



TROY AIKMAN

and the

Dallas Cowboys

SUPER BOWL XXVII



by Michael Sandler

[Intentionally Left Blank]



TROY AIKMAN

and the

Dallas Cowboys

SUPER BOWL XXVII



by **Michael Sandler**

Consultant: Norries Wilson
Head Football Coach
Columbia University

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

Credits

Cover and Title Page, © NFL/Getty Images; 4, © Stephen Wade/Getty Images; 5, © John Biever/Sports Illustrated; 6, Courtesy of Herman L. Brown, Okmulgee, Okla.; 7, Courtesy of Herman L. Brown, Okmulgee, Okla.; 8, © Mike Powell/Allsport/Getty Images; 9, © AP Images/Mike Thomas; 10, © Bettmann/CORBIS; 12, © Al Messerschmidt/WireImage/Newscom.com; 13, © AP Images; 14, © Doug Hoke/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images; 15, © NFL/WireImage/Newscom.com; 16, © James Smith/NFL Photos/Getty Images; 17, © James Smith/NFL Photos/Getty Images; 18, © NFL/WireImage/Newscom.com; 19, © Mike Powell/Allsport/Getty Images; 20, © Al Messerschmidt/NFL/Getty Images; 21, © Al Messerschmidt/NFL/Getty Images; 22A, © George Rose/Getty Images; 22B, © NFL/WireImage/Newscom.com.

Publisher: Kenn Goin
Senior Editor: Lisa Wiseman
Creative Director: Spencer Brinker
Design: Deborah Kaiser
Photo Researcher: Jennifer Bright

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Sandler, Michael, 1965-

Troy Aikman and the Dallas Cowboys : Super Bowl XXVII / by Michael Sandler consultant, Norries Wilson.

p. cm. — (Super Bowl superstars)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-737-6 (library binding)

ISBN-10: 1-59716-737-1 (library binding)

1. Aikman, Troy, 1966—Juvenile literature. 2. Football players—United States—Biography—Juvenile literature. 3. Dallas Cowboys (Football team)—Juvenile literature. 4. Super Bowl (27th : 1993 : Pasadena, Calif.) I. Wilson, Norries. II. Title.

GV939.A46S26 2009

796.332092—dc22

(B)

2008005881

Copyright © 2009 Bearport Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 101 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6R, New York, New York 10003. Printed in the United States of America.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

★ Contents ★

Staying Cool.....	4
Unlikely Athlete.....	6
Star Player	8
Number One.....	10
A Rough Start.....	12
Coming Together.....	14
A Super Season.....	16
Super Bowl XXVII (27).....	18
A Big Win	20
Key Players.....	22
Glossary	23
Bibliography.....	24
Read More.....	24
Learn More Online	24
Index	24

Staying Cool

As quarterback Troy Aikman stood on the sidelines, his heart raced. His team, the Dallas Cowboys, were about to play in the Super Bowl against the Buffalo Bills.

A few seasons earlier, this idea would have seemed crazy. With Troy as quarterback, the Cowboys had had a losing record. Troy and his team needed to beat the Bills so they could erase the bad memories. Would they be able to win?



Super Bowl XXVII (27), between the Dallas Cowboys and the Buffalo Bills, took place on January 31, 1993, at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California.



NFL



Troy was voted to the **Pro Bowl** in 1992. This was just one of six times in his career.

