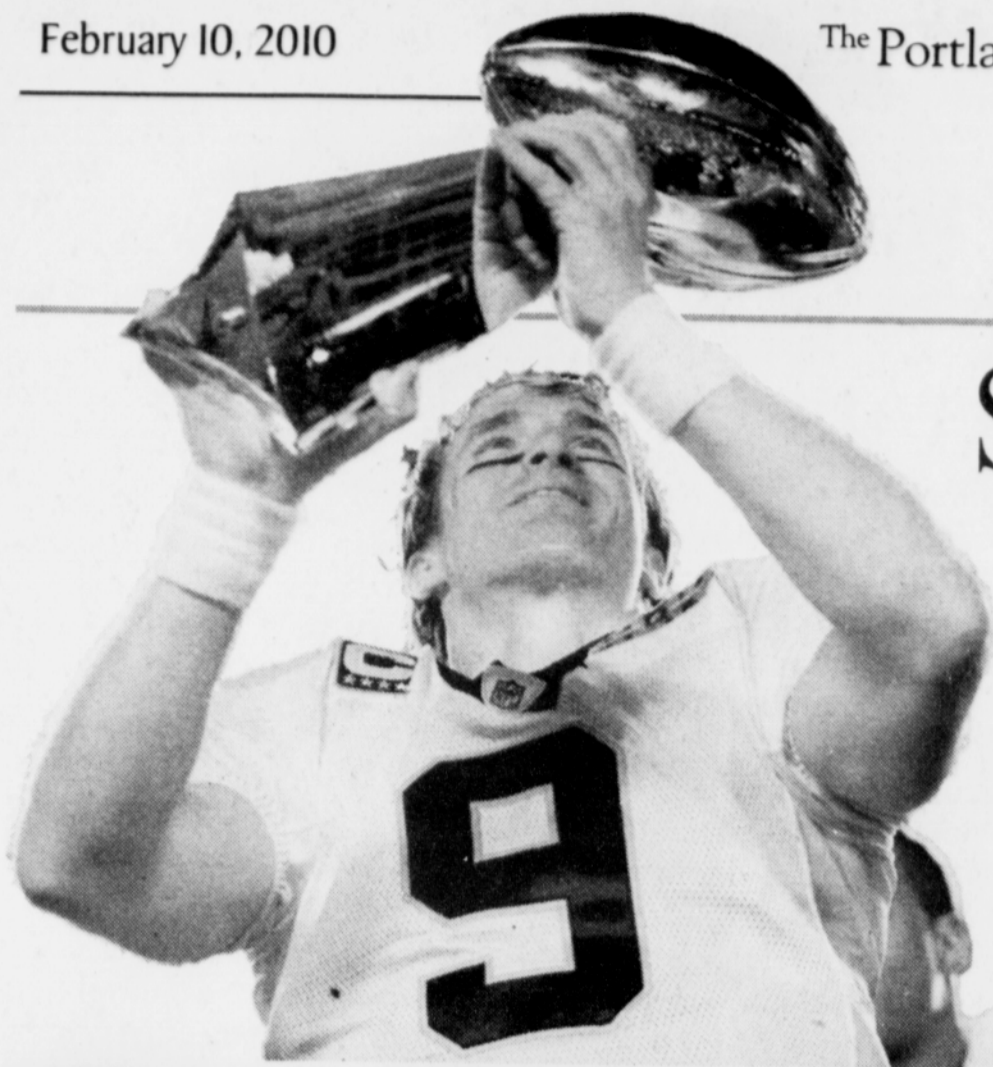


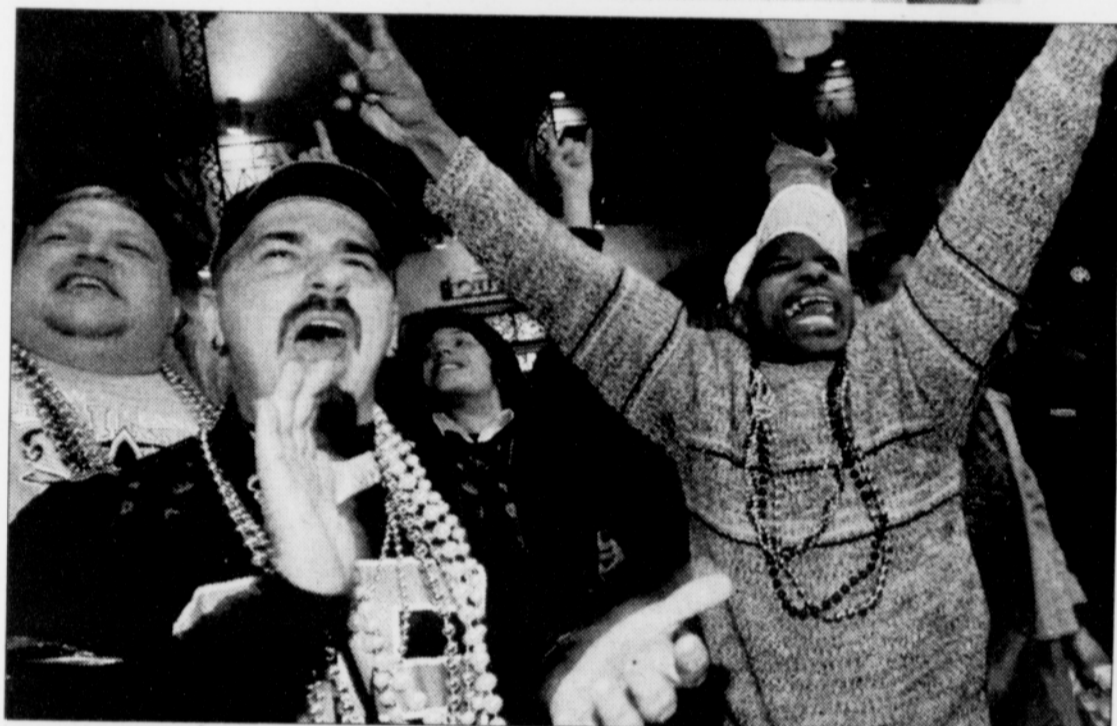
# SPORTS

## Saints are Super Bowl Champs

### Big plays key in 31-17 upset



New Orleans quarterback Drew Brees holds the NFL Championship trophy after his Saints won the Super Bowl in an upset over the Colts.



