



TITAN GAMES

Season 1

Biographies

CARI CHAMPION – *Field Reporter*

Cari Champion will serve as a field reporter on NBC's new athletic competition series, "The Titan Games."

In September, Champion returned to ESPN's flagship daily sports news studio show, "SportsCenter" to co-anchor the noon ET "Coast to Coast" edition from Los Angeles, along with Connecticut-based David Lloyd. Champion was originally named "SportsCenter" anchor in July 2015, and in February 2016 she was named co-anchor for "SportsCenter Coast to Coast." The show came to a close in March 2018, but has since been revived.

Prior to her most recent role on "SportsCenter," she served as co-host of "SportsNation," ESPN's fun and energetic afternoon show. Champion joined LZ Granderson and numerous guests to discuss the day's hottest and weirdest sports topics in 30-minute episodes.

In addition to her role at "SportsCenter," Champion hosts a weekly podcast with espnW, "Be Honest with Cari Champion," where she takes an honest look at the world of sports and pop culture with the help of outspoken guests.

Previously, Champion also served as host of ESPN2's "First Take," where she shared the debate table with featured commentators Skip Bayless and Stephen A. Smith and moderated their debate topics while offering her perspective and insight.

Before her time at ESPN, Champion was an anchor and courtside reporter at the Tennis Channel. Additionally, she served as an entertainment/lifestyle reporter doing features for "The Insider," "Hollywood 411" and Starz Entertainment.

As a broadcast journalist and host, Champion also worked across the country covering network news, entertainment and sports stories of national interest for ABC, CBS, NBC and other cable networks. A native of Southern California, Champion graduated from UCLA.

LIAM MCHUGH – Commentator

Liam McHugh serves as commentator on NBC's new athletic competition series, "The Titan Games," as well as hosting some of NBC Sports' most high-profile properties and events, including "Football Night in America," the NHL, Notre Dame football and the Olympics.

Since 2010, McHugh has served as the lead studio host for NHL Live, the pre- and post-game studio show that airs prior to and after NHL telecasts throughout the regular season, Stanley Cup Playoffs and Stanley Cup Final. In August, McHugh was named on-site host for "Football Night in America," the most-watched studio show in sports that leads into "Sunday Night Football," primetime television's #1 show. McHugh also hosts NBC's Notre Dame football coverage including the pre-game show, "Countdown to Kickoff."

In addition, McHugh served as co-host of NBC's Super Bowl LII pre-game show, and contributed to NBC Sports Group's coverage of the 2018 Olympic Games in PyeongChang, 2016 Olympic Games in Rio, 2014 Winter Olympic Games in Sochi and the 2012 Olympic Games in London. He also contributed to NBC and NBCSN's coverage leading up to Super Bowl XLVI and Super Bowl XLIX.

In 2011, McHugh demonstrated his talent and versatility by hosting numerous studio shows and live events for nearly every major sporting event that aired on Versus, since rebranded as NBCSN. In summer 2011, McHugh stepped into the role of host for NBCSN's live daily coverage of the Tour de France. In the fall, he hosted NBCSN's "College Football Talk." Additionally, he hosted the network's studio coverage of the Mountain West Conference.

McHugh began his career as a reporter for Newsday in New York. In 2004, he stepped in front of the camera for the first time as a sports anchor for WTHI-TV in Terre Haute, Ind., and then served as the sports anchor for KOKH in Oklahoma City from 2007-09 before joining Versus in 2010. McHugh was also a contributing writer and reporter for ESPN the Magazine for four years.

McHugh is a graduate of the University of Buffalo and earned a master's degree in broadcast journalism from the Samuel I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.

ALEX "GOLDENBOY" MENDEZ – Commentator

Alex "Goldenboy" Mendez serves as a commentator for NBC's "The Titan Games."

Mendez comes from a tenured history in esports. His work and accomplishments can be seen across the entire industry. He is a desk host for Blizzard Entertainment's Overwatch League and previously worked with Epic Games' "Fortnite Battle Royale," Cheddar TV, TBS's ELEAGUE, Major League Gaming (MLG), Psyonix's Rocket League Championship Series, 343 Industries's Halo Championship Series and Electronic Arts' "Battlefield" series. Outside of esports, Mendez also commentated CEO X New Japan Pro Wrestling.

Before becoming a household name in esports, Mendez, a Bronx, N.Y., native, was a full-time social worker who competed in various action video games such as "Halo," "Call of Duty" and "Gears of War"

in his free time. However, family is a focal point for Mendez and he eventually decided to step back from esports competition to focus on his marriage and job. He used this time to start making online content, as well as build up his local Bronx gaming community.

Mendez may have ended his time as a competitor, but he was nowhere near done with esports. Mendez received an offer a couple months later from MLG that would set him on his course to becoming one of the most sought-after talents in esports. Hired as a commentator for a small tournament, Mendez rose to the occasion when he was called upon unexpectedly to commentate the Call of Duty national championship at the last minute. Esports community reception was instantaneous, and it has been onward and upward ever since.

Mendez's on-stage personality is shaped by his love of professional wrestling. He learned his storytelling style and the importance of entertainment value from the likes of Jim Ross and Michael Cole. In turn, he lends his expertise to help aspiring esports broadcasters find their voices. Outside of work, he has dreams to start a program to help inner-city youth improve their public speaking.

Now, Mendez is taking his next step forward as a commentator for "The Titan Games." He's combining his energized personality, esports pedigree and love of professional wrestling into commentating one of NBC's hottest new shows.

ARTHUR SMITH – *Executive Producer*

Arthur Smith is the CEO of A. Smith & Co. Productions, Inc., which, for the past 18 years, has produced more than 4,500 hours of award-winning programming for 50 networks. Smith serves as an executive producer on all the company's productions, including "American Ninja Warrior," "The Titan Games," "American Ninja Warrior Junior," "Hell's Kitchen," "Mental Samurai," "Death By Magic," "Unsung," "Spartan: Ultimate Team Challenge," "Ninja vs Ninja," "Ellen's Design Challenge," "Unsung" and "The Dunk King," as well as past hits "Kitchen Nightmares," "The Swan," "Paradise Hotel," "I Survived a Japanese Game Show," "Trading Spaces," "Pros vs Joes," "Full Throttle Saloon," "Celebrity Crime Files," "Conspiracy Theory with Jesse Ventura" and "UFC Countdown."

Smith serves as Chairman of the Board for Tinopolis Group North America, a global leader of media production and programming. Smith is also a lead consultant to major media companies and sports entities.

Prior to launching A. Smith & Co., Smith held the role of Executive Vice President of Programming, Production and News for FOX Sports. He launched the network into cable sports – supervising production, development, scheduling and acquisition of all national and regional programming. While at FOX, Smith launched 22 sports networks, serving as executive producer on all events and original programming.

Before FOX Sports, Smith served as Senior Vice President of MCA Television Group, where he rejuvenated MCA's first-run division, developing a number of projects and acquisitions for syndication. Smith also spent four years as Senior Vice President of Dick Clark Productions. Smith was named Head of CBC Sports at the age of 28. He orchestrated the modernization of the network, creating sports

content in an entertainment format filled with stylized graphics, driving music, high-profile features and technological innovations. His career began at CBC Network Sports, where he produced and directed major events around the world. This included overseeing three Olympic Games as an executive producer, for which he won numerous accolades, including two Gemini Awards.

As a youth, Smith acted in feature films, television commercials and comedies, and hosted a video show. A proud alumni of Ryerson University in Toronto where he was inducted into the hall of fame, Smith currently resides in Los Angeles.