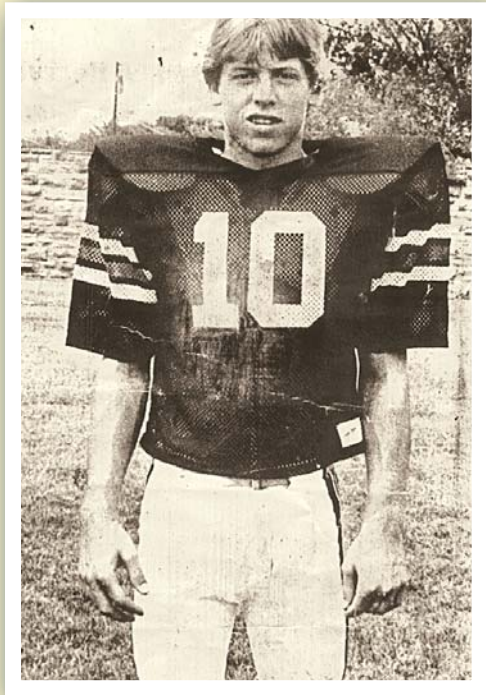
Unlikely Athlete

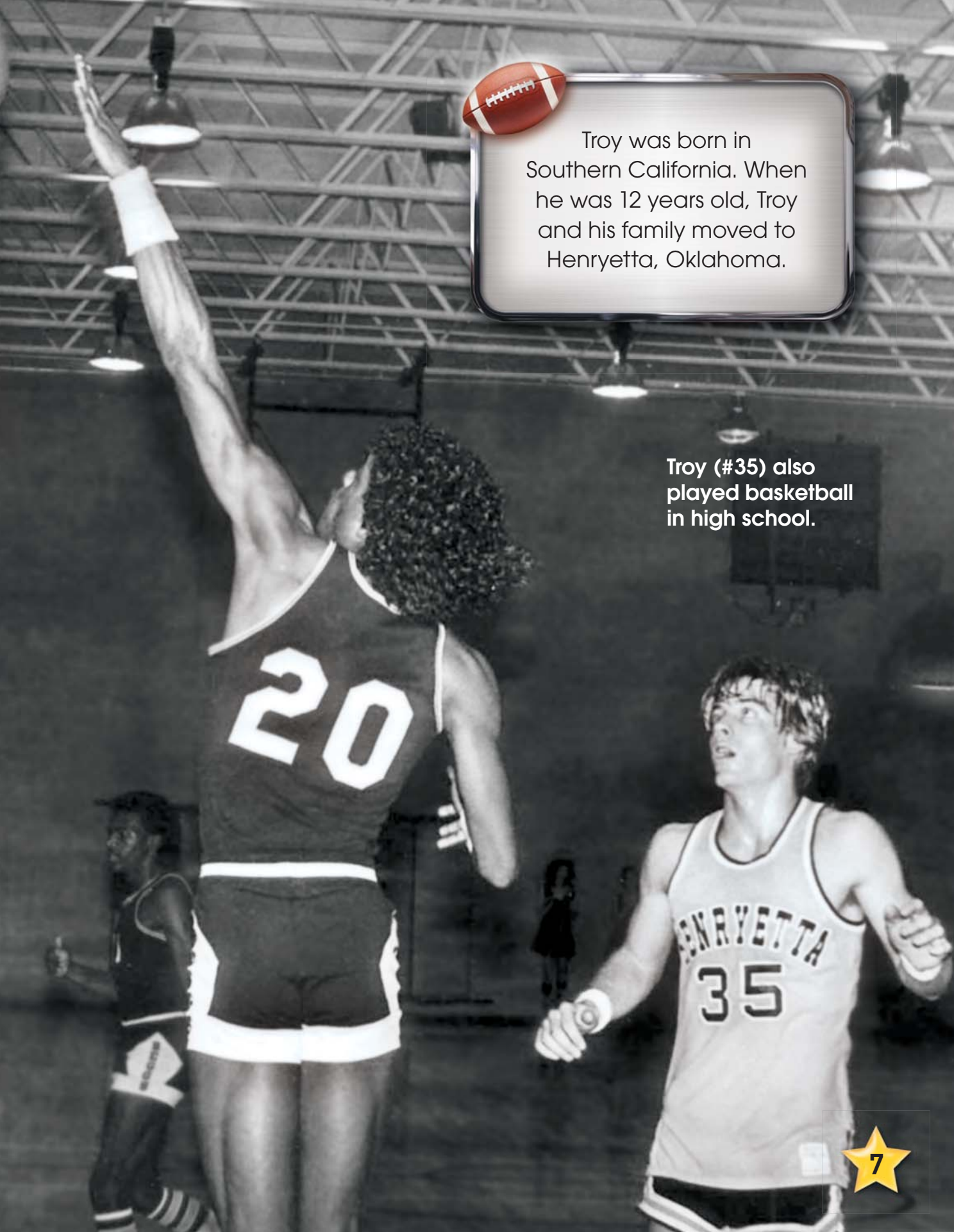
When Troy was a baby, few people thought he'd ever play in a Super Bowl. He was born with toes that curled under his feet, and legs that bent below his knees.

Troy wore casts to straighten his feet and legs. As he got older, he wore special shoes, even while he was sleeping.

As soon as Troy's feet and legs were straight, he started running around and playing sports. He grew to love basketball, baseball, and football. Big and strong, he was good at all three.

Beginning his sophomore year, Troy was his high school's starting quarterback.





Troy was born in Southern California. When he was 12 years old, Troy and his family moved to Henryetta, Oklahoma.

Troy (#35) also played basketball in high school.

Bibliography

Aikman, Troy. *Aikman: Mind, Body and Soul*. New York: Benchmark Press (1998).

Tramel, Berry. "Aikman Heads to the Hall of Fame," *The Oklahoman* (August 6, 2006).

The New York Times

Sports Illustrated

Read More

Aikman, Troy. *Things Change*. Dallas, TX: Taylor Trade Publishing (1995).

Buckley, Jr., James. *Troy Aikman*. New York: DK Publishing (2000).

Hawkes, Brian. *The History of the Dallas Cowboys*. Mankato, MN: Creative Education (2004).

Stewart, Mark. *The Dallas Cowboys (Team Spirit)*. Chicago: Norwood House (2006).

Learn More Online

To learn more about Troy Aikman,
the Dallas Cowboys, and the Super Bowl, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/SuperBowlSuperstars

Index

baseball 6, 8

basketball 7

Buffalo Bills 4, 18–19, 20

draft 10, 14

Henryetta, Oklahoma
7

Irvin, Michael 14, 16, 20

Johnson, Jimmy 12

Novacek, Jay 20, 22

Philadelphia Eagles
16

Phoenix Cardinals 13

playoffs 14–15, 16

Pro Bowl 5

quarterback 4, 8–9, 16

San Francisco 49ers
16–17

Smith, Emmitt 14,
16–17, 22

UCLA 8–9

University of Oklahoma
8

[Intentionally Left Blank]



TROY AIKMAN and the Dallas Cowboys

SUPER BOWL XXVII

The Dallas Cowboys hadn't won a Super Bowl in 15 years. Now Troy Aikman and his team were about to play in Super Bowl XXVII against the Buffalo Bills. Would Troy lead his team to victory?

**Troy Aikman
and the Dallas Cowboys**
SUPER BOWL XXVII

**Tom Brady
and the New England Patriots**
SUPER BOWL XXXVIII

**John Elway
and the Denver Broncos**
SUPER BOWL XXXIII

**Dexter Jackson
and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers**
SUPER BOWL XXXVII

**Eli Manning
and the New York Giants**
SUPER BOWL XLII

**Peyton Manning
and the Indianapolis Colts**
SUPER BOWL XLI

**Joe Montana
and the San Francisco 49ers**
SUPER BOWL XXIV

**Hines Ward
and the Pittsburgh Steelers**
SUPER BOWL XL

**Kurt Warner
and the St. Louis Rams**
SUPER BOWL XXXIV



BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

www.bearportpublishing.com

ISBN-10: 1-59716-737-1
ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-737-6



9 781597 167376