EDITOR'S NOTE — *Students from Pleasant Grove Elementary School wrote letters, poems and songs about Super Bowl XLI and the NFL conference championship games. Here's a sampling of some of what they wrote. Visit thejournalnet.com for the complete collection:*

'Twas The Night Before the Super Bowl

'Twas the night before the Super Bowl
And all through the city
The Colts fans couldn't sleep
They were all excitedly giddy.

Field goal kicker Adam Vinatieri
Was stretching his hamstring
He had visions of kicking the ball
In between the posts it would fling.

'Twas the night before the Super Bowl
Marlin Jackson was the king.
He went over to Peyton Manning
Then began speaking about "the ring".

Peyton Manning was practicing
Throwing his football
When he has an exciting play
He'll definitely not fall.

Tony Dungy was exhilarated
And was excitedly proud
He was dreaming of a Colts' win
And the team flying into the crowd.

The Colts really wanted to win
So Marvin Harrison started practicing his play
Over and over
Until that special day.

'Twas the night before the big game,
The whole team wanted a ring
While Cato June was in his room
Dreaming of that very special thing.

On the 40 yard line,
Rex Grossman was passing with care,
and with great hopes alive
that Antoine Bethea will not be there.

Running back Dominic Rhodes anticipated
The last play of the game,
He ran for a touchdown,
He should be inducted into the hall of fame!

As Joseph Addai sprints onto the green field
You can see the sparkle of the Colt's fans grins!
He bolts and bounds around the turf
Peyton blasts the ball to him as fast as the spring time winds!

Super, Spectacular, Dwight Freeney number 93
Makes magnificent tackles for our Colt's team,
As he makes the last minute save to win the game
You can hear the blue crowd gasp and scream!

When the Colts win the Super Bowl
They'll be screaming with cheer,
While holding the trophy
In Bob Sander's football gear.

The stadium was roaring
Jeff Saturday was there to block,
Time's up, we won
The crowd realized in shock.

And when the Colts won
They screamed with delight
"We won the Super Bowl,
What an awesome night!"

(Fourth-graders worked in groups to produce this)

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The Indianapolis Colts are going to Super Bowl 41 in Miami, Fl. Colts are playing the Bears. The Bears kick off to the Colts. The Colts run for 102 yards for a touchdown. Then the Colts kick off to the Bears. The Bears got tackled at the 50-yard line. The Bears throw the ball down the field and the Colts intercept the pass! The score was 12 to 0. There was 10 seconds on the play clock. The Colts were at the 10 yard line. Manning passes 20 yards to Harrison and he ran it in for a touchdown! The final score was 21 to 0! The colts win the game and the Colts are the Super Bowl 41 champions!

Justin McNeely
Fifth grade

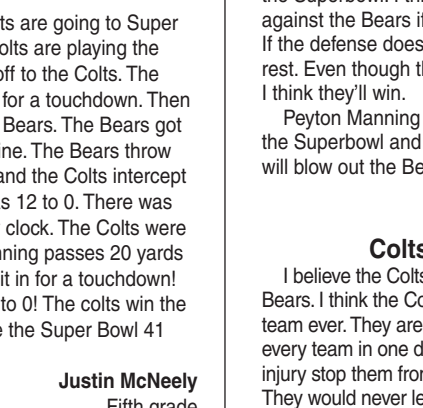
What it's like to be at the Superbowl

As I gaze upon the players' coming out of the tunnels, I feel the emotion and intensity of the crowd cheering on for their respective teams as in the Colts or the Bears. I for one wanted the Colts to win the Superbowl! As the kickoff was under way I was at the edge of my seat, enjoying the experience while it lasts. As it gets to halftime I am astonished and shocked to see we are up 21-3 but at the same time glad that the Colts' are kicking the sock off of them. As it gets to the fourth quarter with 5 seconds left with us leading 35-6 I kept on wanting to leap from seat to seat like a kangaroo I was so happy. The game was over. Let the celebration begin for their hard work and efforts of winning a Super Bowl! It was definitely a great experience to be at the greatest spectacle in football.

Aaron Hunt
Fifth grade

The Super Bowl

I strode into the stadium as the breeze blew. The Colts sprinted out on the bright green grass. I picked up my mom's big lens and zoomed in. You could see every hair on Dungy's head. Well, the hair he had. By the middle of the game the score was 28 to nothing and the Colts were up. Now there was five seconds on the clock. The game was over. Confetti fell from the sky like little parachutes. The Colts had won the Super Bowl.



