



Conference Guide



Marriott SouthPark • Charlotte, N.C. • June 20-22

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Notable locations

Hotel: Charlotte Marriott SouthPark | **Office:** Forum | **Meals:** Morrison

General sessions: Morrison | **Workshops:** Symphony and Caucus



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Message from the President

Naila-Jean Meyers, The Star Tribune



Thank you for joining us to celebrate APSE's 50th birthday at the Marriott SouthPark in Charlotte! When APSE officers gathered to plan this conference, the stakes were clear. Our 50th year as an organization has been one of upheaval for many of our members. We joked that the theme of this event should be "Editor Therapy."

Instead we settled on "Sports Journalism at a Crossroads." The challenges we face as an industry are existential. To meet them requires reinvention, creativity, entrepreneurship and collaboration. Membership in this organization is growing because we can best meet these challenges by sharing our experiences and ideas.

The topics we have chosen for sessions and workshops reflect the type of tools and training we need for our future: AI and automation, audience development, newsletters, event coverage, managing people from afar, and a career development session aimed at early career journalists.

We will also celebrate the great journalism our members have produced. On Friday, we will honor Los Angeles Times columnist Bill Plaschke at the Red Smith Award luncheon, and on Saturday, our contest winners will show us how it's done before we hand out awards at our annual banquet.

Don't worry, there will be plenty of respites from existential matters, including a trip to an FC Charlotte game and a reception at the NASCAR Hall of Fame, thanks to our many generous sponsors.

"The challenges we face as an industry are existential. To meet them requires reinvention, creativity, entrepreneurship and collaboration."

Conference Schedule

Wednesday, June 19

Charlotte FC vs. Orlando City

When: 7:30 p.m. • **Where:** Bank of America Stadium
Transportation will not be provided.

Note: This event is sold out.

Thursday, June 20

Registration

When: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Executive Committee General Membership Meeting

When: 1 p.m.-2:15 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison
Presiding: Naila-Jean Meyers, APSE president

General Session

Town Hall: The chaos of college sports

When: 2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

With this conference in a prominent hub for college athletics, and so much of our work in sports journalism these days spent untangling the rapidly changing landscape of college sports, we will begin our gathering discussing the challenges of covering the chaos.

Moderator

Ben Portnoy covers college sports for Sports Business Journal and previously had stints on the South Carolina and Mississippi State beats.



B. Portnoy



A. Carter



S. Foreman

Panelists

Andrew Carter spent a decade covering major college athletics, including the University of North Carolina and the ACC, for The News & Observer and The Charlotte Observer.

Skip Foreman is the regional sports editor for Lee Enterprises covering Winston-Salem and Greensboro, N.C. He spent many years as a reporter for The Associated Press in North Carolina and was a correspondent for HBCU Gameday.

Conference Schedule

Perryn Keys is the executive sports editor at The Times-Picayune/The Advocate and incoming APSE second vice president.

Shelby Swanson is a rising senior at the University of North Carolina and former sports editor at The Daily Tar Heel. She is a member of the 2024 SJI class and a sports reporting intern at The News & Observer in Raleigh.



Keys



Swanson



Zuniga

General Session

Q&A with ACC Commissioner Jim Phillips

When: 4 p.m.-5 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Jim Phillips has been Commissioner of the Atlantic Coast Conference since February 2021. He is a member of the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee and will become president of the Collegiate Commissioners Association for the 2024-25 academic year. Phillips previously served as athletic director at Northwestern and Northern Illinois.



Phillips



Dixon



Bedlan

Moderator

Ben Portnoy covers college sports for Sports Business Journal and previously had stints on the South Carolina and Mississippi State beats.

A Conversation with AP

When: 5:15 p.m.-6 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Learn more about the news cooperative's efforts to make it easier to "localize" major sporting events for your market as well as its expanding coverage of sports betting, women's sports and the upcoming Summer Olympics in Paris. Come chat with Ricardo Zuniga, AP's global sports editor; Oscar Dixon, deputy global sports editor; and Barry Bedlan, sports products director.

