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Broadcasting students get unique tour of AT&T Park

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Broadcasting students get unique tour of AT&T Park

Fourteen students in a Sports Television Broadcasting class at Dominican were given a rare behind-the-scenes glimpse of TV and radio communications and production at AT&T Park prior to a San Francisco Giants baseball game on April 19.

The tour featured a mock press conference with Giants first baseman Brandon Belt and interview sessions with Giants broadcaster Mike Krukow, public address announcer Renel Brooks-Moon and San Francisco Chronicle Giants beat writer Henry Schulman in the press box.

Students also visited the Giants in-game video headquarters plus the editing suite for San Francisco Giants Productions where [Dominican alumna Katy Batchelder '13](#) works. In addition, they attended a pregame meeting in the Comcast SportsNet Bay Area production truck. Several students were given a real-world experience of sitting behind the control board and communicating with cameramen inside the ballpark.

[Click here](#) to see Facebook Photo Album of the tour.

The visit was arranged by Bay Area broadcasting legend Barry Tompkins, who teaches the weekly Sports TV Broadcast class in the [Department of Communication and Media Studies](#), and Tompkins' wife, Joan Ryan, an award-winning author who is a team consultant for the Giants. Tompkins also has taken Sports TV Broadcasting students to the Comcast SportsNet Bay Area studios in San Francisco. He has recruited guest lecturers such as CSN President and General Manager Ted Griggs, KNBR's Kate Scott, network director Mark Wolfson, cinematographer Mickey Freeman and professional sports franchise executives Andy Dolich and Pat Gallagher to speak to his popular class, which has doubled in size in four years.

Tompkins joined the Dominican faculty in 2012. A 43-year network television veteran, he is a play-by-play broadcaster, a four-time Emmy Award winner and, in 2006, was voted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame for his work as a boxing commentator.

Born and raised in San Francisco, Tompkins began his career at KPIX TV in 1968. Since then he has spent five years at NBC, 10 years at HBO, eight years at ESPN, 15 years at Fox Sports and currently does the ShoBox and Championship Boxing series' for Showtime while continuing to do a full schedule of college football and basketball.

Tompkins' credits include play-by-play commentary of the Super Bowl, Rose Bowl, NCAA Final Four, eight Olympic Games, Tour de France, Wimbledon, French Open and the U.S. Open Tennis, World Gymnastics Championships, World Swimming and Diving Championships, World Figure Skating Championships, and horse racing's Triple Crown, World Cup Skiing, San Francisco Giants' baseball, and over 200 world championship fights.

Tompkins also portrayed a USA Network sportscaster for the movie *Rocky IV*, calling play-by-play for the Rocky Balboa-Ivan Drago heavyweight title fight staged in Russia.

In addition, Tompkins has covered the Masters, U.S. Open, British Open and PGA golf events, the Indianapolis, baseball's World Series, hockey's Stanley Cup, and the World Cup in soccer. Besides his broadcasting work, Tompkins writes a [weekly humor column](#) for the Marin Independent Journal and is a contributing talk show host and panelist for Comcast SportsNet Bay Area.

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