

Chris Kieffer

chris.e.kieffer (at) gmail.com
www.chriskieffer.net

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

- Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal (Tupelo)** *Education reporter* Aug. 2009 - present
Balance breaking news with multiple enterprise and long-range projects. Beat is primarily K - 12 schools but also encompasses community colleges and universities. Helped with multiple general assignment stories on politics, government, police and business beats. Major stories included extensive reporting about state budget cuts, school district's laptops-for-students initiative, deadly apartment fire and female student's fight to attend prom with girlfriend. Strung several University of Mississippi football and basketball games for Associated Press. Produced a handful of online videos.
- Oxford (Miss.) Eagle** *Assistant sports editor* Feb. 2006 - Aug. 2008
Beat reporter for University of Mississippi sports. Also covered prep sports and local news. Big stories included in-depth coverage of an Ole Miss football player suing the school to gain eligibility and of a Mississippi town voting to legalize beer sales. Paginated, helped plan the next day's sports section, updated the paper's Web site and took photographs.
- Birmingham (Ala.) News** *Sports intern* Aug. 2005 - Feb. 2006
Beat reporter for three local high schools. Broke stories about nationally-ranked Hoover High School football team and broke several items in month-long daily college football recruiting notebook.
- The Daily Mississippian** (Univ. of Mississippi student newspaper) Sept. 2001 - May 2005
Covered university's athletics for four years. Spent junior year as sports editor.
- Sports Illustrated on Campus** *Ole Miss correspondent* Aug. 2004 - May 2005
Provided story ideas and filed assignments about Ole Miss athletics.
- New Orleans Zephyrs** (Minor league baseball team) *Media relations intern* May 2002 - Aug. 2002
Wrote the Associated Press feed and updated the team Web site for each home game.

EDUCATION

- M.S., Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism** (New York) *Graduated with honors* May 2009
Recipient of Robert Harron award (for high character and strong reporting) and Dave Marr scholarship. New Media concentrator. Did multimedia reporting for multiple school-produced Web sites, including www.nyc24.org. Master's project was an online documentary examining prep basketball team in low-income N.Y. suburb (www.hoopknight.com). Project was linked-to by ESPN.com and SportsIllustrated.com. Major coursework included business reporting, multimedia storytelling and sports reporting.
- B.A., Journalism, University of Mississippi** (Oxford, Miss.) *Magna Cum Laude* May 2005
Graduated from the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College. Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. Completed 117-page thesis analyzing the history of professional baseball in New Orleans. Entered school as a National Merit Finalist.

AWARDS

Include three first-places from the Mississippi Press Association and the APME of Louisiana and Mississippi

COMPUTER SKILLS

Final Cut Pro, Pro Tools, Audacity, Adobe Photoshop, CSS, Adobe Flash, Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe InDesign.

REFERENCES

Sandy Padwe; Professor, Columbia Univ. (reporting & writing 1 and sports); hurpad2@aol.com/ (office) 212-854-3836
Duy Linh Tu; Professor, Columbia Univ. (new media); dnt3@columbia.edu/ (office) 212-851-0791
John Davis; Sports Editor, Oxford Eagle; jdavis38655@gmail.com/ (cell) 662-801-2362