

## Sports & Entertainment Spotlight

# Spotlights: Writers' Strike, Sheeran Prevails in Copyright Battle, Snoop Dogg's NHL Bid, and More

By Joshua Bloomgarden on 5.4.23 | Posted in Sports & Entertainment Spotlight

Welcome back to the Spotlight! The buzz this week surrounds the strike announced by the Writers' Guild of America after failing to obtain concessions from the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers. Leave it to the WGA to script that the strike took place on May Day (International Workers' Day). As it is, countless television and film productions have been sidelined and rendered speechless. Lucky for you, dear reader, I carry no union cards, so the only "scab" currently in my world is on my son's chin from a slip and fall. For any television and film executives out there who are looking for help, consider this blog my portfolio. Feel free to contact me any time. My conditions of employment? Good question! I have a bunch of requests – but I don't feel like I have the leverage to ask for them on my own. If only there were some type of organization of others like me that could negotiate on behalf of us all...oh well! Anyway, brief programming note (call it solidarity) but I will not be in my writers' room next week. See you in two weeks (unless ChatGPT replaces me in meantime).

1. Just days after pop singer/songwriter Ed Sheeran testified that he would stop making music if the jury handed down a verdict against him in the copyright infringement litigation by Marvin Gaye's estate, Sheeran prevailed. Whether it was because the jury thought it was in bad taste when Gaye's estate made a similar statement, or because there was no substantial similarity in the works is unknown.
2. Snoop Dogg joins businessman Neko Sparks' bid for the National Hockey League's Ottawa Senators. The move would mark the first majority black owned franchise for the NHL, potentially opening up the NHL to an untapped market. Snoop might also bring new meaning to the term, "high-sticking."
3. Louisiana State University gymnast and NIL pioneer Olivia Dunne has parlayed her social media presence into the pages of the upcoming Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Edition. The move is not only a lesson on the new self-branding opportunities available for college athletes, but is also likely to drive a photographer's production assistant to research what

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to feed a pommel horse.

4. Nike inks a lifetime deal with Phoenix Suns star Kevin Durant. A rare feat, but don't get too excited – he will probably ask to be traded 2 years from now.
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## Endorsement Deals, Sponsorships & Investments

**Beyoncé Allegedly Owes Millions In Taxes, Says IRS; Singer Says It's An Error**

*May 1, 2023 via International Business Times*

**Michelle Obama didn't just attend a Springsteen concert in Barcelona. She sang backup**

*May 1, 2023 via Los Angeles Times*

**What is Whispering Angel - the rose celebrated by Adele and is it worth the hype?**

*April 30, 2023 via News Break*

**Famous Twitter users disavow Musk over verification return**

*April 29, 2023 via Airdrie Today*

**How Elite College Athletes Can Learn The Basics Of Money Management Before Scoring Big**

*April 28, 2023 via Forbes*

**LSU Gymnast Olivia Dunne to Be Featured in 2023 SI Swimsuit Edition**

*April 27, 2023 via Bleacher Report*

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## Sports

**Inside Snoop Dogg's bid to help buy the Ottawa Senators: 'He wants this team'**

*May 1, 2023 via The Athletic*

**New Big Ten commish: Integrating USC, UCLA is top priority**

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*April 28, 2023 via St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

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## Music Biz

**Ed Sheeran Wins Copyright Case Over Marvin Gaye's 'Let's Get It On'**

*May 4, 2023 via New York Times*

**Battle for late Johnny Winter's music to play out in court**

*April 30, 2023 via Chicago Tribune*

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## Film & TV

**Hollywood screenwriters call a strike after contract negotiations fail**

*May 2, 2023 via NBC News*

**Gray Television signs deals to deliver Phoenix Suns and Phoenix Mercury games for free**

*April 28, 2023 via Light Reading*

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## Emerging Sports

**Premier Lacrosse League Plans Shift to City-Specific Teams**

*May 3, 2023 via Sportico*

**Athletics owner doesn't deserve public funding from Las Vegas**

*April 29, 2023 via Las Vegas Review-Journal*