

# Adam Zielonka

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## Summary

Sports journalist with more than six years of professional experience at daily news organizations in a variety of roles. Skilled communicator, knowledgeable about a wide range of sports and passionate about meaningful storytelling.

## Work Experience

**Editor and Writer**, Field Level Media, Kirkland, Wash. *March 2021-present*

- Edit, fact-check and write headlines for game recaps and news stories on tight deadlines for the company's remote news desk, serving clients that include Reuters and ESPN
- Write news, analysis and betting content about the NFL, college football and basketball, golf and other sports
- Manage schedules and organize game coverage as an assignment editor for college basketball
- Train newly hired writers and editors as assigned

**Freelance Journalist** *August 2020-present*

- Covered events and wrote feature stories for the Associated Press, SB Nation, the *New Haven Register*, *Trentonian*, *Washington City Paper*, *The Hockey News* and *DeSales University Magazine*
- Ran an online newsletter, "Guarden State," covering college basketball in New Jersey since 2021

**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