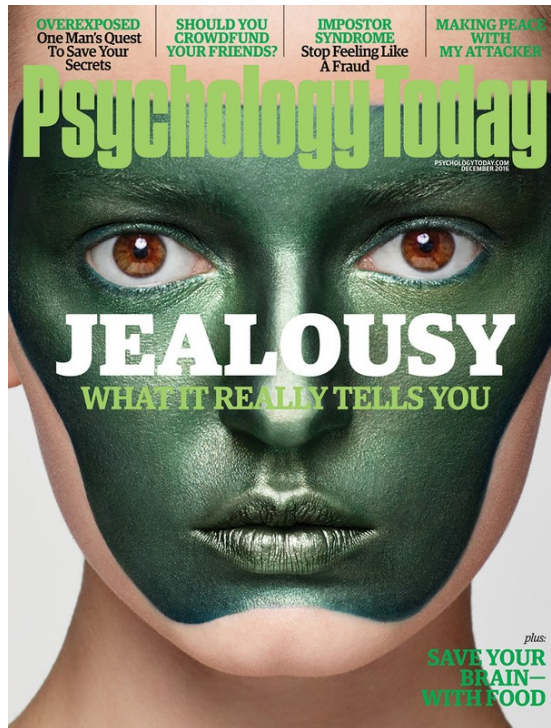


# Art Department



Dylan Coulter

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COVER MODEL MUSCLE  
ALEXANDER SKARSGÅRD

## MeTarzan You Train

WITH HIS SCANDI-BOHEMIAN BACKGROUND, HIPSTER GIRLFRIEND AND ARTHOUSE RESUME, ALEXANDER SKARSGÅRD IS NOT YOUR ARCHETYPAL BLOCKBUSTER LEAD. BUT THEN, WHO EVER SAID IT'S AGAINST THE RULES TO COMBINE BRAIN WITH BRAINS? HERE'S HOW THE ICE-COOL SWEDEN BECAME KING OF THE JUNGLE, HIS OWN WAY

WORDS BY COLIN CRUMBY - PHOTOGRAPHY BY DYLAN COULTER

44 MEN'S HEALTH

MEN'SHEALTH.CO.UK



FLEX APPELL SKARSGÅRD  
PHOTOGRAPHED IN A WHITE T-SHIRT  
WITH NOUGAT-HUED CHARMS

A graphic design for an article titled 'ROUTE ADJUSTMENT'. It features a large, stylized black maze with a red arrow pointing upwards from the top left and another red arrow pointing to the right from the bottom right. The text 'ROUTE ADJUSTMENT' is written in bold black letters within a white rectangular box at the bottom left. Above the maze is a small black square with a white arrow pointing up. To the right of the maze is a small black square with a white logo and the text 'WIDE RECEIVERS' written vertically. At the bottom left, there is a small red box with white text: 'Braxton Miller had a rude awakening in the spring. He could no longer play QB at Ohio State. Now at a position he hadn't played since his first high school game, can he keep his national title hopes and NFL dreams alive?' Below this is the text 'BY BRETT FORREST | PHOTOGRAPHS BY DYLAN COULTER'. At the very bottom left, it says '70 ESPN 12.07.2015'.



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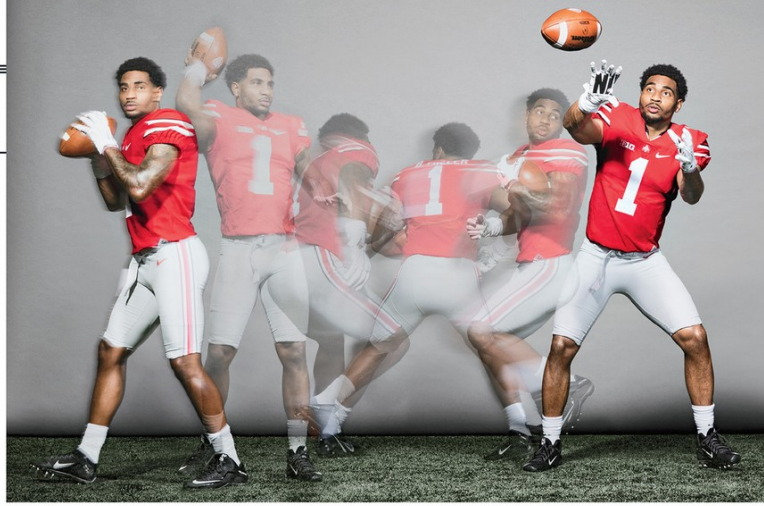
HIDE RECEIVERS



OHIO STATE'S IDENTITY crisis descends in the locker room turned at High Point Solutions Stadium in Parsippany, New Jersey. Dressed in OHSU sweat suits, Brandon Miller steps into the empty Ohio State locker room. The Buckeyes have just taken a 17-10 bottom-half intermission break in their career's longest. In recent weeks, his beleaguered right shoulder, the one that could carry the weight of expectation in Columbus, Ohio, is expected to play more than any NFL hopeful would do. He's analyzing his numbers.

Miller had a long practice session, catching for 50 yards and one rush for 16. Yet he makes sure to remain upbeat. "I love it," he says. "Coach Meyer knows I love it too." No, Miller doesn't know that he has been repositioned from quarterback to wide receiver, reduced from BMOOC to hit player. But after missing all of Ohio State's 2014 national championship season, being back on the field is reward enough. It was Miller, a two-time Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year under center, who set this bizarre Ohio State story in motion. His shoulder injury in August 2014 allowed two backups—first J.T. Barrett, then Cardale Jones—to lead OHSU to that starting title. And it is Miller whose on-the-job transition this fall has provided a tidy metaphor for the team's efforts to find itself all over again.

Ohio State averaged 44.4 points per game last season, tops in the Big Ten and No. 2 in the country. The Buckeyes appeared to



A QB no more, Miller played the 2014 Buckeye season with a split mind: For the nuances of his new position, haven't I come easily.

have little room for Miller; more to the point, they looked as if they didn't need him. Then the offseason arrived, and with it the sort of juicy speculation that can tear a team apart, especially one with three elite QBs. Who would start? Who would transfer? How could Urban Meyer keep everyone happy?

Such high-class problems are at the root of this season's fit and starts. In September, Ohio State scored only 20 points and gave up 23 against a MAC school, Northern Illinois. The Buckeyes' seven-point win at Indiana to begin October had the trappings of a loss. The next Saturday, they were still tied early in the second half against Maryland, which has performed this year as though it belongs in the MAC.

Over the second half of the season, Ohio State has hit its stride, while whatever gains Miller has earned have been met with a step back. A week after Rutgers, he beat a Minnesota corner on a

deep post, smoothly making the catch before getting thrown to the ground, his head skimming the turf. He would exit that game and get only two touches the next week, losing 4 yards, at Illinois. In late November, these questions remain: Has Ohio State, ranked No. 3 by the College Football Playoff committee entering Week 12, progressed enough to repeat as national champ? And has Miller shown the specialized skills at receiver to have a career beyond January?

MILLER'S TROUBLES BEGAN innocently enough, at the Orange Bowl against Clemson on Jan. 3, 2014. Tackled on the fifth play of the game, he landed on his right elbow. Pain shot through his shoulder, but he shrugged it off, showing for 234 yards in a 40-35 loss. The next month, Miller had surgery to repair a torn labrum, the ring of cartilage where the shoulder socket attaches to the shoulder ligaments.

Miller sat out spring practice, expecting to return to full camp 100 percent, prepared to push James Winston and Marcus Mariota for the 2015 Heisman Trophy. But on Aug. 16, while cautiously testing his shoulder in pressure drills, he tossed a simple, short pass to a cutting receiver, no more than a flick of the wrist. "It popped out," Miller says of his shoulder. He had rejured the labrum. "I have never felt pain like that in my life, and I never want to go through it again."

THE INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE 12.09.2015



Frock 'n' roll  
The woman who dressed Carrie Brinkshaw and now Caitlyn Jenner talks to Rebecca Grunberg  
A British general's battle to rebuild Sierra Leone  
I'm ready for my close up: Gracie Dent on Instagram  
Plus: Mark Hix, Anna Pavord, and John Walsh



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## A SHOW OF HANDS

No body part is more integral to an athlete's success than a receiver's hands. Texans breakout star DeAndre Hopkins and Tom Brady's temporarily sidelined top target, Julian Edelman, help us get a grip on their mitts.

