



JOE MONTANA

and the

San Francisco 49ers

SUPER BOWL XXIV



by Michael Sandler

[Intentionally Left Blank]

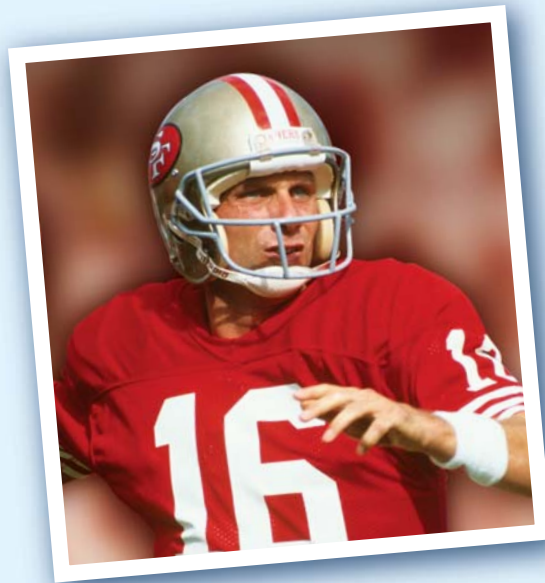


JOE MONTANA

and the

San Francisco 49ers

SUPER BOWL XXIV



by **Michael Sandler**

Consultant: Norries Wilson
Head Football Coach
Columbia University

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

Credits

Cover and Title Page, © George Rose/Getty Images; 4, © Rick Stewart/Allsport/Getty Images; 5, © Zuma Press/Newscom.com; 6, Courtesy of Elinor Johnson; 7, Courtesy of Elinor Johnson; 8, © Tony Tomsic/WireImage/Getty Images; 9, © Walter looss Jr./Sports Illustrated; 11, © Richard Mackson/Sports Illustrated; 12, © Bettmann/Corbis; 13, © Walter looss Jr./Sports Illustrated; 14, © Otto Greule Jr/Getty Images; 15, © Arthur Anderson/WireImage/Getty Images; 16, © Wally McNamee/Corbis; 17, © Ronald C. Modra/Sports Imagery/Getty Images; 18, © AP Images/Rusty Kennedy; 19, © AP Images/Mark Duncan; 20, © Al Messerschmidt/NFL/Getty Images; 21, © AP Images/Lennox McLennon; 22L, © Greg Trott/NFL/Getty Images; 22R, © Otto Greule Jr/Getty Images.

Publisher: Kenn Goin
Senior Editor: Lisa Wiseman
Creative Director: Spencer Brinker
Design: Deborah Kaiser
Photo Researcher: James O'Connor

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Sandler, Michael, 1965-

Joe Montana and the San Francisco 49ers : Super Bowl XXIV / by Michael Sandler ; consultant: Norries Wilson.

p. cm. — (Super bowl superstars)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-738-3 (library binding)

ISBN-10: 1-59716-738-X (library binding)

1. Montana, Joe, 1956—Juvenile literature. 2. Football players—United States—Biography—Juvenile literature. 3. San Francisco 49ers (Football team)—Juvenile literature. 4. Super Bowl (24th : 1990 : New Orleans, La.)—Juvenile literature. I. Wilson, Norries. II. Title.

GV939.M59S26 2009

796.332092—dc22

(B)

2008007017

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.

10987654321

★ Contents ★

Another Win?	4
Born to Be a Quarterback	6
Comeback Kid	8
A Special Choice	10
San Francisco Success	12
Better than Ever	14
The Broncos	16
Game Time	18
Record Breaker	20
Key Players	22
Glossary	23
Bibliography	24
Read More	24
Learn More Online	24
Index	24

Another Win?

