

KEVIN B. BLACKISTONE

Professor of the Practice, Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland, August 2008-present

Education

M.S., Journalism, Boston University, Boston, MA, 2007
Concentration: Print Journalism, African-American History
Thesis: A non-fiction book proposal on the life and symbolic resurrection of Jack Trice, the first black football player at Iowa State University

B.S., Journalism, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 1981
Concentration: Print Journalism

Research/Publications

Summer 2022, Foreword. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Sport, Human Kinetics.

Spring 2022, Imagining the Indian: The Fight Against Native American Mascoting a feature-length documentary film that examines the movement ending the use of Native American names, logos, and mascots in the world of sports and beyond, Ciesla Foundation and Shadow City Films.

Fall 2018, Sports Industries As Plantations. The Burden: African Americans and the Enduring Impact of Slavery, Wayne State University Press.

Winter 2016, Black Male Student-Athletes and Racial Inequities in NCAA Division I College Sports, 2016 Edition, by Shaun R. Harper, (p. 2). Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.

Summer 2015, Sprawling Hagiography: ESPN's '30 for 30' and the Untangling of Sports Memories, with A.C. Billings. In J.P. McGuire, G.G. Armfield, and A.C. Earnheardt (Eds.), The ESPN Effect: Exploring the Worldwide Leader in Sports (pp. 157-168). New York: Peter Lang.

Spring 2015, Media & Civil Rights History Symposium at the University of South Carolina, The Remasculation of the Black Athlete: The Punch that Emancipated and Empowered Him to Join His People's Struggle of Self Determination, with Justin Hudson, PhD candidate, University of Maryland.

Summer 2012, The Whitening of Sports Media and the Coloring of Black Athletes' Images, Wake Forest Journal of Law & Policy.

Spring 2012, Sports Journalism, A Definition, Oxford African American Studies Center (<http://www.oxfordaasc.com/>), a scholarly reference site that provides the most comprehensive collection of scholarship available online to focus on the lives and events which have shaped

African American and African history and culture. Blackistone authored an entry under Literature and Communication defining sports journalism in an African-American context.

November 2009, *A Gift for Ron*, a memoir of former NFL All-Pro player Everson Walls's psychological and emotional journey to become an organ donor to his one-time teammate and longtime friend Ron Springs, who was dying from the ravaging effects of diabetes that shut down his kidneys. The memoir is co-authored by Kevin Blackistone and was purchased by Lyons Press from Farley Chase at the Waxman Literary Agency.

Teaching, Mentoring, and Advising

JOUR382/JOUR628B Special Topics in News Writing and Reporting: Sports Reporting and Writing. A skills' course designed to give full and wide-ranging instruction in all aspects of sports reporting and sports writing, from the history of the craft to its mechanics, including how to prepare to report and write sports stories, and incorporating photography, audio, video and interactive mechanics.

JOUR458M Special Topics in Journalism: Sports, Protest and the Media. This class examines the development of our games, the history of remonstrance upon them, and the machinations of media at the intersection of the two. It answers why agents, whether athletes or not, have long commanded ceremonial and ritualistic games to promote a cause or take a stand. It examines how important the role is of media as a collector, editor, interpreter, and disseminator of information, or news, about athletic competitions, athletes, and political pronouncements revolving around athletic events and their participants.

Experience

Cohost, *Our New South*, Levine Museum of the New South, January 2024-present
An original nonfiction podcast on the latest iteration of the term New South.

Commentator, National Public Radio, May 2016-present
Sports commentary for Morning Edition

Columnist, *The Washington Post*, May 2015-present
Writes on sports issues, particularly at the intersection of race and politics.

Visiting Lecturer, Beijing Sport University, Summer 2014
Taught sports reporting and writing.

Contributing columnist, *The Guardian*, April 2014-February 2015
Wrote on sports issues.

Contributor, *@Daily*, August 2011-January 2013.
Wrote on sports issues for the iPad newspaper.

National Columnist, AOL Sports, October 2007-March 2011.
Wrote columns of opinion about sports for AOL Sports, a fast-growing and leading Web site devoted to sports with 500 million page views monthly and the fifth-largest unique visitors' population among sports Web sites nationally.

Commentator, ESPN, 2003-present.

Appears regularly each week as a panelist on ESPN's popular weekday afternoon half-hour show Around the Horn, where four sports columnists and sports commentators from around the country debate the sports news of the day. The show is shown nationally and in Europe, the Middle East and Australia.

Columnist, The Dallas Morning News, 1990-2006.

Wrote an award-winning column of opinion several times a week for SportsDay, the Morning News' award-winning sports section often considered the best daily newspaper sports section in the country. In Upon leaving the Morning News in September 2006, Morning News Editor Bob Mong wrote of Blackistone in an editorial: "His thoughtful and probing journalism almost always stimulated response from readers, and, in this hyper-busy world, that's saying something."

Columnist, Emerge, 1997-1999.

Wrote a sports column for what was a monthly news magazine focused on issues of import to the country's African-American community that Time magazine hailed as an "uncompromising voice that made [it] the nation's best black news magazine."

Reporter, The Dallas Morning News, 1986-1990.

Covered national economics and small business issues for the News' business section, often considered the best daily newspaper business section in the country.

Reporter, The Chicago Reporter, 1983-1986.

Covered government and business issues for this award-winning monthly investigative magazine on racial and social issues in metropolitan Chicago. One investigation found the Illinois State Lottery saturated poor and minority communities with lottery machines to a degree it did not in white neighborhoods. The lottery was forced to change its business practice.

Reporter, The Boston Globe, 1981-1982.

Assigned to the city desk as a general assignment reporter

Grants and Fellowships

Davenport Fellowship, 1988, University of Missouri. Selected to study economics reporting in what was a month-long program run by the journalism and business colleges at the university.

Martin Luther King Jr. Fellowship, 1982, Boston University. Studied journalism and African-American history in a dual master's degree program at the university.

Awards and Honors

Gold, Anthem Awards Diversity, Equity & Inclusion podcast or audio, awareness category

Silver, Signal Award, Public Service and Activism podcast

Listeners Choice, Signal Award, Service and Activism podcast

Second Place, Feature Story, The White House News Photographers Association, 2021

Honorable Mention, Sports Column Writing, Texas Associated Press Managing Editors, 2002

Honorable Mention, Sports Column Writing, Texas Associated Press Managing Editors, 2001

First Place, Sports Column Writing, Texas Associated Press Managing Editors, 1999

Honorable Mention, Sports Column Writing, Texas Associated Press Managing Editors, 1998

First Place, Sports Column Writing, Texas Associated Press Managing Editors, 1997

Second Place, Sports Column Writing, Texas Associated Press Managing Editors, 1996

Award of Excellence, Best Sports Column, Press Club of Dallas, 1992

Award of Excellence, Best Business Reporting, Press Club of Dallas, 1987

Stick-O-Type Award for investigative reporting, Chicago Newspaper Guild, 1985

Print Special Recognition Award for Excellence in Coverage of Blacks and the Black Condition, National Association of Black Journalists, 1982

Service

Board of directors of the Society for Features Journalism Foundation

Task Force on Recruiting for Academic Diversity, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Task Force for Journalism Education Outreach, Merrill College of Journalism, University of Maryland

Football Writers Association of America,

Baseball Writers Association of America, Lifetime

U.S. Basketball Writers Association

National Association of Black Journalists

