



**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

- [Main page](#)
- [Contents](#)
- [Featured content](#)
- [Current events](#)
- [Random article](#)
- [Donate to Wikipedia](#)
- [Wikipedia store](#)

Interaction

- [Help](#)
- [About Wikipedia](#)
- [Community portal](#)
- [Recent changes](#)
- [Contact page](#)

Tools

- [What links here](#)
- [Related changes](#)
- [Upload file](#)
- [Special pages](#)

Article [Talk](#)

Read [Edit](#) [View history](#)

# Howard Cosell

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Howard William Cosell** (/koʊˈsɛl/; born **Howard William Cohen**; March 25, 1918 – April 23, 1995) was an American [sports journalist](#) who was widely known for his blustery, cocksure personality.<sup>[1]</sup> Cosell said of himself, "Arrogant, pompous, obnoxious, vain, cruel, verbose, a showoff. There's no question that I'm all of those things."<sup>[2]</sup> In its obituary for Cosell, *The New York Times* described Cosell's effect on American sports coverage: "He entered sports broadcasting in the mid-1950s, when the predominant style was unabashed adulation, [and] offered a brassy counterpoint that was first ridiculed, then copied until it became the dominant note of sports broadcasting."<sup>[3]</sup>

In 1993, *TV Guide* named Howard Cosell The All-Time Best Sportscaster in its issue celebrating 40 years of television.<sup>[4]</sup>

**Howard Cosell**



Cosell in 1975

<b>Born</b>	Howard William Cohen March 25, 1918
-------------	--

- Special pages
- Permanent link
- Page information
- Wikidata item
- Cite this page

Print/export

- Create a book
- Download as PDF
- Printable version

In other projects

- Wikimedia Commons
- Wikiquote

Languages

- Deutsch
- فارسی
- Italiano
- עברית
- Русский
- Simple English
- Suomi
- Svenska

 Edit links

In 1996, Howard Cosell was ranked #47 on *TV Guide's* 50 Greatest TV Stars of All Time.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Contents

- Early life
  - Army
  - Early career
    - Feuds
- Monday Night Football* / Later career
  - Olympics
  - "The Bronx is burning"
  - John Lennon's death
  - Sports journalism and *ABC SportsBeat* magazine show
  - Non-sports related appearances
  - Criticism of boxing
  - "Monkey Comment" criticism
  - I Never Played the Game* and reaction
- Later life and death
- Legacy
- In popular culture
- References
- Further reading
- External links

## Early life [edit]

<b>Died</b>	April 23, 1995 (aged 77) New York, New York
<b>Cause of death</b>	Heart attack
<b>Occupation</b>	Journalist, author, radio personality, columnist, sports commentator, lawyer, television personality
<b>Years active</b>	1953–1993
<b>Spouse(s)</b>	Mary Edith Abrams "Emmy" Cosell (m. <span> </span> 1944–90); her death
<b>Children</b>	2
	<b>Military career</b>
<b>Allegiance</b>	United States
<b>Service/branch</b>	United States Army
<b>Years of service</b>	1941-1945
<b>Rank</b>	Major
<b>Unit</b>	United States Army Transportation Corps
<b>Battles/wars</b>	World War II

Cosell was born in [Winston-Salem, North Carolina](#),<sup>[6]</sup> to accountant Isidore Cohen and his wife Nellie (Rosenthal) Cohen.<sup>[7][8]</sup> The grandson of a [rabbi](#),<sup>[9]</sup> he was raised in [Brooklyn, New York](#). He graduated with a [bachelor's degree](#) in English from [New York University](#), where he was a member of [Pi Lambda Phi](#) fraternity. He then earned a degree at [New York University School of Law](#), where he was a member of the law review.

Cosell's grandfather's name had been changed by immigration authorities when he entered the United States. Howard Cosell said he changed his name from "Cohen" to "Cosell" while a law student as a way to honor his father and grandfather by reverting to a version of his family's original [Polish](#) name.<sup>[10]</sup>

## Army [edit]

Cosell was admitted to the [New York State Bar](#) in 1941, but when the U.S. entered [World War II](#), Cosell entered the [United States Army Transportation Corps](#), where he was promoted to the rank of [major](#). During his time in the service, he married Mary Edith Abrams in 1944 in a judge's chambers in [Brooklyn](#). He left the service in 1945.

## Early career [edit]



This section **needs additional citations for [verification](#)**.

Please help [improve this article](#) by [adding citations to reliable sources](#). Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.

*(March 2017)* ([Learn how and when to remove this template message](#))

After the war, Cosell began practicing law in [Manhattan](#), primarily union law. Some of his clients were actors, and some were athletes, including [Willie Mays](#). Cosell's own hero in athletics was [Jackie Robinson](#), who served as a personal and professional inspiration to him in his career.

Cosell also represented the [Little League](#) of New York, when in 1953 an [ABC Radio](#) manager asked him to host a show on New York flagship [WABC](#) featuring Little League participants. The show marked the beginning of a relationship with WABC and ABC Radio that would last his entire broadcasting career.

Cosell hosted the Little League show for three years without pay, and then decided to leave the law field to become a full-time broadcaster. He approached [Robert Pauley](#), President of ABC Radio, with a proposal for a weekly show. Pauley told him the network could not afford to develop untried talent, but he would be put on the air if he would get a sponsor. To Pauley's surprise, Cosell came back with a relative's shirt company as a sponsor, and "Speaking of Sports" was born.<sup>[11]</sup>

Cosell took his "tell it like it is" approach when he teamed with the ex-[Brooklyn Dodgers](#) pitcher "Big Numba Thirteen" [Ralph Branca](#) on WABC's pre- and post-game [radio shows](#) of the [New York Mets](#) in their nascent years beginning in 1962. He pulled no punches in taking members of the hapless [expansion team](#) to task.

Otherwise on radio, Cosell did his show, *Speaking of Sports*, as well as sports reports and updates for affiliated [radio stations](#) around the country; he continued his radio duties even after he became prominent on television. Cosell then became a sports anchor at [WABC-TV](#) in New York, where he served in that role from 1961 to 1974. He expanded his commentary beyond sports to a radio show entitled *Speaking of Everything*.

Cosell rose to prominence covering boxer [Muhammad Ali](#), starting when he still fought under his [birth name](#), Cassius Clay. The two seemed to have an affinity despite their different personalities, and complemented each other in broadcasts. Cosell was one of the first sportscasters to refer to the boxer as Muhammad Ali after he changed his name and supported him when he refused to be inducted into the military. Cosell was also an outspoken supporter of Olympic sprinters [John Carlos](#)

and [Tommie Smith](#) after they raised their fists in a "black power" salute during their 1968 medal ceremony. In a time when many sports broadcasters avoided touching social, racial, or other controversial issues, and kept a certain level of collegiality towards the sports figures they commented on, Cosell did not, and indeed built a reputation around his catchphrase, "I'm just telling it like it is."

Cosell's style of reporting very much transformed [sports broadcasting](#). Whereas previous sportscasters had mostly been known for [color commentary](#) and lively [play-by-play](#), Cosell had an intellectual approach. His use of analysis and context arguably brought television sports reporting very close to the kind of in-depth reporting one expected from "hard" news reporters. At the same time, however, his distinctive [staccato](#) voice, [accent](#), [syntax](#), and [cadence](#) were a form of color commentary all their own.

Cosell earned his greatest interest from the public when he backed Ali after the boxer's championship title was stripped from him for refusing military service during the [Vietnam War](#). Cosell found vindication several years later when he was the one able to inform Ali that the [United States Supreme Court](#) had unanimously ruled in favor of Ali in [Clay v. United States](#).

Cosell called most of Ali's fights immediately before and after the boxer returned from his three-year exile in October 1970. Those fights were broadcast on taped delay usually a week after they were transmitted on closed circuit. However, Cosell was passed over for perhaps his biggest assignment of his career, the first [Ali–Joe Frazier bout](#) in March 1971. Promoter [Jerry Perenchio](#) selected actor [Burt Lancaster](#), who had never provided color commentary for a fight, to work the bout with longtime announcer [Don Dunphy](#) and former light-heavyweight champion [Archie Moore](#). Cosell attended that fight as a spectator only. He would do a voiceover of that bout, when it was shown on [ABC](#) a few days before the second [Ali-Frazier bout](#) in January 1974.

