

QUOTABLE

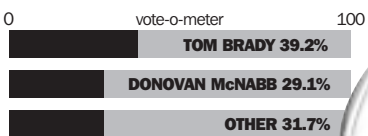
IF SOMEONE NEEDS THOSE COMMENTS TO GET UP FOR A GAME LIKE THIS, THEY DON'T NEED TO BE HERE. THIS IS THE SUPER BOWL, THIS IS THE ULTIMATE.

— *Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb responding to Patriots' responses to Freddie Mitchell's comments made on ESPN.*



ONLINE POLL RESULTS

Who will be the Super Bowl MVP?



THE BREAKDOWN:

- TOM BRADY 39.2%
- DONOVAN McNABB 29.1%
- COREY DILLON 10.1%
- SOME OTHER PATRIOT 7.6%
- SOME OTHER EAGLE 6.3%
- TERRELL OWENS 5.1%
- BRIAN WESTBROOK 2.6%

Next week's question: Which of the major sport all-star games do you enjoy most? Vote at app.com/sports

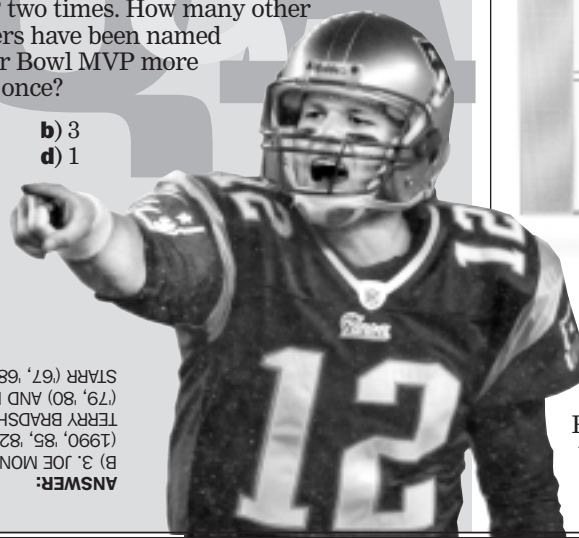


TRIVIAL TRIVIA

QUESTION: Patriots quarterback Tom Brady has already been a Super Bowl MVP two times. How many other players have been named Super Bowl MVP more than once?

- a) 4
- b) 3
- c) 2
- d) 1

ANSWER: B) 3. JOE MONTANA ('82), TERRY BRADSHAW ('79, '80), AND BART STARR ('67, '68).



SIX PACK ALERT



WINTER FUN: The men's slalom and giant slalom at the Alpine World Championships from Bormio, Italy will be featured at 2 p.m. Saturday on NBC. U.S. skiers Bode Miller and Daron Rahmler are expected to be among the participants. Maybe the shadow (above) will also get a shot. (ASSOCIATED PRESS)

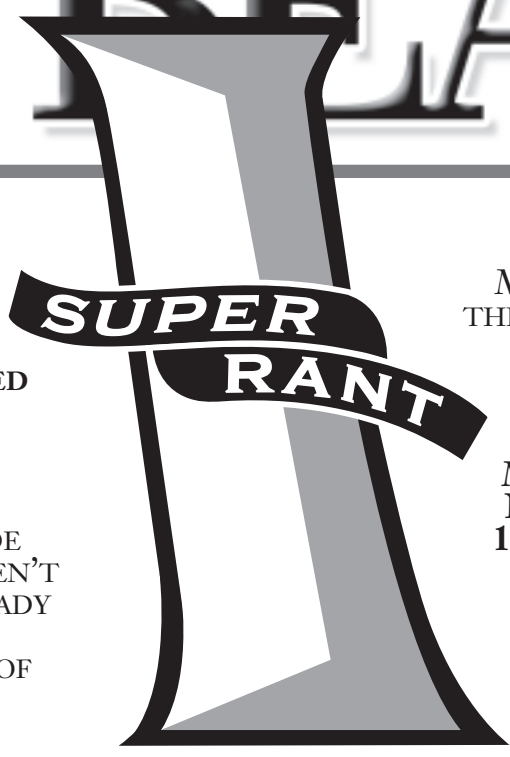
ASBURY PARK PRESS • FEB. 6, 2005

SUNDAY BEAT

SKETCHY CHARACTERS BY TOM KERR



WE DECIDED TO SUPERSIZE THE "FAN RANT" IN HONOR OF THE BIG GAME TODAY. THE RULES WERE SIMPLE: WE ASKED READERS TO SUBMIT A SUPER BOWL-RELATED RANT ALONG WITH A PIECE OF HAND-RENDERED ARTWORK. THEN, OUR ESTEEMED JUDGES PANEL (MADE UP OF TWO PEOPLE WHO WEREN'T AT LUNCH WHEN WE WERE READY TO JUDGE THESE THINGS – KIDDING!) DECIDED THE FATE OF THESE GRIDIRON VAN GOGHS.