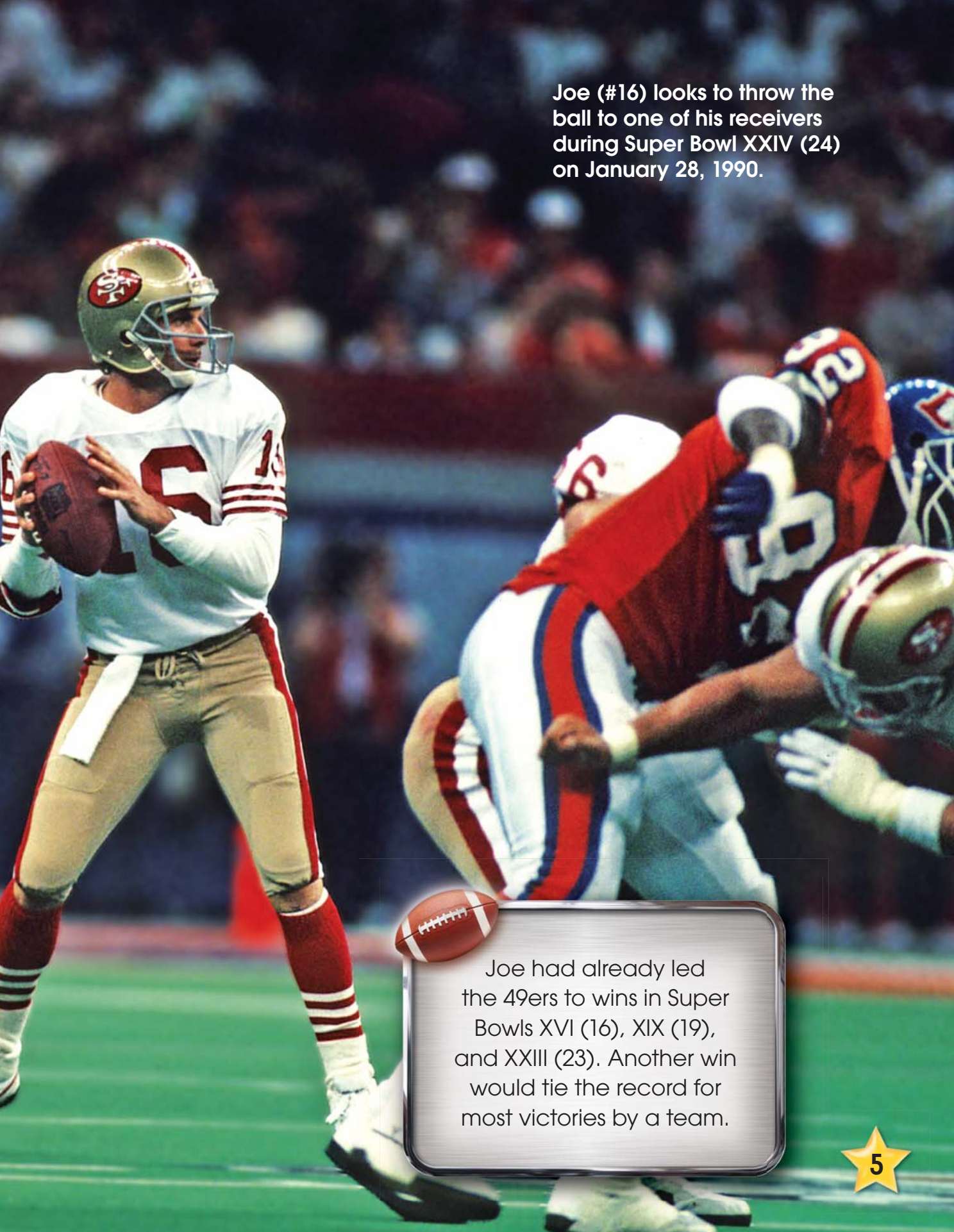
Over and over, Joe Montana stepped back into the **pocket**. The San Francisco 49ers' quarterback looked past the Denver Broncos' **defenders**. He scanned the field. He found his **receivers** and sent the ball flying.

Joe's passes were perfect **spirals** spinning toward their targets. As each one was caught, 49ers fans at Super Bowl XXIV (24) stood up and cheered.


Even for Joe—perhaps the greatest quarterback ever—this performance was amazing. Could he keep it up and bring his team another title?



Joe Montana



Joe (#16) looks to throw the ball to one of his receivers during Super Bowl XXIV (24) on January 28, 1990.



Joe had already led the 49ers to wins in Super Bowls XVI (16), XIX (19), and XXIII (23). Another win would tie the record for most victories by a team.