Lexi Davis

Lexi Davis
Fifth grade

1…2…3… Colt's First Down

The Colts made it to the Super Bowl and this is my prediction. I think the Colts will ignialate the Bears to a whopping score of 27-7. Peyton Manning will throw two touchdown passes to Dallas Clark and Marvin Harrison. Dwight will have three sacks, one forced fumble, and will injure the Bear's QB. Joseph Addai will sprint in for 1 touchdown. Then Adam Vaniteri will sweep the ball in for two field goals. Also Nick Harper catches an interception and run 36 yards. Finally, the clock hits 0.00 and everybody will screech with joy! Confetti will stream down from the darkness, all of the Colts' fans' will leap onto the field! The Colts are the Super Bowl champions!

Nick Proctor
Fifth grade

STAFF PHOTOS BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournalnet.com

Pleasant Grove student Alex Lucas, 11, painted his face in support of the Colts. The school has gone Colts crazy, and students wrote letters, songs and poems to the team for their Super Bowl run. See more photos and letters in the Colts section at thejournalnet.com.

Indianapolis Plays in Superbowl XLI

It's game day here in the gorgeous city of Miami. The Superbowl is the face off between the Indianapolis Colts vs. the Chicago Bears. This will be a game filled with a lot of excitement and enthusastic. Here comes your Indianapolis Colts! First you see the amazing and fantastic Marvin Harrison and next is Reggie Wayne.

The Bears kick the ball off to the Colts. Here the ball comes – Dominick Wilkins is deep to receive. Dominick has got the ball and he's off. He's down to the 50, 40, 30, 20, 10, 5 and they bring him down at the 5 yard line. So Peyton and the offense will come out on the field for the first time. The colts are going to do a QB sneak.

There's the snap, Peyton's got it he's running and he score's. That puts the Colts up 7-0. The score by half time was 32-0. Now there's only 10 seconds left. Tony Dungy sprints out to the field.

That's it the Colts have won the Superbowl. Everyone is getting emotional as confetti goes everywhere. I don't here anything but screaming people and Hoosiers. The Colts deserved to win the Superbowl!

Paige Anderson
Fifth grade

Colts V.S. Bears

WOW! This is going to be a close. Colts vs Bears. Who will win? Some people think bears and some think Colts. I have no clue what will happen or who will win. I think the Bears might win only because they have already beat them this season. I personally don't care who win's because they are both my favorite teams. I with they could both win but only one can, but which one?

Maddy Whittington

Maddy Whittington
Fifth grade

Superbowl XLI

Yeh! I started screaming when the Colts had defeated the Patriots and they were onto the Superbowl. I think the Colts will win against the Bears if their defense keeps it up. If the defense does that the offense will do the rest. Even though the Colts are the underdogs I think they'll win.

Peyton Manning definitely deserves to win the Superbowl and so does Tony Dungy. Colts will blow out the Bears. Go Colts.

Aaron Johnson
Fifth grade

Colts V.S. Bears

I believe the Colts are going to beat the Bears. I think the Colts are the best football team ever. They are so good they would beat every team in one day. They would not let one injury stop them from winning the Superbowl. They would never let us down.

Kaitlyn Groce
Fifth grade

The Colts Attack!

If I won two free Superbowl tickets from a store drawing (my family is always winning prizes from drawings), I would be knocking over lamps or just freaking out. I don't know if I would take Miss Traut, my teacher I would probably take someone who knows football.

At the game I would buy lots of jerseys, foam fingers, and lots of food. During the game I would strongly by cheering for the Colts the whole game. When the game comes to an end I will know that I was at a famous game the first time the Indianapolis Colts went to the Superbowl!

Emily Hoard
Fifth grade

Super Bowl Party

Go Colts! We're going to the Super Bowl! I'm going to invite 20 people over to my house for a Super Bowl party. Let me see … I'll need ingredients for cookies, some pizza, soft drinks and popcorn.

I don't need to rush myself. I have about 2 weeks until the game. I went to the store and bought the items on my list and went home. I started decorating and decided that the party would start at 6:00 and end at 11:00.

The next week I notified everyone. I invited friends and family. Everyone said they could come. Finally the day came!

I was sooo bored until guests started coming. I laid everything out which included the football shaped cookies, the pizza, and the other goodies. Eventually the game was coming to an end. Everyone was screaming COME ON YOU CAN DO IT! And yes, yes WE WON WE WON THE SUPER BOWL! Everyone was hoarse but we didn't care; we had won.

Taylor Muth
Fifth grade

Colts

Hurray, Hurray we've made it here! We're going to win against the Bears.

Many people underestimate the Indianapolis Colts, but most of the games we turn it around.