Welcome Reception

Q&A with Professional Bull Riders

When: 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m. • **Where:** Terrace A & B

Sponsor: Professional Bull Riders

Friday, June 21

Silent Auction

When: All Day • **Where:** Morrison

The APSE Foundation presents its first silent auction to benefit our Diversity in Leadership Fellowship. Come bid on memorabilia and some very special merchandise. Special thanks to the Chicago Bulls, NHL, MLB, NWSL, NBA and some very generous APSE members who have donated items.

Registration

When: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Coffee and Pastry Station

When: 8 a.m.-10 a.m. • **Where:** Morrison

From 8 a.m.-8:45 a.m., join a coffee Q&A with Sherika A. Montgomery, the commissioner of the Big South Conference.

PBR CAMPING WORLD TEAM SERIES 2024 SCHEDULE



OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
JULY 12-14



DULUTH, GA
JULY 26-28



SUNRISE, FL
AUGUST 2-4



BROOKLYN, NY
AUGUST 9-10



NASHVILLE, TN
AUGUST 16-18



AUSTIN, TX
AUGUST 23-25



SPRINGFIELD, MO
AUG 30-SEPT 1



KANSAS CITY, MO
SEPTEMBER 6-8



ANAHEIM, CA
SEPTEMBER 13-15



GREENSBORO, NC
SEPTEMBER 20-22



FT. WORTH, TX
SEPTEMBER 26-28



GLENDALE, AZ
OCTOBER 4-6



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WHOSE TEAM
ARE YOU ON?



TAKE THE RIDE

Conference Schedule

A former women's basketball player at Gardner-Webb and Big South staff member from 2010-17, she has been commissioner since May 2023. Before that, she served as deputy commissioner of the Missouri Valley Conference and Assistant Director of Enforcement at the NCAA among other roles in athletics administration over a dozen years.

General Session

Why diversity is important as ever

When: 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Sponsor: APSE Foundation

The APSE Foundation presents a discussion on DEI in this contentious environment and how media outlets can navigate it all when it comes to staffing and coverage.

Moderator

Roxanna Scott is Executive Editor and Vice President at USA TODAY Sports and a member of the board of the APSE Foundation.

Panelists

Rana Cash has been the executive editor of The Charlotte Observer since October 2021 after serving the same role at the Savannah Morning News. She previously worked in sports at The Courier-Journal in Louisville, the Star Tribune in Minneapolis, The Sporting News, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, The Dallas Morning News and the Miami Herald.

Callie Lawson-Freeman covers the Las Vegas Aces and UNLV for the Las Vegas Review-Journal. A 2024 APSE Diversity Fellow, Callie was a breaking and trending news writer at Yahoo! Sports and a track and field athlete at San Francisco State University.

Natalie Pierre is the sports director at The Courier-Journal. She was previously the sports editor at The News & Observer in Raleigh, and made stops at AL.com/The Birmingham News, the Tallahassee Democrat and The State Journal-Register in Springfield, Ill.

Sherika A. Montgomery is the commissioner of the Big South Conference. A former women's basketball player at Gardner-Webb, she has also worked for the Missouri Valley Conference and the NCAA, including serving on the Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity.

Workshop | It's A Live (Event)!

When: 10:45 a.m.-Noon • **Where:** Caucus

You know it's coming. You see it on the calendar. But how soon do you start planning to cover that big live event? What new and fresh angles can you take on an event that's held annually? And what if an event pops up on short notice, and you have to pivot your staff and resources? We discuss some of the tricks and tips that you need to know to make the most out of your live event coverage.

Moderator

Ed Reed is the Deputy Florida Sports Editor for the USA Today Sports Network and outgoing APSE third vice president.



Montgomery



Scott



Cash



Lawson-Freeman



Pierre



Reed

Conference Schedule

Panelists

John Bednarowski is the sports editor of the Marietta Daily Journal and an APSE past president (2018-19). He won D Event Coverage in the 2023 APSE contest for his reporting from the Masters.

