

Sports & Entertainment Spotlight

From Bronx Cheers to Flushing Fears: Opening Day Drama, Napster Nostalgia, and a Pop Culture Power Play

on 3.28.25

Welcome back to the Spotlight, to the Spring and to Major League Baseball. As the season starts anew, I can't help but think about this time last year when I was celebrating a New York Yankees Opening Day victory thanks in part to a game-ending out at home plate off a perfect throw from the Yankees' then-right-fielder Juan Soto. Fast forward to today, and I am celebrating a Yankees Opening Day victory after an eventful offseason following a crushing loss in the World Series, in which Juan Soto left the Yankees to sign an obscene 12 year, \$765 million contract with the crosstown rival New York Mets. If I were a petty and obnoxious Yankees fan, I might point out that Juan Soto had another game-ending play on Opening Day for his new team: he had a super expensive strikeout. And, well...I'm pointing that out. Perhaps the Soto acquisition will be an investment to help Mets owner Steve Cohen in his bid to develop Metropolitan Park—a casino and entertainment complex—near the Mets home stadium in Flushing, Queens. I'm all for that—just as long as it doesn't come with on-field success. After all, in the Bronx, my Yankees play for 'ships, not for chips.

- This week brings a dose of Millennial nostalgia as Napster is back in the news, having been acquired by Infinite Reality, a 3D technology company that plans to use Napster's capabilities to create, music-filled virtual spaces in the metaverse. The purchase price of the deal is reportedly \$207 million – roughly equal to the amount of damage you did to your family's computers using the initial iteration of Napster.
- Nintendo strikes a deal with the Seattle Mariners to be its uniform patch sponsor for the 2025 season. In a related story, the Mariners have hired some super bros. to handle plumbing issues at T-Mobile Park.
- