

biggest upset in super bowl history

biggest upset in super bowl history often refers to moments when an underdog team defies expectations and defeats a favored opponent on the grandest stage of American football. The Super Bowl is renowned for showcasing the best NFL teams, and while the favorites are usually dominant, there have been unforgettable instances where the outcome shocked fans, analysts, and the sports world alike. These upsets are remembered not only for their surprising nature but also for the dramatic narratives and impressive performances that led to such unexpected victories. This article explores some of the most significant upsets in Super Bowl history, analyzing the context, key moments, and lasting impact of these games. The discussion includes detailed examinations of notable matchups, the underdog teams' strategies, and the broader implications for the NFL. Below is an overview of the main sections covered in this comprehensive exploration.

- Defining an Upset in the Super Bowl Context
- Historic Biggest Upsets in Super Bowl History
- Factors Contributing to Super Bowl Upsets
- Impact of Upsets on NFL Legacy and Culture

Defining an Upset in the Super Bowl Context

Understanding what constitutes the biggest upset in Super Bowl history requires a clear definition of an "upset" within the realm of professional football. Generally, an upset occurs when a team expected to lose based on pre-game analysis, betting odds, or perceived talent levels defeats a favored opponent. In the Super Bowl, the stakes are highest, and the favorites usually have strong records, star players, and dominant performances leading up to the game. An upset in this context is often measured by the disparity in team strength, public expectations, and betting lines.

Criteria for Upsets in the NFL's Championship

Several factors contribute to labeling a Super Bowl outcome as an upset:

- **Pre-game odds:** Significant point spreads favoring one team.
- **Season performance:** One team having a markedly better regular season record or playoff dominance.

- **Star power and reputation:** Presence of MVP-caliber players or historically successful franchises on one side.
- **Game context:** Expectations based on coaching, injuries, and tactical advantages.

When these elements heavily favor one team, yet the underdog emerges victorious, it is widely regarded as an upset and often earns the distinction of being the biggest upset in Super Bowl history if the disparity is extreme.

Historic Biggest Upsets in Super Bowl History

Throughout the decades, several Super Bowls have stood out for their surprising outcomes, where underdog teams defied all odds. These games have become iconic in NFL lore, illustrating that anything can happen on game day.

Super Bowl III: New York Jets vs. Baltimore Colts (1969)

One of the most famous upsets in NFL history occurred when the New York Jets, led by quarterback Joe Namath, defeated the heavily favored Baltimore Colts. The Colts entered the game as 18-point favorites, having dominated the regular season and playoffs. Namath famously guaranteed a Jets victory, and the Jets delivered with a 16-7 win, marking the first time an AFL team won the Super Bowl. This upset challenged the perception of AFL inferiority and changed the landscape of professional football.

Super Bowl XLII: New York Giants vs. New England Patriots (2008)

The New England Patriots entered Super Bowl XLII with an undefeated 18-0 record and were expected to complete a perfect season. The New York Giants, considered underdogs, managed to pull off a dramatic 17-14 victory. The game is remembered for the Giants' incredible defensive effort and the iconic "Helmet Catch" by David Tyree. This upset prevented the Patriots from achieving a historic perfect season and is often cited as the biggest upset in recent Super Bowl memory.

Other Notable Upsets

- Super Bowl XXV: New York Giants over Buffalo Bills (1991) - A narrow 20-19 victory against the favored Bills.
- Super Bowl XXXVI: New England Patriots over St. Louis Rams (2002) - Patriots as underdogs

defeated the high-powered Rams offense.

- Super Bowl XLVIII: Seattle Seahawks over Denver Broncos (2014) - Seahawks dominated a favored Broncos team, 43-8.

Factors Contributing to Super Bowl Upsets

Several key factors can contribute to an underdog team's ability to pull off one of the biggest upsets in Super Bowl history. Understanding these elements provides insight into how these dramatic outcomes unfold.

Effective Game Planning and Coaching

Strong coaching strategies tailored to exploit the favorite's weaknesses play a critical role in upsets.

Underdog coaches often devise innovative game plans that disrupt the opponent's rhythm and capitalize on situational advantages.

Exceptional Player Performances

Upsets frequently feature standout performances from players who rise to the occasion, exceeding expectations. Whether through clutch plays, defensive stops, or special teams contributions, these individual efforts can shift the momentum dramatically.

