



**Eric Boswell Wynalda** (born June 9, 1969) is an American [soccer](#) coach, television commentator, and retired player. He was formerly an analyst and color commentator for soccer coverage on [Fox Sports 1](#) and [ESPN](#). Previously, he served as head coach and technical director of [Las Vegas Lights FC](#) in the [USL Championship](#) and he was previously the host of *WTF: Wynalda Talks Football* on [SiriusXM](#) FC.

Wynalda was one of the first Americans to play professionally in Europe before returning to his home country in 1996 to play in [Major League Soccer](#) and scoring the first goal in the league's history. Until 2008, he was the all-time leading goal scorer for the [United States national team](#). Wynalda was described as a "shifty, dynamic player off the dribble with a heavy shot."<sup>[1]</sup> He was elected to the [National Soccer Hall of Fame](#) in 2004.

Hall of Famer Eric Wynalda is one of the most iconic figures in American soccer. A three-time World Cup veteran, Wynalda has 106 caps and is fourth on the all-time scoring list for the US Men's National Team with 34 goals.

He was the first American player to break into the prestigious German Bundesliga and first to captain a European club. Named Honda Player of the Decade for the 1990s, he scored the inaugural goal for Major League Soccer.

Wynalda has coached at almost every level from youth to amateur to professional. As the technical director and eventual head coach of the Atlanta Silverbacks, Wynalda built a team that won the 2013 NASL Spring Championship and was runner up in the 2013 NASL Soccer Bowl working with the smallest budget in the league.

Wynalda is also responsible for three of the biggest upsets in US Open Cup history: first in 2012 when he led the amateur Cal FC to a 1-0 victory over MLS Portland Timbers.

Again in 2014 when the second division Silverbacks defeated MLS' Real Salt Lake and Colorado Rapids.

Since 2002, Wynalda has worked as a television analyst covering every major domestic and international soccer event for both ESPN and Fox. He also hosted WTF: Wynalda Talks Football on Sirius XM, a caller-driven program covering all things soccer from youth development to professional leagues around the world.