

Tell me a little bit about how you began your career in sports journalism?

My high school newspaper in Colorado Springs, William J. Palmer High. I was a paperboy at age 6, so I've pretty much been an ink-stained wretch all my life. Never got out of me, even though I've been out of print journalism for several years now.

Went on to major in journalism (which BTW is not a requirement to be a good journalist; it doesn't hurt, but by no means is J-school necessary to become a good journalist) at the University of Colorado. Campus Press beat writer for CU football in the 1990-91 national championship season, then moved on to sports editor.

What is your favorite sport to cover, and why?

NFL. It's the entity that drives the sports betting bus – and really, the sports-in-general bus – in the United States. Nothing else matches it.

What is your favorite aspect regarding the March Madness season?

The first two days/four days of the tournament in Las Vegas. There's absolutely nothing that rivals being in a sportsbook across two straight days of 16 games a day. The atmosphere is unmatched. It should be on every sports fan/sports bettor's bucket list.

Do you believe that sport news outlets (i.e. ESPN) have benefited from March Madness

Of course. Generates massive content, and the outlets wouldn't be paying billions of dollars for college basketball TV contracts if there weren't a subsequent benefit.

Do you believe that sports news outlets (i.e. ESPN) have benefited via sports gambling?

Again, no question. That's why these outlets have expanded into discussing/reporting on the sports betting space. Scott Van Pelt's Bad Beats and weekly picks segments, Doug Kezirian's show, David Purdum's reporting, other resources ESPN devotes to the niche. Several other major sports news outlets have done likewise – FOX, NBC, CBS, etc.

What is one piece of advice you would give to a sports gambler?

That depends on what type of sports gambler. However, considering that 90% or more of sports bettors are not professional bettors, but rather in this to have skin in the game/have a little fun/doing this as a form of entertainment, it's as simple as this: Never bet more than you can afford to lose.

Know your limits. Be reasonable. #ChilisMoney