



**Super Bowl XLI: Indianapolis Colts vs. Chicago Bears**  
 Time: 6 p.m. Sunday TV: WISH-Channel 8 Radio: WFBO-94.7 FM



**HOW WE SEE IT**

**Rick Morwick (9-1)**  
Sports editor

The adage goes something like this: In championship games, the immovable object always wins out against the irresistible force.

In this instance, the immovable object, of course, is Chicago. The irresistible force is Indianapolis.

But in this Super Bowl, throw all adages out the window. The Colts are the best team in the NFL. And my adage is the best team always wins.



MORWICK

Colts 31, Bears 17

**Matthew Glesesk (9-1)**  
Sports writer

Being a Bears fan in Indianapolis these past two weeks has been interesting.

I wore my Bears sweat shirt to a restaurant Sunday, and the cashier wrote on the ticket "Bears Fan" in parentheses.

Does that mean they spit in my food? Nah, Colts fans are too nice. They also, however, might be too naïve.

Sunday's Super Bowl will be closer than many Indy residents are willing to believe.

Most Colts fans are so convinced the Lombardi Trophy is coming to the Circle City, a loss isn't even fathomable.

But, alas, as a Bears fan and someone who's gone 9-1 on predictions this postseason (with the lone loss coming because of Tony Romo's bobbled snap), I'm issuing a warning to Colts fans: It's going to sting.



GLESSEK

Bears 27, Colts 24

**Paul Hoffman (6-4)**  
Special publications editor

Remember when Peyton Manning turned to backup Jim Sorgi and said, "Get ready," after Manning whacked his thumb on a helmet near the end of the AFC title game?

Manning never did come out of the game (rub some dirt on it, Peyton!), but I'm hoping that scene was an omen of things to come.

Peyton got the Colts to the Super Bowl. His job is done. Let Sorgi play the Super Bowl. At least that will give the Bears a chance.

The Colts are no longer that bumbling team that finished the regular season OK, so their defense will never be confused with the Steel Curtain. But Bob Sanders' return has certainly helped. And Dallas Clark's return has boosted an already potent offense.

Granted, the Bears have scored a lot of points and given up few. But almost all of that was accomplished in the first half of the season against a weak schedule. The meaty part of the season saw the Bears barely scrape by some sub-.500 teams and lose twice to AFC teams. The AFC is on a Super Bowl roll, winning six of the past eight. Rex Grossman has been hearing how bad he is for two weeks.

And I really want Tony Dungy to get a ring. He'll probably make Manning play.

Colts 33, Bears 19

**Jeff Decker (5-5)**  
Assistant sports editor

Poor, poor pitiful Chicago Bears. Woe is them.

This week, linebacker Brian Urlacher said, "If you look at most of our games, we've been underdogs, unless we are playing at home, and then we'll be 2½-point favorites." In reality, the Bears were, according to Las Vegas betting lines, underdogs only twice all season.

There's a reason Urlacher is a linebacker and not a mathematician. And then there's poor Tank Johnson, who says the "white media" doesn't understand him. I guess he's correct in that the "white media" doesn't understand why a football player — black, white or otherwise — needs enough ammunition to arm a Third-World country.

The problem with the Bears' whine is that they're facing a Super Bowl opponent who is just as poor and pitiful as they are.

Absolutely no one — not a single person! — gave the Colts a chance to make it to the Super Bowl. That is unless you count just about everyone in central Indiana or the oddsmakers who made them favorites against Kansas City and New England, only slight underdogs at Baltimore and have them favored by a touchdown against the Bears.

I guess this game just comes down to which team you feel the least sorry for.

Colts 34, Bears 20

# Dungy's, Smith's breakthrough captured in photos with trophy

## • Dungy

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1)

By STEVEN WINE  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**MIAMI**

Posing for photos Friday alongside the Lombardi Trophy, Tony Dungy wore a blue suit and slight smile. His friend and Super Bowl foe Lovie Smith wore a gray suit and his game face.

Kickoff was only 57 hours away. A new wrinkle in the Super Bowl week routine, added months ago, briefly brought the coaches together during their morning news conferences. It's believed to be the first time coaches have posed together with the championship trophy before the game.