Tim Graham is a senior writer for The Athletic, covering Buffalo sports. He was part of the team that won A Event Coverage for its coverage of Damar Hamlin's medical emergency during the Bills-Bengals NFL game.

Tony Maluso is the community sports editor at Baltimore Sun Media Group, overseeing two small daily papers and several weeklies, and incoming APSE third vice president.

Scott Thurston is the deputy sports editor at the Boston Globe, where he coordinates event coverage and edits project and enterprise reporting.

Workshop 2 | Get to know me: Winning over readers through newsletters

When: 10:45 a.m.-Noon • **Where:** Symphony

Newsletters are a reliable driver of new audiences and subscription conversions. They have many forms and many purposes. They are a venue for voice and expertise. What makes a great newsletter? What adjustments does a writer have to make to really make a newsletter sing? What is the best way to curate content for a newsletter?

Moderator

Damon Sayles is the Culture editor for The Athletic, responsible for bridging sports into a variety of topics, including pop culture, music, food and nostalgia. He was a member of the 2023 class of the APSE Diversity Fellowship.

Panelists

Tory Barron is a senior editor at ESPN.com. She spent two years authoring and editing the ESPN Daily newsletter.

James Jackson is an APSE Diversity Fellow and an NBA



Bednarowski



Graham



Maluso



Thurston



Sayles



Barron



Jackson



Karp



Potosky

editor for The Athletic, where he produces The Bounce newsletter, which comes out daily during the season.

Austin Karp is the managing editor for Sports Business Journal's newsletters, including verticals on media, colleges, marketing, esports, tech, football and sports betting. He is also the publication's lead writer on TV audience metrics and hosts the weekly SBJ Sports Media Podcast.

Gary Potosky, an APSE Past President (2021-22), is the Assistant Managing Editor for Sports at The Philadelphia Inquirer, which has been all-in on newsletters for five years.

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Conference Schedule

Red Smith Award Luncheon

When: 12:15 p.m.-1:45 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Presenting: John Cherwa, Los Angeles Times

Honoree: Bill Plaschke, Los Angeles Times

Sponsor: Los Angeles Times

Workshop 3 | How to attract new audiences and subscribers

When: 2 p.m.-3:15 p.m. • **Where:** Symphony

Sports editors hear the word “audience” so much these days that it might be starting to lose its meaning. So let’s share our audience development success stories. What are the best resources for learning about your audience? How have you changed your approach based on audience data?

Moderator

Naila-Jean Meyers is APSE president and the senior assistant sports editor at the Star Tribune in Minneapolis, responsible for digital and audience strategy.

Panelists

Micah Adams is a Managing Editor and Head of Affiliate and Commercial Content at The Sporting News. Prior to joining SN in 2021, Adams spent over a decade producing and leading content teams at ESPN, DAZN and The Social Institute.

Steve Wiseman has covered Duke athletics since 2010 for the Durham Herald-Sun and Raleigh News & Observer and is also the N&O’s assistant sports editor. In the APSE national contest, he’s placed in the top 10 in beat writing in 2019, 2021 and 2022, breaking news in 2019 and explanatory writing in 2018.

Jennifer Zahn is the senior director of content for FloSports. She oversees the editorial management team that produces web, app, and social media content to deliver live and on-demand coverage for underserved sports communities.



Plaschke



Meyers



Adams



Wiseman



Zahn



Pignatiello

Workshop 4 Managing and Being Managed Remotely

When: 2 p.m.-3:15 p.m. • **Where:** Caucus

Ongoing industry and technological changes have made it much more common to work separately from your staff – whether in remote situations, hybrid work environments or distant newsrooms. It’s never been easier to communicate virtually, but it’s a much different challenge than working together as a staff in the same office. How can we ensure that we’re managing and supporting our team when we rarely – if ever – work elbow-to-elbow? Which brainstorming methods actually work when there’s no option for an in-person whiteboard session? How can reporters feel connected to their editor and their colleagues? Whether it is project planning and execution, breaking news, event coverage or team building and support, we’ll discuss what we’ve found that works, what doesn’t and where we see this all going.