Perhaps his most famous call took place in the [fight](#) between [Joe Frazier](#) and [George Foreman](#) for

the World Heavyweight Championship in [Kingston, Jamaica](#) in 1973. When Foreman knocked Frazier to the mat the first of six times, roughly two minutes into the first round, Cosell yelled out:

“ Down Goes Frazier! Down Goes Frazier! Down Goes Frazier! ”

His call of Frazier's first trip to the mat became one of the most quoted phrases in American sports broadcasting history. Foreman beat Frazier by a TKO in the second round to win the [World Heavyweight Championship](#).

Cosell provided blow-by-blow commentary for ABC of some of boxing's biggest matches during the 1970s and the early 1980s including [Ken Norton](#)'s upset win over Ali in 1973 and Ali's defeat of [Leon Spinks](#) in 1978 recapturing the Heavyweight title for the third time. His signature [toupee](#) was unceremoniously knocked off in front of live ABC cameras when a scuffle broke out after a broadcast match between [Scott LeDoux](#) and Johnny Boudreaux. Cosell quickly retrieved his hairpiece and replaced it. During interviews in studio with Ali, the champion would tease and threaten to remove the hairpiece with Cosell playing along but never allowing it to be touched. On one of these occasions, Ali quipped, "Cosell, you're a phony, and that thing on your head comes from the tail of a pony."<sup>[12]</sup>

With typical headline generating drama, Cosell abruptly ended his broadcast association with the sport of boxing while providing coverage for ABC for the heavyweight championship bout between [Larry Holmes](#) and [Randall "Tex" Cobb](#) on November 26, 1982. Halfway through the bout and with Cobb absorbing a beating, Cosell stopped providing anything more than rudimentary comments about round number and the participants punctuated with occasional declarations of disgust during the 15 rounds. He declared shortly after the fight to a national television audience that he had broadcast his last professional boxing match.

Cosell also was an ABC commentator for the television broadcast of the second of the two famous



1973 "[Battles of the Sexes](#)" tennis matches, this one between [Bobby Riggs](#) and [Billie Jean King](#).

## **Feuds** [\[edit\]](#)

During Cosell's tenure as a sportscaster, he frequently clashed with longtime [New York Daily News](#) sports columnist [Dick Young](#), who rarely missed an opportunity to denigrate the broadcaster in print as an "ass", a "shill", or most often, "Howie the Fraud". Young would sometimes stand near Cosell and shout profanities so that the audio he was taping for his radio show would be unusable. Writing about Cosell, sportswriter [Jimmy Cannon](#) sniped, "This is a guy who changed his name, put on a toupee and tried to convince the world that he tells it like it is."<sup>[13]</sup> He further added, "If Howard Cosell were a sport, he'd be [roller derby](#)."<sup>[14]</sup>

Cosell, according to longtime [ABC](#) racecaster [Chris Economaki](#), "had an enormous and monumental ego, and may have been the most pompous man I've ever met." Cosell ripped Economaki for a miscue in an interview with [Cale Yarborough](#) for ABC "(and he) never let me forget that". At an ABC [Christmas](#) party Economaki's wife asked to be introduced to Cosell and Chris said, "'Howard, for some inexplicable reason my wife wants to meet you...'" and it (ticked) him off to no end. He really took it personally."<sup>[15]</sup>

## *Monday Night Football* / Later career [\[edit\]](#)

---

In 1970, [ABC](#) executive producer for sports [Roone Arledge](#) hired Cosell to be a [commentator](#) for *Monday Night Football*, the first time in 15 years that [American football](#) was broadcast weekly in [prime time](#). Cosell was accompanied most of the time by ex-football players [Frank Gifford](#) and "[Dandy](#)" [Don Meredith](#).

Cosell was openly contemptuous of ex-athletes appointed to prominent sportscasting roles solely on account of their playing fame. He regularly clashed on-air with Meredith, whose laid-back style was in sharp contrast to Cosell's more critical approach to the games.

The Cosell-Meredith-Gifford dynamic helped make *Monday Night Football* a success; it frequently was the number one rated program in the [Nielsen ratings](#). Cosell's inimitable style distinguished *Monday Night Football* from previous sports programming, and ushered in an era of more colorful broadcasters and 24/7 TV sports coverage.

It was during his *MNF* run that Cosell coined a phrase that came to be so identified with football that other announcers and spectators—notably [Chris Berman](#)—began to repeat it. An ordinary kickoff return began with Cosell giving commentary about a player's difficult life. It became extraordinary when he suddenly observed, "He could go all the way!" As evidenced by the thousands of websites that cite Cosell's quote, many sports commentators consider this to be one of the most famous sports quips of all time.

## **Olympics** [\[edit\]](#)

Along with *Monday Night Football*, Cosell worked the [Olympics](#) for [ABC](#). He played a key role on ABC's coverage of the [Palestinian terror](#) group [Black September's mass murder](#) of [Israeli](#) athletes in [Munich](#) at the [1972 Summer Olympics](#); providing reports directly from the [Olympic Village](#) (his image can be seen and voice heard in [Steven Spielberg's film](#) about the terror attack). In the [1976 Summer Games in Montreal](#), and the [1984 games in Los Angeles](#), Cosell was the main voice for boxing.

## **"The Bronx is burning"** [\[edit\]](#)

Cosell was widely attributed with saying the famous phrase "the Bronx is burning". Cosell is credited with saying the quote during Game 2 of the [1977 World Series](#), which took place in [Yankee Stadium](#) on October 12, 1977. For a couple of years, fires had routinely erupted in the South [Bronx](#), mostly due to low-value property owners setting their own properties ablaze for



[insurance](#) money. During the bottom of the first inning, an ABC aerial camera panned a few blocks from Yankee Stadium to a building on fire, giving the world a real-life view of the infamous Bronx fires. The scene became a defining image of New York City in the 1970s. Cosell supposedly stated, "There it is, ladies and gentlemen, *The Bronx is burning*."<sup>[16]</sup> This was later picked up by presidential candidate [Ronald Reagan](#), who then made a special trip to the Bronx, to illustrate the failures of politicians to address the issues in that part of New York City.

In 2005, author Jonathan Mahler published *Ladies and Gentlemen, The Bronx Is Burning*, a book about New York in 1977, and credited Cosell with the title quote during the aerial coverage of the fire. [ESPN](#) produced a 2007 [mini-series](#) based on the book *The Bronx Is Burning*. Cosell's comment seemed to have captured the widespread view that New York City was on the skids and in a state of decline.

The truth was discovered after Major League Baseball published a complete DVD set of all of the games of the 1977 World Series. Coverage of the fire began with [Keith Jackson](#)'s comments regarding the enormity of the blaze, while Cosell added that [President Jimmy Carter](#) had visited that area just days before. At the top of the second inning, the fire was once again shown from a helicopter-mounted camera, and Cosell commented that the [New York Fire Department](#) had a hard job to do in the Bronx as there were always numerous fires. In the bottom of the second, Cosell informed the audience that it was an abandoned building that was burning and no lives were in danger. There was no further comment on the fire, and Cosell appears to have never said "The Bronx is Burning" (at least not on camera) during Game 2.<sup>[16]</sup>

Mahler's confusion could have arisen from a 1974 documentary entitled *The Bronx Is Burning*: it is likely Mahler confused the documentary with his recollection of Cosell's comments when writing his book.<sup>[17]</sup>

**John Lennon's death** [\[edit\]](#)

*Main article: [Murder of John Lennon](#)*

On the night of December 8, 1980, during a *Monday Night Football* game between the [Miami Dolphins](#) and the [New England Patriots](#), Cosell shocked the television audience by interrupting his regular commentary duties to deliver a news bulletin of the murder of [John Lennon](#) in the midst of a live broadcast. Word had been passed to Cosell and Frank Gifford by [Roone Arledge](#), who was president of ABC's news and sports divisions at the time, near the end of the game.

Cosell was initially apprehensive about announcing Lennon's death. Off the air, Cosell conferred with Gifford and others saying "Fellas, I just don't know, I'd like your opinion. I can't see this game situation allowing for that news flash, can you?" Gifford replied, "Absolutely. I can see it." Gifford later told Cosell, "Don't hang on it. It's a tragic moment and this is going to shake up the whole world."