Born to Be a Quarterback

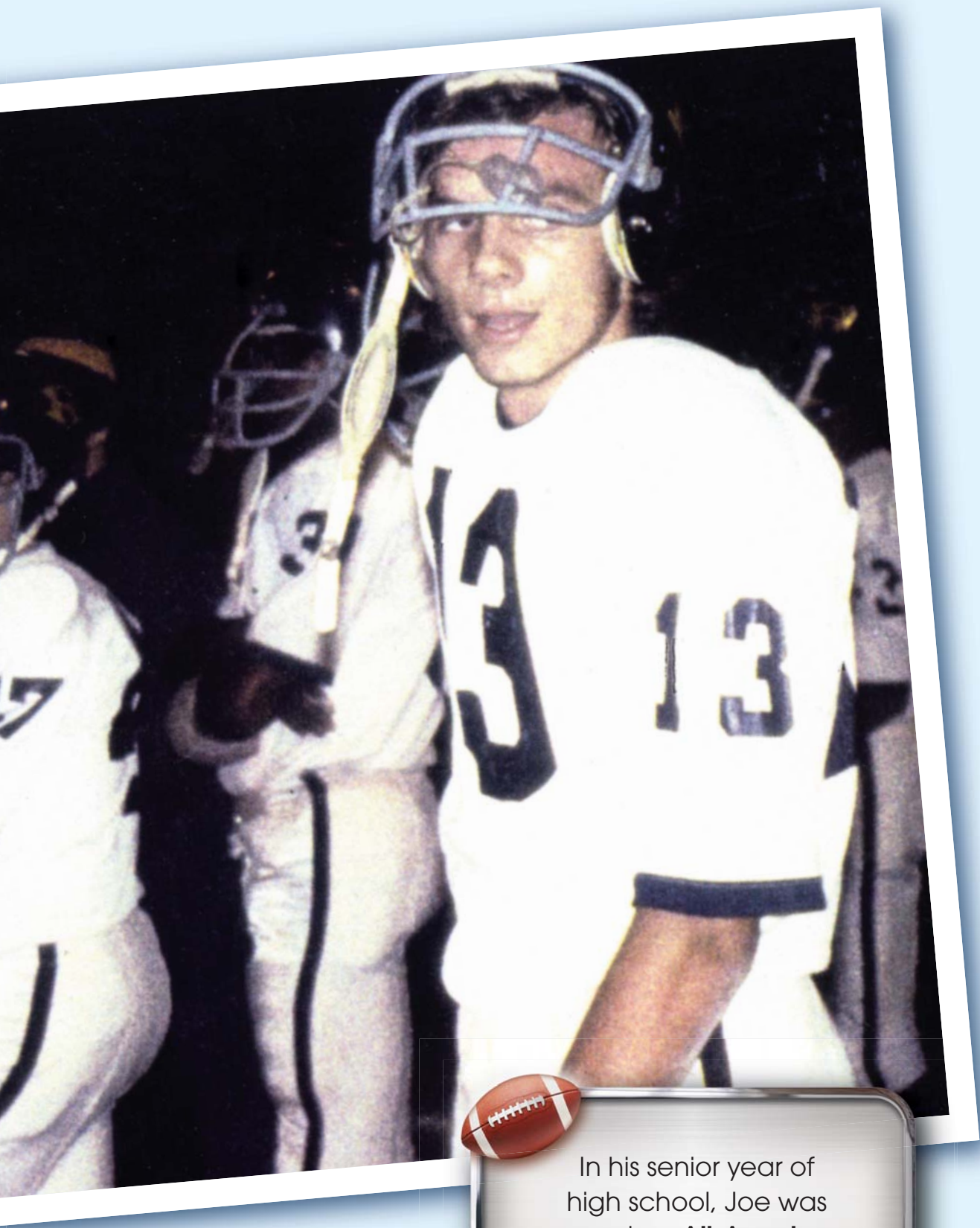
Joe Montana grew up about 25 miles (40 km) south of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This area is known as football country. Like most of his neighbors, Joe learned to love football as a kid.

What Joe enjoyed most was throwing the ball. He practiced for hours by aiming the ball at an old car tire swinging from a tree.

It was no surprise that Joe became a star passer in high school. As his coach once said, Joe "was born to be a quarterback."

Joe grew up in Monongahela, Pennsylvania.





In his senior year of high school, Joe was named an **All-American**.

Bibliography

Muchnick, Irvin. "Joe Montana: State of the Art." *The New York Times* (December 17, 1989).

Zimmerman, Paul. "Born to Be a Quarterback." *Sports Illustrated* (August 6, 1990).

The San Francisco Chronicle

Read More

Bell, Lonnie. *The History of the San Francisco 49ers*. Mankato, MN: Creative Education (2005).

Stewart, Mark. *The San Francisco (49ers Team Spirit)*. Chicago: Norwood House Press (2007).

Learn More Online

To learn more about Joe Montana, the San Francisco 49ers, and the Super Bowl, visit www.bearportpublishing.com/SuperBowlSuperstars

Index

All-American 7

Cotton Bowl 9

Craig, Roger 22

defenders 4, 16, 18

Denver Broncos 4, 16, 18, 20

draft 11

Elway, John 16–17, 18

high school 6–7

injuries 10, 14

Los Angeles Rams 16

Minnesota Vikings 16

Most Valuable Player (MVP) 13, 15, 21

National Football League (NFL) 10, 12, 14–15, 17

Notre Dame 8–9

Pennsylvania 6

playoffs 14, 16

quarterback 4, 6, 10–11, 12, 14, 16, 18

receivers 4–5, 18, 20, 22

Rice, Jerry 20, 22

Texas Longhorns 9

Walsh, Bill 10–11, 12

[Intentionally Left Blank]



JOE MONTANA

and the

San Francisco 49ers

SUPER BOWL XXIV

The San Francisco 49ers were trying for their fourth Super Bowl win. Joe Montana—perhaps the greatest quarterback ever—was having the game of his life. Could he keep it up and lead his team to another title?

Troy Aikman
and the Dallas Cowboys

SUPER BOWL XXXVII

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: 1-59716-738-X
ISBN-13: 978-1-59716-738-3



9 781597 167383