

# Ann Liguori's Inner View on Golf, Sports and Celebrities

It has always been challenging for women to break through in the sports broadcasting business. Succeeding has been even more difficult. Ann Liguori has not only been able to compete within the business; next year she will celebrate her 20th year as a sports talk show host at WFAN, a New York radio station.

According to Ann she has met a lot of resistance over the years because many traditional thinkers found it difficult to accept hearing a woman talk about sports. "I knew I had to be really prepared and knowledgeable about a variety of sports so that I could convert non-believers into fans and because women doing sports are judged more harshly."

Ann is the president of her own television sports production company and owner of the award-winning "Sports Innerview with Ann Liguori," a weekly television series seen on regional sports networks throughout the country. At the radio station she covers major golf events as well as major sports events. In February she was in Turin to cover the Winter Olympics.

She started playing golf after taking a golf class as a Physical Education elective at the University of South Florida in Tampa, where



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Right now, Ann is working on her show the "Sports Innerview with Ann Liguori" as well as hosting her radio show

she went to college. "I soon realized that being a good golfer opened a lot of doors for me in the business world," Ann said. When The Golf Channel started she was asked to host and produce a primetime weekly show, called "Conversations with Ann Liguori." During the show she interviewed celebrity golfers while playing golf. "I love doing interviews with people on the golf course because golf is a window into the souls of people," said Ann about the show that aired for three years.

Ann has interviewed actors like Sylvester Stallone, Joe Pesci and Chris O'Donnell, musicians like Alice Cooper and great teachers of the game of golf like Jim McLean

and Dave Pelz to name a few. Ann thinks that many professional athletes play golf because they are completely humbled by the game. "They find it impossible to master, yet because they are so accustomed to doing well in their particular sport, they pursue it and seek perfection."

This past June, she had her "9th Annual Ann Liguori American Cancer Society Golf Classic" in the Hamptons. Throughout the nine years, the tournament has raised a million dollars for the American Cancer Society. According to Ann, proceeds of the tournament go to Camp Adventure, a camp for children with cancer and their siblings.

every Sunday. She is also up-dating her book "A Passion for Golf, Celebrity Musings About the Game," which will be released in paper back next year. The book features a collection of interviews Ann has done on the golf course with various celebrities.

She will continue to incorporate the game of golf into her work. "Some of the most interesting people in the world are golfers. Most golfers are diverse, multi-faceted people. Golf incorporates a certain life-style. It is not only a sport. It is a way of life," Ann explained. "I feel very blessed to be living my dream. And I hope I am an inspiration to others." 📌