Celebrants take to Bourbon Street in the famous French Quarter of New Orleans after the city's NFL team win their first ever Super Bowl.

(AP) -- The ultimate underdogs, they ain't. Not anymore. The Saints are Super Bowl champions now.

Who Dat? Try Drew Brees, Sean Payton and a team that has reversed its embarrassing past, carrying an entire city to the top with it.

Brees and the Saints rallied to upset Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts 31-17 in Miami Sunday night in one of pro football's most thrilling title games.

Brees tied a Super Bowl record with 32 completions, the last a 2-yard slant to Jeremy Shockey for the winning points with 5:42 remaining. He was 32 for 39 for 288 yards.

A surprise onside kick sparked the Saints' second-half comeback. Their 25th-ranked defense made several key stops, and Tracy Porter's 74-yard interception return on a pass from Manning clinched it.

Manning tried to give chase, but was blocked by a New Orleans defender and fell awkwardly as the cornerback raced by. The four-time NFL MVP forlornly walked to the sideline as the Big Easy celebrations began.

An NFL also-ran for much of their 43 years, the Saints' football renaissance, led by Brees and Payton, climaxed with Shockey's touchdown and Lance Moore's 2-point conversion catch, originally ruled incomplete but overturned on Payton's challenge.

Porter's pick, just as dramatic as his interception of Brett Favre's pass to force overtime in the NFC title game, was the game's only turnover. It's one Manning will forever regret.

The Saints (16-3) won three postseason games this winter after winning only two in the previous 42 years. They beat Arizona, Minnesota and Indianapolis (16-3) — all division winners — for their first title, scoring 107 points and allowing only 59.

The championship came 4½ years after Katrina ravaged New Orleans, making the Saints nomads for the 2005 season. There even was some doubt they would return, but the NFL refused to abandon the city. The Superdome was repaired and the Saints won the NFC South in '06, their first season with Brees and Payton.

Ready, Set, Connect ... to

## Portland Public Schools



Check out our wide variety of school options!

### Kindergarten Fairs

Fun and informative events for pre-kindergartners and parents

• **Wednesday, Feb. 24, 3:30-6:30 p.m.**

Northside Family Support Center, 7650 N. Commercial Ave.

• **Thursday, March 4, 3:30-6:30 p.m.**

Southside Family Support Center, (at Kelly Elementary School), 9030 S.E. Cooper St.

### Kindergarten Round-Ups

School-hosted events for parents of pre-kindergartners

• For dates, go online to [www.readysetconnect.pps.k12.or.us](http://www.readysetconnect.pps.k12.or.us) or call the school.

### Sixth-Grade and High School Information Sessions

School open houses and individual tours

• For dates, go online to [www.readysetconnect.pps.k12.or.us](http://www.readysetconnect.pps.k12.or.us) or call the school.

### 2010 PPS Choice Fair — New This Year!

Showcase of our uniquely focused schools and programs

• **Tuesday, Feb. 9, 4-8 p.m.,**

Harriet Tubman Leadership Academy for Young Women, 2231 N. Flint Ave.

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**Portland Public Schools**

501 N. Dixon St. Portland, OR 97227

**503-916-3205**

## Peninsula Little League 2010

(Serving the Youth of Inner North & Northeast Portland ages 5-14)

visit our website at: [www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague](http://www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague)

Registration available on-line beginning January 8, 2010

**\$10 DISCOUNT TO BE OFFERED FOR EARLY ON-LINE REGISTRATION IF REGISTERED BY 1/31/10**

**Regular Sign-ups: \$64/T-Ball, \$74 All other levels**

This fee includes the pepperoni fund raiser. Sell one bag of pepperoni and get \$24 off fee. Each bag contains 24 sticks

### THURSDAYS at Boys and Girls Club

5250 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd • February 4, and February 18 • 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

### SATURDAYS at Peninsula Park Community Center;

700 N Portland Blvd (Rosa Parks Way) • February 6, and February 13 • 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Registration forms can be completed in advance by downloading from our website: [www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague](http://www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague)

#### Softball Program

Level	Ages
Minor	8 - 10
Major	10 - 12
Junior	13 - 14



Questions contact:  
Mark Washington ~  
503-288-0033  
[markw@portlandobserver.com](mailto:markw@portlandobserver.com)

#### Baseball Program

Level	Ages
T-Ball	5 - 6
Farm	7 - 8
Minor	8 - 10
Major	10 - 12
Junior	13 - 14



Questions contact:  
Jjay Lincoln ~ [jlinks@tmail.com](mailto:jlinks@tmail.com)

Items to bring to sign-ups: Birth Certificate; Proof of Address; Doctor/Insurance Information; Player Fee

Little League Baseball, Incorporated does not limit participation in its activities on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual preference or religious preference.