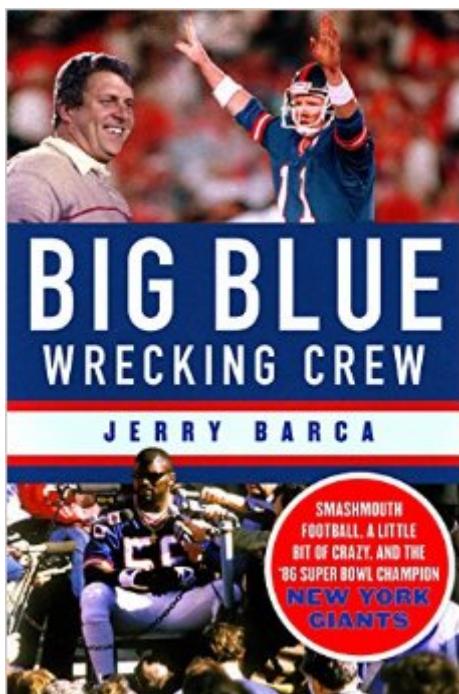


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# **Big Blue Wrecking Crew: Smashmouth Football, A Little Bit Of Crazy, And The '86 Super Bowl Champion New York Giants**



## Synopsis

A marauding linebacker who changed the game of football, a tough-as-nails quarterback, and a fiery head coach helped the 1986 New York Giants leave an indelible mark on the NFL. *Big Blue Wrecking Crew* is the no-holds-barred story of the team that created Giant Football, the pound-you-into-submission, quarterback-crushing defense, coupled with a powerful ball control offense that resulted in a 1986 Superbowl Championship—the first in team history. In a gripping narrative of the season that changed the course of a franchise, author Jerry Barca takes readers on a wild journey filled with improbable characters. Linebacker Lawrence Taylor partied with the same level of recklessness and violence he put forth when he donned his jersey. Bill Parcells motivated his team in an unrelenting Jersey Guy way, and quiet defensive genius Bill Belichick would go on to greatness. Based on years of research and hundreds of interviews, Barca chronicles the Giants'™ rise out of rock bottom to their status as a premiere NFL franchise. From behind-the-scenes personnel discussions of general manager George Young to the meeting rooms with Parcells and defensive coordinator Bill Belichick, *Big Blue Wrecking Crew* is filled with the riveting exploits of unforgettable players. It is an unfiltered look at how enormous egos came together to win a championship, playing hard and partying equally as hard along the way.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a lifelong, diehard New York Giants fan I eagerly purchased this book the day it was released. With great anticipation I devoured every page in less than 24 hours. I was not disappointed. "Big Blue Wrecking Crew" delivers the goods and serves as a wonderful trip down memory lane. I began watching the Giants as an 8 year old kid in 1976 and those Sundays with my Dad contain memories

I'll always cherish. While most of the information in the book is nothing new to diehard Giants fans the story is well told and the fresh insight from many of the players & coaches is terrific. The book covers the rise of the franchise from The Fumble through the glory of winning that first Super Bowl championship. It also provides insight on all the key players from that year. I learned a lot about Lamar Leachman, Jim Burt, and especially Bobby Johnson who began down a dark path early in his career and paid a stiff price for it. I wished the book spent a little time on the performance of Carl Banks in the 1986 playoffs. He played the greatest consecutive three games any defender has ever played in NFL football. Banks was completely unblockable to the point where John Madden was highlighting him on nearly every play. Banks was a one man gang shedding blockers, blowing up running plays, covering receivers, and chasing Jay Schroeder out of the stadium in the NFC Championship Game. He would have been SB XXI MVP if not for Simms' unbelievable performance. I would recommend this book to any Giants fan and any football fan as well. This great team gets lost in the (Super Bowl) shuffle with the '85 Bears and the '84 & '89 49er squads but gets its due here. That team is my sentimental favorite and the book brought back many memories of bonding with my Dad watching New York Giants football.

Starting with "the fumble" in 1978, the author traces individual storylines from key players, coaches and front office personnel into the making of a super bowl champion. Great combination of deep dives on the big stars along with selective looks at some of the lesser known contributors. Just enough game information to highlight each season and some fun behind the scenes stuff that was new to this long time Giants fan. This one is definitely the highlight of the early football book season

Another great book from one of my favorite writers. A must read for Giant fans and any fan of Pro Football. The 86 Giants were one of the classic, dominant teams of my youth and Jerry brings the story to life with great detail and top-notch reporting. Like most books of this kind, there are stories of wild parties and reckless behavior, but more importantly this is about an organization made up of many parts working toward a common goal. Barca takes you into the front offices during the lowest times as they rebuilt the organization piece by piece, he takes you into the war rooms drafting and signing the players, and he takes you into the locker room as the team gelled together. There is deep insight into players I never knew and icons like Simms, Parcells, and Belichick. This is highly recommended for any football fan to see an organization come together in pursuit of greatness.

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