On air, Gifford prefaced the announcement saying, "And I don't care what's on the line, Howard, you have got to say what we know in the booth." Cosell then replied:

“ Yes, we have to say it. Remember this is just a [football](#) game, no matter who wins or loses. An unspeakable tragedy confirmed to us by [ABC News](#) in New York City: John Lennon, outside of his apartment building on the West Side of New York City, the most famous, perhaps, of all of [The Beatles](#), shot twice in the back, rushed to [Roosevelt Hospital](#), dead on arrival. Hard to go back to the game after that news flash, which in duty bound, we have to take. ”

Lennon had been shot four times and had not been pronounced dead on arrival, but the facts of the shooting were not clear at the time of the announcement. Lennon once appeared on *Monday Night Football*, during the December 9, 1974 telecast of a 23–17 [Washington Redskins](#) win over the [Los Angeles Rams](#), and was interviewed for a short breakaway segment by Cosell.

ABC had obtained this scoop as a result of the coincidence of an ABC employee, Alan Weiss, being at the same emergency room that Lennon was brought to that night.<sup>[18]</sup> This unwittingly violated a request to the hospital by Lennon's wife, [Yoko Ono](#), to delay reporting his death until she could tell their son, [Sean](#), herself. Sean, age 5, was not watching the football game (or any television) that evening as it was near midnight, and Ono was able to break the news to him.<sup>[19]</sup> NBC beat ABC to the punch, however, interrupting *The Tonight Show* just minutes before Cosell's announcement with a "breaking news" segment.<sup>[20]</sup>

## Sports journalism and *ABC SportsBeat* magazine show [\[edit\]](#)

In the fall of [1981](#), Cosell debuted a serious investigative 30-minute magazine show, *ABC SportsBeat* on ABC's weekend schedule. He made news and covered topics that were not part of general sports coverage - including the first story about drugs in professional sports (the story of former [Minnesota Viking Carl Eller's cocaine](#) use), an in-depth look at how NFL owners negotiated tax breaks and incentives for building new stadiums, and together with [Arthur Ashe](#), an investigation into apartheid and sports. Though [ratings](#) were low, Cosell and his staff earned 3 Emmy awards for excellence in reporting, and broke new ground in sports journalism.<sup>[21]</sup> At the time, *ABC SportsBeat* was the first and only regularly scheduled network program devoted solely to sports journalism.

To produce this pioneering program, Cosell recruited a number of employees from outside the ranks of those that produced games, who he felt might be too invested in the success of the athletes and leagues to look at the hard news. He brought in Michael Marley, then a sportswriter for *The Washington Post*, Lawrie Mifflin, a writer for *The New York Times*, and a 20-year old researcher who quickly rose to an associate producer, Alexis Denny. As a sophomore at [Yale University](#), Ms. Denny had been a student in a seminar that Cosell taught on the "Business of Big-Time Sports in America", and was selected by the Director of *Monday Night Football* to join their

production crew. She took her junior year off to join Cosell's staff at [ABC Headquarters](#) in New York City, and produced many segments, including in 1983 a half-hour special report previewing the [1984 Olympic Games](#) in Los Angeles.<sup>[22]</sup> Despite the games being one of ABC's biggest investments, with a record-breaking 225 million dollar rights fee at the time,<sup>[23]</sup> the 30-minute documentary-style program produced by Denny showed many sides of the questions about the viability of the Games themselves - from concerns about traffic, pollution and terrorism, to a look at how the sponsorship deals were structured.

### **Non-sports related appearances** [\[edit\]](#)

Cosell's colorful personality and distinctive voice were featured to fine comedic effect in several sports-themed episodes of the [ABC TV series \*The Odd Couple\*](#). His feuds with [New York City sportswriter Oscar Madison \(Jack Klugman\)](#) mirrored the real life feuds he had with some of New York's leading sportswriters. He also appeared in the [Woody Allen](#) films *Bananas*, *Sleeper* and (in a brief cameo) *Broadway Danny Rose*. Such was his celebrity that while he never appeared on the show, Cosell's name was frequently used as an all-purpose answer on the popular 1970s [game show \*Match Game\*](#). Cosell also had a cameo in the 1988 movie *Johnny Be Good* featuring [Robert Downey Jr.](#), [Anthony Michael Hall](#) and [Uma Thurman](#). His particular speech pattern was also imitated by one of the characters in the film *Better Off Dead*.

Cosell's national fame was further boosted in Fall 1975 when *Saturday Night Live with Howard Cosell* aired on Saturday evenings on [ABC](#). This was an hour-long [variety show](#), broadcast live from the [Ed Sullivan Theater](#) in [New York City](#) and hosted by Cosell, which is not to be confused with the NBC series *Saturday Night Live* (which coincidentally also premiered in 1975 under its original title of *NBC's Saturday Night*, to avoid confusion with Cosell's show). Despite bringing a young comedian, [Billy Crystal](#), to national prominence and for showcasing the American TV debut of the [Bay City Rollers](#) (who later had a hit song by the name of "[Saturday Night](#)"), Cosell's show

was canceled after three months. Cosell later hosted the 1984-1985 [season finale](#) of *Saturday Night Live*.

Cosell was the announcer of [Frank Sinatra's](#) 1975 ABC television special *Sinatra – The Main Event*.<sup>[24]</sup>

Cosell appeared alongside Muhammad Ali, Frank Sinatra, Richie Havens, and others on a 1976 spoken word novelty record, *The Adventures of Ali and His Gang vs. Mr. Tooth Decay*.<sup>[25]</sup>

Beginning in 1976, Cosell hosted a series of specials known as *Battle of the Network Stars*. The two-hour specials pitted stars from each of the three broadcast networks against each other in various physical and mental competitions. Cosell hosted all but one of the nineteen specials, including the final one airing in 1988.

## **Criticism of boxing** [\[edit\]](#)

Cosell denounced professional [boxing](#) in a November 26, 1982, bout between [Larry Holmes](#) and a clearly outmatched [Randall "Tex" Cobb](#) at the [Astrodome](#). The fight was held two weeks after the fatal fight between [Ray Mancini](#) and [Duk Koo Kim](#), and Cosell famously asked the [rhetorical question](#), "I wonder if that referee [Steve Crosson] understands that he is constructing an advertisement for the abolition of the very sport that he's a part of?"<sup>[26]</sup> Cosell, horrified over the brutality of the one-sided fight, said that if the referee did not stop the fight he would never broadcast a professional fight again. Cosell's outrage and his abandonment of boxing coincided with the end of Muhammad Ali's era in the sport, an era in which Cosell was an insider and confidant of the three-time heavyweight champion. His flamboyant abandonment of the sport that made him a household name was seen by many scribes as opportunistic as his influence and access within the sport had sharply declined with Ali's retirement in 1981.<sup>[*citation needed*]</sup>

Major boxing reforms were later implemented, the most important of which allows referees to stop

clearly one-sided fights early in order to protect the health of the fighters. In amateur boxing, one-sided fights would be automatically stopped if one fighter had a score considerably higher than his opponent. Hitherto, only the ring physician had the authority to halt a bout. Another change was the reduction of championship bouts from 15 rounds to 12 rounds by the [WBC](#). (The fatal blows to Kim were in Rounds 13 and 14.) The [WBA](#) quickly followed suit, and the [IBF](#) did so in 1988. Cosell did not cut off ties with the [United States Amateur Boxing Federation](#). His 1984 broadcasts of the Olympic Trials, box-offs, and the [1984 Summer Olympics boxing tournament](#) were his last professional calls of the sport.

### **"Monkey Comment" criticism** [\[edit\]](#)

On September 5, 1983, Cosell announced a Monday night game between the [Washington Redskins](#) and the [Dallas Cowboys](#). During the broadcast, Cosell stated in reference to Redskins wide receiver [Alvin Garrett](#) after his sixth reception of the evening, that Washington Coach [Joe Gibbs](#), "wanted that kid, and that little monkey gets loose doesn't he". The comment brought immediate criticism for being racist, specifically by then-president of the [Southern Christian Leadership Conference](#) Rev. [Joseph Lowery](#), who demanded Cosell apologize. Cosell declined, stating first that did not recall making the statement and then that it was an appellation he had previously used for athletes of all races and a term of endearment he employed with his grandchildren. Furthermore, Cosell proclaimed that his civil rights stands for the rights of black athletes spoke for themselves.