We're all excited about the Superbowl and hope that we win. Oops, I know we're going to WIN.

Mallory Eckart
Fifth grade

Devin Hester

Devin Hester is a punt return man. He can fake you out and run touchdown. He is quick as lightning. He also won against the Saints 34-14. He was on fire that game. When you compete against him he's going to be the last to fall. I think Devin Hester will make 2 touchdowns in the Superbowl.

P.S. bears rule!!!

Gregory M.
Fifth grade

Colts vs. Bears

My sister gave me tickets to the Superbowl. I don't like football, but I never went to a football game before so I went to watch the Colts. After a long time everyone stood up and cheered and clapped. It was so loud I woke up because it was boaring and I fell asleep. I was so excited. The Colts just won the Superbowl!

Shelbi Dishman
Fifth grade

Go Colts Go!!

Bears vs. Colts in the super bowl! We're going to win because the Bears will chicken out and go home! Plus a small horse can beat a bear any day because a bear too slow!! Go Colts win the Super Bowl!!!!!

Kara Johnson
Fifth grade

Colts Rock!!

Yeah, The Colts are going to the Superbowl! We are going to win the Superbowl! We are going to beat the Bears. Were going to be champions. I'm not a Colts fan, but still. The Colts are going to win. If they can beat the Patriots, then they can beat the Bears.

Ollice Monday
Fifth grade

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Dear Peyton Manning,

I've heard that you are great friends with Marvin Harrison. I wish I knew what it was like to be in the Super Bowl, especially with a friend. Oh, and if you get hurt, just rub some dirt on it. I love your commercials. They are hilarious! I don't know if this is true, but my mom said that she saw you at Home Depot during the time we were remodeling our home. I told her that I really wish I could have been there. I think that the Colts will win the Super Bowl because I know that your defense has improved since the playoffs. I've never been to a game because when my mom got tickets, I got the stomach flu. I was very upset. Well it was a pleasure writing to you and good luck in the Big Bowl. I hope to meet you one day.

Your #1 fan,
Jackie Humphress

P.S. an autograph would be nice.

***

Dear Peyton Manning,

Congrats on your win against the Patiots!!! You're going to the Super Bowl!!!!! Tony Dungy, you, and the whole team are finally getting the recognition you deserve. During the game my mom, dad, brother and I were yelling "Go,Go,Go,Go!!!" on the edge of our seats. I can't imagine how you felt. My family and I are HUGE COLTS FANS and never miss a game, and you are our favorite player. After you won the last game we all got new jerseys to celebrate. We also love your commercials; our favorite is when the guy gets sprayed with hot steam in the coffee shop and screams like a little girl! I look up to you because of your hard work, respectfulness, courteousy, and responsibility. Good luck in the Super Bowl. And even though I'm just another fan, know we're cheering you on at home and would love to be there. May I please have your autograph?

#1 Fan,
Rachel Gravens
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

P.S. How do you feel during a game and stay positive?

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Dear Peyton Manning,

Hi! My name is Dakota McSorley and I am your #1 fan! I want to congratulate you and your team for making it to the Super Bowl. I would like to ask you some questions. Do you eat, sleep, and dream football? Are you nervous to play in the Super Bowl? Are you excited to play in the Super Bowl? What made you interested in foot ball? Well I think that is enough questions for know. Good luck in the big game; I'll be cheering for you!

Sincerely,
Dakota McSorley

P.S. By any chance do you think you could write me back? Could I have a signed picture of your team & have them sign it please and thank you.

***

Dear Mr. Manning,

Congrats! You're going to the Super Bowl! I am Megan Himebrook! I am 11 years old and in the 5th grade and have 3 wonderful teachers. Ms. Traut, Mr. Salyers, and my homeroom teacher, Mrs. Shaw. They all are very nice and have filled my (head) with knowledge. Back to you! You Rock! How's your thumb? Just rub some dirt on it! I looooooovvvvvveeeee your commercials! They always make me laugh! You are definitely going to win the Super Bowl! You have millions of loving fans and your family right behind you. You got this game in the bag! Frankly, I don't know which bag, but still! (Tee hee!) Tell the team they have my full support!

Sincerely,
Megan A. Himebrook
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

Bears in the Superbowl

The Chicago Bears were able to win against the Saints 39-14. The first half was kind of scary for the Chicago fans, but the Bears came back and got a lead and won. All Chicago fans should be happy about how far they have gone. The Bears have a pretty good defense. The Chicago Bears and the Indianapolis Colts are in the Superbowl and everyone wants this question answered … who will win?

Jessica Silva

Jessica Silva
Fifth grade

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Colts are the best!
Offense is stupendous!
Love is what the fans give them.
Teamwork is what the Colts are all about.
Super Bowl bound!