Mental and Emotional Factors

The psychological edge can influence outcomes significantly. Underdogs often play with a nothing-to-lose mentality, while favorites may face pressure and overconfidence. Managing nerves, maintaining focus, and harnessing motivation are critical.

Turnovers and Momentum Shifts

Turnovers and big plays can rapidly change the game's dynamics. An untimely interception, fumble, or special teams touchdown can demoralize a favored team and boost the underdog's confidence, contributing to an upset.

Key Injuries and Unexpected Variables

Injuries to crucial players or unpredictable factors such as weather conditions or officiating can affect the favored team's performance, opening the door for an upset.

Impact of Upsets on NFL Legacy and Culture

The biggest upsets in Super Bowl history have left lasting impressions on the NFL's legacy, influencing team reputations, fan culture, and the broader narrative of professional football.

Changing Perceptions and League Dynamics

Upsets often challenge established hierarchies, demonstrating that dominance is not guaranteed and that underdogs can succeed. This dynamic contributes to the NFL's competitive balance and unpredictability.

Memorable Moments and Iconic Plays

Many upsets are remembered for specific plays that have become part of NFL folklore, such as Joe Namath's guarantee and the Helmet Catch. These moments enrich the sport's history and resonate with fans across generations.

Influence on Betting and Media Coverage

The shock value of upsets impacts betting markets and media narratives. They remind analysts and fans alike that the unexpected is always possible, fueling discussions and excitement around the Super Bowl.

Inspiration for Future Teams and Players

Underdog victories inspire future teams and players, emphasizing the importance of preparation, resilience, and belief. These stories serve as motivational examples for athletes at all levels.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is considered the biggest upset in Super Bowl history?

The biggest upset in Super Bowl history is often regarded as Super Bowl III in 1969, when the underdog

New York Jets defeated the heavily favored Baltimore Colts 16-7.

Why was Super Bowl III considered such a huge upset?

Super Bowl III was a huge upset because the Baltimore Colts were heavily favored to win, and the AFL's New York Jets, led by Joe Namath, were not expected to compete at that level. Namath's confident guarantee and the Jets' victory shocked the football world.

Which teams played in the biggest Super Bowl upset?

The New York Jets and the Baltimore Colts played in the biggest Super Bowl upset, which took place in Super Bowl III.

Has any other Super Bowl upset rivaled Super Bowl III in significance?

While there have been other surprising outcomes, such as the New York Giants defeating the undefeated New England Patriots in Super Bowl XLII, Super Bowl III remains the most significant upset due to the AFL-NFL rivalry and the expectations at the time.

What was the impact of Super Bowl III's upset on the NFL?

The Jets' victory legitimized the AFL as an equal competitor to the NFL, accelerating the merger between the two leagues and changing the landscape of professional football.

What was Joe Namath's role in the biggest Super Bowl upset?

Joe Namath, the Jets' quarterback, famously guaranteed a Jets victory before the game, and he delivered a solid performance, leading his team to a 16-7 win over the Colts in Super Bowl III.

Are there any recent Super Bowl upsets considered among the biggest?

Yes, the New England Patriots victory over the undefeated New England Patriots in Super Bowl XLII is considered a major upset due to the Patriots' dominant season and undefeated record before the game.

How did the betting odds reflect the biggest Super Bowl upset?

In Super Bowl III, the Baltimore Colts were heavy favorites by about 18 points, making the Jets' victory one of the biggest against-the-odds wins in Super Bowl history.

What makes a Super Bowl upset significant?

A Super Bowl upset is significant when an underdog team with low expectations defeats a heavily favored opponent, often changing perceptions about team strength and sometimes altering the course of NFL

history.

Additional Resources

1. *Shockwave: The Biggest Super Bowl Upset Ever*

This book delves into the most stunning upset in Super Bowl history, analyzing the underdog team's journey from underestimation to ultimate victory. Through detailed play-by-play breakdowns and player interviews, it captures the emotions and strategies that defined the game. Readers gain insight into how preparation and resilience can topple seemingly unbeatable opponents.

2. *Underdogs Rise: The Story Behind the Greatest Super Bowl Surprise*

"Underdogs Rise" explores the narrative of a lesser-known team defying all odds to claim the Super Bowl title. It blends historic context with personal stories of athletes and coaches who refused to give up. This book highlights the power of determination and teamwork in sports.

