

Green Bay destined for victory

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With the BCS championship behind us, it's time to stop shouting for the quack and start cheering for the Pack.

Super Bowl XLV pits the Green Bay Packers against the Pittsburgh Steelers in a match-up that will have Cheeseheads with bratwurst in hand cheering on their

beloved Packers. The Packers are playing their first Super Bowl since Super Bowl XXXII without quarterback and famous retiree Brett Favre. Though most fans thought Favre was their only chance, they seem to have done well without him.

The Green Bay Packers have made it to the Super Bowl four times, winning three. The Pack won the first two Super Bowls and most recently beat the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XXXI. Though the Pittsburgh Steelers outrank the Pack in Super Bowl wins, they don't come close to overall championships.

The Pack has won 12 NFL championships, three of which were won before the playoff system was implemented, so they won the most championships in NFL history. The Packers are the only team to win three consecutive championships, and they did it twice, making them the team to beat.

As the lowest seeded team in the NFC playoffs, the Packers have climbed up to the Super Bowl spotlight by winning 10 games in their regular season, catching fire in the playoffs and winning three in a row.

With 358.1 aver-

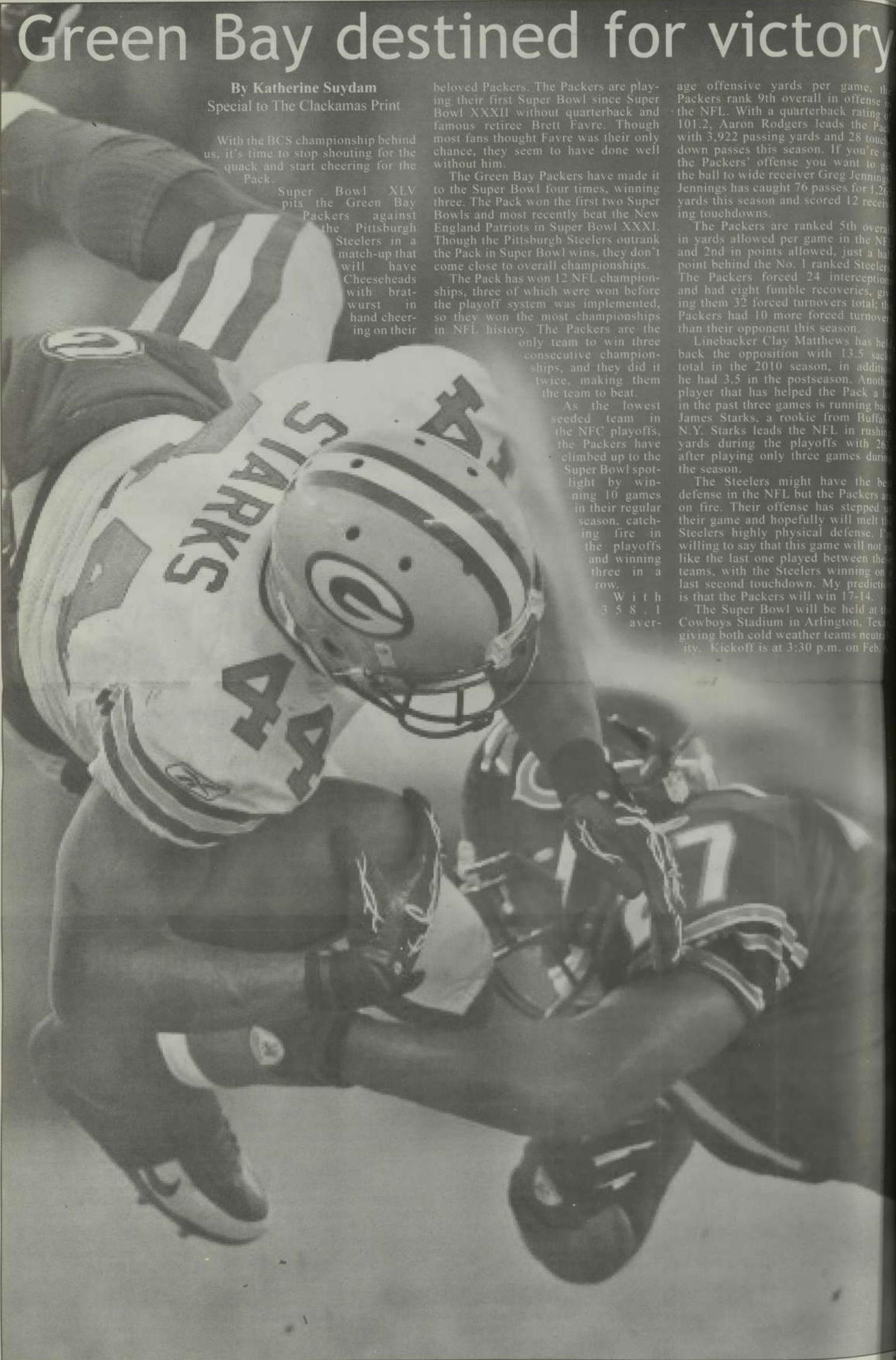
age offensive yards per game, the Packers rank 9th overall in offense in the NFL. With a quarterback rating of 101.2, Aaron Rodgers leads the Pack with 3,922 passing yards and 28 touchdown passes this season. If you're on the Packers' offense you want to get the ball to wide receiver Greg Jennings. Jennings has caught 76 passes for 1,260 yards this season and scored 12 receiving touchdowns.

The Packers are ranked 5th overall in yards allowed per game in the NFL and 2nd in points allowed, just a half point behind the No. 1 ranked Steelers. The Packers forced 24 interceptions and had eight fumble recoveries, giving them 32 forced turnovers total; the Packers had 10 more forced turnovers than their opponent this season.

Linebacker Clay Matthews has held back the opposition with 13.5 sacks total in the 2010 season, in addition he had 3.5 in the postseason. Another player that has helped the Pack a lot in the past three games is running back James Starks, a rookie from Buffalo, N.Y. Starks leads the NFL in rushing yards during the playoffs with 260 after playing only three games during the season.

The Steelers might have the best defense in the NFL but the Packers are on fire. Their offense has stepped up their game and hopefully will melt the Steelers highly physical defense. I'm willing to say that this game will not be like the last one played between these teams, with the Steelers winning on the last second touchdown. My prediction is that the Packers will win 17-14.

The Super Bowl will be held at the Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, giving both cold weather teams neutrality. Kickoff is at 3:30 p.m. on Feb.



Running Back James Starks is taken down by Defensive Back Major Wright in Chicago on Jan. 23. The victory against Chicago sent Green Bay to the Super Bowl. The final score was 21-14.