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How the Super Bowl came to be by Heather Protz

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The British gave up on rugby football a long time ago. Some rich kid in the 1920â€™s tried to satiate his rebellious desires by breaking the rules of a high-school football game. He carried the ball with him instead of kicking it. This brings us to the origin of football as it is played in the States today. Actually, the term â€˜footballâ€™ does not apply to the sport in the strictest sense of the word. You run with the ball most of the time, not kick it around. I mean sure, there are rugby unions and such, with countries lying in the opposite ends of the world, from Australia to Somalia lining up and battling it out to claim the World Cup. But with England, naw, they like stumps, bats and perfectly circular balls (small or large) a whole lot better. Rugby football is no longer insanely popular in Great Britain, period.

So much for complaining about the British and their uptight ways; they are the ones who gave us the less-restricted idea of football. Throughout history and now, many rules of rugby football have been changed, reinstated and removed to make what is now known as American football-the breath and soul of any average American. The I-swear-Iâ€™m-not-crazy-about-football people, who do exist in this country wouldnâ€™t know about Mr. Walter Camp. Itâ€™s not possible to have read about him in your American History textbook is it? Well, he did not wage a war or profess world peace. He is the father of American football. Yes you football freaks, he is THE man who introduced some major changes to the intense game it has become now. Worship him.

Back then, when inter-collegiate football was fast gaining popularity, there were plenty of new and fresh football leagues coming up. Out of all these the National Football League (NFL) successfully evaded all that competition and remains the most sought after football league in the country. It had one tough contender the American Football Conference (AFC) but it later on merged with NFL. The live viewership crosses a humongous number every year for the NFL games that plenty of TV cable providers like Time Warner fight to get their hands on the TV channels broadcasting them.

How many of you have spent sleepless nights thinking about the next best excuse to say to your boss pleading for a day or two off? And it so happens that your boss himself has taken a sick leave because of Eosinophilic bronchitis or some complicated disease like that. Yeah, youâ€™ll probably be seated next to him in a packed Stadium cursing and cheering over the game; Or share a pack of chips at your neighborsâ€™ super bowl party discussing strategies and watching the game on their Time Warner TV. The next day you become loyal employee to employer, servant to the master and secretary to the tyrant. Football enthusiast or not, you just get sucked into the atmosphere-cheerleaders, parties and all that jazz. Super Bowl season is the only other time of the year where mundane social etiquette and moralities are broken and equality is suddenly perceived. This is known as the Super Bowl Charade.

The giant of all American football championships is the Super Bowl. It was born out of the merger between AFC and NFL, where the two (once separate) leagues pit their champion teams against each other. Every successive year the Super Bowl Championship is held and the seasons are denoted by Roman numerals. The rules are the same as the American football, with a few added exceptions. The NFL holds 512 games every year, that separate the good players from the bad ones and eventually, there are twelve super teams selected and sent to the Super Bowl championship. These games are called as the playoffs.

All playoffs are broadcasted live on TV channels like CBS. Some cable providers like Time Warnerâ€™s give the opportunity for the unlucky (ier) ones to watch them in HD quality. In fact live viewership of the playoffs and the finale on TV is where the cable operators and TV stations increase their

revenues from. With tickets ranging from $500-$800 taunting the middles classâ€™s unaffordability, super bowl is easily one of the most watched programs every year.

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Heather is a techno geek, who is interested in keeping herself updated with the latest technology. She is also a major sports and adventure enthusiast. As a freelancer she likes to write about programming, recent improvements in the computer field and games of the past days. Her interests include Americaâ€™s favorite pastime- watching sports on her TV connected to a Time Warnerâ€™s

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