark Sanchez to complete 12 of 15 passes without being **intercepted** or **sacked**.

Nick (#74) protects quarterback Mark Sanchez (#6) during the playoff game against the Cincinnati Bengals in 2010.

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### **READ MORE**

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# PRO FOOTBALLES STARS OF THE DEFENSE

In NFL offenses, quarterbacks often get the most attention. However, ten other players also take the field on each offensive play. Each one has a role in gaining yards and scoring points. Each one plays a critical part in helping his team win.

In this book you'll meet the best of the best—Chris Johnson, Adrian Peterson, Le'Ron McClain, Andre Johnson, Larry Fitzgerald, Dallas Clark, and Ryan Clady. You'll soon see why they're considered the best offensive stars currently playing pro football.

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



