Costas, Bob (1952-) Encyclopedia Article

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Preeminent broadcast journalist and sportscaster Bob Costas began announcing basketball games for a St. Louis radio station at the age of twenty-two. He joined NBC in 1980, quickly becoming one of the network's most valuable assets through his work covering major league baseball, football, basketball, and college events, and hosting various shows including *NBA Showtime, NFL Live,* and *Costas Coast to Coast.* In 1992, a high-profile stint as the network's prime-time anchor at the XXV Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, earned him nationwide name recognition. A three-time Emmy winner for his sports announcing and hosting, his colleagues have also named him outstanding sportscaster of the year four times. Moving beyond sports in 1988, he launched a late-night interview television program, *Later with Bob Costas,* that won him another Emmy. When the series ended in 1994, Costas expanded his duties at NBC, contributing to *Dateline, Today, NBC News,* and anchoring MSNBC's *Internight.*

Further Reading:

Costas, Bob. *Bob Costas: Costas on Sports.* New York, Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1997.

Smith, Curt. *The Story Tellers: From Mel Allen to Bob Costas, Sixty Years of Baseball Tales from the Broadcast Booth.* New York, Macmillan, 1995.