INTERVIEWS BY MORTY AIN AND STACEY PRESSMAN

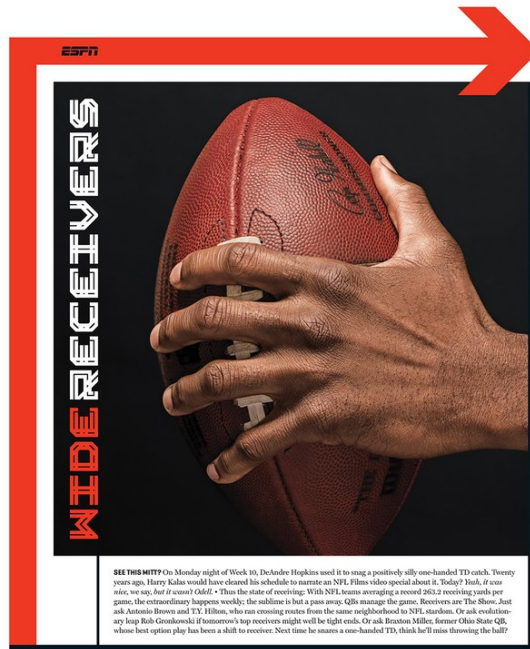


Hopkins' hand shown for scale. 1 inch = 1.1 inch

DEANDRE HOPKINS	CATCHES THIS SEASON 71*	YPC 13.1	CATCH RATE THIS SEASON 58%
<p>&gt; I think I have the best hands in the NFL. Not because I'm full of myself, but I think if you look at drops over the past three years, I'd say I'm at the top of that list. [Hopkins is right—he posted 47 percent of catchable passes in his first two years, tied in the league.]</p>	<p>&gt; I remember my more spectacular catches exactly—the last year against the Giants. It was with my left hand, and I really couldn't get a grip on the ball, so I caught it with only three fingers. On the sidelines, my teammates were like, "That really just ain't that!"</p>	<p>&gt; My first hand injury was in eighth grade. My thumb got jammed when a defender hit it with his hand. I didn't realize it was broken until the next play—it looked like a little crack, so I was so far back in my skin. I had to get two pins in it.</p>	<p>&gt; These calluses aren't going away—I've been a wide receiver since I was 13 years old. And every quarterback I've had from a pretty hard hat Ryan Mallett to Tom Brady [all had special] probably had the hardest ball I've caught in my years of playing football.</p>
<p>&gt; My pinkie tends to pop out of place a lot, which I'm aware—I just pop it back in. I notice it when I move my hand and it feels odd. I mean, it's been happening my whole life, it's never broken—and pops out of place real easy.</p>	<p>*Numbers through Week 11.</p>		

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DYLAN COULTER  
STYLING: JACQUE WATKINS

12.07.2015 ESPN 85



## WIDE RECEIVERS

**SEE THIS MITT?** On Monday night of Week 10, DeAndre Hopkins used it to snag a positively silly one-handed TD catch. Twenty years ago, Harry Kalin would have cleared his schedule to narrate an NFL Films video special about it. Today? Heck, it's our mits, we say, and it's ours! Q&A: • This the state of receiving: With NFL teams averaging a record 263.2 receiving yards per game, the extraordinary happens weekly; the sublime is but a pass away. QBs manage the game. Receivers are The Show. Just ask Antonio Brown and T.Y. Hilton, who ran crossing routes from the same neighborhood in NFL stadiums. Or ask evolutionary leap Rob Gronkowski if tomorrow's top receivers might well be tight ends. Or ask Brandon Miller, former Ohio State QB, whose best option play has been a shift to receiver. Next time he snags a one-handed TD, think he'll miss throwing the ball?

PHOTOGRAPH BY DYLAN COULTER  
STYLING: MICHAEL BRONKHORST

12.07.2015 ESPN 49

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Dylan Blass, → April 2015

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## Dylan's Head

One patient's long and perilous crawl back to consciousness.

By STEPHEN S. HALL

Photograph by Dylan Coulter

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Photograph by Dylan Coulter for New York Magazine. This page, photograph by Dylan Coulter for New York Magazine.

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## HOW TO RAISE A WILD CHILD

SUMMER'S HERE AND SCHOOL IS OUT, WHICH MAKES NOW THE PERFECT TIME TO GET OUTSIDE WITH A YOUNG SPORTSMAN. HERE ARE 16 FUN TIPS AND PROJECTS TO TEACH KIDS AND KICK-START THEIR LOVE OF HUNTING, FISHING, AND THE OUTDOORS.

BY L. EDWARD NICKLES, WITH PHIL ROUBALSKY, KIRK DEETER, GARE HUBBARD, AND KEITH MCCAFFERTY

Photographs by Dylan Coulter ✕ Icons by Mikey Burton

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**SOPHIE DIETZ**  
Age: 9  
"I love to fish and hike and spend time outside with my mom and dad. My dad has deer stands, and we'll just sit there for a while, watching for animals. He's taught me a lot about nature."

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**RYLEY MCCARDELL**  
Age: 8  
"My biggest fish is a 37 1/2-inch striped bass. I couldn't believe I caught it! My older brother caught a big one that day, too, but his was 32 inches. He got teased for his little brother beating him."

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## REALITY BITES

TV'S BIGGEST RATINGS HIT AIMS TO TOP ITSELF WITH GNARLIER ZOMBIES AND PEOPLE WHO (MAY) EAT PEOPLE.

EW INFILTRATES SEASON 5 OF THE APOLLO 13 OF TV FOR AN EXCLUSIVE LOOK AT WHAT'S AHEAD.

BY DALTON ROSS X PHOTOGRAPHS BY DYLAN COULTER

Norman Reedus photographed on July 11, 2014 in New York

September 5, 2014 EW.COM | 27

therefore resorted to cannibalism to stay alive. Clues in both the season 4 finale and the season 5 trailer lend extra credence to the Hunters/Terminus comparisons. And so do these cryptic remarks from *Walking Dead* comic creator and TV exec producer Robert Kirkman: "All I'll say is this season is following the comic-book story line pretty closely. Possibly closer than we ever have before. And there's a very popular, familiar story line in the comic books that happened immediately following the outbreak of the prison, and it is entirely possible that we will be touching in some way on that very popular story line." Cue the dinner bell.

But while Kirkman will not go so far as to outright confirm the cannibalism rumors, he does have good news for fans who have spent the entire summer trying to figure out just what the heck is going on outside train car A. *Who are these jerks? What's the deal with their leader, Gareth? And where are Carol, Tyreese, and baby Judith?* These questions will be dealt with—immediately. "As a viewer, one thing that I really hate is when you have this big cliff-hanger moment and then it's the end of episode 3 before you get any real answers as to what we left you hanging on," says Kirkman. "We're definitely not doing that. By minute 2 or 3 of our season premiere, I think the vast majority of our questions have been answered and five or six more have been presented, so you're very much going to be invested, well-informed, and ready for the ride that we're going to take you on."

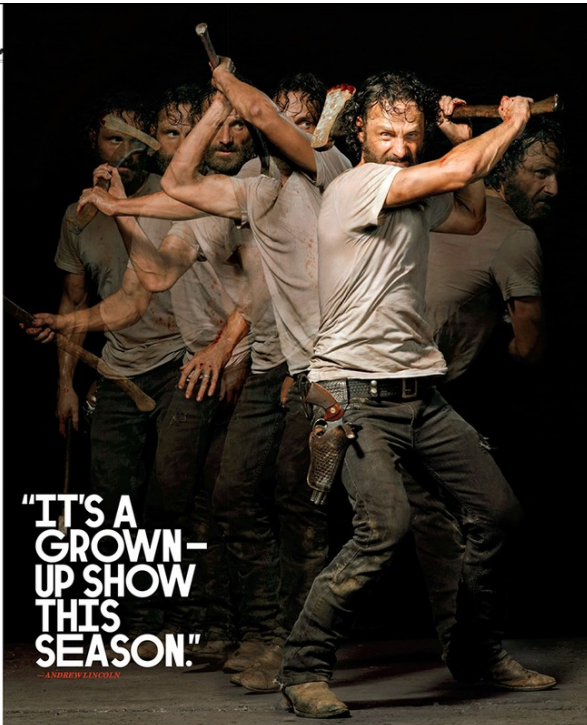
The first stop on that ride for Rick & Co. is dealing with this Gareth character (played by Andrew J. West), who is vastly different from the group's most recent adversary. "Gareth isn't really the Governor," explains West. "He's a guy who's searching and struggling for a new way to exist, because he has accepted that the old way just doesn't work anymore. The world is different now, and the old rules need to be reexamined. And he's willing to do that." There is definitely a showdown brewing between the cold and calculating Gareth and the newly reformed Rick. "He doesn't blink to protest who he loves," says showrunner Scott M. Gimple of *Grims* 2.0. "And he can get pretty scary pretty quick." Though we don't know how this battle of wits and wills ends, we do know one thing—somehow, somehow, the gang will exit Terminus. Then at some point attention will turn toward a new group goal: getting to Washington, D.C. It is a mission that Sgt. Abraham Ford (Michael Cudlitz) gave himself after scientist Eugene (Josh McDermitt) said he knew how to stop the plague if he could just get to the nation's capital. The trip offers the group hope—hope to put a stop to the madness and hope for a new way of life. But you have to ask yourself: How does