Moderator

Jim Pignatiello is MassLive.com’s Deputy Editor in charge of Sports and Audience Development. He has worked as the

Conference Schedule

sports lead at the Advance Local media group since 2013. Jim is currently the APSE's Northeast Region vice chair. He has served as an APSE mentor for the past two years.

Panelists

Josh Barnett is the Managing Director for Editorial at Sports Business Journal in Charlotte and is in charge of editorial operations and content across platforms. He joined SBJ in February after nearly seven years as Executive Sports Editor at The Buffalo News, which had 33 APSE Top 10 placements in his tenure, including first place honors for projects in 2021 and event coverage in 2023.

Evan Gerike is the high school sports reporter for the Asheville Citizen Times, where he has been since August. He also spent several months covering South Carolina women's basketball for the Greenville News. Evan won the 2023 APSE student sports journalism contest.

Lauren Jennings is a Sports Content Coach for the Center for Community Journalism, a local division within Gannett established to support small- to mid-sized newsrooms. She oversees reporters located in California, New Mexico, Colorado and Montana. She has experience reporting on sports, education, news, crime, business, water and more.

General Session

Working with the robots: Understanding AI in Sports Journalism

When: 3:30 p.m.-5 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Learn more about how newsrooms are using both GenAI and NLP technology to help with their work and generate more content, including game previews and recaps, and what the pros and cons have been around those efforts.



Barnett



Gerike



Jennings



Bedlan



Hall



Michaelis

Moderator

Barry Bedlan is the Associated Press' global director of text, data and new markets products.

Panelists

Erik Hall is the managing editor of The Alton Telegraph in Illinois. He previously worked as the digital sports editor at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the lead digital/social media producer for sports at the USA Today Network.

Vicki Michaelis is the director of the John Huland Carmical Sports Media Institute at the University of Georgia. A past president of the Association for Women in Sports Media, Michaelis spent more than 20 years as a sports journalist, the last 12 as the lead Olympics reporter for USA Today.



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Welcome to Charlotte,
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Conference Schedule

Sara Trohanis is the vice president of Americas revenue and strategic partnerships for The Associated Press.

Brad Weitz is the CEO of Data Skrive, which assembles and distributes sports and gambling content using AI and machine learning.

NASCAR Reception

When: 6 p.m.-9 p.m. • **Where:** NASCAR Hall of Fame
Sponsor: NASCAR • Transportation will be provided



Trohanis



Weitz

Saturday, June 22

Silent Auction

When: All Day • **Where:** Morrison

The APSE Foundation presents its first silent auction to benefit our Diversity in Leadership Fellowship. Come bid on memorabilia and some very special merchandise. Special thanks to the Chicago Bulls, NHL, MLB, NWSL, NBA and some very generous APSE members who have donated items.

Registration

When: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Coffee and Pastry Station

When: 8 a.m.-10 a.m. • **Where:** Morrison

From 8 a.m.-8:45 a.m., join an “Editor Therapy” coffee talk on soccer coverage. Stumped at how to draw readers to your pro soccer content? Let’s share some ideas.

General Session

Career Development: Navigating rough seas

When: 9 a.m. -11:00 a.m. • **Where:** Morrison

Sponsor: The Athletic

Things are moving quickly in the sports media business. Are you prepared to pivot to your next job? Have you been asked to switch to a new role in your newsroom? Or just reassigned? We’ll spend the morning discussing topics such as work environments, networking, internships, interviews, managing up, and investing in yourself.

Moderator

Lisa Wilson is the editorial director for Culture, Opinion and Talent Development at The Athletic. A past president of APSE, Wilson is the chair of the career advancement committee and the executive director of the APSE Foundation.



Wilson



The Athletic welcomes you to Charlotte for the APSE conference.

Join leaders from The Athletic's newsroom for a career development workshop aimed at students and early career journalists.

Our future is bright and we are looking to add talented people to our team. We give you the time, resources, and freedom to do your best work. See open positions at theathletic.com/careers.