McFARLANE "SPORTSPICKS" IS THE PROUD SPONSOR OF SUNDAY BEAT'S "SUPER RANT I." OUR 1ST PLACE WINNER WON THE COMPLETE SET OF McFARLANE NFL SERIES 10 FIGURES – VALUED AT \$100! OUR 2ND & 3RD PLACE GUYS RECEIVED A McFARLANE FIGURE TOO – "A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THE EFFORT," IN OTHER WORDS!



1st place: 'The plight of the Buffalo Bills'

NAME: Adam Snell **AGE:** 18 **TOWN:** Brick

RANT: When some people hear the name Bills, they think **Boy I Love Losing Super Bowls.** But when I hear that name, I think pride. It takes a true fan to stick with a team that loses the big game four times in a row. What other team in NFL history has the right to brag about that? **GO BILLS!**



JUDGE'S COMMENTS: THE SIMPLICITY OF THE DRAWING CAPTURES THE ESSENCE OF THE PRIMITIVE NATURE OF FOOTBALL. THE BUFFALO – DISTRAUGHT OVER THE LOSS OF HIS "BOWLS OF WINGS" IS HUMILIATED, BUT STILL PROUD. IT IS A HEROIC DEPICTION OF TRIUMPH IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY.



ADAM SNELL WON THE GRAND PRIZE FOR HIS "SUPER RANT" THAT FEATURED "BUFFALO BILL," "RED," "DALLAS" AND "BIG BLUE."

Did someone say dynasty?

WHO: Tom Brady
VITAL STATS: Born 8.3.1977 | Height: 6'4" | Weight: 225 lbs.
 College: Michigan | NFL Experience: 5

THE BRADY FILE: It was a storybook season: cover boy on Sports Illustrated, MVP, large advertising contracts, stats up the wazoo, being talked up for the Super Bowl. ... Manning has to be upset. Soooo, whose idea was it to play OUTDOORS, anyway? It simply ruined a perfectly marvelous Manning mania storyline for the media.

Meanwhile, New England quarterback Tom Brady has quietly, consistently and humbly placed himself in position to win his third Super Bowl in four years. The young quarterback has done it by setting high goals for himself. Brady is selfless, and praises teammates before himself. He has a personal toughness that allows him to stay calm after hits and under pressure — like that old watch slogan, "he takes a lickin' and keeps on tickin'."

Somehow, he has managed his success without signing any big advertising endorsements. Heck, he doesn't even have a media agent. Obviously, clueless.

Since replacing injured Drew Bledsoe in 2001 (Brady's second year in the league), he has won two Super Bowls, and was chosen MVP in both. Suddenly, people are starting to notice, and just like his team, he doesn't dazzle, he just wins.

So many rings, so many fingers, so much time.

PSYCHIC BOWL!

Can't Beat these Super picks

Making preseason Super Bowl picks is nothing and that's why the Sunday Beat staff decided to wait two games into the season.

- Seahawks over Patriots, 20-17.** The Hawks have made their pick to their 'D' and the one of the game's best offenses. They walk all over the NFC West, posting an NFL best 13-3 record.
- Ravens over Panthers, 24-20.** The Ravens have the best 'D' in the league and with the genius that is Jim Fassel working with quarterback Kyle Boller, how can they lose? In other words, great 'D' + improved 'O' = champs.
- Packers over Colts, 34-21.** Brett Favre rises off into the sunset, Packer Nation rejoices and Vince Lombardi returns to the NFL.
- Patriots over Eagles, 24-17.** The dynasty is born.
- Eagles over Titans, 27-23.** All Donovan McNabb ever needed was a big-time receiver and Terrell Owens, that pun-noon winking, football-signing, star-spiking Pro Bowler, is the answer.

PSYCHIC BOWL REVISTED

Are we good or what?!

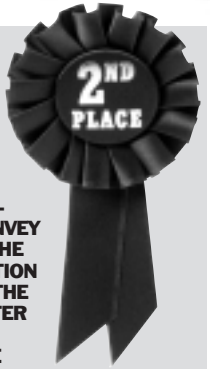
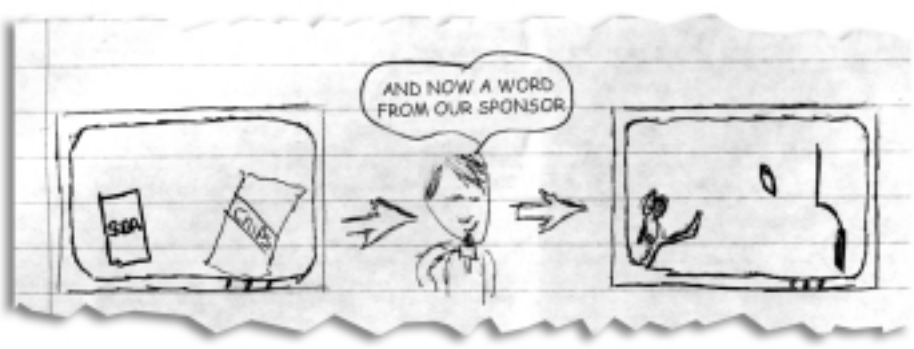
We here at Sunday Beat don't just predict stuff and then let it fall by the wayside – especially when we nailed it! We went back to our Sept. 12 page and found our preseason picks for the Super Bowl and some were pretty darn good.