LAUREN COHAN

Maggie and Glenn are running through the forest, and there's a double-bomb explosion. Glenn is shot in the chest and Maggie is shot in the back. And a fence breaks on them with their arms up in the air.

that usually work out for people on this show? The CDC journey in season 1 was a dead end—literally for some, like Jacqui and Dr. Jenner. Hershel's farm appeared to be a refuge from the dangers of urban zombie warfare...until a herd of *Behemoth*s happened upon it. A new society was forged behind the gates of a penitentiary, but that society crumbled alongside pieces of the prison blown up by the Governor and his tank. Finally, the lure of sanctuary at Terminus turned out to be nothing more than a



"IT'S A GROWN-UP SHOW THIS SEASON."

—ANDREW LINCOLN



NORMAN REEDUS

If that's the case, how would you find out what's going on? Just to me, work down a road like that. And you just create and create and create and create, and then a little dog goes on the road with the car, and you're not even in the car, and you're never even in the car.

human eye. You don't have to be an avid reader of the comic on which the show is based to sense that Abraham and Eugene's mission might not be a ticket to salvation. That journey to D.C.—and the side trips sure to accompany it—will take the group through some terrain it has not encountered since season 1: downtown Atlanta. The past three seasons have all been set outside the city, and as exec producer and

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"MICHONNE'S A PERSON WHO DOESN'T GO FOR THINGS EASILY."  
—DANIEL GERRERA

face. It looks like she might be in a hospital of some sort, but then again, maybe not. This is the one lingering mystery from last season that Kirkman concedes may take a bit of time to unravel. "I wouldn't expect it too terribly soon," he says as to when we might get answers. "There's been a lot going on with her while she was missing and we're definitely going to see a lot of that, so all things will be revealed both ways. It's going to have some far-reaching ramifications for all the characters."

And that could include new characters as well. Jumping from the comic book to the screen this season is Father Gabriel Stokes—a priest who, in the source material, offers his church as shelter for the group while also attempting to atone for past sins. He'll be played by Seth Gilliam, the third alum from *The Wire* to join the series, after Coleman and Gilliard. For Gilliam, appearing on one of the most watched programs in the world has definitely been an adjustment. "This is the first time I've actually been on a show where it's popular while it's airing," he laughs. "I was not prepared for that, and I'm not sure that I ever will be, actually." Showrunner Gimple teases that Father Gabriel will be far from the



**MICHAEL CUDLITZ**

As with everyone, there's coming. At some point everyone dies on *The Walking Dead*. I would hope that the death would be better off by itself, and that would be something that, as they say in *Splish Tap*, it goes like.

only fresh face: "We are going to see a bunch of new characters, people of significance to the show, even during the first half of the season."

We'll also be treated to a slew of new zombies—ones that are gnarlier than ever. This season, Nieto's goal was to "show the passage of time by seeing how rotted and decomposed these walkers got," he says. "You can see that some of the zombies are missing noses and parts of their faces." (Sounds delightful!) One such situation we can look forward to is "a room filled with water that has had walkers in it for a year, and what that would do to the zombies in terms of their skin flapping off." This is the type of discussion that turns Nieto's giddy—somewhat disturbingly so. "I use the rotisserie-chicken description," he says of the waterlogged walkers, "with the most sliding off the bones." (Second memo, this one to self: Never, ever eat rotisserie chicken again.)

Between dealing with Terminus, whoever is hiding Beth, and the walking rotisserie chickens, the harsh reality is that not everyone is likely to make it out of season 5 alive. But the question of who will be among this season's dearly departed is not one Youn cares to consider. "Ultimately, what I think it ends up doing is making fans choose people," he says of audience speculation. "And they go, 'Oh, I like that

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The New York Times Magazine  
June 8, 2014

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- 44 THE SOUNDTRACK TO BRAZIL'S WORLD CUP (NO, IT'S NOT SAMBA)
- 68 HAIRDS OF FAMOUS FOOTBALLERS

The World Cup Issue  
Featuring...

# MESSI

CAN THE ARGENTINE STRIKER LAY HIS BURDEN DOWN?

Total attendance at World Cup matches since 1930: 24 Million

Percentage of world population who watched the 2010 World Cup on TV: 31



The New York Times Magazine  
June 8, 2014

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# NEYMAR

CAN THE BRAZILIAN PRINCE BRUISE?

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The World Cup Issue  
Featuring...

# RONALDO

THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN TOUCH

Total attendance at World Cup matches since 1930: 24 Million

Percentage of world population who watched the 2010 World Cup on TV: 31

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**1-2 WORLD CUP ISSUE**

that afternoon, Donovan and the other players who were cut were on their way out of town.

**FOR ALL THE UPROAR** that followed Donovan's cut — and whether you agree or disagree with how Klinsmann handled it — this much is clear: The confidence Klinsmann had in making his decision is exactly what U.S. Soccer was looking for when it hired him as coach.

As far back as 1998, after Klinsmann scored a memorable goal for Germany against the United States in a World Cup game, Sport Illustrated, now the president of the U.S. Soccer Federation, tried to convince Klinsmann's agent that Klinsmann should consider playing in M.L.S. When Gulati heard that Klinsmann was not interested in the travel demands of an American professional sports league, Gulati raised the possibility of Klinsmann's signing with the Galaxy and playing only home games.

"I was like half-joking," Gulati, who is also a senior lecturer in economics at Columbia, told me. "But I felt, even then, he was someone we wanted to be working with."

In 2006, shortly after Klinsmann coached Germany to a stirring third-place finish in the World Cup, Gulati approached him about coaching the U.S. men's national team. Klinsmann said no. In 2010, in South Africa, after the U.S. lost to Ghana in the Round of 16, Gulati again tried to hire him and again could not reach a suitable deal.

By 2011, however, things were different. Klinsmann had been through a tumultuous stretch as coach at Bayern Munich, the dominant club team in Germany; he was fired after just nine months, having apparently clashed with the team's management. This round of negotiations with Gulati went more smoothly, and Klinsmann signed on to take over.

To Gulati, Klinsmann was what U.S. Soccer needed: a coach European enough to command the players' respect, but American enough to embrace new advances in training and technology. He also saw Klinsmann as someone who would be able to relate to an ever-growing fan base that was looking for something — anything — fresh.

"Look, part of what we're trying to do is excite people," Gulati said. "And Jürgen's charm is a piece of that. He's a crossover. For us, at this point, it's about selling the game in a way that, frankly, we haven't had anyone, ever, do before."

U.S. Soccer essentially turned over its house keys to Klinsmann. His base salary (said to be about \$2.5 million per year) was more than any previous coach was paid. His support staff was larger than what any previous coach was given. His ambitions — to bring in an outside sports-training company, to push yoga and other unusual treatment techniques. (Continued on Page 56)

**THE STARS**

The world's best footballers have stopper moves and penalty kicks that can cause spikes in national birthrates. Here is how some of the tournament's best players pull it off. **TEXT BY KEVIN O'NEILL**

**BRASIL'S ALL-TIME TOP WORLD CUP SCORES:**

Ronaldo	5
Juninho	3
Pelé	2
Ney	2

**Total market value of players in 2014 World Cup — \$9,680,000,000**

Players who have won the Golden Boot (highest scored) and the Golden Ball (most outstanding player) at the same World Cup: **Gianfranco Zola**, 1992; **Diego Maradona**, Argentina, 1978; **Paolo Rossi** (Italy, 1992) and **Salvatore Schillaci** (Italy, 1990).