As it turns out, the pictures will commemorate the Super Bowl's first black head coaches, who also happen to be close friends. Dungy coaches the Indianapolis Colts, while his protégé coaches the Chicago Bears.

When the photo session ended, they shook hands and hugged, and Smith departed.

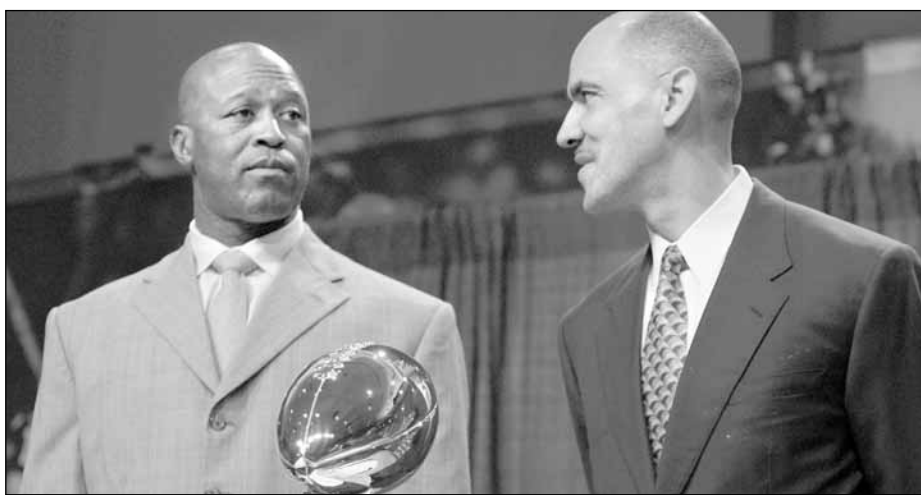
"It's a proud moment for me, an awesome moment," Dungy said, "not only because of what that symbolized for African-American people and African-American coaches, but more than that because of who I was standing with."

Their relationship dates to 1996, when Dungy hired Smith to coach linebackers for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. They have been the lead story all week, discussing daily the laid-back demeanor and Christian faith they share, as well as their groundbreaking achievement.

Like Dungy, Smith was pleased to pose with his friend, a genial moment before the biggest game of their careers.

"This is a different week," Smith said. "We have two black head coaches leading our teams. We're doing things a little bit differently. You can respect an opponent and have a relationship with them before and after the game. That's how we're doing it."

They've crossed paths at several functions this week but may not see each other again until Sunday. Indianapolis is playing in its first Super Bowl, while the Bears seek their first NFL title since the previous time they reached the game 21 years ago.



Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Dungy, right, and Chicago coach Lovie Smith stand with the Vince Lombardi Super Bowl trophy at the Miami Beach (Fla.) Convention Center on Friday.

During their final pregame media session, the coaches answered questions posed by reporters from such exotic locales as France, Germany, Hungary and Tyler, Texas. Smith recalled growing up in Big Sandy, Texas, where he led the Wildcats to three consecutive state championships and envisioned taking part in the Super Bowl.

"At Big Sandy, we won just about every game," Smith said. "It helps you to picture winning wherever you are. You wanted to end up here. This is where the true champion is crowned."

The coaches face contrasting challenges Sunday. Dungy goes into the game with the sport's most prolific passer, Peyton Manning, seeking at age 30 to fill out his remarkable résumé with a ring.

Amid the Super Bowl hoopla, Manning has managed to prepare with his characteristic diligence, Dungy said.

"I don't think he looks at it as a do-or-die moment," Dungy said. "He's pretty much the same guy I've seen for the last five years."

Smith must try to coax a steady performance out of his erratic young quarterback, Rex Grossman.

"On a personal level, I'm pulling for him," Smith said. "Rex has to play a certain way to win. He has answered quite a few

questions as far as criticism. We've kind of hit that 2 million times this week."

Both teams have tried to stick with their standard routine as much as possible. Dungy parted from the norm by inviting a guest speaker to address the team, something he has done only a couple of times previously with the Colts.

