

Adam Zielonka

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Summary

Sports journalist with nine years of professional experience writing and editing for daily news organizations. Superb communicator, fluent in a wide range of sports and passionate about meaningful storytelling.

Work Experience

Senior Editor, Field Level Media

March 2021-present

- Produce stories for FLM's remote news desk, distributed to ESPN.com, Gannett, McClatchy and other clients
- Edit colleagues' work for accuracy, clarity, grammar and style; write headlines and SEO keywords
- Write game previews, recaps and analysis of the NFL, college football and basketball, golf and other sports
- Manage staff and organize game coverage as the assignment editor for college basketball, WNBA, NWSL
- Train newly hired writers and editors as assigned

Freelance Journalist

August 2020-present

- Bylines include event coverage and features for the Associated Press, the *Trentonian*, *Los Angeles Daily News*, *Washington City Paper* and *DeSales University Magazine*, as well as previews for *Lindy's* college basketball annual
- Since 2021, publish an online newsletter, "Guarden State," covering college basketball in New Jersey

Sports Reporter, The Washington Times, Washington, D.C.

February 2018-August 2020

- Reported and wrote news, enterprise and feature stories about local professional and college sports
- Covered the 2018 Stanley Cup Final, the 2019 World Series and other marquee events for the paper
- Filled in for sports editor frequently by editing copy, choosing stories for the section and managing the website
- Grew sports department's Twitter following roughly 15% by scheduling more tweets and running polls

Sports Reporter, The Capital-Gazette, Annapolis, Md.

August 2016-February 2018

- Reported and wrote about local high school and Division I college sports for print and online
- Prepared high school sports roundups by taking scores and statistics by phone
- Assisted other Baltimore Sun Media Group publications by covering news and sports for the *Baltimore Sun*, *Bowie Blade-News* and *Maryland Gazette*

Education

University of Maryland, College Park, Md.

December 2017

- Master's in Journalism (Multiplatform Journalism track, Sports Journalism concentration)
- Wrote for *The Diamondback* student newspaper and The Shirley Povich Center for Sports Journalism
- Completed capstone with Capital News Service, a student-run news bureau (32 hours/week)
 - Researched, wrote and edited long-term data journalism projects
 - Recorded and produced a weekly podcast with a co-host discussing local professional sports from a data-driven perspective

DeSales University, Center Valley, Pa.

May 2016

- Bachelor of Arts in Communication (second major in Sport Management, minor in Journalism)
- Graduated *summa cum laude* (GPA: 3.79)
- Wrote and edited for *The Minstrel* student newspaper all four years; editor-in-chief, 2015-16
- Internships: United States Golf Association (web content), Lehigh Valley Phantoms (media relations)

Awards

- Won the 2020 Dateline Award from the Society of Professional Journalists D.C. chapter for sports writing at a daily newspaper
- Co-led a Capital News Service project, "More Than a Mascot," that was named a finalist for the Online Journalism Awards' Pro-Am Student Award in 2018

Skills

- Associated Press style, WordPress and other content management systems, copy editing, podcasting, digital photography and video, social media, HTML, Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, Audition, Microsoft Excel