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY DYLAN COULTER



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I've always played my best golf in the summer. I won the 2011 PGA Championship in August, and my other two tour wins were in August and late May. Could be from growing up in Vermont. After shaking off the rust in spring and getting my body used to playing again, I always felt the pressure of about a 10-week window to shoot some low rounds and prove to myself I was getting better. Now that I play the tour and live in Jupiter, Fla., my life is perpetual summer. Still, there's a part of me that expects to hit that mid-season form my buddies and I used to talk about.

**When it's deep into the season** and you're not playing well, it's frustrating. This is when it's time to revisit some basics. To me, the basics are driving and chipping. If you can do those two things well, you'll be hard to beat. It's rare to mess up a shot from a fairway that badly. And if you can chip the ball to a foot, your partner doesn't matter.

**The beauty is**, while you're working on chipping you're also working on driving. This is because the bottoms of both swings—the area around impact—are identical. From the moment the clubhead is two feet from the ball until two feet after impact, the technique of a good chip is the same as a ripped tee shot. The clubface isn't flipping or doing anything fancy. It's staying square to the path of the swing and striking the ball as solidly as a bat hits a baseball. A good feel is the back of the hand staying pointed at the target through the strike. Except for flops and a few other specialty shots, that's how every swing with every club should feel at the bottom. It's why I start my practice sessions with simple bump-and-runs. I'll take an 8-iron and make a swing that's as short as a putting stroke and just watch how the ball rockets off the clubface for a yard or so. My teacher, Chuck Cook, calls it a "square pinch" because the face stays square and pinches the ball off the turf. If I'm

struggling, Chuck will say, "Hey, Keegan, give me a square pinch." This means stop whatever I'm doing and hit a chip to remember what solid contact feels like. **After you master** the square pinch, try some longer chips. Work your way up to a 40-yard pitch, or what Chuck calls a "high sweep," to get through the bag until you're hitting driver. Same as with the short chip, the way to get maximum speed on a drive is to present the dead middle of the clubface to the ball. When you achieve that, you realize that a full swing is one simple motion that feels like a chip, only with some wrist hinge and body turn. I'm a feel player, but paying strict, technical attention to chipping has given me the right amount of structure to my swing. **The other half** of the scoring equation is, of course, mental. I owe my ticket off the mini-tours to Jim McLean, who taught me to approach golf like any other favorite summertime activities. I love throwing the football and shooting baskets. Rickie Fowler, Brendan Steele and some other guys and I will get full-on softball and volleyball games going. When I throw a softball, there's no time to think about the motion of my arm. I just look at the first baseman's glove and react. So when you're standing at flag from the fairway this summer, just pretend you're playing catch in the back yard. Or maybe even at the beach. **—TOMMY KAWAUCHI**

**HERE'S ONE TIP THAT CAN HELP YOUR WHOLE GAME: WORK ON YOUR CHIPPING STROKE.**



**STYLING: JESSICA PERAZI**  
**TOWNEY:** HILF PIERRE (Sweatshirt, shorts, sneakers), SIMONE (Sweatshirt, shorts, sneakers), SIMONE (Sweatshirt, shorts, sneakers), SIMONE (Sweatshirt, shorts, sneakers), SIMONE (Sweatshirt, shorts, sneakers)  
**HAIR:** JEFFREY MANN  
**MAKEUP:** JESSICA PERAZI  
**PROP STYLING:** JESSICA PERAZI  
**HAIR AND GROOMING:** JESSICA PERAZI

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ESPN 03.31.14



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cover photograph by PETER YANG  
PHOTOGRAPH BY PETER YANG FOR ESPN

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**MLB PREVIEW 2014**

**SNIPES ON SEVEN PLANES**

AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES THEM SO DANGEROUS.

AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES THEM SO DANGEROUS.

AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES THEM SO DANGEROUS.

**BRAD ZIEGLER**

AGE: 24 | BELIEVER

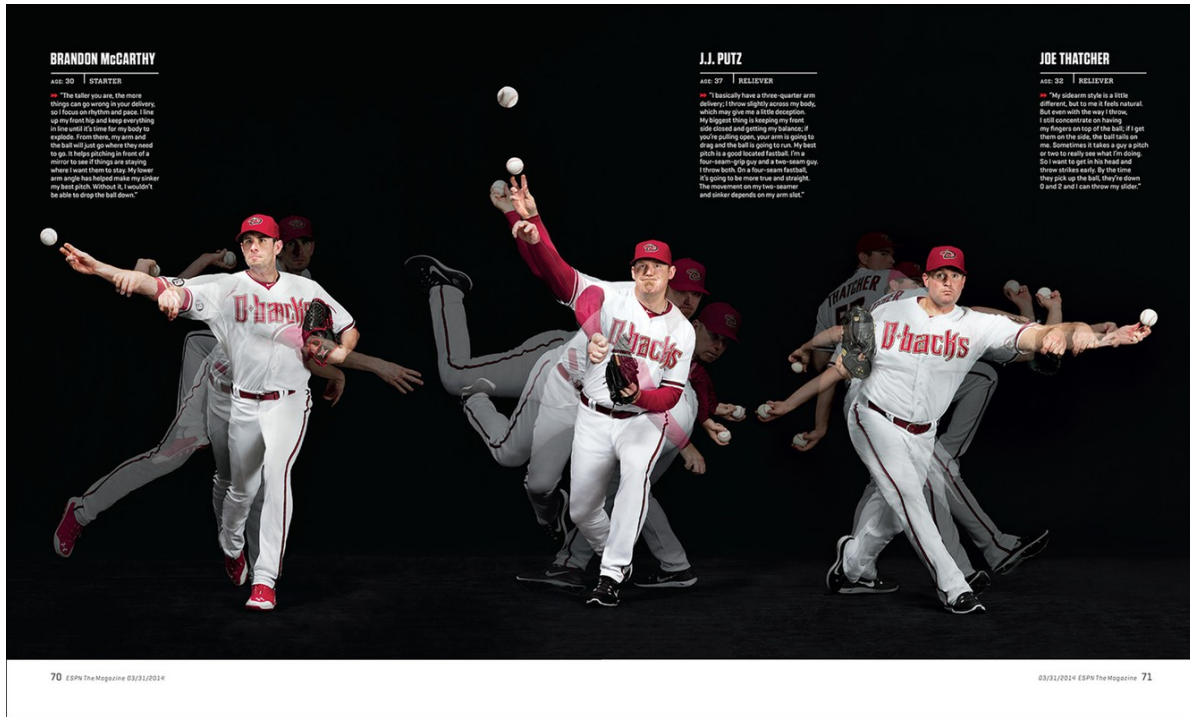
"I converted to a submarine pitcher seven years ago. I thought it would get me to the big leagues faster. At first, my mechanics were almost scraping the ground, but the strike-throwing game is different. Contrary to what people might think, the strike-throwing game is different. One of the things my coach at Colorado said was, 'This delivery is built on deception: one creeping movement on the ball.' Every time I move later, the ball doesn't rise, it just stays flat the entire time and sinks at the end. It's deceptive."

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Dylan Coulter

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**BRANDON MCCARTHY**

AGE: 30 | STARTER

"The taller you are, the more things can go wrong in your delivery, so I focus on rhythm and pace. I like to get my front leg and knee moving early so the rest of my body can follow. From there, my arm and the ball just graduate from need to go. I keep pitching in front of a mirror to see if things are straight, where I want them to stay. My lower arm angle has helped make my lower arm better. Without it, I wouldn't be able to keep the ball down."

**J.J. PUTZ**

AGE: 37 | RELIEVER

"I basically have a three-quarter arm delivery. I throw slightly across my body, which may give me a little deception. My biggest thing is keeping my front leg and foot in sync. My best pitch is a good fastball. I'm a four-seam guy and a two-seam guy. I throw both. On a four-seam fastball, it's going to be more low and straight. The movement on my two-seam and slider depends on my arm slot."

**JOE THATCHER**

AGE: 32 | RELIEVER

"My slider style is a little different, but it's not a slider. But even with the way I throw, I still concentrate on having my fingers on top of the ball. If I get them on the side, the ball can spin. Sometimes it takes a pop or two to really see what I'm doing. So I want to get the ball and throw it early. By the time they pick up the ball, they're down 0 and 2 and can throw my slider."