Two-time Indianapolis 500 winner Helio Castroneves was to talk to the Colts on Friday night.

"Helio and I have become good friends," Dungy said. "He let me in his pit when they were getting ready for the 500. That's a big stage, the Super Bowl of their sport. I want him to address the team a little bit about what it means to win the biggest game in your sport. He's also a big Colts fan, so it'll be a win-win situation for us."

Smith decided against a guest speaker. He anticipates his own pregame talk will be enough.

"I waited a long time for this day," he said. "Normally almost a year in advance you start going over speeches you would give in situations like this."

"I know what I'm going to say. I can't wait to say it. Of course I'm not going to tell you what I'm going to say, but we do have something in mind."

# Colts add two starters to injury report

The Associated Press

**DAVIE, Fla.**

The Indianapolis Colts added defensive end Robert Mathis and cornerback Jason David, both starters, to the injury report Friday after their final full practice before the Super Bowl.

Mathis left practice early because of back spasms and was listed as probable. David, who has battled a nagging abdomen injury this season, sat out the entire practice and was listed as a precaution.

Safety Bob Sanders and guard Ryan Lilja, also starters, took the day off, but both are expected to play.

Mathis led the Colts with 9½ sacks this season and has consistently pressured quarterbacks when opponents use extra blockers to stop three-time Pro Bowl defensive end Dwight Freeney. Coach Tony Dungy said Mathis should play Sunday.

"He's fine," Dungy said. "He left as a precaution."

Indy's other starting cornerback, Nick Harper, has been listed as questionable all week with a sprained left ankle. He missed practice again Friday and Dungy said he would be a game-time decision.

"We decided it didn't make any sense for

**NOTEBOOK**

him to go out and try to practice today," Dungy said. "We'll wait to see how Nick feels on Sunday at the stadium."

On a hot day when Peyton Manning and the equipment staff worked busily to break in the team's allotted 54 balls for the game, Dungy had two-time Indianapolis 500 winner Helio Castroneves speak to the team.

Dungy, who spent one Indianapolis race day in Castroneves' pit, said he wanted Castroneves, who lives in Miami, to tell players what it feels like to win a big prize.

"I thought he would be a good person to talk to our team since we're trying to win the big one," Dungy said. "He talked to the team about sticking together and getting it done."

Kicker Adam Vinatieri and punter Hunter Smith spent 20 minutes working out indoors at the Miami Dolphins' complex because of windy conditions.

The Colts are expected to hold a final walkthrough today at the facility instead of at the stadium, where most Super Bowl teams do their walkthroughs. Dungy said he made that decision because anything else wasn't part of the Colts' normal routine.

**Media daze**

Some players said they were getting tired of the same questions from the media, and Bears quarterback Rex Grossman even asked reporters if they bothered to do any research.

His teammate, linebacker Lance Briggs, found a novel way to handle the repetitive

queries: He made up different answers.

At one media session, Briggs was repeatedly asked how he'd feel when he woke up on Super Bowl Sunday. His responses, which all came within a 10-minute span:

- "I'm going to be hungry. I'm going to want some eggs and bacon."
- "I might be sleepy. I might wake up, turn on the TV and go back to sleep."
- "Good question. I think I'm going to wash. I'm going to take a good shower. I'm going to be dirty. I'm going to shower, and I'm going to floss for a long time."

Briggs says switching his answers around keeps him entertained.

"There's a little bit of truth in all of it," he said.

**Seeking help**

Colts defensive end Dwight Freeney's pregame routine won't deviate much on Super Bowl Sunday. He'll arrive at Dolphin Stadium, get taped, stretch and then try to lock in mentally on Indianapolis' game plan.

In other words, do exactly what Emmitt Smith told him to do.

Freeney asked Smith — the NFL's all-time rushing leader, three-time Super Bowl winner and former Super Bowl MVP — what to expect emotionally as the title game draws near.

"He kind of told me that there are going to be a lot of emotions," Freeney said. "In that first quarter, it is going to be like you have played a whole fourth-quarter game. I have to get by that. I have to relax and keep it as routine as possible."

He quickly added: "I don't know how that's possible."



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