### ***I Never Played the Game* and reaction** [\[edit\]](#)

After Cosell's memoir *I Never Played the Game*, which among other things chronicled his disenchantment with fellow ABC commentators, was published in September 1985, Cosell was taken off scheduled announcing duties for that year's [World Series](#) and was dismissed by [ABC](#)



[television](#) shortly thereafter. Cosell's book was seen by many as a bitter "hate rant" against those who had offended him. [TV Guide](#) published excerpts of his memoirs and reported that they had never had as many viewers' responses and they were overwhelmingly negative towards Cosell. The magazine reported some of the "printable" ones saying things such as "[Will Rogers](#) never met Howard Cosell".

In *I Never Played the Game*, Cosell popularized the word "jockocracy" originally coined by author [Robert Lipsyte](#), describing how athletes were given announcing jobs that they had not earned. Coincidentally, he was replaced for the 1985 World Series broadcast by [Tim McCarver](#), himself a former baseball player, to join [Al Michaels](#) and [Jim Palmer](#). (The title of the book is a [double entendre](#), meaning that Cosell never actually played the game of football or any other professional sport he broadcast as well as implying that he never played the "game" of corporate politics.) Cosell is notably absent from the [Pro Football Hall of Fame](#).<sup>[27]</sup>

In his later years, Cosell briefly hosted his own television [talk show](#), *Speaking of Everything*, authored his last book (*What's Wrong With Sports*), and continued to appear on radio and television, becoming more outspoken about his criticisms of sports in general.

## Later life and death [\[edit\]](#)

---

In 1993, Cosell was inducted into the [International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame](#).<sup>[28]</sup> A year later, in 1994, he was inducted into the [Television Hall of Fame](#). He was also the 1995 recipient of the [Arthur Ashe Courage Award](#). After his wife of 46 years, Mary Edith Abrams Cosell (known as "Emmy") died from a massive heart attack in 1990, Cosell largely withdrew from the public eye and his health began failing. He was diagnosed with [lung cancer](#) in 1991 and had surgery to remove a cancerous [tumor](#) in his chest. He also had several minor [strokes](#), and was diagnosed with [heart](#) and [kidney disease](#) and [Parkinson's](#).

Cosell died at [Hospital for Joint Diseases](#) in Manhattan on April 23, 1995, aged 77, of a cardiac embolism.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Legacy <sup>[edit]</sup>

---

He was placed as number one on [David J. Halberstam](#)'s list of *Top 50 All Time Network Television Sports Announcers on Yahoo! Sports*. The sports complex at the [Hebrew University](#) in [Jerusalem](#) is named for Howard and Emmy Cosell. In 2010, Cosell was posthumously inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame.<sup>[29]</sup>

Cosell's nephew, [Greg Cosell](#), is a longtime employee at [NFL Films](#).

## In popular culture <sup>[edit]</sup>

---

[The Muppets](#) had a recurring character, Louis Kazagger, a plaid-clothed sportscaster with punctuated nasal inflection, that parodied Cosell.

The band [Ben Folds Five](#) have a song titled "[Boxing](#)," which was written as a fictional monologue from [Muhammad Ali](#) to Howard Cosell during the decline of his boxing career.

In [Michael Mann](#)'s 2001 film *Ali*, Cosell is played by [Jon Voight](#), who earned an [Academy Award](#) nomination for his performance.<sup>[30]</sup>

In the 2002 television film *Monday Night Mayhem*, Cosell was played by [John Turturro](#).<sup>[31]</sup>

[Jimmy Spicer](#)'s 1980 rap single "The Adventures of Super Rhyme" describes a meeting with the "KBC" broadcaster "Coward Hosell".

In the 1985 film *Better Off Dead*, one of the two Asian-American teenage brothers who regularly challenged [John Cusack](#)'s character to a street race is said to have learned English from listening to Cosell.<sup>[32]</sup>

On April 4, 1981, during the beginning of the episode "Drugs" (Season 3 episode 11) of the teen sketch comedy show on Nickelodeon *You Can't Do That on Television*," the characters made several references to Howard Cosell. One of the quotes was from [Christine McGlade](#) who said, "You know, I bet when Howard Cosell was a kid, he spent all the time, when he should have been doing his homework, doing his homework. Instead of reading sports magazines like every other normal kid."




Match Game - used as a common joke among the celebrities

## References [\[edit\]](#)

---

- <sup>^</sup> <sup>**a**</sup> <sup>**b**</sup> "Howard Cosell, Outspoken Sportscaster On Television and Radio, Is Dead at 77" [↗](#). *The New York Times*. April 24, 1995. Retrieved 2014-12-23. "Howard Cosell, who delighted and infuriated listeners during a 30-year career as the nation's best-known and most outspoken sports broadcaster, died yesterday at the Hospital for Joint Diseases in Manhattan. He was 77. ..."
- <sup>^</sup> "NFL Top 10 Game Voices" [↗](#).
- <sup>^</sup> "The Man in the Yellow Blazer" [↗](#). *The New York Times*.
- <sup>^</sup> [TV Guide](#). 1993. p. 62.
- <sup>^</sup> "Special Collectors' Issue: 50 Greatest TV Stars of All Time". *TV Guide* (December 14–20). 1996.
- <sup>^</sup> Robert McG. Thomas Jr. (April 24, 1995). "Howard Cosell, Outspoken Sportscaster On Television and Radio, Is Dead at 77" [↗](#). *The New York Times*.
- <sup>^</sup> "Howard Cosell Biography (1920-)" [↗](#). *filmreference.com*.
- <sup>^</sup> "Cosell, Howard - Dictionary definition of Cosell, Howard - Encyclopedia.com: FREE online dictionary" [↗](#). *www.encyclopedia.com*.
- <sup>^</sup> Leonard Shapiro. April 24, 1995. [Howard Cosell Dies at 77](#) [↗](#). *The Washington Post*. Retrieved: May 18, 2013

10. ^ Bloom, John (2010). *There You Have it: The Life, Legacy, and Legend of Howard Cosell* . Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press. p. 67. ISBN 978-1-55849-837-2.
11. ^ "Robert Pauley, Former Head of ABC Radio, Dies at 85", *The New York Times*, May 14, 2009.
12. ^ "Ali and Cosell, Irresistible Enigmas" .
13. ^ William Plummer. "The Mouth That Roared" . *People*.
14. ^ Nack, William. "Telling It Like It Is", *Sports Illustrated*, May 1, 1995 .
15. ^ Economaki, Chris (with Dave Argabright) (2006) *LET 'EM ALL GO! The Story of Auto Racing by the Man Who Was There* (Fisher, IN: Books By Dave Argabright), p. 191. ISBN 0-9719639-3-2.
16. ^ <sup>a</sup> <sup>b</sup> Flood, Joe (May 16, 2010). "Why the Bronx Burned" . *New York Post*.
17. ^ [http://bestblog.mlblogs.com/archives/2007/08/did\\_howard\\_cose\\_1.html](http://bestblog.mlblogs.com/archives/2007/08/did_howard_cose_1.html) 
18. ^ Toni Monkovic (December 6, 2010). "Behind Cosell's Announcement of Lennon's Death" . The Fifth Down: *The New York Times* N.F.L. Blog. *The New York Times*.
19. ^ *ESPN Outside the Lines First Report*, December 8, 2010
20. ^ "NBC TV bulletin - John Lennon is dead" . Retrieved September 29, 2013.
21. ^ "Cosell, Howard - 1993 Hall of Fame Inductee" . *American Sportscasters Online*. Retrieved 6 August 2015.
22. ^ Ribowsky, Mark (Nov 14, 2011). *Howard Cosell: The Man, The Myth and the Transformation of American Sports*. W.W.Horton.
23. ^ Nelson, Murray R. (2013). *American Sports: A History of Icons, Idols, and Ideas* . ABC-CLIO. p. 947. Retrieved 6 August 2015.
24. ^ Vincent Terrace (19 June 2013). *Television Specials: 5,336 Entertainment Programs, 1936-2012, 2d ed.*  McFarland. pp. 157–. ISBN 978-1-4766-1240-9.
25. ^ Jason Heller (June 6, 2016). "Remembering Muhammad Ali's Trippy, Anti-Cavity Kids' Record" . *Rolling Stone*. Retrieved 24 July 2016.
26. ^ "Larry Holmes vs Tex Cobb - 4/4" . Retrieved September 29, 2013.
27. ^ Billson, Marky (August 4, 2010). "As strange as it sounds, Howard Cosell has never won Rozelle award" . *Sports Illustrated*.