TO SEE THESE PITCHERS BREAKDOWN THE MOTION OF THEIR DELIVERY, GO TO [ESPN.COM/ART](http://ESPN.COM/ART)

**BRONSON ARROYO**

AGE: 37 | STARTER

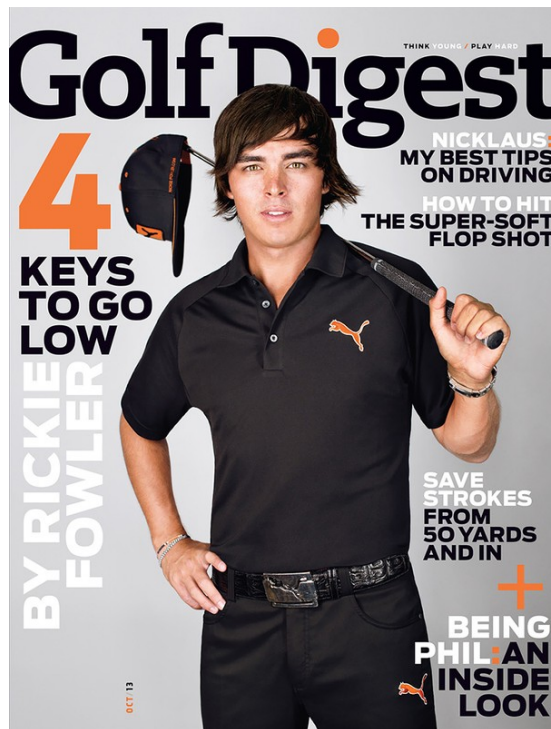
"I take a small step back and emulate a young Dwight Gooden, who had this big leg kick. I see my best throw like a pendulum to flip my leg up, so by the time my leg gets up to the knee, it's already released. There's no tension at all, and it's just falling down toward the plate. The whole thing is simple. That's quick, straight and then the trigger. My fastball is definitely the pitch that has helped me in this game. Without it, I'd be a very mediocre pitcher. The information for me was pitching and guys like Dwight Gooden, who didn't swing at anything but was swinging at my fastball."

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## BIG DATA'S BIGGEST FIGURE

Nate Silver has made number-crunching glamorous, predicting everything from elections to sports results. He talks to *Andrew Edgecliffe-Johnson* about his new career move and why he's not in the business to make friends. Portrait by *Dylan Coulter*

**N**ate Silver was down on Anthony Weiner's chances long before the coffee-mugging-democratic-candidate's campaign to become New York's mayor had to contend with the publication of a second wave of X-rated messages and private self-portraits. "I think his favorability was low enough that he had a cap on his support from the get-go," says the 35-year-old data blogger as he preches, straight-backed, on the edge of a black leather couch in his Manhattan home. From a statistician, Weiner's wife and an aide to Hillary Clinton, would have been in a landslide, he adds. The underdog, self-named candidate has been a gift to the city's tabloids but a metropolitan moonshot for the 31-year-old Silver: the man who predicted how 49 of America's 50 states would vote in 2008 and then swept the board in 2012. The one-time economics student and KPMG consultant looks every inch the nerdy nerd in glasses, brown suit trousers and pale blue shirt, but the age of "big data" has made monetary hip. Statisticians have become stars, from the authors of *Probabilities* to Billy Beane, who applied data to baseball at the Oakland A's and ended up being portrayed by Brad Pitt in *Moneyball*. Nearly a year after publishing *The Signal and the Noise*, his best-seller on how human follies make most of us poor predictors of anything from cash

PHOTOGRAPH BY DYLAN COULTER

### The Culture

## Comedy

**Funny Side Up.** Tig Notaro turned a health crisis into an iconic comedy set. Now what?

By Lily Rothman

**L**AST AUGUST, COMEDIAN LOUIS CK WITNESSED something special. "In 27 years doing this, I've seen a handful of truly great, masterful stand-up sets," he marveled to his millions of Twitter followers. "One was Tig Notaro last night at Largo." Prior to that night, Notaro, 44, had achieved success within stand-up circles with a popular podcast, a busy touring schedule and some TV writing gigs, but such praise from one of mainstream comedy's most admired talents set her apart. In the days that followed, other comedians who were at that Largo show took to the Web to tell what they had seen. Notaro was approached about crafting a book from her material. By the time she visited New York City in June, almost a year after the set that sparked the frenzy, her schedule was so full that she almost snubbed Louis CK when he called her to hang out. "I told him, 'Because of you, I'm so busy that I don't have time for you anymore.' Notaro reacts, calls with a hint of awe in her voice.

That sense of disbelief is typical for Notaro these days. The recording of that night at Largo, in Los Angeles, became an album called *Live* ("as in, 'no keep stop dying,'" in her words), which has sold more than 100,000 digital downloads. It was dubbed the best comedy album of 2012 by numerous outlets and reached No. 1 on Billboard's comedy chart. On July 16, *Live* will be available for the first time as a physical CD and LP, packaged with a second set taped in December. But while Notaro's celebrity is largely due to a single show, she's now navigating fame without that material.

Which is surely a good thing. During the half-hour set that became *Live*, Notaro recovered from a bout of true-life horrors. After a bout of pneumonia, she was nearly killed by a *C. difficile* bacterium. ("I had this bacteria eating my digestive tract. So I lost 20 pounds... How do I look?") Her mother died suddenly. She and her girlfriend broke up. She learned that she had cancer in both breasts and, the day before she went onstage, received

word that it might have spread. Her set—delivered in a more intimate style than her fans were likely expecting—was moving. It was also funny. ("The hospital sent her mother, who had died, a customer survey. How was her stay? 'Not great.'") The inventory almost ended there. Before she talked about her health issues onstage, Notaro was working on a *C. diff* story for *This American Life*—she'd had a popular bit on the radio show months earlier, and host Ira Glass asked her back—but it wasn't done. In fact, she doubted if comedy was the way to address such topics, Glass recalls. It was Louis CK, who convinced her to think again, encouraging her to release the Largo show. "I feel so lucky that Louis said, 'You should put this record out,' because I wouldn't have had that insight," she says. "I just thought that wasn't the best set I could do."

Notaro's record label, Secretly Canadian, was also unsure how the emotional album would go over with listeners. "We loved the idea in concept," says co-owner Ben Swanson. "We were like, 'It could do as well as [Notaro's other album] *Good One*, maybe a little bit more, maybe a lot less.'" *Good One* sold about 6,200 copies. By the time *Live* hits stores, it will have already sold 15 times as many copies as *Good One*. It's the rare comedy set that inspires ailing listeners—well, at least one, according to Notaro—to tell a comic that she gives them the strength to face death. And its impact goes beyond the stage: In addition to the book, she's working on a one-woman show. A documentary is being made about her remarkable year. She's even thinking of starting a foundation.

**It's a rare set that inspires ailing listeners to tell a comic that she gives them the strength to face death**

But while Notaro became famous as the comedian to whom terrible things happen, that's just not the case anymore. After a double mastectomy, she is cancer-free. (And though she says there was a time she couldn't imagine being attractive to anybody ever again, she's now dating.) Fans need a new shorthand for her—"the person who still doesn't have cancer," she suggests—and she's hoping her career doesn't change with it. "If people start to drop by the wayside, I'll realize, Oh, they wanted cancer," she says. Louis CK doesn't think that will happen. "The impact of her story is what got people interested," he says, "but I think the reason she's continuing to do well is because she's so good."

So far, the evidence bears him out. Notaro's first feature films are on the way: the comedy *Yes World*... will be in limited release Aug. 9, followed by *Walk of Shame*, with Elizabeth Banks, and Ryan Phillippe's directorial debut, *Sherlock*. There's a TV project in progress too. And she's touring, working on new material. Her new stuff can't be another *Live*—but it likely won't be another *Good One* either. There's a moment in *Live* when Notaro tells the sort of observational joke for which she had been known, about seeing a bee on the highway. The reaction, says Glass, indicates that she may not be able to go back to that old style. "It's a funny joke," he says, "but you feel like the whole audience is feeling, 'Wow, this is nothing compared to what we just saw.'"

