

Adam Zielonka

adamryanzielonka@gmail.com | adamzielonka.com | (908) 444-2116 | linkedin.com/in/adamryanzielonka

Summary

Sports journalist with more than five years of professional experience at daily news organizations in a variety of roles. Interested in reporting or editing opportunities that would be a match for my skills and sports of preference.

Professional Experience

Senior editor and writer, Field Level Media

March 2021-present

- Edit and fact-check stories (game previews, recaps, news briefs) and write headlines on a quick turnaround for Field Level Media's global clientele
- Write news, analysis pieces and betting content for NFL, college football and basketball, golf and other sports
- Train newly hired writers and editors as assigned

Freelance journalist

Aug 2020-present

- While seeking full-time work in 2020-21, wrote several stories for the Associated Press, *Washington City Paper* and *DeSales University Magazine*
- Additional sports bylines in *The Trentonian*, *The Hockey News* and SB Nation

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

Feb 2018-Aug 2020

- Reported and wrote news, enterprise and feature stories about the D.C. area's pro and college sports teams
- Covered the 2018 Stanley Cup Final, the 2019 World Series and other marquee events for the paper
- Filled in for sports editor regularly 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.

Aug 2016-Feb 2018

- Reported and wrote about local sports, primarily Navy and high school, 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.

Aug 2016-Dec 2017

- Master's in Journalism (Multiplatform Journalism track; Sports Journalism concentration)
- Earned bylines with *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 discussing Washington and Baltimore professional sports from a data-driven perspective alongside a co-host

DeSales University, Center Valley, Pa.

Aug 2012-May 2016

- B.A. in Communication; second major in Sport Management; minor in Journalism
- Graduated *summa cum laude* (GPA: 3.79)
- Worked 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

- Proficient in Associated Press style, WordPress, HTML, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, Tweetdeck, SaxoTech, Wix, Microsoft Office Suite, copyediting, podcasting, digital photography and video, social media
- Familiar with Twitter and Facebook analytics, Adobe Premiere Pro, Adobe Audition