

THE VIDEO GAME ISSUE

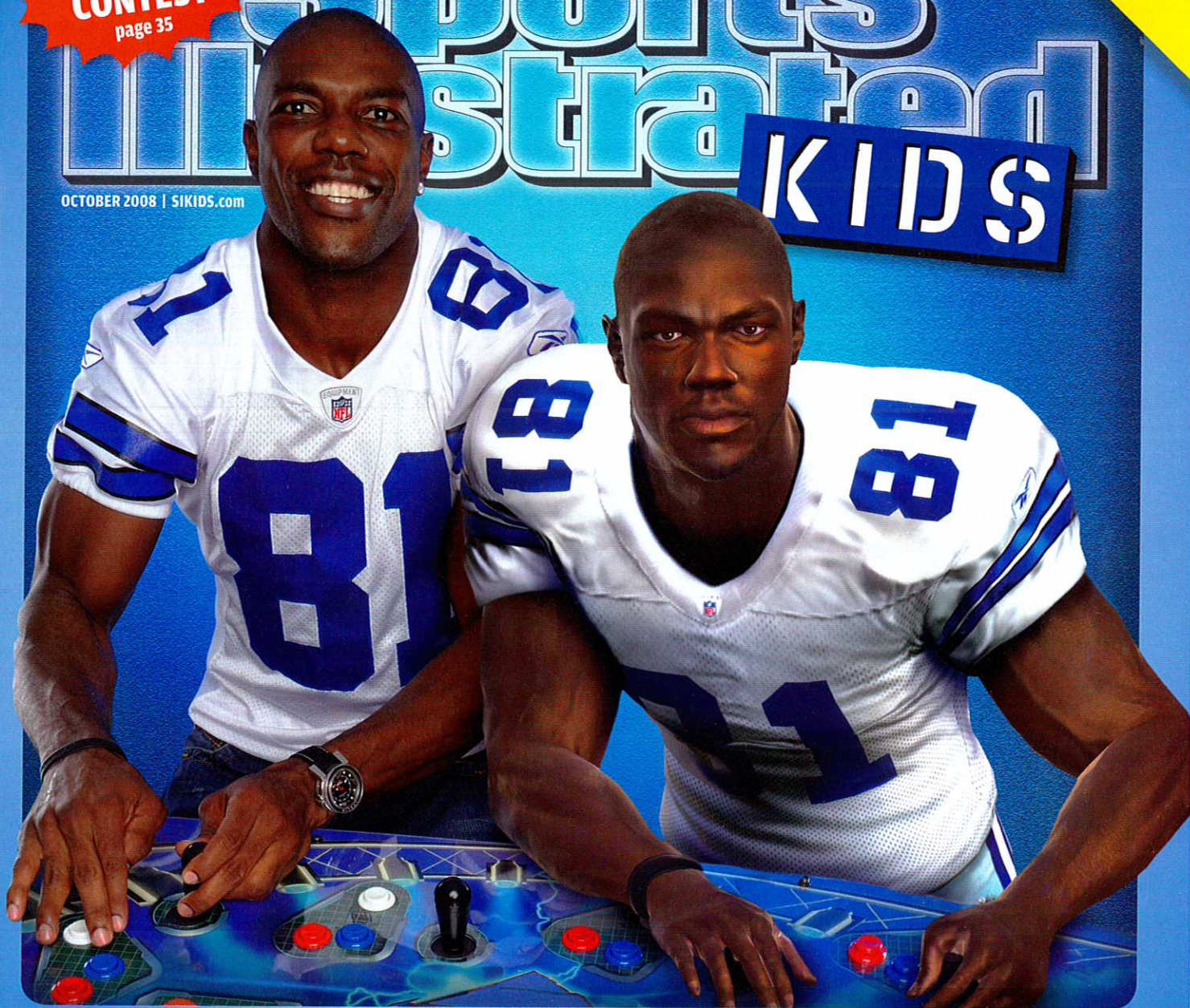
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Bonus Section
SI TEEN

**DESIGN A
VIDEO GAME
CONTEST**
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SI Sports Illustrated

KIDS

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SHOWDOWN

TERRELL OWENS vs. TERRELL OWENS

T.O. takes on his toughest competition – *himself* (from *Madden NFL 09*)

Terrell Owens

Takes On

T.O.