Notaro isn't worried. Asked if she feels pressure to match *Live*'s success, she says no. Sure, lightning doesn't strike twice—but needing a new energy source is freeing. Her mission is keeping doing her thing, just as she has since the first arrival in Los Angeles 17 years ago. "I feel so lucky. I wish people could have my life sometimes. I know probably people from a distance would say, 'No, thank you. That sounds horrible.' But I do," she says. "I walk around going, 'I have a really great life.'"

PHOTOGRAPH BY DYLAN COULTER FOR TIME



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## THE SPORTING SCENE

### ODDBALL

*Is R.A. Dickey too good to be true?*

BY BEN McGRATH

R.A. Dickey, the reigning National League Cy Young Award winner, sometimes seems like a sports hero dreamed up by a bookworm. He is a knuckleball pitcher, already the most ungainly of athletic specialists, relying on physics to make jukes look foolish. He wears his brown hair chaggy in the back, and has a beard that would please a thespian. In 2011, inspired by Hemingway, he climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro—Kill, he calls it—and blogged about it for the *New York Times*. ("I take solace at least in the awareness of my own heaviness.") Every celebrity has a charitable cause, but this past winter, Dickey actually travelled to the red-light district of Mumbai in support of his anti-trafficking effort. He wrote about that for the *Daily News*. "It made me want to grab every downed person I could find and walk them through the door, into the light and possibility, beyond the vile and violent world they've grown so accustomed to." In spite of his millions, Dickey also professes to love public transportation, which he uses to visit museums in cities like Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., on the days he's not pitching. "I mean, I figure, why not, you know?" he told me, in a Tennessee drawl. "I love art. Dickey is impossible not to admire, yet one can't help but wonder about those who embrace him too readily, now that they've seen him self-deprecating with Jon Stewart on 'The Daily Show.' Are they even baseball fans, or do they just find it comforting to know that not all exceptional athletes are as boring as Derek Jeter or as vain as Alex Rodriguez?"

Conspicuous conspicuousness can be in its own form of vanity, especially in a sport with a culture as lethargic as baseball's. "I hurry up and wait," baseball people sometimes joke, about the preponderance of downtime that overabundates their daily professional lives. Instead of embracing multitasking, the games unwritten code

seems to frown on it, and makes a virtue of enduring long afternoons between stretching and shagging fly balls with little more than yardflower seeds and headphones as distractions. In a living clubhouse, at least, extracurricular activity is cause for suspicion, and, shortly before the Mets traded Dickey, last December, a column appeared in the *Post* accusing him of being a glib hood. Dickey was engaged in negotiations about his contract with the club. He was due to be paid five million dollars in 2013—good money, to be sure, but a pittance for a twenty-game winner—and his agent was seeking an extension, and a raise, to capitalize on his client's newfound status, at age thirty-eight, as one of the game's elite players. The column's author, Ken Davidoff, mocked Dickey's infatuation with his own "narrative," and accused him of being needy—"a handful"—and unlabeled by his less vocal teammates.

The precipitating event for this singer was a holiday party that the team had organized at Citi Field to benefit victims of Hurricane Sandy. Whether or not Dickey was admired by his peers, he was, after three seasons on the roster, undeniably popular among Mets fans, a lone bright spot in the grim years that followed the near bankruptcy of the franchise owing to the owner's investments with Bernie Madoff. Dickey was asked to fly from his home, in Nashville, to attend the party, playing the part of an elf. (Inevitably, a knuckleballer, even one who makes six-foot two and weighs two hundred and fifteen pounds, would be cast as an elf.) There, also inevitably, reporters asked him about the status of his contract talks, and he took the opportunity to plead his case: he was old, yes, but well within a knuckleballer's prime, and a bargain at a wage that was only slightly greater than the league average. "I feel like we're asking for even less than what is fair," Dickey said. "When people say, 'It's business, it's not personal,' that just means it's not personal for them."



"It doesn't have as much time to flutter out of the sun," Dickey says of his knuckleball. Its speed makes it more controlling.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DYLAN COULTER

THE NEW YORKER, MAY 6, 2013

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PLUS TEAM-BY-TEAM RANKINGS  
AND OUR PICK TO WIN IT ALL

MIGUEL CABRERA  
EXPLAINS HIMSELF

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TO DOMINATE LA

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## THINKING INSIDE THE BOX

BY BUSTER OLNEY

ALMOST ALL HITTERS REDUCE THE GAME TO ITS SIMPLEST PARTS. ALMOST ALL HITTERS ARE NOT JOEY VOTTO.

### UNPREDICTABILITY INDEX

No player is more unpredictable than Votto. But as any thinking hitter will tell you, it's impossible to know what he's thinking. The big asker Dan Szymborski for a new metric that shows how a player's performance is affected by unpredictable events. Votto's index is 1.03. A reliable, near-constant average 1.03 shows a completely predictable and consistent player. Votto's 1.03 shows he's a completely unpredictable and inconsistent player. That's remarkable given Votto's comeback from the injury-plagued 2012.

1.03

BASED ON THE UNPREDICTABILITY INDEX FOR TEAMS AND PLAYERS (PAGE 35)



## IN

the middle of a game last summer, Joey Votto walked over to teammate Todd Frazier in the clubhouse and always seems preoccupied. So Frazier saw an opening and took it. "Doc, since we're speaking the truth here," he said, "you're a little different. But I respect you 10 times more for coming up and talking with me."  
Votto's teammates understand the 29-year-old first baseman in the way most of us comprehend the universe: He's reliable and

omnipresent, but at the same time he's so remote and deep that they aren't entirely sure what makes him work. They are in awe of him, his poise and condition as a hitter, and how much emotional and physical effort he puts into each pitch of each at-bat of each game.

The vast majority of major league hitters prefer to simplify the endless information streams available to them—the video of opposing pitchers, the scouting reports, the statistical data—and reduce all of it to the lowest common denominator: See the ball, hit the ball. Anything more and most players would crash due to mental overload. But much like another great student of hitting, Ted Williams, Votto has an insatiable appetite for intel about his swing and pitchers, and because of it he's arguably the best pure hitter of the 19th generation. He thinks about hitting surgically and articulates each insight in a steady voice so deliberate it sounds as if it's coming from a GPS unit.

"It's all about refining the challenge," he said last summer when we talked hitting at Great American Ball Park's indoor hitting cage. "I've stopped caring about runs and RBIs. I care more about how high a percentage of productive at-bats I can have, how consistently tough and competitive I can be for the opposing pitcher. That's my goal every single time I go up there. If I drive in 500 runs, I don't care. I know a lot of old-school people wouldn't believe I'd say something like that."

He paused for a moment and continued: "If you can find a way to frame the right to be patient as a challenge in and of itself, that can be more satisfying than catching a ball the right way and shooting it through the gap or out of the ballpark. As hitters grow and get older, those are the battles that are so gratifying."

There are many ways to define how great a hitter Votto is. The easy way is to say that he's a three-time all-star and won the National League Most Valuable Player Award in 2010. For the SABR set, there's this: Using the advanced metric Adjusted OPS plus, which takes a player's OPS and adjusts for the ballpark and the league in which he plays, Votto rates as the offensive equal of Hank Aaron and Joe DiMaggio and is just



I CARE MORE HOW CONSISTENTLY TOUGH AND COMPETITIVE I CAN BE FOR THE OPPOSING PITCHER, AND THAT'S MY GOAL EVERY SINGLE TIME I GO UP THERE.

### LEADER IN WIN PROBABILITY ADDED

Over the past five years, Votto has led MLB in Win Probability Added (WPA), which measures how much the play of each MLB player has contributed to his team's wins. Last season, even with a knee injury, Votto posted the majors in WPA in U.S.

RANK	PLAYER	WPA
1	Joey Votto	28.234
2	Albert Pujols	27.242
3	David Ortiz	21.202
4	Miguel Cabrera	24.732
5	Ryan Braun	22.202

### HIGHEST ON-BASE PER BATTING ATTEMPT

Votto is an advanced hitter when examining the OPS of his batted balls in their first six appearances. (Minimum 1,000 plate appearances)

RANK	PLAYER	OPS
1	Ted Williams	1.13
2	Clayton Kershaw	1.03
3	Tom Seaver	1.02
4	Johnny Mize	1.02
5	Joey Votto	0.97

### BATMAN AHEAD OF HIS OWNERS AT BOSTON PITCHING

Since 2008 Votto has led the majors in BA with 100 percent of his batted balls landing in front of a Triple Crown winner (Miguel Cabrera) and two other World Series winners (Jose Mourinho and Albert Pujols).