3. *The Last-Minute Miracle: Inside the Biggest Super Bowl Upset*

This gripping account focuses on the final moments of the most unexpected Super Bowl victory, providing a minute-by-minute recount of the game-changing plays. The author offers an insider's perspective on the tension and strategy that led to the upset. It's a thrilling read for fans of dramatic sports moments.

4. *David vs. Goliath: When the Underdog Won the Super Bowl*

"David vs. Goliath" chronicles the classic tale of the small-market team that toppled a football giant in the Super Bowl. Emphasizing themes of perseverance and belief, the book examines how the underdog's unique tactics and spirit overcame overwhelming odds. It also reflects on the cultural impact of the upset.

5. *Breaking the Odds: The Super Bowl Upset Nobody Saw Coming*

This book investigates the factors that led to the most surprising Super Bowl upset, including overlooked statistics, coaching decisions, and player performances. It reveals how conventional wisdom was defied and what lessons can be learned from the unexpected outcome. A must-read for sports analysts and enthusiasts alike.

6. *Champions of the Unexpected: The Greatest Super Bowl Upset Stories*

A collection of narratives centered around the most shocking Super Bowl upsets, this book celebrates the teams that stunned the sports world. Each chapter focuses on a different game, highlighting the key moments and figures involved. It's an inspiring tribute to the unpredictability of football.

7. *Flipping the Script: How an Underdog Changed Super Bowl History*

"Flipping the Script" examines the cultural and tactical shifts prompted by the biggest Super Bowl upset. It discusses how the victory challenged established norms and inspired future generations of players and coaches. The book offers a broader perspective on the game's evolution.

8. *Against All Odds: The Anatomy of a Super Bowl Upset*

This detailed analysis breaks down the components that led to the most improbable Super Bowl win, from player psychology to game-day conditions. It includes expert commentary and statistical insights that help explain the upset. The book is ideal for readers interested in the science behind sports surprises.

9. *Underdog Glory: The Untold Story of the Super Bowl's Biggest Shock*

"Underdog Glory" uncovers the lesser-known stories behind the most famous Super Bowl upset, including off-field challenges and behind-the-scenes drama. It paints a comprehensive picture of how a team's grit and unity overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles. This narrative reveals that every upset has a powerful human story behind it.

Biggest Upset In Super Bowl History

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biggest upset in super bowl history: Football's Greatest Hail Mary Passes and Other Crunch-Time Heroics Matt Chandler, 2020-01-08 When time is running short and the Lombardi Trophy is at stake, some players seize the moment and make themselves legends. From Hail Mary passes to tackle-breaking touchdown runs, some of football's greatest moments are chronicled in vivid fashion here. You've got sideline pass to the action.

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achievements by singular players. This guide to all things New York Jets covers the famous Super Bowl III that put the team on the map, the 1980s New York Sack Exchange, and the evolution of the team's uniforms. Now updated through the end of the 2013 season, this revised edition includes information on Mark Sanchez's benching, the rise of Geno Smith, and the loss of Darrelle Revis.

biggest upset in super bowl history: The Ultimate Super Bowl Book Robert McGinn, 2012-09-15 With a television viewership of over 100 million people and hundreds of millions of dollars spent each year on tickets, concessions, and merchandise alone, the Super Bowl is the greatest game on Earth. Offering in-depth analysis, detailed statistics, play-by-play recaps, and post-game insights for every Super Bowl ever played, *The Ultimate Super Bowl Book* is the most definitive reference to this iconic sporting event, exploring all the high and lows from more than four decades of gridiron drama, with stories and quotes from the men who made history on football's biggest stage. In addition to a comprehensive examination of each Super Bowl played since 1967, the book presents features on the greatest individual performances in Super Bowl history—from Joe Namath to Joe Montana, Tom Brady to Aaron Rodgers, Marcus Allen to Emmitt Smith, Jack Lambert to James Harrison—and the best and worst decisions by some legendary coaches, including Vince Lombardi, Chuck Noll, Bill Parcells, Bill Belichick, Mike McCarthy, and more. Author Bob McGinn weighs in on the biggest Super Bowl shockers, the worst blunders, and the most entertaining characters. Quotes from players and coaches take you to the sidelines and into the huddle with the greatest teams in Super Bowl History, including the Green Bay Packers, Pittsburgh Steelers, Dallas Cowboys, New England Patriots, and more. No sporting event can compete with the Super Bowl—and no book can compete with this one as the ultimate reference to the ultimate game!