Conference Schedule

General Session

How we did it: Examining our best work of 2023

When: 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison

We'll honor our contest winners on Saturday night at our annual banquet, but on Saturday afternoon we'll gather as many winners as we can to discuss their impactful stories, columns and projects and what made them stand out. Expected to participate are John Canzano of JohnCanzano.com; Tyler Dunne of Go Long TD; Chapel Fowler, Clemson University beat reporter for The State (Columbia, S.C.); Jeff McLane, Philadelphia Eagles beat reporter for The Philadelphia Inquirer; Natalie Pierre, Sports Editor, The Courier Journal (Louisville); and Iliana Limón Romero, Sports Editor, Los Angeles Times

Moderator

Dan Spears, the deputy sports strategist for Gannett's Center for Community Journalism, was the APSE contest chair this year. The incoming APSE president has been in sports journalism for 29 years, including stops in Wilmington, N.C., Augusta, Ga.; Hagerstown, Md.; and Anderson, S.C.

Closing Executive Committee Meeting

When: 3 p.m.
Where: Symphony
Presiding: Dan Spears, incoming APSE president



Spears

Awards Reception

When: 6 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison Foyer
Sponsor: The Associated Press

Awards Banquet & Dinner

When: 7 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison Foyer
Sponsor: The Sporting News

Closing Reception


When: 9:30 p.m.-11 p.m. • **Where:** Morrison Foyer
Sponsor: The Associated Press



The Jack Berninger Award

This award recognizes an individual who has given exemplary service to APSE. It is named after Jack Berninger, longtime executive director for APSE and former sports editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Year	Past Recipients
2017	Jack Berninger (left)
2018	Colleen Berninger
2019	Ed Storin
2020	Joe Sullivan
2021	Herb Stutz
2022	Roy Hewitt
2023	Glen Crevier



Happy 50th BIRTHDAY APSE

On June 4, 1974

125 sports editors from around the country descended on the City Squire Hotel in New York for the first meeting of an organization that later that day was named the Associated Press Sports Editors.

From those beginnings, **APSE has grown into a force to help its member organizations** improve their products by helping to train, polish and challenge their sports editors.

To celebrate APSE's 50th birthday, **please consider a gift of \$50 (or multiples thereof!) to support the APSE Foundation**, a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2020 to support sports journalism education and the APSE Diversity in Leadership Fellowship program. All donations given to the APSE Foundation are tax-deductible.

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APSE Leadership

Naila-Jean Meyers President

Naila-Jean Meyers has been senior assistant sports editor at the Star Tribune in Minneapolis since January 2020, overseeing Vikings/NFL and Olympics coverage and the department's digital and audience strategy. Prior to that, she spent 15 years at The New York Times sports department in a variety of roles, including stints as weekend sports editor, planning editor and assigning editor for NFL, tennis, hockey, golf, baseball and motorsports. She also previously worked as an online editor at The Sporting News and as a sports copy editor at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. She grew up in Ames, Iowa, and is a graduate of Northwestern University. She attended her first APSE conference in St. Louis in 2007, and has been regularly attending winter judging and the summer conference since 2017.



Paul Barrett Second Vice President

Paul Barrett has been The Seattle Times sports editor since 2016 and on staff there since 2015. Under his leadership, The Times has won three APSE Contest Grand Slams, two Triple Crowns and multiple digital and writing awards. Paul started his first full-time newspaper job in 1989 as a high school reporter at the Moscow-Pullman Daily News, while a student at Washington State University. Since then he's worked at daily newspapers of all sizes in various areas of the country as a reporter, editor, designer and manager, including stints as night sports editor at The Arizona Republic and Miami Herald. Paul, a Seattle native, has been an APSE member since 2015 and a contest judge since 2017.



Dan Spears Frist Vice President

Dan Spears is the high school sports content editor for Gannett's 12 newsrooms in North Carolina and is based out of the Wilmington StarNews, where he's been on staff since 2006 in a host of roles, including sports editor, digital editor, photo editor and assistant news editor. A native of Auburn, Ill., he previously was at the Anderson (S.C.) Independent-Mail; The Herald-Mail of Hagerstown, Md.; and The Augusta Chronicle after graduating from Truman State University in Missouri. Dan has been involved in APSE for nearly 15 years, been a contest judge since 2014, and was previously chair of the Atlantic Coast region and the organization's third vice president from 2018-20.