28. <sup>^</sup> ["Howard Cosell"](#) . *wwnorton.com*.
29. <sup>^</sup> ["Howard Cosell"](#) . *ibhof.com*.
30. <sup>^</sup> reinout\_vanschie (December 25, 2001). ["Ali \(2001\)"](#) . *IMDb*.
31. <sup>^</sup> imhetzer88 (January 14, 2002). ["Monday Night Mayhem \(TV Movie 2002\)"](#) . *IMDb*.
32. <sup>^</sup> pleiades10 (October 11, 1985). ["Better Off Dead... \(1985\)"](#) . *IMDb*.

## Further reading [\[edit\]](#)




---

- Bloom, John. (2010). *There You Have It: The Life, Legacy, and Legend of Howard Cosell*. Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press. [ISBN 978-1-55849-836-5](#).
- Cosell, Howard. (1973). *Cosell*. Chicago: Playboy Press. [ISBN 1-199-31000-X](#).
- Cosell, Howard. (1974). *Like It Is*. Chicago: Playboy Press. [ISBN 0-872-23414-2](#).
- Cosell, Howard, with Peter Bonventre. (1985). *I Never Played the Game*. New York: William Morrow & Co. [ISBN 0-688-04481-6](#).
- Cosell, Howard, with Shelby Whitfield. (1991). *What's Wrong with Sports*. New York: Simon & Schuster. [ISBN 0-671-70840-6](#).
- Gunther, Mark, and Bill Carter. (1988). *Monday Night Mayhem: The Inside Story of ABC's Monday Night Football*. New York: Beech Tree Books. [ISBN 0-688-07553-3](#).
- Hyatt, Wesley. (2007). *Kicking Off the Week: A History of Monday Night Football on ABC Television, 1970-2005*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co. [ISBN 0-786-42969-0](#).
- Ribowsky, Mark. (2011). *Howard Cosell: The Man, the Myth, and the Transformation of American Sports*. New York: W. W. Norton & Co. [ISBN 0-393-08017-X](#).

## External links [\[edit\]](#)

---

[Howard Cosell Disc at 77.5](#)

- [Howard Cosell Dies at 77](#) 
- [Howard Cosell](#)  on [IMDb](#) Retrieved on 2008-01-25
- [Pete Rozelle Radio-TV Award - Sports Illustrated Article](#) 



Wikiquote has quotations related to: *[Howard Cosell](#)*

V · T · E · <i>Major League Baseball on ABC</i>	
<b>Related programs</b>	<i>Major League Baseball Game of the Week</i> (1953–1954; 1960; 1965) · <i>Monday Night Baseball</i> (1976–1988) · <i>Thursday Night Baseball</i> (1989) · <i>Baseball Night in America</i> (1994–1995) · <i>ESPN Major League Baseball (broadcasters)</i> ·
	<b>Non-MLB programs</b> <i>Little League World Series</i> (broadcasters) · <i>Wide World of Sports</i> ·
<b>Related articles</b>	The Baseball Network · World Series television ratings · Television contracts · List of events on <i>Wide World of Sports</i> ·
	<b>1953 season</b> Chicago White Sox · Cleveland Indians · Philadelphia Athletics ·
	<b>ABC's owned &amp; operated TV stations</b> WABC 7 (Brooklyn Dodgers, August 17, 1953-October 1, 1953) · WLS 7 (Chicago Cubs, 2015-present) · KTRK 13 (Houston Astros, 1962-1972) · WFIL 6 (later WPVI) (Philadelphia Athletics, 1949-1954; Philadelphia Phillies, 1959-1970) ·
	<b>Sponsors</b> Falstaff Brewing Corporation · L&M ·
<b>Commentators</b>	The Baseball Network · All-Star Game · ALCS · ALDS · NLCS · NLDS · World Series ·
	Gary Bender · Jack Buck · Ken Coleman · Dizzy Dean · Bob DeLaney · Don Drysdale · Curt Gowdy · Merle Harmon · Keith Jackson · George Kell · Gene Kirby · Jim Lampley · Al Michaels · Brent Musburger · Bob Prince ·



Key figures		Chris Schenkel · Gary Thorne · Jack Whitaker · Steve Zabriskie ·
	Color commentators	Johnny Bench · Buddy Blattner · Lou Brock · Steve Busby · Norm Cash · <b>Howard Cosell</b> · Don Drysdale · Leo Durocher · Carl Erskine · Tommy Hutton · Jim Kaat · Reggie Jackson · Bob Gibson · Tommy Henrich · Tim McCarver · Joe Morgan · Jim Palmer · Jackie Robinson · Steve Stone · Bob Uecker · Earl Weaver · Bill White · Warner Wolf ·
	Guest commentators	Johnny Bench · Rick Dempsey · Mark Fidrych · Tommy John · Tommy Lasorda · Billy Martin · Ross Porter · Tom Seaver ·
	Hosts & field reporters	Jack Arute · Tim Brant · Dave Diles · Corey McPherrin · John Saunders · Al Trautwig · Lesley Visser ·
	"Inside Pitch" scouting analysts	Tony Gwynn · Paul Molitor · Steve Sax · Mike Schmidt ·
Lore		Roger Maris' 61 home run season (1961) · "The Bird" (1976) · "The Double" (1995) ·
	Tiebreaker games	1959 National League playoff series · 1978 AL East Playoff · 1980 NL West Playoff ·
	LCS games	Chris Chambliss' Walk-Off Home Run (1976) · "Garvey Home Run" (1984) · "Gatorade Glove Play" (1984) · "You're Looking at One for the Ages Here" (1986) ·
	World Series games	"Ladies and Gentlemen, the Bronx Is Burning" (1977) · "Mr. October" (1977) · "The Call" (1985) · 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake ·
World Series		1948 · 1949 · 1950 · 1977 · 1979 · 1981 · 1983 · 1985 · 1987 · 1989 · 1994 ( <i>cancelled</i> ) · 1995 (Games 1, 4-5) ·

<b>AL Championship Series</b>	<a href="#">1976</a> · <a href="#">1978</a> · <a href="#">1980</a> · <a href="#">1982</a> · <a href="#">1984</a> · <a href="#">1986</a> · <a href="#">1988</a> · <a href="#">1995</a> (Games 1–2) ·
<b>NL Championship Series</b>	<a href="#">1976</a> · <a href="#">1978</a> · <a href="#">1980</a> · <a href="#">1982</a> · <a href="#">1984</a> · <a href="#">1986</a> · <a href="#">1988</a> · <a href="#">1995</a> (Games 1–2) ·
<b>AL Division Series</b>	<a href="#">1981</a> · <a href="#">1995</a> · <a href="#">2002</a> (ABC Family, coverage produced by <i>ESPN</i> ) ·
<b>NL Division Series</b>	<a href="#">1995</a> · <a href="#">2002</a> (ABC Family, coverage produced by <i>ESPN</i> ) ·
<b>All-Star Game</b>	<a href="#">1976</a> · <a href="#">1978</a> · <a href="#">1980</a> · <a href="#">1982</a> · <a href="#">1984</a> · <a href="#">1986</a> · <a href="#">1988</a> · <a href="#">1995</a> ·
<b>Music</b>	"Hello Old Friend" · "Lights" ·
<b>Seasons</b>	<b>Saturday <i>Game of the Week</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">1953</a> · <a href="#">1954</a> · <a href="#">1959</a> (NL tie-breaker series) · <a href="#">1960</a> · <a href="#">1961</a> (prime time games) · <a href="#">1965</a> ·</li> </ul>
	<b><i>Monday Night Baseball</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">1976</a> · <a href="#">1977</a> · <a href="#">1978</a> · <a href="#">1979</a> · <a href="#">1980</a> · <a href="#">1981</a> · <a href="#">1982</a> · <a href="#">1983</a> · <a href="#">1984</a> · <a href="#">1985</a> · <a href="#">1986</a> · <a href="#">1987</a> · <a href="#">1988</a> · <a href="#">1989</a> (now on Thursday nights) ·</li> </ul>
	<b>The Baseball Network</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">1994</a> · <a href="#">1995</a> ·</li> </ul>

