

= Patriot Games (Family Guy) =

" Patriot Games " is the 20th episode of the fourth season of the animated television series Family Guy . It originally aired on Fox on January 29 , 2006 , around the time of Super Bowl XL , which fits the sports theme of the episode . In it , Peter goes to his high school reunion and meets Tom Brady . After Peter runs to the bathroom and tackles most of the people in his way , Brady hires him for the New England Patriots . Peter wins many games for the Patriots but is fired for showboating and is traded to a team in London called the Silly Nannies . Peter plays versus the Patriots and loses , and returns home . Meanwhile , Stewie becomes a bookie who attacks Brian until he pays off an outstanding debt .

" Patriot Games " was written by Mike Henry and directed by Cyndi Tang , and guest starred Jay Leno , Tom Brady , Carol Channing , Bob Costas and Troy Brown as themselves . The episode received positive reviews from critics , and finished as the 55th most @-@ watched program of the week .

= = Plot summary = =

At his high school reunion , Peter pretends to be a secret agent @-@ astronaut @-@ millionaire who wears a cowboy hat to impress his classmates , but the truth comes out when he meets Tom Brady . He subsequently gets drunk and has to make a run for the bathroom , knocking over everyone between him and the bathroom . Brady is impressed and gets Peter a spot on the New England Patriots football team as the starting center . Peter is soon fired for showboating in a game versus the Dallas Cowboys , driving on to the field then performing a massively @-@ choreographed version of the song " Shipooopi " after scoring one touchdown . He is traded to the London Silly Nannies , who apparently have no clue on how to play football . Peter decides to turn them around and challenges Brady to a game between the Silly Nannies and the Patriots . On the opening kickoff , Peter 's teammates become terrified of the Patriots rushing toward them and run away , leaving Peter to face them alone . He tries and is immediately tackled . However , Brady compliments Peter on having the nerve to stand up to them .

Meanwhile , Stewie becomes a bookie and takes a \$ 50 bet from Brian on a Celebrity Boxing match pitting Mike Tyson against Carol Channing . Brian bets on Tyson and loses . Stewie comes to collect , but Brian laughs him off and tells him he will have the money in 24 hours . After 24 hours , Stewie asks for the money owed , but Brian says he does not have it and to give him until next Friday . Stewie reveals that he is serious about settling the bet and , on two occasions , savagely beats up Brian (using such means as a golf club , shooting him in both knees with a pistol , and a flamethrower) to coerce him into paying up . Eventually , Brian agrees to pay off the bet . After Stewie 's bet is satisfied , he offers Brian an opportunity to get one " free revenge shot " to make up for all the torture he caused . Brian accepts the offer , but leaves Stewie in suspense as to when the free hit will be delivered , until Stewie is overcome with paranoia and starts beating himself up in an attempt to satisfy Brian . After biding his time and making Stewie worry about what could happen , Brian ? while the Griffins are in London , leaving the Patriots @-@ Silly Nannies game ? nonchalantly shoves Stewie in front of a moving bus .

= = Production = =

" Patriot Games " was written by Mike Henry and directed by Peter Shin , Pete Michels and Cyndi Tang . The episode aired on January 29 , 2006 , a week before Super Bowl XL . Actress Carol Channing made a guest appearance as herself in a scene in which Brian loses a \$ 50 bet on a boxing match between her and professional boxer Mike Tyson , though Tyson did not voice himself . Sportscaster Bob Costas also voiced himself in a short scene in which he interviews Peter and Brady . Much of the episode was scripted with Patriots coach Bill Belichick in mind , but Tom Brady was chosen to replace him . After numerous requests for Brady to voice himself in the episode , he eventually agreed . Comedian Jay Leno voiced himself in two short scenes that show him ,

respectively , threatening and attempting to kill Brady .

Two scenes in which Stewie graphically beats up Brian using a glass filled with orange juice , various household objects , and guns polarized people who viewed it . Several production members were offended . Cast members ? as well as MacFarlane 's mother and an animal rights advocate ? enjoyed the scene ; MacFarlane quoted his mother : " I don 't see what the problem is ? He (Brian) owed him (Stewie) money ! " , and so it was kept in the final cut . When Lois gives the finger to the camera during the interview with Peter and Brady , her hand was blurred out on Fox airings of the episode . However , reruns on Adult Swim and TBS left the gesture intact . The gesture was also left intact on the Volume Four DVD ; the production team enjoyed having this level of freedom . After the initial airing of the episode , where newscaster Tom Tucker announces a report on a fictional curse word , clemen , many viewers looked up the word on the Internet to try to find a definition . MacFarlane stated in the episode 's DVD commentary that if someone invents an obscene definition for the word , the show will have to stop using it (it has not been used since this episode) .

The bathroom scene was reused for a series of YouTube videos promoting the 2009 Primetime Emmy Award nomination of Family Guy for Outstanding Comedy Series , which feature Brian considering voting for fellow nominees The Office , Flight of the Conchords , Entourage , 30 Rock , How I Met Your Mother and Weeds . In the first five videos , Stewie beats up Brian for his different votes asking " Where 's my Emmy man ? " and forces him to vote for Family Guy . In the last video , when Brian thinks about voting for Weeds , Stewie doesn 't beat him up and instead says , " Oh , fuck this . I 'm not doing one for fucking Weeds . " referring to the declining quality of the show .

= = Cultural references = =

The episode features a 2 @. @ 5 @-@ minute rendition of the song " Shipooopi " from the 1957 musical The Music Man , conducted by Peter and performed by the Patriots and people in the stadium . The rendition was directed by Dan Povenmire , who would later go on to co @-@ create Phineas and Ferb with fellow Family Guy worker Jeff " Swampy " Marsh . The original number in The Music Man was performed by around 40 or 50 singers and around 80 other musicians , as estimated by MacFarlane . Family Guy 's rendition was recorded by an orchestra not as large as the original 's , but one of the largest the show has ever used . Another musical number , in which the London Silly Nannies sing while dancing around a maypole , was taken from the Gilbert and Sullivan production The Sorcerer . A visual joke that shows Peter 's \$ 30 @, @ 000 wax sculpture of Harriet Tubman " doing " a naked Gwyneth Paltrow originally featured the droid R2 @-@ D2 from Star Wars in place of Tubman . MacFarlane is a fan of Star Wars , and its characters are often featured in the series ' jokes . A spoof drama programme called Condensation is shown on BBC Four , which is a BBC channel dedicated to the arts , culture and factual programmes . The episode title is taken from the 1987 Tom Clancy novel Patriot Games .

= = Reception = =

" Patriot Games " was watched by 8 @. @ 45 million viewers , making it the 55th most @-@ watched program of the week . According to MacFarlane , the episode polarized viewers , who either " hated or loved the violence " . Ryan J. Budke from AOL 's TV Squad gave the episode a positive review , specifically praising the scene in which Stewie beats up Brian . Budke also said that it was " fun " and that you could tell the crew had a good time making it . Overall he considered it " not a bad episode . The scene eventually became one of the most popular videos on YouTube . " The episode ranked number 1 in IGN 's Top 10 Musical Moments in the show , for " Shipooopi , " and Brian and Stewie 's fight in the bathroom was named the 5th greatest fight scene in the show on another list .