As of presstime, two members of the Sunday Beat staff have a chance to hold their head high tomorrow at work.

As for the guys who predicted the Seahawks and Ravens – well that's another story.

SUNDAY BEAT DESIGNER JOHN V. SMITH EARLIERLY PREDICTED THE PATRIOTS-EAGLES MATCHUP (HE HAS THE PATS BY THE WAY). SUNDAY BEAT EDITOR AL DITZEL PICKED PHILLY TO WALK AWAY THE BIG WINNER TODAY – BUT HE HAD THEM FACING THE TITANS. STILL, NOT TOO SHABBY, IF WE SAY SO OURSELVES!

2nd place: 'Super Bowl, Shmooper Bowl'



JUDGE'S COMMENTS: THIS ARTIST USES THE CLASSIC TRIPTYCH – OR TRIPLE PANEL – TECHNIQUE TO CONVEY MOVEMENT. THE DYNAMIC MOTION CREATED BY THE USE OF POINTER ARROWS BETWEEN THE FRAMES IS REMINISCENT OF THE STYLE ONE MIGHT SEE IF ONE OF THE IMPRESSIONIST PAINTERS WERE TO ATTEMPT TO RENDER A "SUPER RANT." ONE CAN ALMOST FEEL THE HOSTILITY IN HIS WRITING – THE PAGES LEAP OFF THE PAGE DRAMATICALLY.



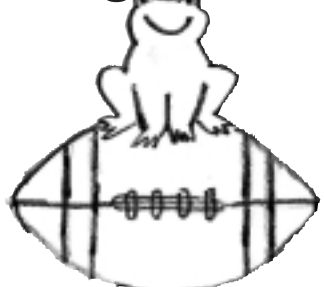
NAME: Keith Richardson
AGE: 44 | **TOWN:** Colts Neck

RANT: Super Bowl? What Super Bowl. Pregame starts at 11 a.m. The game starts at 6 p.m. And the post game ends at midnight. The actual game is becoming less and less of the festivities. With all the TV timeouts thrown in, I can't get any flow out of the game. Each year there seems to be more and more hype in the media about which commercial will outdo the other. There seems to be more competition for selling products than moving the football. When you attend an NFL game at the stadium, boredom sets in because of all the stoppages of play for television. There is no more flow to the game. For this fan, Super Bowl Sunday just brings this boredom to my living room. Just show the game.

◀ **ARTIST & AUTHOR KEITH RICHARDSON**

JUDGE'S COMMENTS: WE'RE NOT SURE WHY HE CHOSE A FROG INSTEAD OF A CAN OF BEER ON A FOOTBALL, BUT EVERYONE LOVES FROGS. 'NUFF SAID.

3rd place: 'Froggy Bowl'



NAME: Ken Burgos
AGE: 27 | **TOWN:** Tinton Falls

RANT: The flash and pageantry of the Super Bowl irks me. Football is such a great sport that you don't have to package it with anything else to get people to watch. Football doesn't need any flashy (no pun intended) halftime shows with their washed up entertainers and cheesy dance routines, football doesn't need any quirky commercials about frogs or twins or froggy twins. Just let them play the game. Fans would appreciate it if the emphasis was on the game.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. The "Fan Rant" contest (the "Contest") begins 12/5/04 and all entries must be received by Friday of each week. Enter by e-mailing your rant to: aditzel@app.com or by mailing it to: "Sports: Fan Rant" c/o Al Ditzel, Sunday Beat Editor, 3601 Highway 66, PO Box 1550, Neptune, NJ 07754. Contest open to residents of the State of New Jersey, except employees of the Asbury Park Press, Gannett Co., Inc. and their respective affiliates, or family members and persons domiciled with such employees. One winner will be selected each week for a total of 9 weeks. Winners will be notified each Monday after the entry deadline. Approximate retail value of prize (1 McFarlane Sports Figure): \$15. Figures will vary from week to week. Contest is sponsored by the Asbury Park Press, a division of Gannett Co. Inc. whose decisions regarding winners and all other aspects of the contest shall be final and binding in all respects. Additional terms and restrictions apply. By participating, entrants agree to be bound by Official Contest Rules. For a copy of official rules, send S.A.S.E. to Asbury Park Press Marketing Dept., PO Box 1550, Neptune, NJ 07754. Prizes won by minors will be awarded to parent or guardian who must sign an affidavit or release required by the Asbury Park Press.