.349

a tick better than Frank Robinson. But maybe the best way to describe Votto is that he's baseball's most cerebral hitter, the Einstein of the batter's box.

WHEN I ARRIVED at Reds camp this spring, I mentioned to second baseman Brandon Phillips that I came to talk to Votto about hitting. Phillips laughed. "I hope you have a lot of time," he said.

Votto's teammates know his passion for every at-bat, but not much else. The outline of his mouth is flat as if in a parable, and even if his eyes are open, those around him often can't tell whether he's looking at anything in particular. This is the Votto-Share. His teammates don't know whether he's musing about something he read or the workout ahead. But they are certain that he's thinking—a lot—because Votto doesn't really do light and breezy.

"It's a pretty quiet guy, pretty to himself," rightfielder Jay Bruce says. "He doesn't let a lot of people in, but I would consider him a friend." Bruce adds that Votto can be funny once he gets to know you. And his social distance has never been a clubhouse hindrance. Before the 2012 season, the Reds negotiated a 10-year, \$235.5 million deal with Votto's agent, Danny Luzzana—the longest contract in baseball history. "There was never any doubt about his personality and whether he would live up to his end," Cincinnati general manager Walt Jocketty says.

Jocketty knew because of moments like this: When Cuban defector Anolis Chapman joined the Reds for his first full season in 2011, it seemed wrong to Votto that he was unable to communicate with a pitcher integral to the team's future. Votto had learned Spanish as a kid and felt there were enough similarities between that language and Spanish that he could grasp it quickly. During the 2011 offseason, he worked with a Spanish tutor four or five times a week. By spring training last year, he spoke his third language well enough to challenge Chapman to a duel: He would speak Spanish better than Chapman could speak English. The pitcher accepted. Votto won't say who won, but don't bet against the guy who still sleeps with his Spanish tutor.

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MIKE HERRERA; STATISTICS: HANDBOOK BY HENNINGSEN/MLB.COM

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Lexi Thompson  
Lexi Thompson  
Lexi Thompson

**LEXI THOMPSON**  
AGE: 27 BIRTHPLACE: CORAL SPRINGS, FLA. HEIGHT: 5'10" (178 CM) WEIGHT: 125 LBS. (57 KG) COLETTING THE 2014 RINGIER LPGA CLASSIC AT AGE 19.

**THE MOMENT** Every time Lexi Thompson stepped up to a shot on the first hole at the 2013 U.S. Women's Open, something would go wrong. A misread green. A misread putt. Thompson played the hole four years past for the week—three bogys and a double. But a funny thing happened. Every day Thompson would turn it around. By the time she got to Delaney's 200-yard 17th, a double-par 4, on Sunday, a top-30 finish was within reach. Some playing is safe. Lexi decided she pulled a 3-wood. In that swing, her coach, Jim McLean, saw everything that makes Thompson golf's next big star: the chips to attempt the shot and the ability to pull it off. Thompson braced the hole and finished in the top 10. She was 13 years old.

**THE BUZZ** After successfully lobbing the LPGA to raise its age minimum to 18, Thompson played her first event as an official tour pro the weekend of her 17th birthday. Last year alone, she compiled four top-10s on the tour.

**THE QUOTE** "When she walks on the range, she has a presence," her coach says. "You could see it when she was 24. She gets your attention." —SCOTT F. HALLER

74 ESPN The Magazine 01/07/2013 photograph by DYLAN COULTER

**PLAYBOOK VISUALS**

**FOR MORE TECHNIQUE, CHECK OUT 'THE HIG GO-TO' ON PAGE 348.**

1 "I watch the ball closely to see its height and speed off my opponent's racket but I just always look to hit it."

2 "I grip my racket with my left hand. This allows me to get a lot of wrist action to create more spin and edge."

3 "With my open stance, I can go down the line efficiently, and it's more ready for an opponent to read me."

4 "I use the back of my knee to transfer my weight, and I explode through the shot with my legs."

5 "I set my arms, shoulders and lower body in a fixed position. That will help keep my legs engaged in the direction of my shot."

**TECHNIQUE**

**THANKS TO HER FEARSOME FOREHAND, SLOANE STEPHENS IS THE ONLY AMERICAN TEEN—MALE OR FEMALE—RANKED IN THE WORLD'S TOP 100.**

If you've moved up 300 spots in two years and the world's top player knows your game, you have to be doing something right. For Sloane Stephens, it's that something in her forehand: Her powerful stroke hit out of an open stance, played a big role in her upset of 23rd-ranked Sharapova in the 2013 U.S. Open. Ranked No. 78, at home No. 38, in 2012, Stephens has even impressed world No. 1 Victoria Azarenka with her style. "Sloane hits an amazing ball off the ground," says the 2012 Australian Open champ. "It's more amazing when you break it down." —JENNIFER BISHOP

34 ESPN The Magazine 08/11/2012 photograph by DYLAN COULTER

**PLAYBOOK VISUALS**

**TO SEE HIS SHOT IN ACTION, VISIT THE BOSTON RED SOX AND BOSTON SPORT SCIENCE HALL.**

1 "I don't have much time to set up my stance. So when I step into the ball, I just feel it go."

2 "I don't have much time to set up my stance. So when I step into the ball, I just feel it go."

3 "I don't have much time to set up my stance. So when I step into the ball, I just feel it go."

4 "I don't have much time to set up my stance. So when I step into the ball, I just feel it go."

5 "I don't have much time to set up my stance. So when I step into the ball, I just feel it go."

6 "I don't have much time to set up my stance. So when I step into the ball, I just feel it go."

**TECHNIQUE**

**BRINGING THE HEAT: HOW BOSTON CANNONS MIDFIELDER PAUL RABIL PROPELS A LACROSSE BALL AT RECORD SPEED.**

At the 2008 Major League Lacrosse All-Star Game, Paul Rabil was the only player who met a veteran's challenge to throw the ball out of the stadium at Mile High. "A significant work off," says Rabil. "From then on, I launched my whole body to generate power." He has just that power to good use: The 27-year-old former Johns Hopkins All-American can now take NFL NFL records, and in the 2012 NFL All-Star Game skills contest, he set a world record for fastest shot (111 mph). We had him take us through the motions—slowly. —MIGUEL SANTIAGO

44 ESPN The Magazine 05/13/2013 photograph by DYLAN COULTER

**PLAYBOOK VISUALS**

**TO SEE HIM IN ACTION, CHECK OUT 'THE HIG GO-TO' ON PAGE 348.**

1 "I'll see about the trick and see if I can do it." —NIGEL SYLVESTER

2 "I'll see about the trick and see if I can do it." —NIGEL SYLVESTER

3 "I'll see about the trick and see if I can do it." —NIGEL SYLVESTER

4 "I'll see about the trick and see if I can do it." —NIGEL SYLVESTER

5 "I'll see about the trick and see if I can do it." —NIGEL SYLVESTER

6 "I'll see about the trick and see if I can do it." —NIGEL SYLVESTER

**TECHNIQUE**

**HIGH ROLLER: HOW BMX STAR NIGEL SYLVESTER LAUNCHES—AND LANDS—HIS GO-TO SPIN MOVE.**

As a youngster in Jamaica, N.Y., Nigel Sylvester would watch VHS demos of Dave Mirra and Shaun White landing downward takeoffs and then head to the park to try them out. Many falls and weeks later, Sylvester, 25 and a seven-year pro, has come full circle and is the guy kids flock to YouTube to copy. Here's what they need to know. —ELENA BERGERON

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# Art Department



## ESPN POWER RANKINGS



**IF YOU'VE GROWN** up hoops crazed, surrounded by cornfields and bluegrass, have we got a top 25 for you. Bloomington is abuzz with a legitimate shot at Indiana's first national title in a quarter-century. Louisville's adopted son, Peyton Siva, has more than just back-to-back Final Fours in mind, and so for Kentucky's perpetually youthful Cats, the fine, snail-like pace of Lexington asks only for another banner. Yes, according to our map, the road to Atlanta will run right down I-65. Of course, it wouldn't be college basketball without a season of detours. So to help guide you, we consulted the experts: Our resident bracketologist,

Joe Lunardi, picked each team's March-worthy matchups and bravely predicted NCAA tourney seeds four months early; former Virginia Tech coach and current ESPN analyst Seth Greenberg used 'X's and O's' to show that no one is unbeatable; and Dan Hanner, an economist by day and RealGM.com contributor by night, crunched each team's next-level numbers to project offensive ratings for the players who should see the most minutes. Even after all that run, just like the landscape in Indiana and Kentucky, this is one wild-wool game field.

