



Super Bowl XXIX



Miami — Think of the 49ers now in the same light as the great Yankees teams, or the Celtics, or the Canadiens.

If the 49ers beat the Chargers today in Super Bowl XXIX, they belong with the great dynasties of professional sports.

"I think we would deserve to be put into that category if we win," tight end Brent Jones said. "Five Super Bowls in 15 years in a sport with such high turnover among players, and the fact that we've been in the playoffs year after year, I think that says enough."

We couldn't agree more, Brent. In fact, we're absolutely convinced of a 49ers victory today at Joe Robbie Stadium. How convinced? Let us count the ways. Let us count the 49 ways the 49ers will win:

1. Because ABC's Al Michaels gets to say "Do you believe in miracles?" only once in a lifetime.

2. Because 49ers owner Ed DeBartolo Jr. is 48 years old, and he wants results now.

3. Because unlike the Steelers, the 49ers won't make a boo-boo with Pupunu.

4. Because a Chargers upset would taint Joe Namath's upset victory in Super Bowl III and take away the Jets' only redeeming quality.

5. Because Tony Martin will be facing Deion Sanders, not Tim McKyer.

6. Because it's Steve Young's time.

7. Because the Western world has suffered enough and does not need to read one more story about Young emerging from Joe Montana's shadow.

8. Because Deion's jewelry collection is running low and he needs another gaudy diamond-studded ring.

9. Because Jerry Rice needs something to think about in the offseason.

10. Because Natrone Means is a big fan of Thurman Thomas.

11. Because the Chargers will be facing Steve Young, not Neil O'Donnell.

12. Because no quarterback who looks like the Pillsbury doughboy should be seen in a Disney World commercial.

13. Because Jones is the 49ers' go-to guy when all else fails.

14. Because the Chargers' defense is as soft as Stan Humphries' belly.

15. Because there's no stopping fullback William Floyd.

16. Because unlike the Jets, the 49ers know which free agents over age 30 can still play.

17. Because Kathie Lee Gifford's rendition of the national anthem will be just the pre-game inspiration the 49ers need.

18. Because Gifford's singing will put the Chargers to sleep.

19. Because the 49ers' quick offensive line will run circles around the Chargers' two tons of fun, tackles Reuben Davis and Shawn Lee.

20. Because the 49ers are 1-0 in Super Bowls at Joe Robbie

49

Reasons

Why

San Francisco

Will Win the Super Bowl

BY BOB GLAUBER AND RICH CIMINI / STAFF CORRESPONDENTS



You can't blame a guy for trying, but the Chargers aren't getting much respect outside San Diego

Stadium.

21. Because Bryant Young and Dana Stubblefield are the best young defensive tackle combination in the NFL.

22. Because all Junior Seau will be able to do after getting a taste of the 49ers' blocking is say ow.

23. Because the 49ers haven't lost a meaningful game in their throwback uniforms.

24. Because Chargers owner Alex Spanos sold his team's throwback uniforms.

25. Because Deion needs a new wrinkle for his touchdown celebration — doing an end-zone dance, then running up to referee Jerry Markbreit, turning on his microphone and singing a cut from his new rap CD.

26. Because oddsmakers are no idiots.

27. Because the 49ers have four Super Bowl rings and need one for the thumb.

28. Because the Chargers have Gale Gilbert, who could become the only man on earth to lose five straight Super Bowls.

29. Because Means is good, but not that good.

30. Because it's a big game and Ronnie Harmon is in it. Fumbles or dropped passes, anyone?

31. Because Elvis (Grbac) is in the building.

32. Because the 49ers average 31.6 points per game. And the Chargers don't.

33. Because Carmen Policy is the NFL's genius of the year, not Bobby Beathard.

34. Because Jerry chased Jimmy out of Dallas.

35. Because Ken Norton Jr. becomes the first man to win three Super Bowls in a row.

36. Because the spirit of Buffalo is with the Chargers.

37. Because the 49ers haven't been staging rehearsals for a Super Bowl rap video.

38. Because Bart Oates is a nice guy who deserves a third Super Bowl ring.

39. Because Gary Plummer gets to beat his old team and talk some more trash about Spanos.

40. Because Chargers offensive tackle Stan Brock is an antique.

41. Because George Seifert is the most underrated and underappreciated coach in football.

42. Because Bill Arnsparger is no match for Mike Shanahan.

43. Because Dan Dierdorf needs to gush about something.

44. Because nothing Bobby Ross can say will have any effect on the outcome.

45. Because Dan Fouts was born 10 years too early.

46. Because Kellen Winslow was born 10 years too early.

47. Because the Chargers' offense is no match for the 49ers' defense.

48. Because Humphries is a big fan of Jim Kelly.

49. Because it's about time the NFC won a Super Bowl.