By Melina Gehm
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

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Dear Peyton Manning,

Congrats on making the Super Bowl. I really hope you win. It's big to be at the Super Bowl. But bigger to be in the Super Bowl. And what do you know if you get hurt just rub a dirt on it. Or call the ambulance with your Sprint phone. I hope your thumb feels better for the Super Bowl. If I can, may I have a picture of you with your signature on it? Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jamie Thomas

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Dear Peyton Manning,

Contratulations on making the big game! It's big to be in the Super Bowl, but it's bigger to be the quarter back on one of the teams in the Super Bowl. I hope your thumb is ok. If you every get hurt again, just rub a little dirt on it.

Your fan,
Abigail Wolff

P.S. I hope you guys win the Super Bowl.

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Dear Peyton Manning,

Hi, My name is Meredith Atz, and I made up a little poem for you.

Plays very well and hard
Entirely my hero
You rock at football
Triumph is around the corner
Open receivers are in your future
No one in the world will beat you
What does that spell? **PEYTON**!!!!
This is going to be the best game ever played!

Yours truly,
Meredith Atz

P.S. Can I have your autograph?

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Dear Joseph Addai,

How have you been doing? Are you nervous for the big Super Bowl game? I think you are going to win the big game. I liked it when you ran seven rushing touchdowns. You guys are the best team ever! Who has the better offense you or the Bears? Just to let you know, I am your biggest fan. Do you think I could have your autograph? Do you think I could have one of your jerseys?

Sincerely,
Kyle Westervelt
Your biggest fan!!!

***

Dear Bob Sanders,

My name is Cody Taylor and I live in Greenwood Indiana. I am writing to you because you are my favorite player. I really idolize you. You are so cool. I only wear your jersey on game day. Not Peyton or Marvin's. Only your jersey. I like Peyton and Marvin but you are still my favorite. When I play outside I act like I am you, and you're tough. Mr. Sanders if you could, could I have an armband or one of your shoelaces or just an autograph. If you can't I will probably understand. I will be thinking of you on game day.

Your #1 fan,
Cody Taylor
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

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Conner Andersen

Dear Marvin Harrison,

Hola, Amigo! My name is Sami Huck, and I am in the 5th grade. I am a big fan. Congrats on winning the big game and going to the Super Bowl!!! How does it feel to be going o the Super Bowl? I am so happy the Colts made it. Your team has really good offense and defense. Do your feet get tired of running all the time? Mine would. Do you miss any of your fellow players? Do you keep in touch with any of them?

88 is a favorite number of mine because you are my favorite player and that is your number. Do you have any other numbers you like?

Did you feel the Patriots were a challenge? Do you feel you will beat the Bears? I feel you will. Do you feel you are a challenge to the Bears? Do you play any other sports? I love to play softball, volleyball, and football. Some 5th graders wore Patriot jerseys; isn't that so rude? Do you feel your team interacts well with each other? Your team is the best in my eyes. Good luck in the Super Bowl. One more thing, may I please have your autograph?

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Here is a song I wrote about the Colts:
To the tune of the Itsy Bitsy Spider
The blue and white Colts went to the Super Bowl.
Then they kicked the ball and got a field goal.
All you heard were screams and yells when they won.
Then the Colts went back to the RCA Dome.

Love your biggest fan,
Sami Huck
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

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Dear Jeff Saturday,

Congratulations on your touchdown and the big win! You had a great game. What was going on through your mind during the playoff game? I wish I could go see the Super Bowl. My dad is going with my grandpa. Good luck in Miami. It would be so cool if the Colts won. If you could, can you write a letter back or give me an autograph? When I grow up I want to go to UNC just like you. Once again, good luck!

Your fan,
Emma Fulton
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

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Dear Peyton Manning,

You did a great job in the playoffs. I thought for sure we were going to lose! You guys made a great comeback and won! Everyone in my school is talking about the miraculous comeback and all the great plays you and your teammates performed. I really hope the Colts win the SuperBowl, that would be a great accomplishment. Good luck in Miami, and keep up the good work!

Ps-If you don't mind. Could I have an autograph of you? I would greatly appreciate it.

If you want to reply, write to Matthew Ferrill at Pleasant Grove Elementary

Your number one fan,
Matthew Ferrill

Dear Mr. Harrison,

My name is Dmitri Wilson. I'm a big Colts fan and I have a poster of you on my wall. You're the best wide receiver in the NFL!!! I am so inspired when I watch you play. I'm so glad you're going to the Super Bowl. I can't believe in 2006 you got a total of 1,366yds. If you hear someone yell your name, it's going to be me. If you do not mind, can you give me an autograph?

