



Joe Buck

Joe Buck is a six-time Emmy-Award winning sports broadcaster and the son of the late sportscaster Jack Buck, a Ford C. Frick Award honoree.

Buck was born in St. Petersburg, Florida (where the St. Louis Cardinals, for whom his father broadcast, then conducted their spring training) and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. After graduating from St. Louis Country Day School, Buck began his broadcasting career in 1989, while he was an undergraduate at Indiana University. When Buck graduated from Indiana two years later, he received a B.A. in English and a minor in telecommunications. Buck was also a member of Sigma Nu Fraternity Beta Eta Chapter

Buck called play-by-play for the then-Louisville Redbirds, a minor league affiliate of the Cardinals, and was a reporter for ESPN's coverage of the Triple-A All-Star Game. In 1991, Buck did reporting for St Louis' CBS affiliate KMOV. Also in 1991, Joe followed in his father's footsteps by broadcasting for the Cardinals on local television and KMOX Radio, filling in while his father was working on CBS telecasts. In the 1992-93 season, he was the color commentator for University of Missouri basketball broadcasts.

Buck continued to call Cardinals games after being hired by FOX, initially with his father on KMOX and later on FSN Midwest television. As his network duties increased, however, Buck's local workload shrunk, and prior to the 2008 season, it was announced that Buck would no longer be calling Cardinals telecasts for FSN Midwest. This would mark the first time since 1960 that a member of the Buck family would not be part of the team's broadcasting crew.

In 1994, Buck was hired by FOX, and at the age of 25, became the youngest man ever to announce a regular slate of National Football League games on network television. In 1996, he was named FOX's lead play-by-play voice for Major League Baseball, teaming with Tim McCarver, who had previously worked with Joe's father on CBS. That year, he became the youngest man to do a national broadcast (for all nine innings and games, as a network employee as opposed to simply being a representative of one the participating teams) for a World Series, surpassing Sean McDonough, who called the 1992 World Series for CBS at the age of 30. McDonough had replaced Jack Buck as CBS' lead baseball play-by-play man after the elder Buck was fired in late 1991.

On September 8, 1998 Joe Buck called Mark McGwire's 62nd home run that broke Roger Maris' single-season record. The game was nationally televised live in prime time on FOX. It was a rarity for a nationally televised regular season game to not be aired on cable since the end of the *Monday Night Baseball* era on ABC in 1989.



During FOX's broadcast of the 2002 World Series, Joe Buck paid implicit tribute to his father, who had died only a few months earlier (he had read the eulogy at his father's funeral), by calling the final out of Game 6 (which tied the series at 3-3, and thus ensured there would be a Game 7 broadcast the next night) with the phrase, "*We'll see you tomorrow night.*" This was the same phrase with which Jack Buck had famously called Kirby Puckett's home run off Braves pitcher Charlie Leibrandt which ended Game 6 of the 1991 World Series. Since then he has continued to use this phrase at appropriate times. His low-key statement "*St. Louis has a World Series winner,*" at the close of the 2006 World Series, echoed a long-time catchphrase of Jack Buck's, at the close of any Cardinals victory: "*And that's a winner!*"

Buck became Fox Sports' lead NFL play-by-play man in 2002 (taking over for Pat Summerall), teaming with Cris Collinsworth and Troy Aikman as color commentators and Pam Oliver as the sideline reporter. Buck is only the third announcer to handle a television network's lead MLB and NFL coverage in the same year (following NBC's Curt Gowdy and ABC's Al Michaels). By 2002, Buck's FOX duties forced him to cut his local Cardinal schedule to 25 games. Whenever Joe Buck has been on a postseason Major League Baseball assignment, Dick Stockton (and Kenny Albert beginning in 2007), who coincidentally was the back-up announcer behind Jack Buck for CBS' baseball telecasts in the early 1990s, would fill-in for him.

On February 6, 2005, Buck called his first Super Bowl, as the New England Patriots defeated the Philadelphia Eagles for their third championship in four years. His father called 17 Super Bowls for CBS television and radio in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s.

On February 5, 2009, Buck signed with HBO to host a sports-based talk show for the network beginning in May 2009. The show is planned to air four times a year and have a format similar to that of *Costas Now*, the monthly program previously hosted by Bob Costas. Buck will continue his play-by-play duties for FOX.