biggest upset in super bowl history: The Best NFL Offenses of All Time Will Graves, 2014-09-01 They're the best the NFL has ever seen! This title introduces the NFL's biggest stars, past and present. Readers of all levels will be drawn in by easy-to-read stories, quick-hit sidebars and high-impact photos that tell each player's story. With spotlight stats, info boxes, a glossary, additional resources, and more, this series is jam-packed with information fit for any football fan. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. SportsZone is an imprint of ABDO Publishing Company.

biggest upset in super bowl history: Super Bowl Fireworks! James Buckley, Jr., 2009 Super Bowl fireworks come in all different styles: Game-altering tosses. Break-away runs. Bone-jarring sacks. Any or all of these can change the course of the game and create fireworks on the field.

biggest upset in super bowl history: The Prosperity Game Richard A. Fishman, Charles P. Werner, 2018-10-01 An entrepreneur coach and business consultant reveal how to achieve success without compromising your spirituality. The Prosperity Game sets forth a four-step process for achieving success: find and develop your seed thought, determine and accept your calling, ground your calling in the world, and make the commitment. The authors have used spiritual principles to achieve worldly success and are passionate about sharing their knowledge to help others create lives filled with material and spiritual abundance. Each chapter also includes advice from other wealthy individuals who have used spiritual principles to guide their companies. In these challenging economic times, *The Prosperity Game* provides spiritual people with a roadmap to material success.

biggest upset in super bowl history: The Complete Idiot's Guide to Football, 2nd Edition Brian Tarcy, Joe Theismann, 2001-07-01 *The Complete Idiot's Guide® to Understanding Football*, Second Edition, provides new and intermediate football fans with all the information they need to understand and enjoy football. From high school to the NFL, coverage includes the basics of offense and defense, players, rules, strategies and even what to wear! New coverage for this edition includes: the draft—how it works for teams and players including parity, new technology on the field including instant replay, dangerous referee flags and rules changes for college and pro ball, XFL, arena league, expansion teams and NFL Europe, and the changing business and team strategy for professional football today.

biggest upset in super bowl history: 53rd Man John Vampatella, 2023-08-09 From Booklist's Starred Review: This is a book that transcends sports and captures the spirit and will of athletes.

The rousing stories of the often-overlooked players who give their blood, sweat, and tears in the hopes of seeing their dreams of playing professional football come true. Football fans may know all about the superstars of the NFL, but very few know anything at all about the players at the bottom of the rosters—the men just fighting for a spot on the team. Yet the struggles of these players represent what thousands have experienced, from the agony of being dropped to the practice squad to the elation of earning a starting job after years of toiling in anonymity. In *53rd Man: Fighting to Make It in the NFL*, John Vampatella shares stories from across the league of those men whose NFL journeys have taken numerous twists and turns, all in an effort to play the game they love at the highest level. The experiences of three men in particular—Jeremy Davis, Matthew Slater, and Austin Carr—reveal behind-the-scenes details of what life is really like in the NFL, working day in and day out in the shadows of the superstars. Their stories uncover the anxiety and excitement of the draft, the challenge to get through camp and make an NFL team, and what it takes to survive and thrive in the league. *53rd Man* is about football, but it's also about much more than that. It's about what it takes to succeed, how to overcome obstacles, how to deal with disappointment, how faith can shine a light in the dark and difficult times, and how to make a difference in the lives of others along the way.

