

Webinar Series – Critical Issues in Collegiate Athletics

Investigative College Sport Journalism: Where Art Thou?

**Thursday, March 20, 2025
2:00-3:30 p.m. EST**

Join us as student reporters who took top prizes in the 2025 Drake Group Education Fund Student Journalism Prize for Investigative Reporting on Intercollegiate Athletics share their reporting and discuss the vital role of enterprise and investigative journalism on college campuses. The winners will talk about their stories with an esteemed panel of sports journalists and authors from *The Washington Post*, *The Athletic*, *The Minnesota Star-Tribune* and *The Ringer* who were the judges in this year's contest.

Meet Our Panelists



MARK HYMAN, Moderator, **George Solomon Endowed Chair in Sports Journalism, Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland**, directs the college's Shirley Povich Center for Sports Journalism; teaches sports journalism classes; Hyman spent four decades as a sports journalist at *Businessweek*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *The Baltimore News American*, *Dallas Times Herald*, *The Bulletin* (Philadelphia) and *The Ledger-Star* (Norfolk, Virginia); former Professor of Sport Management, The George Washington University School of Business; winner of *Associated Press Sports Editors Awards* for investigative reporting and news writing.



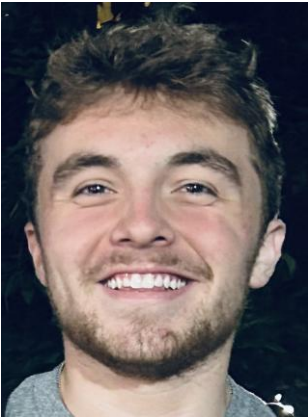
JESSE DOUGHERTY, Staff Writer at the *Washington Post*, He covers national college sports with a focus on business and the future of the industry. He previously covered the Washington Nationals for five years and authored a book on the team's 2019 title: *Buzz Saw: The Improbable Story of How the Washington Nationals Won the World Series*. Prior to joining the *Post* in 2017, Dougherty covered the NHL and NBA, among other sports, for the *Los Angeles Times*. He recently launched *What's Up With College Sports*, a Substack newsletter, which will complement his work at the *Post*. Jesse is a Syracuse University graduate and grew up near Philadelphia.



NAILA-JEAN MEYERS, Deputy Sports Editor, *The Minnesota Star Tribune*. She oversees coverage of the Vikings and the Olympics and the department's digital and audience strategy. She joined the *Minnesota Star Tribune* in 2020 after 15 years as an editor in the sports department at *The New York Times* where she covered everything from Grand Slam tennis tournaments to Super Bowls. She also previously worked at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and the *Sporting News*. She is a past president of Associated Press Sports Editors (APSE). She grew up in Ames, Iowa, and is a graduate of Northwestern University.



LISA BELL WILSON, Editorial Director, Talent and Development, *The Athletic*. Wilson is also the Executive Director of the APSE Foundation which supports the APPSE Diversity in Leadership Fellowship. She previously served as the NFL editor at *The Athletic* and, previous to that post, as the senior editor for sports at ESPN's *The Undefeated*. In 2020, Wilson became the Associated Press Sports Editors (APSE) first Black female president in the organization's then 46-year history. Previous to her ESPN stint, Wilson spent over 18 years at *The Buffalo News*, including the last six as Executive Sports Editor, at a time during which she was the only Black woman leading a sports section at a USA metropolitan daily newspaper. Prior to *The News*, she was sport reporter, feature editor, and sports editor at the *Niagara Gazette*.



WALKER CARNATHAN, Sports Editor, *The Daily Pennsylvanian*. With Vivian Yao and Sean McKeown, winners of the 2025 Drake Group Education Fund Student Journalism Prize for Investigative Reporting on Intercollegiate Athletics for ['I don't feel safe': Penn track and field program accused of sexual harassment, mistreatment](#). Walker is an undergraduate English and Cinema and Media Studies major at the University of Pennsylvania.



SEAN McKEOWN, Deputy Sports Editor, *The Daily Pennsylvanian*. With Vivian Yao and Walker Carnathan, winners of the 2025 Drake Group Education Fund Student Journalism Prize for Investigative Reporting on Intercollegiate Athletics for ['I don't feel safe': Penn track and field program accused of sexual harassment, mistreatment](#). Sean is an undergraduate Communications major with a minor in Law and Society at the University of Pennsylvania.



BRENDAN GALVIN, Former Sports Editor, *The Daily Free Press*. With Mara Mellits, winner of the 2025 Drake Group Education Fund Student Journalism Second Place Prize for Investigative Reporting on Intercollegiate Athletics for [Director of BU track and field, cross country steps down following abuse allegations](#). Brendan is a Journalism major with a minor in Business Administration at Boston University.



VINCENT DiFONZO, Reporter, *The Gettysburgian*. Winner of the 2025 Drake Group Education Fund Student Journalism Third Place Prize for Investigative Reporting on Intercollegiate Athletics for a seven story series leading with [Students Suspended from Swim Team Amid Report of Racial Slur Scratched on Student's Body](#). Vincent is History and International Affairs major at Gettysburg College.