<b>V · T · E ·</b>		<b><i>NBA on ABC</i></b>	
<b>Related programs</b>	<i>NBA Countdown</i> · <i>NBA Access with Ahmad Rashad</i> · <i>NBA Inside Stuff</i> · <i>NBA Saturday Primetime</i> · <i>NBA Sunday Showcase</i> ·		
	<b><i>NBA on ESPN</i></b>	Radio · <i>NBA Wednesday</i> · <i>NBA Friday</i> · <i>WNBA on ESPN</i> ·	
	<b>NBA Drafts</b>	<a href="#">2003</a> · <a href="#">2004</a> · <a href="#">2005</a> · <a href="#">2006</a> · <a href="#">2007</a> · <a href="#">2008</a> · <a href="#">2009</a> · <a href="#">2010</a> · <a href="#">2011</a> · <a href="#">2012</a> · <a href="#">2013</a> · <a href="#">2014</a> · <a href="#">2015</a> · <a href="#">2016</a> ·	
	<b>Non-NBA programs</b>	<i>ESPN College Basketball on ABC</i> · <i>Olympics on ABC</i> ·	
<b>Related articles</b>	<a href="#">Ratings (NBA Finals)</a> · <a href="#">Game history</a> ·		
	<a href="#">All-Star Game</a> · <a href="#">ESPN</a> · <a href="#">NBA Finals</a> · <a href="#">WNBA Finals</a> ·		
	<b>Play-by-play</b>	<a href="#">Mike Breen</a> · <a href="#">Jim Durham</a> · <a href="#">Bill Flemming</a> · <a href="#">Chet Forte</a> · <a href="#">Jim Gordon</a> · <a href="#">Curt Gowdy</a> · <a href="#">Chuck Howard</a> · <a href="#">Keith Jackson</a> · <a href="#">Mark Jones</a> · <a href="#">Jim McKay</a> · <a href="#">Al Michaels</a> · <a href="#">Brent Musburger</a> · <a href="#">Brad Nessler</a> · <a href="#">Dave Pasch</a> · <a href="#">John Saunders</a> · <a href="#">Chris Schenkel</a> ·	

<b>Key figures</b>	<b>Color commentators</b>	Greg Anthony · Hubie Brown · Bob Cousy · Sean Elliott · Len Elmore · Tim Legler · Mark Jackson · Steve Jones · Johnny Kerr · Dan Majerle · Jack Ramsay · Doc Rivers · Bill Russell · Tom Tolbert · Jack Twyman · Jeff Van Gundy · Bill Walton · Jerry West ·
	<b>Sideline reporters</b>	David Aldridge · Doris Burke · <b>Howard Cosell</b> · Heather Cox · Dave Diles · Israel Gutierrez · Mark Jones · Sal Masekela · Tom Rinaldi · Craig Sager · Lisa Salters · Michele Tafoya · Bob Wolff ·
	<b>Studio hosts</b>	Michelle Beadle · Dan Patrick · Stuart Scott · Sage Steele · Hannah Storm · Mike Tirico · Michael Wilbon ·
	<b>Studio analysts</b>	Jon Barry · Chauncey Billups · Chris Broussard · Doug Collins · Steve Javie · Avery Johnson · Magic Johnson · George Karl · Scottie Pippen · Jalen Rose · Byron Scott · Bill Simmons ·
	<b>ABC Radio announcers</b>	Marv Albert · Dave Barnett · Chick Hearn · Rod Hundley · Steve Jones · Fred Manfra · Earl Monroe · Johnny Most · Oscar Robertson · Dick Vitale ·
<b>NBA Finals</b>		1965 (Games 1, 5) · 1966 (Games 1, 5) · 1967 (Games 2, 5) · 1968 (Games 1, 4) · 1969 (Games 3, 5-7) · 1970 · 1971 · 1972 · 1973 · 2003 · 2004 · 2005 · 2006 · 2007 · 2008 · 2009 · 2010 · 2011 · 2012 · 2013 · 2014 · 2015 · 2016 · 2017 ·
	<b>ABC Radio's coverage</b>	1985 · 1986 · 1987 · 1988 · 1989 · 1990 ·
	<b>WNBA Finals</b>	2003 (Game 2 on ABC) · 2004 · 2005 (Game 3 on ABC) · 2006 · 2007 · 2008 · 2009 · 2010 (Game 1 on ABC) · 2011 · 2012 · 2013 · 2014 (Game 1 on ABC) · 2015 (Game 1 on ABC) · 2016 (Game 1 on ABC) · 2017 (Game 1 on ABC) ·
<b>All-Star Game</b>		1968 · 1969 · 1970 · 1971 · 1972 · 1973 ·
	<b>ABC Radio's coverage</b>	1985 · 1986 · 1987 · 1988 · 1989 · 1990 ·
		"Let's Get It Started" (2004) · "ABC" (2004) · "Lose My Breath" (2005) · "This Is How a Heart Breaks" (2005) · "Runnin' Down a Dream" (2006) · "Right Now" (2007) ·

<b>Music</b>	"It Ends Tonight" (2007) · "Nine Lives" (2007) · "Get On Your Boots" (2009) · "All I Want for Christmas Is You" (2009) · "Rip This Joint" (2010) · "Oh Santa!" (2010) · "Black Dog" (2011) · "Timber" (2014) · "Champion" (2016) · "24k Magic" (2017) · "HUMBLE." (2017) · "DNA." (2017) ·
<b>Lore</b>	<i>"I think we see Willis coming out!"</i> · "The Block" · Christmas Day ·
	<b>Rivalries</b> · Bryant–O'Neal · Lakers–Pistons · Celtics–Lakers · Cavaliers–Warriors ·
	<b>ESPN lore</b> · Pacers–Pistons brawl ·

V · T · E ·		<b><i>Thoroughbred Racing on ABC</i></b>
<b>Related programs</b>	<i>Thoroughbred Racing on ESPN</i> (commentators) · <i>Wide World of Sports</i> ·	
<b>Related articles</b>	United States Triple Crown of Thoroughbred Racing on television (Sponsorship and broadcasting · Broadcasting contracts) · Triple Crown Productions ·	
<b>Commentators</b>	Belmont Stakes · Breeders' Cup · Kentucky Derby · Preakness Stakes ·	
<b>Key figures</b>	Chic Anderson · Dave Johnson · Mike Battaglia · Marshall Cassidy · Tom Durkin · Trevor Denman ·	
	<b>Hosts</b>	Chris Fowler · Terry Gannon · Kenny Mayne · Jim McKay · Al Michaels · Brent Musburger · Chris Schenkel · Joe Tessitore ·
	<b>Analysts</b>	Eddie Arcaro · Jerry Bailey · Steve Cauthen · Catherine Crier · Becky Dixon · Hank Goldberg · Bill Hartack · Nick Luck · Randy Moss · Rick Reilly · John Rotz · John M. Veitch ·
	<b>Reporters</b>	Thea Andrews · Charlisie Cantey · Chris Connelly · <b>Howard Cosell</b> · Rece Davis · Jeannine Edwards · Pat Forde · Frank Gifford · Quint Kessenich · Bill Nack · Tom Rinaldi · Robin Roberts · Jeremy Schaap · Lynn Swann · Lesley Visser · Jack Whitaker ·
<b>Belmont Stakes</b>	1986 · 1987 · 1988 · 1989 · 1990 · 1991 · 1992 · 1993 · 1994 · 1995 · 1996 · 1997 · 1998 · 1999 · 2000 · 2006 · 2007 · 2008 · 2009 · 2010 ·	
<b>Breeders' Cup</b>	2008 · 2009 · 2010 · 2011 ·	
<b>Kentucky Derby</b>	1975 · 1976 · 1977 · 1978 · 1979 · 1980 · 1981 · 1982 · 1983 · 1984 · 1985 · 1986 · 1987 ·	