biggest upset in super bowl history: *Tales From Behind The Steel Curtain: The Best Stories of the '79 Steelers* Jim Wexell, 2012-01-31 The Immaculate Reception may have started it all, but the 1979 Pittsburgh Steelers put the stamp on the modern era's greatest sports dynasty. It's not even a debate. No other National Football League team in the modern sports era—as defined by Nielson—won so much in so little time. The tag is sure to stay with the Steelers for a long, long time. Fans in Pittsburgh can thank NFL free agency, but only in part. They should really thank the '79 Steelers for winning a fourth title when, really, the team should not have done so. The 1979 Steelers were not supposed to win a championship. The Steel Curtain was in decline, and the Houston Oilers were pounding on the door of the AFC. By the end of the season, of course, the banged-up Oilers were not to be feared, not with the San Diego Chargers gathering steam. In the NFC, the Dallas Cowboys could taste revenge, particularly after Steelers coach Chuck Noll had mocked them unmercifully following the previous year's Super Bowl. However, the Steelers persevered. We probably won it more on desire, football intellect, said Steelers defensive superstar Mean Joe Greene. Greene admitted that the defense was in decline. He even admitted his great career was in decline, but he never thought the end of the dynasty was near. Star quarterback Terry Bradshaw, on the other hand, with his career just taking off, knew the end was at hand, and after his greatest season, after his second of back-to-back Super Bowl Most Valuable Player awards, Bradshaw hinted at retirement. I probably should have, he admits 25 years later. The 1979 season had exhausted Bradshaw, a topic he talks about in *Tales from Behind the Steel Curtain*. Greene also has plenty to say. So do their teammates and their coaches, not to mention the scouts, front office and support personnel, media, and fans. They all have tales to tell about the key season of one of the greatest dynasties the sports world has ever seen. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Sports Publishing imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in sports—books about baseball, pro football, college football, pro and college basketball, hockey, or soccer, we have a book about your sport or your team. Whether you are a New York Yankees fan or hail from Red Sox nation; whether you are a die-hard Green Bay Packers or Dallas Cowboys fan; whether you root for the Kentucky Wildcats, Louisville Cardinals, UCLA Bruins, or Kansas Jayhawks; whether you route for the Boston Bruins, Toronto Maple Leafs, Montreal Canadiens, or Los Angeles Kings; we have a book for you. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to publishing books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked by other publishers and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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outstanding achievements by singular players. This guide to all things Michigan covers the story behind the Wolverine's winged helmets, the history of the team's colors, the 1997 undefeated and national championship season, and how to properly tailgate in Ann Arbor. This revised edition includes Brady Hoke's first season as head coach in Ann Arbor.

biggest upset in super bowl history: Eli Manning Ralph Vacchiano, 2008-09-03 New York Giants beat writer Ralph Vacchiano examines the quarterback position in the NFL from all angles, using Giants quarterback (and Super Bowl XLII MVP) Eli Manning as his primary focus When Eli Manning found teammate Plaxico Burress in the end zone with just 35 seconds remaining in Super Bowl XLII, he completed what was perhaps the greatest game-winning drive and unlikely upset in Super Bowl history. But the drive, which also included a remarkable escape and pass completion to unheralded receiver David Tyree, was the culmination of years of promise and development. Champion quarterbacks aren't made overnight. With Manning, the Super Bowl MVP, as its focal point, New York Daily News Giants beat writer Ralph Vacchiano's *Eli Manning: The Making of a Quarterback* is a fascinating insider's look at the National Football League, how stars are made and crushed, and how fortunes are won and lost on the performance of one man: the quarterback. From the bold draft day trade that brought Manning to New York, through his dramatic ups and downs on and off the field, his first training camp to his last-minute heroics in Super Bowl XLII, Vacchiano takes a candid and revealing look at the people and events that made Manning's and his 2007 Giants' success one of the greatest stories in modern sports history. Complete with exclusive interviews with NFL stars, coaches, and executives and a foreword by former Giants general manager Ernie Accorsi, Vacchiano uses his unfettered access to the world champion Giants to present a true, behind-the-scenes look at the quarterback and team that defied all of the experts and oddsmakers to pull off one of the most phenomenal upsets in pro football history. 25 black-and-white photographs Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Sports Publishing imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in sports—books about baseball, pro football, college football, pro and college basketball, hockey, or soccer, we have a book about your sport or your team. Whether you are a New York Yankees fan or hail from Red Sox nation; whether you are a die-hard Green Bay Packers or Dallas Cowboys fan; whether you root for the Kentucky Wildcats, Louisville Cardinals, UCLA Bruins, or Kansas Jayhawks; whether you route for the Boston Bruins, Toronto Maple Leafs, Montreal Canadiens, or Los Angeles Kings; we have a book for you. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to publishing books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked by other publishers and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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biggest upset in super bowl history: 300 Pounds of Attitude Jonathan Rand, 2006-07-01 One fall night in TK, Steve Sabol of NFL Films answered the door to see his friend, Philadelphia Eagles linebacker Tim "Rosso" Rossovich, standing there literally on fire. After Sabol knocked Rossovich to the ground and put out the fire, Rosso stood up and (without missing a beat) said, "Sorry, I must have the wrong apartment." Pro football has been filled with players like this—loose cannons, rebels and trash talkers. Some players are more likeable than others, and some might even be certifiably crazy...yet what perfectly sane athlete signs up to get belted around by 300-pound behemoths for three hours every Sunday? Why Dick Butkus claims his reputation for meanness—which includes biting a referee's finger—was blown way out of proportion How dumping Gatorade on a winning coach became a postseason tradition Who "He Hate Me" was, and exactly why "He" hated him. From sideline spats to touchdown celebrations to draft day tales, *300 Pounds of Attitude* reveals the true stories of the most entertaining figures that have played the game of