Ed Reed Third Vice President

Ed Reed is the sports editor for The News-Press, Naples Daily News and Sarasota Herald Tribune in Florida. Reed has worked for Gannett based out of Fort Myers for 25 years. He started as a staff writer at The News-Press and was promoted to assistant sports editor and then editor more than 16 years ago, taking over the sports departments for the Daily News five years ago and Sarasota last year. Before moving to Florida, Reed worked at the Independent newspaper at Boston University, spent a year at the weekly Holyoke Sun in Holyoke, Mass., as sports editor and spent three years at the MetroWest Daily News in Framingham, Mass.



APSE Leadership

Bill Eichenberger Executive Director

Bill Eichenberger is an editor at Sportico, a sports business website based in New York City. He has also served as a senior editor at Bleacher Report, as well as New York sports editor at the Wall Street Journal. He has been sports editor at the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Newsday, the Akron Beacon Journal and the Macon Telegraph. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia and was president of APSE for the 2003-04 term.



Glen Crevier Conference Coordinator

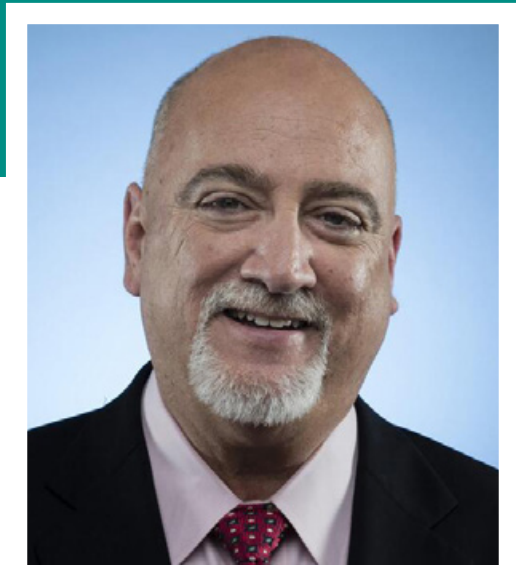
Glen Crevier was assistant managing editor for sports at the Star Tribune in Minneapolis for 20 years before retiring in 2018, and he spent 43 years in daily journalism. He was previously sports editor at the News Tribune in Tacoma, Wash., and the Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press Democrat. After graduating from Hiram (Ohio) College in 1975, he was a sports columnist for the Arizona Daily Star in Tucson, Ariz., and the Sacramento Union. Crevier has been involved with APSE since 1988, and he was president of the organization in 2005-06.



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Red Smith Award

Bill Plaschke | 2024 Recipient



By John Cherwa, Los Angeles Times

It's said that you never want to be the person who replaces a legend. But when faced with being asked to fill the spot held by sports journalism icon Jim Murray at the Los Angeles Times, you've really got no choice.

"We were at the Surf and Sand Resort at Laguna Beach and we had just finished dinner and [sports editor] Bill Dwyre slid a manila envelope across the table and an offer to be a columnist," Bill Plaschke recalled. "I said 'Yes' without ever opening it."

Plaschke didn't quite have the top job yet, but it was clear he was the top columnist in waiting, a mantle he would assume upon Murray's death in 1998.

It seems as if Dwyre got it right on the first try as Plaschke remains the preeminent sports voice in Los Angeles some 28 years after that dinner.

Plaschke now has something else in common with Murray (1982) and Dwyre (1996), as he was named the 2024 winner of the Red Smith Award, the highest honor in sports journalism.

"There is only one person who can say he replaced Jim Murray, and Plaschke is the guy," Dwyre said. "The combination of the two as lead sports columnist for the L.A. Times covers 63 years and with Plaschke, that's still counting."

Plaschke grew up in Louisville and then graduated from Southern Illinois-Edwardsville. His first real journalism job was in a bureau at the Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel where, according to him, he covered senior tennis and Little League.

