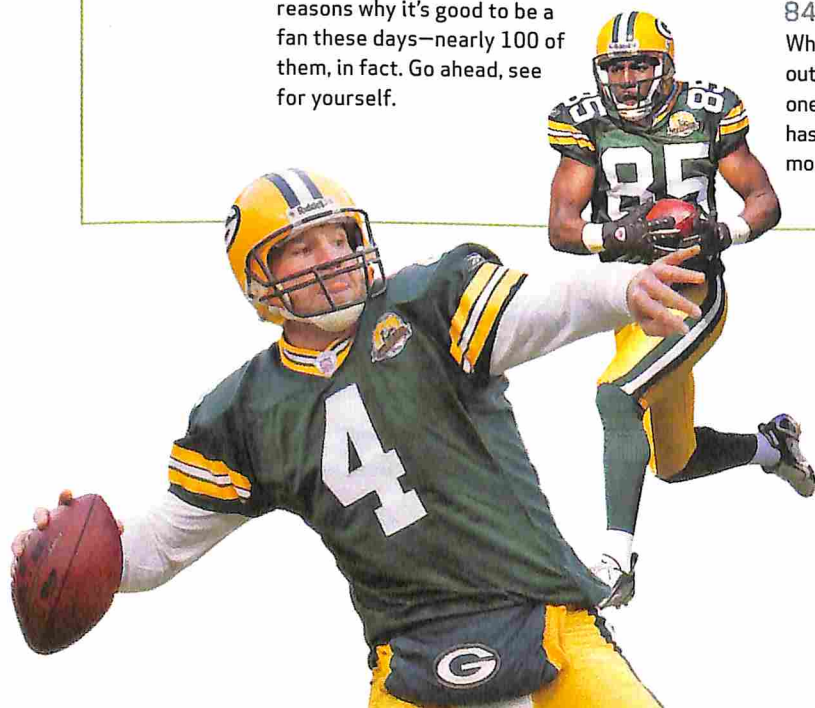


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50 THE ESPN 100

In our annual look at the greatest sports stories of the year, the editors, producers, writers and on-air talent at ESPN have chosen the Barry Bonds saga as the No. 1 entry. Figures, since it was the most epic drama in a soap opera kind of year. But fear not, sports fans. There were still plenty of feel-good stories in 2007: **TOM BRADY**'s Patriots, Boise State's trick plays, Lorena Ochoa's eight titles—and who knew **HELIO CASTRONEVES** could cut such a mean rug? So forget the dogfights and betting scandals, the forfeited gold medals and failed drug tests; 2007 provided plenty of reasons why it's good to be a fan these days—nearly 100 of them, in fact. Go ahead, see for yourself.



58 TERRY BEING TERRY

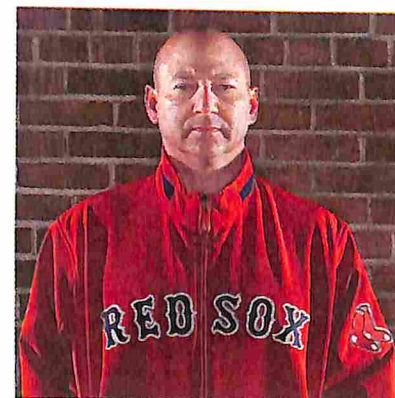
The Red Sox cruised to their second Series sweep in four years, thanks to the old-school ways of **TERRY FRANCONA**. Not that anyone outside the clubhouse saw it that way. **BY STEVE WULF**

68 ROCK CHALK, WHAT THE ...

In the wildest college football season ever, three underdog programs—Kansas, Kentucky and Illinois—confounded the experts to climb to near the top of the polls. Here's how they made it look shockingly easy. **BY BRUCE FELDMAN**

84 SEEING IS BELIEVING

When he arrived in Green Bay in 2006, Packers wide-out **GREG JENNINGS** thought his quarterback was one frosty dude. But the Pack's Super Bowl charge has Jennings whistling a different tune: Nobody's more fun than **BRETT FAVRE**. **BY SETH WICKERSHAM**



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THE 100 BIGGEST SPORTS STORIES OF THE YEAR

FROM BARRY TO HELIO AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN

THE PATRIOTS
AREN'T PERFECT
(THEY JUST LOOK THAT WAY)

GREG JENNINGS
♥ BRETT FAVRE

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HELIO CASTRONEVES (NO. 100)
CUTS A RUG WITH
BARRY BONDS (NO. 1)



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