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biggest upset in super bowl history: *Who's Better, Who's Best in Coaching?* Steve Silverman, 2015-08-11 Ranking the best coaches in NFL history is no easy task. How do we decide which coach had a bigger on-field impact? Or the best tactical skills, both defensively and offensively? Not to mention measuring the strength of what a coach does behind the scenes, how he motivates his players, or how he keeps them from cracking under the pressure. Is the “Hoodie” the greatest coach ever, or just lucky to have Tom Brady? What about Bill Parcells, Vince Lombardi, and John Madden? Where do they rank? Such are the questions that pro football writer Steve Silverman addresses in *Who's Better, Who's Best in Coaching?*. As statistician Elliott Kalb did with baseball, basketball, and golf, and Silverman himself did with football players in *Who's Better, Who's Best in Coaching?*, Silverman takes the next logical step in this new book. Taking the analytical methods he developed over his years as a senior editor at *Pro Football Weekly*, he applies them to an evaluation of coaches going back to the earliest days of the NFL. The result is a fascinating ranking of the best of the sideline, from legendary old-timers like Vince Lombardi to present-day blue-collar coaches like Tom Coughlin. Throughout, Silverman discusses the many considerations that must be made when comparing modern coaches with coaches of past eras, or when comparing abrasive and domineering coaches with the more relaxed and Zen-like coaches. Including biographical essays on those top fifty coaches and detailed statistics for their career records in both the playoffs and regular season, *Who's Better, Who's Best in Coaching?* is a must-have for anyone who considers football more than just a game and who is fascinated by how it's coached. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Sports Publishing imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in sports—books about baseball, pro football, college football, pro and college basketball, hockey, or soccer, we have a book about your sport or your team. Whether you are a New York Yankees fan or hail from Red Sox nation; whether you are a die-hard Green Bay Packers or Dallas Cowboys fan; whether you root for the Kentucky Wildcats, Louisville Cardinals, UCLA Bruins, or Kansas Jayhawks; whether you route for the Boston Bruins, Toronto Maple Leafs, Montreal Canadiens, or Los Angeles Kings; we have a book for you. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to publishing books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked by other publishers and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

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biggest upset in super bowl history: *Who's Better, Who's Best in Football?* Steve Silverman, 2009-09-01 Who are the best quarterbacks in NFL history? How about running backs? Wide receivers? How can we objectively rate the performance of individual defensive players? And how can we make reasonable judgments about players at different positions and from different eras? Who is the greatest football player of all time? Jerry Rice? Lawrence Taylor? Jim Brown? Such are the questions pondered by pro football writer Steve Silverman late at night (and during the day). As statistician Elliott Kalb did with baseball, basketball, and golf, Silverman now takes the next step

with *Who's Better, Who's Best in Football?*. Taking the analytical methods he developed over his years as a senior editor at Pro Football Weekly, he applies them to an evaluation of players going back to the earliest days of the NFL. The result is a fascinating ranking of the best of the gridiron, from legendary old-timers like Sammy Baugh to present-day superstars like Peyton Manning. Throughout, Silverman discusses the many considerations that must be made when comparing modern players with players of past eras and players at different positions. Including biographical essays on those top 75 players and detailed statistics for their playing careers, *Who's Better, Who's Best in Football?* is a must have for anyone who considers football to be more than just a game.

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