CAPSULED BY TAN GORDON

### 1 INDIANA

Projected Big Ten finish: 1st

**THE CANDY-STRIPPED PANTS** The Assembly Hall sellouts, the No. 1 preseason ranking—maybe these are your father's Hoosiers. Led by MVP fresh-meat God (John) III, returns all five starters from one of the nation's most potent offenses, which put up a 98.7 p.p.m. last year. Tom Chalmers will surround his seven-foot sophomore with 6'8" inside outside threat Christian Watford (12.8 p.p.m., 5.8 r.a.g.) sharpshooter Jordan Hulls (9.3 p.p.m.) and high-energy guard Vince Davis. Depth is of no concern with a trio of ESPN 100 freshmen PG Tony Favell, SF Traquan Mitchell and PF Hermon Mayes. Sure, all Indiana is. But the 3 needs work. Last season, he allowed 77 or more points on six of his 10 starts, including the 107-95 Sweet 16 shootout against eventual championship Wichita. A softer defense, these Hoosiers will never repeat the wins of the fathers.

#### JOE LUNARDI'S GAMES WITH BRACKET IMPACT

Nov. 27 vs. North Carolina  
First time the program has ever been ranked around Bloomington in O.C.

Feb. 18 @ Michigan St.  
Blossom game against the Diamond 5, Sun. Orange 12-17, Detroit 13-18  
Projected NCAA tournament seed: 1

March 15 @ Michigan  
A good first 4-part team but up to top five has to work in Ann Arbor since 18.

#### PROJECTED OFFENSIVE RATINGS

Top five minutes leaders



#### SETH GREENBERG'S GAME PLAN

**How to win the Hoosiers offense:** Attack with multi-pos. attack, defend Waterford daily in the post and switch all ball screens when he is at the 4. Match Davis' energy and keep off the glass. Run the floor with better and pressure and block all of his low-post catches. Control Favell in transition. Be aggressive against the team's half-court sets. If you can't get past the efficient offense in O.C., force Indiana to make plays outside of the paint in the halfcourt.

#### TERMS YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW FOR THIS STORY\*

\* 2013-17 uses numbers of performance and from ESPN's SportsCenter.

photograph by DYLAN COULTER

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### 3 KENTUCKY

Projected SEC finish: 1st

**HOW THAT JOHN CALIPARI** has shed the cat's-walk-thing and what to do about Kentucky down? Using the guys to the NBA is tough, but this latest version of Cat's Ark! features the nation's top recruit in 6'10" freshman No. 8 7' SF Alex Poyessis (No. 13, ESPN 100) and 6'7" SF Archie Gooden (No. 15). All projected first-round picks. With 6'10" pick-and-pop specialist Kyle Wiltjer (17.2 p.p.m. per 40 minutes) back for his sophomore season (sophomore) and '12 state transfer Ryan Harpelle (10.8 p.p.m.) and '12 state transfer Ryan Harpelle (10.8 p.p.m.) in the '12. All projected first-round picks. If you, Kentucky fans are excited about a team bench, note, in last season's 10th year, Cal gave only just 21.6% of minutes, which ranked 333rd in the nation.

#### JOE LUNARDI'S GAMES WITH BRACKET IMPACT

Nov. 9 vs. Maryland (Braxton)  
We see if the young Cats live up to their early hype

Nov. 13 vs. Duke (Johnell)  
The work brought the game back to college basketball

Feb. 12 @ Florida  
A lot of upset returns for a game after three losses in UK's '11-12

Projected NCAA tournament seed: 1

#### PROJECTED OFFENSIVE RATINGS

Top five minutes leaders

#### SETH GREENBERG'S GAME PLAN

**How to beat the Cats offense:** Put No. 8, Poyessis and Wiltjer in low spots. You have to control the tempo of the game and make each possession count, not only on the scoreboard but on the clock. Run down the Cats' athleticism and keep them from making advantage of transition. You must think about playing Kentucky like this. Drive out 12 four-minute games. And if the pressure will be on a team still trying to establish its identity.

photograph by DYLAN COULTER

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### 7 OHIO STATE

Projected Big Ten finish: 3rd

**FORGET ABOUT FALLING** Jared Sullinger's shape. How will he look in the game? He's a senior, but he's still a freshman. He's a senior, but he's still a freshman. He's a senior, but he's still a freshman. He's a senior, but he's still a freshman. He's a senior, but he's still a freshman.

#### JOE LUNARDI'S GAMES WITH BRACKET IMPACT

Nov. 8 vs. Wake Forest (Tyrone)  
A loss on the 12-1, '12 would mean Ohio's first

Dec. 22 vs. Kansas  
A second-round Four corners could eventually be worth a shot

March 5 @ Indiana  
The Hoosiers are a tough team to beat in the Big Ten

Projected NCAA tournament seed: 4

#### PROJECTED OFFENSIVE RATINGS

Top five minutes leaders

#### SETH GREENBERG'S GAME PLAN

**How to beat the Ohio offense:** You have to be stronger with the ball against the Buckeyes than against the Hoosiers. There's no physical half-court D. It's all about getting the ball out and getting the ball in. You have to be physical in the halfcourt and does a good job of pressuring the ball and getting the ball in. You have to be physical in the halfcourt and does a good job of pressuring the ball and getting the ball in. You have to be physical in the halfcourt and does a good job of pressuring the ball and getting the ball in.

photographs by DYLAN COULTER

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# Dylan Coultter

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# Art Department



**13** NORTH CAROLINA  
Projected ACC finish: 3RD

**WITH JOHN HENDSON** and Tyler Zeller in the NBA—and few experienced options left down low—UNC won't again run 18.8% of its games through the post (in Carolina high under Roy Williams). Instead, the Tar Heels will rely on a five-man backcourt rotation, including from PG Marcus Paige (No. 22, ESPN 100) if soph **JAMES MICHAEL MARSHALL** can sign his production from 23 points per possession and Denver Stockard and Leslie McDonald return healthy. This could be the nation's deepest collection of guards. It would take a repeat of last season's catastrophic injuries—McDonald, Stockard and Kendall Marshall all missed significant time—to keep this team out of the ACC title mix.

**JOE LUNARDI'S CAREER WITH BRACKET IMPACT**

<b>Nov. 27 @ Indiana</b>	<b>Dec. 29 vs. UNC</b>	<b>Feb. 23 vs. NC State</b>
Two of our season's most explosive offense appear off in Bloomington.	UNC can't let Marvett go off for 20 points and 11.8 rebounds from the 3PT line.	It'll be tough for UNC to knock the Wolfpack for the fourth straight regular season.
Projected NCAA tournament seed: 3		

**SETH GREENBERG'S GAME PLAN**

How to stop UNC's offense: Get back. Defensive transition is key because the Tar Heels run the floor as consistently and hard as any team in the country. They average 72.2 possessions per game last year. 20th most in D1. Paige has the potential to be special in Williams' fast-paced attack. So you must get the Heels into a half-court game. Limit opportunities for a superstar's scoring opportunities and be quick with McDonald on the ball. You have to bump all corners in their motion.

**PROJECTED OFFENSIVE RATINGS** Top five minutes leaders

Reggie Miller, C	115.8
Ed Maroney, C	115.8
Dante Robinson, C	91.5
Drew Davidson, F	91.5
James Michael Marshall, F	91.5

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This summer, teach a kid how to enjoy the outdoors with these great skills and projects. They'll be fun for you, too. BY T. EDWARD HICKENS, WITH PAUL BOURJALS, KIRK DEETER, DAVE HORTON, AND KEITH MCCAFFERTY
- 64. SWIM UP**  
Bass in your local waters gaining pressured and finicky? Try these ultralight-line spinning techniques to draw strikes from hogs with the worst cases of lockjaw. BY DAVE WOLAK
- 70. BEAK, BEE, SHOOT!**  
Step up to the line and try the country's fastest-growing shooting sport: 3-gun. Your summer off-season is about to get a whole lot louder, faster, and more fun. BY JEFF JOHNSON

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