Terrell Owens, the man, isn't the person the public knows. He's laid-back. He's humble. He takes Game Boy tips from his eight-year-old son, Terique. Then there's T.O., the legend. He's loud. He hogs the spotlight with wild touchdown celebrations. He's the kind of player fans love — or love to hate. So which is the *real* Terrell Owens? S.I. KIDS asked "T.O." to interview "Terrell" to find out.

T.O.: Okay, Terrell. What are you really like?

TERRELL: A lot of people don't get to see the real me. I like to be around my family and friends. I'm a father, and I love kids. I'm just a passionate person.

T.O.: I buy that. But you're really competitive, too. I think we both have that in common.

TERRELL: Yes, that's true. I'm very competitive in whatever I get involved in. Besides football, I like to play basketball. I like to bowl. I play dominoes. All of those things I'm pretty good at, too.

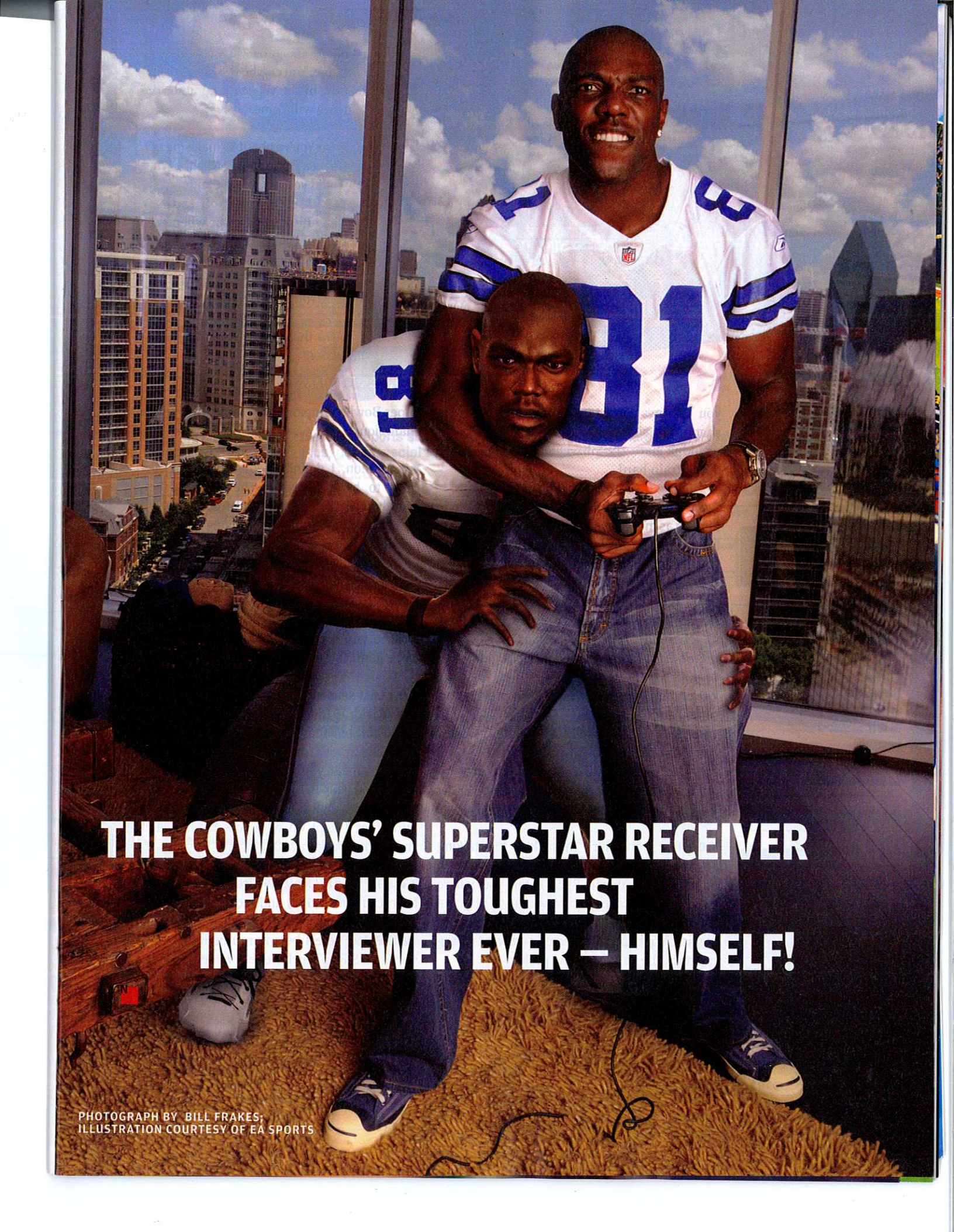
T.O.: I'm sure I could beat you at any of those things. But what drives you to be so good at your job?