<b>Kentucky Derby</b>	<a href="#">1988</a> · <a href="#">1989</a> · <a href="#">1990</a> · <a href="#">1991</a> · <a href="#">1992</a> · <a href="#">1993</a> · <a href="#">1994</a> · <a href="#">1995</a> · <a href="#">1996</a> · <a href="#">1997</a> · <a href="#">1998</a> · <a href="#">1999</a> · <a href="#">2000</a> ·
<b>Preakness Stakes</b>	<a href="#">1977</a> · <a href="#">1978</a> · <a href="#">1979</a> · <a href="#">1980</a> · <a href="#">1981</a> · <a href="#">1982</a> · <a href="#">1983</a> · <a href="#">1984</a> · <a href="#">1985</a> · <a href="#">1986</a> · <a href="#">1987</a> · <a href="#">1988</a> · <a href="#">1989</a> · <a href="#">1990</a> · <a href="#">1991</a> · <a href="#">1992</a> · <a href="#">1993</a> · <a href="#">1994</a> · <a href="#">1995</a> · <a href="#">1996</a> · <a href="#">1997</a> · <a href="#">1998</a> · <a href="#">1999</a> · <a href="#">2000</a> ·

V · T · E · **National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame**

<b>Baseball</b>	<a href="#">Brad Ausmus</a> · <a href="#">Moe Berg</a> · <a href="#">Ron Blomberg</a> · <a href="#">Harry Danning</a> · <a href="#">Thelma Eisen</a> · <a href="#">Mike Epstein</a> · <a href="#">Sid Gordon</a> · <a href="#">Shawn Green</a> · <a href="#">Hank Greenberg</a> · <a href="#">Ken Holtzman</a> · <a href="#">Sandy Koufax</a> · <a href="#">Elliott Maddox</a> · <a href="#">Saul Rogovin</a> · <a href="#">Al Rosen</a> · <a href="#">Art Shamsky</a> ·
<b>Basketball</b>	<a href="#">David Bluthenthal</a> · <a href="#">Tal Brody</a> · <a href="#">Jack Garfinkel</a> · <a href="#">Hy Gotkin</a> · <a href="#">Leo Gottlieb</a> · <a href="#">Ernie Grunfeld</a> · <a href="#">Sonny Hertzberg</a> · <a href="#">Art Heyman</a> · <a href="#">Nat Holman</a> · <a href="#">Ralph Kaplowitz</a> · <a href="#">Nat Miltzok</a> · <a href="#">Steve Nisenson</a> · <a href="#">Donna Orender</a> · <a href="#">Hank Rosenstein</a> · <a href="#">Dan Schayes</a> · <a href="#">Dolph Schayes</a> · <a href="#">Ossie Schectman</a> · <a href="#">Jon Scheyer</a> · <a href="#">Sid Tanenbaum</a> · <a href="#">Neal Walk</a> · <a href="#">Max Zaslofsky</a> ·
<b>Bowling</b>	<a href="#">Marshall Holman</a> ·
<b>Boxing</b>	<a href="#">Harry Haft</a> · <a href="#">Benny Leonard</a> · <a href="#">Barney Ross</a> ·
<b>Canadian football</b>	<a href="#">Noah Cantor</a> ·
<b>Canoeing</b>	<a href="#">Joe Jacobi</a> ·
<b>Cycling</b>	<a href="#">Doug Shapiro</a> ·
<b>Dressage</b>	<a href="#">Robert Dover</a> ·
<b>Fencing</b>	<a href="#">Cliff Bayer</a> · <a href="#">Tamir Bloom</a> · <a href="#">Daniel Bukantz</a> · <a href="#">Sada Jacobson</a> ·
<b>Figure Skating</b>	<a href="#">Sarah Hughes</a> ·
<b>Football</b>	<a href="#">Harris Barton</a> · <a href="#">Hayden Epstein</a> · <a href="#">Jay Fiedler</a> · <a href="#">John Frank</a> · <a href="#">Benny Friedman</a> · <a href="#">Lennie Friedman</a> · <a href="#">Sid Gillman</a> · <a href="#">Marshall Goldberg</a> · <a href="#">Sid Luckman</a> · <a href="#">Josh Miller</a> · <a href="#">Ron Mix</a> · <a href="#">Ed Newman</a> · <a href="#">Sage Rosenfels</a> · <a href="#">Mike Rosenthal</a> · <a href="#">Allie Sherman</a> · <a href="#">Bob Stein</a> · <a href="#">Josh Taves</a> · <a href="#">Andre Tippett</a> · <a href="#">Alan Veingrad</a> · <a href="#">Gary Wood</a> ·
<b>Golf</b>	<a href="#">Amy Alcott</a> ·
<b>Gymnastics</b>	<a href="#">Mitch Gaylord</a> · <a href="#">Kerri Strug</a> ·

<b>Handball</b>	<a href="#">Vic Hershkowitz</a> ·
<b>Horseracing</b>	<a href="#">Walter Blum</a> ·
<b>Ice hockey</b>	<a href="#">Sara DeCosta-Hayes</a> · <a href="#">Eric Nystrom</a> · <a href="#">Bob Nystrom</a> · <a href="#">Mathieu Schneider</a> ·
<b>Judo/Karate</b>	<a href="#">Bob Berland</a> · <a href="#">Charlee Minkin</a> ·
<b>Lacrosse</b>	<a href="#">William Beroza</a> ·
<b>Pole Vault</b>	<a href="#">Jillian Schwartz</a> ·
<b>Racquetball</b>	<a href="#">Marty Hogan</a> ·
<b>Rugby</b>	<a href="#">Shawn Lipman</a> ·
<b>Shot put</b>	<a href="#">Gary Gubner</a> ·
<b>Skiing</b>	<a href="#">Carrie Sheinberg</a> ·
<b>Soccer</b>	<a href="#">Jeff Agoos</a> · <a href="#">Yael Averbuch</a> · <a href="#">Shep Messing</a> · <a href="#">Sara Whalen</a> ·
<b>Swimming</b>	<a href="#">Anthony Ervin</a> · <a href="#">Scott Goldblatt</a> · <a href="#">Lenny Krayzelburg</a> · <a href="#">Jason Lezak</a> · <a href="#">Marilyn Ramenofsky</a> · <a href="#">Mark Spitz</a> · <a href="#">Dara Torres</a> ·
<b>Tennis</b>	<a href="#">Julie Heldman</a> · <a href="#">Ilana Kloss</a> · <a href="#">Dick Savitt</a> ·
<b>Track</b>	<a href="#">Deena Drossin</a> · <a href="#">Irving Mondschein</a> · <a href="#">Zhanna Pintusevich-Block</a> ·
<b>Triathlete</b>	<a href="#">Joanna Zeiger</a> ·
<b>Weightlifting</b>	<a href="#">Isaac Berger</a> ·
<b>Wrestling</b>	<a href="#">Bill Goldberg</a> · <a href="#">Henry Wittenberg</a> ·
<b>Other</b>	<a href="#">Ray Arcel</a> (boxing trainer) · <a href="#">Senda Berenson Abbott</a> (women's basketball pioneer) · <a href="#">Red Auerbach</a> (basketball coach) · <a href="#">Gary Bettman</a> (NHL commissioner) · <a href="#">Al Blau</a> (lacrosse official) · <a href="#">Ed Block</a> (football trainer) · <a href="#">Larry Brown</a> (basketball coach) · <a href="#">Herb Brown</a> (basketball coach) · <a href="#">Norm Drucker</a> (basketball official) · <a href="#">Aerial Gilbert</a> (blind rower) · <a href="#">Sada Jacobson</a> (fencing) · <a href="#">Seth Greenberg</a> (basketball coach) · <a href="#">Gladys Heldman</a> (women's tennis magazine founder) · <a href="#">Helene Hines</a> (wheelchair



