

<b>6,000</b> Number of seats added to Florida's Alltel Stadium for Sunday's Super Bowl	<b>78,125</b> Number of people at who attended the Super Bowl in Jacksonville, Fla.	<b>24</b> Number of seasons the Philadelphia Eagles went without a trip to the Super Bowl	<b>\$600</b> Maximum Super Bowl ticket price this year	<b>\$140 million</b> Amount the FOX network will make on advertising revenue from the Super Bowl	<b>\$25,000</b> Cost of the Vince Lombardi Trophy, made by Tiffany & Co.
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# MAKE IT A DYNASTY

## 24 PATRIOTS SUPER BOWL XXXIX 21 EAGLES

BY BARRY WILNER  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Dynasties don't have to be perfect or pretty. They just have to win — like the New England Patriots.

The Patriots won their third Super Bowl in four years with a dominant second half Sunday night, wearing down the Philadelphia Eagles, 24-21.

It wasn't overpowering, and at times it was downright ugly. But it was more than enough to match the Dallas Cowboys' run of the 1990s and certify Bill Belichick and Tom Brady's Patriots as the NFL's latest dynasty.

"To me this trophy belongs to these players," Belichick said. "They met all comers this year, a very challenging year. We're thrilled to win. These players played great all year, their best in the big games and they deserve it, they really deserve it."

With MVP Deion Branch tying a Super Bowl record for receptions with 11, Brady efficiently running the offense and Rodney Harrison sparking a smothering defense, the Patriots (17-2) won their ninth successive postseason game. That ties the record of Vince Lombardi's Packers

of the 1960s, and there's hardly any better company a team can keep.

The difference once again was an Adam Vinatieri field goal, this one a 22-yarder with 8:40 to go. New England won its other two Super Bowls by the margin of Vinatieri's last-second kicks.

This time, the Patriots sealed it with a stop.

Philadelphia (15-4) got the ball back at its own 4-yard line with 46 seconds remaining. It was hardly enough time and far too much territory to cover against such a formidable foe.

Harrison got his second interception with nine seconds remaining to end it.

Playing before a sea of mostly green jerseys in the crowd of 78,125, the Patriots made sure Philadelphia would not get its first pro sports title since 1983. Indeed, it's been 45 years since the Eagles won the NFL crown. And even though they made it to the Super Bowl for the first time in 24 seasons — after three straight conference championship flops — their season still ended in disappointment.

Corey Dillon, a newcomer to the

championship game, scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 2-yard run early in the fourth period. And when Branch wasn't running free and catching passes, the Patriots flaunted their versatility by again using linebacker Mike Vrabel to find the end zone.

Vrabel has caught TD passes in two straight Super Bowls and has five TDs in as many career catches, not bad for a linebacker — or anyone else.

Brady wasn't as fluid as he was when he won the MVP awards in the 2002 and 2004 games, but he was on-target much of the time, finishing 23 for 33 for 236 yards and two TDs.

Harrison and his mates picked up any offensive slack, forcing four turnovers, including a goal-line interception by the veteran safety. The Patriots also had four sacks, making Donovan McNabb look ordinary, even skittish at times.

And while Terrell Owens' return from a seven-week injury layoff was an individual success — he had nine catches for 122 yards — it was not nearly the star turn that Branch made.

Branch's 11 catches covered 133 yards as he victimized one of the

league's best secondaries. He was most instrumental on the opening drive of the second half, which set the tone for New England's 57th victory in its last 74 games.

While New England handled frequent blitzes, Branch caught four passes for 71 yards on the series that ended with Vrabel's touchdown.

"We did a great job of adjusting during the game," Branch said. "It was physical; a lot of guys were bumped and bruised."

The Eagles showed resilience by responding with a 74-yard drive on which Brian Westbrook accounted for 39 yards, including the 10-yard score. McNabb whipped a pass over the middle between two defenders for the touchdown.

Still, as winners always do, the Patriots reasserted themselves, effectively using screen passes against a tiring defense. Even when Eagles defenders shouted to each other to watch for the screen, New England made it work, particularly on Kevin Faulk's 14-yarder that preceded Dillon's 2-yard run to make it 21-14.

Vinatieri hit his chip shot to make it 24-14. When the Eagles came back

on Greg Lewis' 30-yard TD reception with 1:48 remaining, things got tight.

Not that it bothered the Patriots. Not that anything ever bothers these Patriots, who will lose offensive coordinator Charlie Weiss to Notre Dame and expect defensive coordinator Romeo Crennel to become the Cleveland Browns' coach.

The victory gave the New England region its second team championship since the fall. This was hardly as dramatic as the long-suffering Red Sox winning the World Series. Still, Boston is the hub of champions.

Philadelphia's title drought goes on, but Owens certainly did his best to end it. The all-pro receiver fulfilled his vow to start the Super Bowl, defying his doctor and playing with a metal plate and two screws in his right ankle.

"T.O. did a heck of a job," coach Andy Reid said. "I was proud of the effort and they battled, but we came up just short — too many turnovers — and against such a tough football team you can't do that."

And when battling the NFL's latest dynasty, Reid may be right — you can't.

## Men: Oregon loses for first time when shooting 50 percent from field

Continued from page 9

Oregon's Jordan Kent, who started for the first time this season, said they were aware of the problems DeWitz and Lucas could cause them.

"We had a good game plan for them, and, if we blocked out, it shouldn't have been too big of a problem," Jordan Kent said.

Oregon received another solid game from swingman Malik Hairston. The freshman went 8 of 12 from

the field, including 2-of-3 from behind the arc, for 20 points — tying a career-high.

Oregon point guard Aaron Brooks also got back into the swing of things with a 21-point performance and shot 4 of 7 from behind the three-point line.

The game started with the Ducks jumping out to a 6-0 lead, but the Beavers countered with a 7-0 run of their own to take the lead.

They would trade the lead back

and forth for most of the first half until Oregon State went on a 10-2 run heading into the locker room, capped off by a Sasa Cuic fade-away jumper to give the Beavers a 34-30 halftime lead.

The Ducks crawled back in it and gained a 43-41 lead, but still managed to blow two good opportunities to take an even bigger advantage.

The first blown opportunity came on an Oregon fast break. Center Ray

Schafer found himself wide open underneath the basket, but couldn't convert. The next time down the floor, Hairston was on the lower block and was just about to make a move toward the basket when he traveled and turned the ball over.

"We had them on the ropes and had some crucial turnovers where we could've had a 10 point lead," Brooks said.

The Beavers would put the game

away on a late 7-0 run, highlighted by a Chris Stephens three-pointer.

The loss for the Ducks marks the first time they have lost when shooting over 50 percent in a game this season.

Oregon welcomes the Washington schools to town next week, with No. 13 Washington coming to McArthur Court on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

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