TERRELL: My desire to be a better football player. I train hard. I eat right. I play basketball for my cardio. Last year, I set up my own gym at home.

T.O.: Let me brag for you, Mr. Humble. There's *no one* in better shape than you.

TERRELL: Well, I will say this: You can't find a trainer for any team I've been on who wouldn't tell

AS TOLD TO JONATHAN LESSER



**THE COWBOYS' SUPERSTAR RECEIVER
FACES HIS TOUGHEST
INTERVIEWER EVER — HIMSELF!**

PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL FRAKES;
ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF EA SPORTS

SLAM DUNK Owens celebrated 15 TD catches in '07



TERRELL'S ALL-TIME FAVORITE VIDEO GAMES



1. **TECMO BOWL**



2. **DOUBLE DRIBBLE**

3. **MADDEN NFL FOOTBALL**

4. **Wii BOWLING**



5. **Wii TENNIS**

6. **Wii BASEBALL**

7. **PAC-MAN**

8. **DIG DUG**



9. **DONKEY KONG**

10. **ASTEROIDS**

SIKIDS.COM

See our Terrell Owens photo gallery at SIKIDS.com/photos



you I always come to training camp in great shape. I'm sure a lot of it is genetics, but I wouldn't have the physique that I have if I didn't train hard.

T.O.: You are pretty. No doubt. Almost as good-looking as me. Okay, let me change the subject. I know you like video games. How long have you been playing them?

TERRELL: When I was a kid, I got the Atari 2600. I had all the games: *Pac-Man*, *Asteroids*, *Donkey Kong*. In college we played *Tecmo Bowl* on Nintendo. Then there was Sega. Now there's PlayStation and the *Madden* games.

T.O.: Admit it, man. You and I are a pretty good combination in *Madden*.

TERRELL: Oh, absolutely. All the hard work I do in real life keeps my rankings up there. It's exciting to be in the gym or at the grocery store and have kids come up and say, "I play with you on *Madden*. You're unstoppable."

T.O.: I'm pretty sure those kids are talking about me, big man.

TERRELL: Whatever. But I'll tell you where you definitely take over — when we play the Wii. That's all you! I hurt my shoulder playing Wii baseball, because *you* were trying to knock the ball out of the park.

T.O.: Passion! Say, were those real tears you cried after losing to the New York Giants in the playoffs last year?

TERRELL: I don't think you can fake those. It was a real

emotional game. It was win or go home. You can be the most macho guy, but if you care enough, the tears will come.

T.O.: You're about to make *me* cry. On second thought: Naahh! What would you say to the Giants?

TERRELL: My hat's off to them. They hit a wave right when they needed to and rode it all the way to the Super Bowl. I've always said, it's not how you start, it's how you finish.

T.O.: But we beat them twice last season!

TERRELL: They're the team to beat this year. Until the next

Super Bowl champion is crowned, they're the champions.

T.O.: C'mon, I definitely know Dallas is the team to beat *this* year. There's no doubt. Everybody in the league knows that.

TERRELL: We're looking strong at every position. Offensively, we're only getting better. We're gonna win a playoff game.

T.O.: Just one?

TERRELL: In order to win the Super Bowl, you have to win a playoff game. So that's where we're gonna start.

T.O.: Last season you and I set a Dallas team record with 15 touchdown catches.

TERRELL: Something like that. I don't keep track.

T.O.: You mean you don't have all the receiving records on *your* To Do list?

TERRELL: I really don't. The only record of mine that I kept up with was the 20-catch game I had back in 2000.

T.O.: But if we broke Jerry Rice's career records for receptions (1,549) and receiving TDs (197), we would be the best receiver of all time!

TERRELL: There'd be an argument, but until we win a Super Bowl, we're *both* behind him.

T.O.: You've got high standards. I like that. Okay, last question. What are we going to do to entertain the fans this year?

TERRELL: You never know what will happen when the season gets going. The fans will just have to wait and see. ■