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The Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative (BAWSI) & the Giants Team Up on Saturday, April 26, to Inspire Girls & Women to Pursue their Goals

The Giants and the Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative have teamed up to create a day at AT&T Park to honor Bay Area women athletes and encourage young girls and women to pursue their goals on Saturday, April 26, when the Giants play the Cincinnati Reds.

The pre-game panel discussion, which begins at 4:15 p.m. and requires a special ticket (call 415-972-2298 to purchase) will feature Brandi Chastain, BAWSI co-founder and Olympic and World Cup soccer star, Monica Abbott and Vicky Galindo, USA Softball members, Dawn Riley, captain of the first all-female ship in the America's Cup, Susan Armenta, U.S. women's record holder in racewalking, Sissi, Brazilian soccer star and 1999 World Cup Golden Boot winner, Chelsea Spencer, National Pro Fastpitch and University of California Berkeley alumna, and Sharon Kelleher, former top ranked women's paraplegic tennis player.

These women will also be honored on the field in a homeplate ceremony that begins at 5:30 p.m. and be available to meet fans and sign autographs in the Giants Community Clubhouse during the first two innings of the game.

"As the father of a daughter, I understand the importance of exposing girls to positive female role models. This event will allow us to highlight the Bay Area's top female athletes and their numerous contributions to our community," said Larry Baer, Giants executive vice president and chief operating officer.

BAWSI, pronounced "bossy" was established by Chastain and Marlene Bjornsrud, former general manager of the San Jose CyberRays women's professional soccer team, to create programs taught and implemented by strong, talented and accomplished women athletes and coaches to inspire girls, women and families to develop leadership skills, community service and pursue their sports endeavors. Established BAWSI programs include *BAWSI Girls*, *BAWSI Rollers*, *Salud por Vida* and *BAWSI Dads and Daughters* programs.

"Oftentimes women athletes are overlooked in our sports culture. This effort by the San Francisco Giants to honor a few of the best and brightest women athletes from the Bay Area will allow young girls to see their sports role models in a highly visible and dynamic setting," said Bjornsrud.

For more information on BAWSI or to purchase a ticket to BAWSI Night with the Giants go to www.bawsi.org or sfgiants.com.

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