	<p>marathoner) · <a href="#">Red Holzman</a> (basketball coach) · <a href="#">Neila Jacobson</a> (football trainer) · <a href="#">Fran Kalafer</a> (volleyball coach) · <a href="#">Fred Lebow</a> (NYC marathon founder) · <a href="#">Ryan Levinson</a> (cyclist w/muscular dystrophy) · <a href="#">Marv Levy</a> (football coach &amp; executive) · <a href="#">Jerry Markbreit</a> (football referee) · <a href="#">Marvin Miller</a> (baseball player association executive) · <a href="#">Debbie Rademacher</a> (soccer coach) · <a href="#">Abe Saperstein</a> (basketball owner &amp; coach) · <a href="#">Red Sarachek</a> (basketball coach) · <a href="#">Gary Wichard</a> (football player &amp; sports agent) ·</p>
<p><b>Writer/Broadcaster/ Columnist/Photographer/ Executive</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Marv Albert</a> · <a href="#">Mel Allen</a> · <a href="#">Marty Appel</a> · <a href="#">Len Berman</a> · <a href="#">Linda Cohn</a> · <a href="#">Howard Cosell</a> · <a href="#">Marty Glickman</a> · <a href="#">Roger Kahn</a> · <a href="#">George Kalinsky</a> · <a href="#">Bill Mazer</a> · <a href="#">Shirley Povich</a> (columnist) · <a href="#">Milton Richman</a> (columnist) · <a href="#">Sam Rosen</a> · <a href="#">Dick Schaap</a> (columnist) · <a href="#">Suzy Waldman</a> · <a href="#">Warner Wolf</a> · <a href="#">Paul Zimmerman</a> ·</p>
<p><b>Awards</b></p>	
<p><b>Marty Glickman Award; Outstanding Jewish Scholastic (College) Athlete of the Year</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Charles Altchek</a> (soccer) · <a href="#">Yael Averbuch</a> (soccer) · <a href="#">Cliff Bayer</a> (fencing) · <a href="#">Matt Bernstein</a> · <a href="#">Shay Doron</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">David Ettinger</a> (football) · <a href="#">Jay Fiedler</a> (football) · <a href="#">Loren Galler Rabinowitz</a> (figure skating) · <a href="#">Rebekah Green</a> (shot put) · <a href="#">Bess Greenberg</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Dustin Greenhill</a> (gymnastics) · <a href="#">Dan Grunfeld</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Damion Hahn</a> (wrestling) · <a href="#">Dan Helmer</a> (gymnastics) · <a href="#">Anita Kaplan</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Brie Katz</a> (volleyball) · <a href="#">Chad Levitt</a> (football) · <a href="#">Jessica Levy</a> · <a href="#">Samantha Marder</a> (softball) · <a href="#">Boyd Melson</a> (boxer) · <a href="#">Neil Ravitz</a> (football) · <a href="#">Amy Rosson</a> (softball) · <a href="#">Rebekah Rottenberg</a> (lacrosse) · <a href="#">Mike Saffer</a> (football) · <a href="#">Jon Scheyer</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Laine Selwyn</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Marc Siegel</a> (ice hockey) ·</p>
<p><b>Jules D. Mazor Award; Outstanding Jewish High School Scholar Athlete of the Year</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Adam Balkan</a> (baseball) · <a href="#">Stephanie Barnet</a> (squash) · <a href="#">Ben Belmont</a> (lacrosse) · <a href="#">Rachel Blume</a> (softball) · <a href="#">Dannielle Diamant</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Hillary Framson</a> (soccer) · <a href="#">Zachary Greenberg</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Ben Herman</a> (swimming) · <a href="#">Emily Jacobson</a> (fencing) · <a href="#">David Kahn</a> (swimming) · <a href="#">Jesse Koller</a> (soccer) · <a href="#">Jarryd Levine</a> (soccer) · <a href="#">Max Levine</a> (baseball) · <a href="#">Jason Liberman</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Sarah Lowenthal</a> (gymnastics) · <a href="#">Adam Mahfouda</a> (lacrosse) · <a href="#">Samantha Marder</a> (softball) · <a href="#">Chad Prince</a> (soccer) · <a href="#">Jon Scheyer</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Jodi Schlesinger</a> (track) · <a href="#">Justin Simon</a> (basketball) · <a href="#">Mark Wohlstadter</a> (football) · <a href="#">Courtney Zale</a> (basketball) ·</p>
	<p><a href="#">Andy Bloom</a> (shot put) · <a href="#">Ron Carner</a> (executive) · <a href="#">Dave Cohen</a> (football coach) · <a href="#">Gerald Eskanezi</a> (columnist) · <a href="#">Jay Fiedler</a> (football) · <a href="#">Ken Fiedler</a> (basketball coach) ·</p>

**Dick Steinberg Award;  
"Good Guy" Award**

Stan Fischler (broadcasting) · **Alan Freedman** (executive) · **Nicole Freedman** (bicycling) · **Margie Goldstein-Engle** (horse showing) · **Stan Isaacs** (columnist) · **James Jacobs** (handball) · **Steve Jacobson** (columnist) · **Barry Landers** (broadcaster) · **Nancy Moloff** (wheelchair discus) · **Marty Riger** (basketball coach) · **Arthur Richman** (baseball writer & executive) · **Dick Steinberg** (football general manager) · **Herb Turetzky** (basketball) · **Lisa Winston** (columnist) ·

**George Young Award**

**Ernie Accorsi** (football) · **Lou Carnesecca** (basketball) · **Preston Robert Tisch** (football) · **George Young** (football) ·

V·T·E·

### Sports Lifetime Achievement Award

**Jim McKay** (1989) · **Lindsey Nelson** (1990) · **Curt Gowdy** (1991) · **Chris Schenkel** (1992) · **Pat Summerall** (1993) · **Howard Cosell** (1994) · **Vin Scully** (1995) · **Frank Gifford** (1996) · **Jim Simpson** (1997) · **Keith Jackson** (1998) · **Jack Buck** (1999) · **Dick Enberg** (2000) · **Herb Granath** (2001) · **Roone Arledge** (2002) · **Ed Sabol** and **Steve Sabol** (2003) · **Chet Simmons** (2004) · **Bud Greenspan** (2005) · **Don Ohlmeyer** (2006) · **Frank Chirkinian** (2007) · **Dick Ebersol** (2008) · **John Madden** (2009) · **Al Michaels** (2010) · **Jack Whitaker** (2011) · *Not awarded* (2012) · **Ted Turner** (2013) · **George Bodenheimer** (2014) · **Verne Lundquist** (2015) · **Brent Musburger** (2016) ·

V·T·E·

### Television Hall of Fame Class of 1994

**Alan Alda** · **Howard Cosell** · **Barry Diller** · **Fred W. Friendly** · **William Hanna** and **Joseph Barbera** · **Oprah Winfrey** ·


V·T·E·

### Arthur Ashe Courage Award winners

Named after **Arthur Ashe**

1993: **Valvano** · 1994: **Palermo** · 1995: **Cosell** · 1996: **Claiborne** · 1997: **Ali** · 1998: **D. Smith** · 1999: **King** · 2000: **Sanders** · 2001: **Freeman** · 2002: **Flight 93** passengers (**Beamer** · **Bingham** · **Burnett** · **Glick**) · 2003: **Pat & Kevin Tillman** · 2004: **Weah** · 2005: **MacLearen & Yeboah** · 2006: **Ahmad & Kohestani** · 2007: **Cullen & Ringland** · 2008: **Carlos & T. Smith** · 2009: **Mandela** · 2010: **Family of Ed Thomas** · 2011: **Bozella** · 2012: **Summitt** · 2013: **Roberts** · 2014: **Sam** · 2015: **Jenner** · 2016: **Dobson** · 2017: **Shriver** ·

**Authority control**

WorldCat Identities  · VIAF: **72635188**  · LCCN: **n50018141**  · GND: **135940966**  · IATH: **w6c25gxq**  ·

[Categories: Olympic Games broadcasters](#) | [Jewish American sportspeople](#)  
| [American military personnel of World War II](#) | [American television sports announcers](#)  
| [American television personalities](#) | [American television talk show hosts](#) | [Boxing commentators](#)  
| [Deaths from cancer in New York \(state\)](#) | [Major League Baseball broadcasters](#)  
| [National Basketball Association broadcasters](#) | [National Football League announcers](#)  
| [Television anchors from New York City](#) | [New York \(state\) lawyers](#)  
| [New York University School of Law alumni](#) | [People from Brooklyn](#)  
| [People from Winston-Salem, North Carolina](#) | [United States Army officers](#)  
| [American horse racing announcers](#) | [College football announcers](#)  
| [New York Jets broadcasters](#) | [20th-century American lawyers](#) | [1918 births](#) | [1995 deaths](#)

This page was last edited on 6 October 2017, at 17:12.

Text is available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#); additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.

[Privacy policy](#) | [About Wikipedia](#) | [Disclaimers](#) | [Contact Wikipedia](#) | [Developers](#) | [Cookie statement](#) | [Mobile view](#)