Your Fan,
Dmitri Wilson
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

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Dear Peyton Manning,

Hi, my name is Amanda Jones. I think you are the best NFL football player ever! I think you have more than 3 million Colts fans and my dad and I are we two of them. When I see you throw a football, I know life is good! I am so glad you are going to the Super Bowl! You can be sure I will be watching the games!

P.S. May I have your signature? [Thank You]

Sincerely,
Amanda Jones
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

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Dear Peyton Manning,

I love the Colts. I am a big fan. I know a lot of people say that, but I'm serious. I can't believe you're going to the Super Bowl! Your team, the Colts, hasn't been to the Super Bowl in 37 years! I am sure you are very excited. I have a question; do you sleep, eat, and dream about football? The Colts are a great team; I am positive you will beat the Bears and win the Super Bowl. By the way, how is your thumb? I noticed you hurt it in the final playoffs game. I have to say this; I never liked football until … I was about ten years old, (I am eleven now) I never understood what anything meant so therefore I never watched any games until now. One other thing is that congrats, & I love your commercials. They always make me laugh. I would really enjoy it if you wrote back to me; it is okay if you don't, because I know you are very busy, but if you get a minute try to write please.

Sincerely your biggest fan,
Tommy Maxwell

***

Dear Mr. Manning,

Congrats, you're a great player! I love youre commercials; they make me laugh my head off. How's your thumb? I hope its better. I know you will win the Super Bowl because you're the best team in the world. Will you say "I'm going to Disney World!" if you win the game? See you later.

Your biggest fan,
Rachel Connors

***

Dear Joseph Addai,

Congrats on making it to the Super Bowl for the first time in Indy. That was awesome when you ran into the endzone for the winning touch down. At first I thought you guys were going to lose, but you guys came back. I watched the Bears' game, and they played pretty good. So me and all the other Colts fans wish you good luck.

Sincerely, #1 Colts Fan,
Austin Hale

P.S. can I have your autograph?

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Dear Peyton Manning,

I am a big fan of you and the Colts. You are the best player in the NFL in my thoughts. Do you think Joseph Addai is amazing at running back? I think that the final score will be Colts 31 Bears 14. Adam Vinatieri will score a field goal to finish the game off.

The Colts are the best team to be in the Super Bowl in history. May I please have an autographed picture of you? I would greatly appreciate it. Good luck in the Super Bowl in Miami, Florida.

Sincerely,
Trent Cobb

***

Dear Peyton,

Awesome job against the Patriots!! I think you are great! You are my favorite NFL player. You've had a fantastic year. Can I have an autographed football card? Or at least an autograph? Do you have any pets? I have a gecko. Hope you beat the Bears!!

Your biggest fan,
Conner Andersen

P.S. Can you send a letter back?

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Dear Peyton Manning,

My name is Corey Bryant; I am 11 years old, and I am a big fan. As I watched the game last week, my heart was thumping out of my chest. Everyone I was with though you would lose, but I knew what you guys were made of! Thanks for an exciting game & good luck at the Super Bowl. Throw a touchdown pass to Marvin for me.

Sincerely,
Corey Bryant

P.S. May I please have an autogrpahed picture
CC: the Colts team.

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Dear Peyton Manning,

Good job getting your team to the Super Bowl. Good luck against the Bears. It takes a good QB to win a game this big. You are the best QB in the world! If you get hurt rub some dirt on it.

Sincerely,
Zach Peters
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

***

Dear Adam Vinatieri,

Hi, my name is Caitlin and I'm in the fifth grade. I wanted to say congratulations on making it to the Super Bowl!! I think you're a really good kicker. What is it like being on a different team this year? I also wanted to know what's going through your mind during a football game.

Good luck in the Super Bowl!

P.S. Can I have your autograph?

From,
Caitlin Beretta
Mrs. Shaw's fifth-grade class

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Dear Peyton Manning,

Nice win against the Patriots. Sorry, but I thought the Patriots would win after seeing the first half score (3-21). Then you came back amazingly and won with the score being 38-34. So I just wanted to say good game and great comeback!

Your best fan,
Nick Sepaniak

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Dear Marvin Harrison,

Congratulations of beating the three time defending champions which are the Patriots. I hope you win against the Bears and I hope you have a good game against the Bears. Oh and try to score a touchdown for me will you? I will be watching your game against the Bears. Oh would you mind signing your autograph at the bottom of the note? If you can't, I will understand.

Sincerely your #1 Fan,
Jordan Thomas