From there it was on to Seattle, where he covered the Mariners before landing a job in the San Diego Edition of The Times in 1987 covering the Padres.

"To go from covering the worst baseball team in Seattle to the worst team in San Diego and then to the Dodgers and to wind up in the L.A. sports scene during the height of it, well, that's an incredible stroke of fortune," Plaschke said. "My career has been one lucky break after another."

Most would dispute that it was only luck. Plaschke has twice been named top sports columnist by the Society of Professional Journalists and National Headliner Awards. He has been voted top sports columnist by APSE nine times. Among the awards he is most proud of is being named Man of the Year by the L.A. Big Brothers/Big Sisters and a Pursuit of Justice Award from the California Women's Law Center.

Plaschke has been a regular on ESPN's "Around the Horn" for 21 years. He is also the author of six books, including his latest, "Paradise Found," about the resurrection of the Paradise (Ca.) High football team in the wake of the 2018 fire that destroyed the town.

In 2010, Plaschke was chosen to be the keynote speaker at the opening of the Red Smith Hall of Fame at Indiana University in Indianapolis.

He closed with these words: "The mediums are changing and the job descriptions are evolving, but for those of us who want to follow in the paths of the greats in the Red Smith Hall of Fame, there is still a place for us here. It's still about the reader. It's still about the words."

Red Smith Award

Past Winners

1981

Red Smith

1982

Jim Murray

1983

Shirley Povich

1984

Fred Russell

1985

Blackie Sherrod

1986

Si Burick

1987

Will Grimsley

1988

Furman Bisher

1989

Edwin Pope

1990

Dave Smith

1991

Dave Kindred

1992

Ed Storin

1993

Tom McEwen

1994

Dave Anderson

1995

Richard Sandler

1996

Bill Dwyre

1997

Jerome Holtzman

1998

Sam Lacy

1999

Bud Collins

2000

Jerry Izenberg

2001

John Steadman

2002

Dick Schaap

2003

George Solomon

2004

Jimmy Cannon

2005

Mary Garber

2006

Joe McGuff

2007

Van McKenzie

2008

W.C. Heinz

2009

Vince Doria

2010

Mitch Albom

2011

Bill Millsaps

2012

Frank Deford

2013

Dan Jenkins

2014

Wendell Smith

2015

Bob Ryan

2016

Leigh Montville

2017

Henry Freeman

2018

Terry Taylor

2019

Sandy Rosenbush

2020

Christine Brennan

2021

Sally Jenkins

2022

Leon Carter

2023

Claire Smith

2024

Bill Plaschke

The backstory

The Red Smith Award is presented for extended, meritorious labor in the art of sports journalism. It is named after Red Smith, longtime sports columnist whose career spanned five decades.



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Diversity Fellows

Wilton Jackson II

Jackson II was most recently a writer/reporter for Sports Illustrated for more than three years. Jackson is also a sports media professor. He earned his Bachelor's degree in multimedia journalism from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2015, his first Master's degree in mass communication from LSU in 2019 and the second Master's degree in sport management from Jackson State in 2023.



James Jackson

Jackson is an NBA staff editor for The Athletic and New York Times. He edits the daily NBA newsletter, the Bounce, NBA Power Rankings and other NBA coverage across multiple platforms, as well as providing hands-on research.



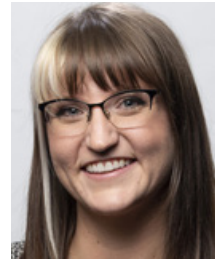
Lauren Campbell

Campbell is currently a Boston sports reporter and podcast producer for MassLive. She has covered Boston sports since 2015 and has covered the World Series, Stanley Cup Final, NBA Finals and the Super Bowl. Previously, she worked for NESN and has hosted different podcasts for the professional Boston teams.



Lauren Jennings

Jennings is a Sports Content coach for the Center for Community Journalism, a local division within Gannett established to support small- to mid-sized newsrooms. She oversees reporters located in California, New Mexico, Colorado and Montana. She has experience reporting on sports, education, news, crime, business, water and more.



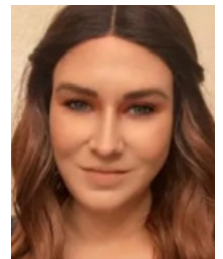
Callie Lawson-Freeman

Lawson-Freeman is a breaking and trending news writer at Yahoo! Sports. She received a master's degree from San Francisco State University.



Mallory Merda

Merda is a University of Pittsburgh alumna with over 10 years of experience in the sports media field. She spent seven years with The Sentinel in Carlisle, Pa., before moving to the USA TODAY digital sports team. She is currently working out of sports, but continues to freelance.



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APSE Bulletin & SJI Class of 2024

News and information about APSE and the summer conference, produced and reported by the Sports Journalism Institute Class of 2024 can be found by going to sportsjournalisminstitute.org and clicking on the “latest news” tab.

SJI Class of 2024 Roster

- Dylan Ackerman Seattle Times Arizona State University Graduate student
- Mat Bejarano The Arizona Republic San Jose State Junior
- Josh Crawford Memphis Commercial Appeal Syracuse University Senior
- Tori Garcia Dallas Morning News University of Texas at Austin Junior
- Ahmad Garnett Detroit Free Press Norfolk State Senior
- Lawrence Goss The Tennessean Florida A&M Senior
- Matt Guzman Kansas City Star University of Missouri Sophomore
- Perla Paredes Hernandez Houston Chronicle University of Texas Junior
- Matthew Ho Southern Cal News Group California Polytechnic State University Junior
- Kamryn Jackson Knoxville News Sentinel North Carolina A&T Senior
- Wynton Jackson Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Hampton University Junior
- Olivia Janik The Baltimore Banner University of Maryland Senior
- Dhani Joseph Yahoo! Sports Syracuse University Junior
- Aaron Mammah Naples Daily News/News-Press University of South Florida Senior
- Sabrina McClain ESPN Arizona State University Senior
- Chloe Patel Providence Journal Boston University Senior
- Gracie Rawlings The Oklahoman University of Oklahoma Junior
- Shelby Swanson Raleigh News & Observer University of North Carolina Junior

Conference Dates & Locations

APSE Convention Sites

1974.....New York	1992.....San Francisco	2010..... Salt Lake City
1975.....Kansas City	1993..... New Orleans	2011.....Boston
1976..... New Orleans	1994..... Dana Point, CA	2012..... Chicago
1977..... Chicago	1995.....Atlanta	2013..... Detroit
1978..... Dallas	1996..... Cleveland	2014..... Washington/ Arlington, VA
1979..... Minneapolis	1997..... St. Petersburg, FL	2015.....San Diego
1980..... Washington	1998..... Richmond, VA	2016..... Charlotte
1981..... Denver	1999..... Phoenix	2017..... New Orleans
1982..... Tarpon Springs, Fla.	2000..... Chicago	2018.....Nashville
1983..... Santa Monica, CA	2001.....Baltimore	2019.....Atlanta
1984..... Philadelphia	2002.....Seattle	2020..... Canceled (COVID)
1985..... Kings Island, Ohio	2003..... Dallas	2021..... Las Vegas
1986..... Phoenix	2004..... Philadelphia	2022..... Indianapolis
1987..... Orlando	2005..... Orlando	2023..... Las Vegas
1988..... St. Louis	2006..... Las Vegas	2024..... Charlotte
1989..... Portland, OR	2007..... St. Louis	2025..... Minneapolis (June 26-28)
1990.....Boston	2008..... Minneapolis	
1991..... San Antonio	2009..... Pittsburgh	

2025 APSE Dates

Feb. 23-27: Winter Conference and Judging, Doubletree Inn and Suites – Disney Springs, Fla.

June 26-28: Summer Conference, Courtyard by Marriott Downtown, Minneapolis

Plaques

To order additional; plaques, contact Bunkie Trinite Trophies, 12 E. Grace Street, Richmond, VA 23219; (804)-648-2416 or Chris.Bunkie@globalweb.net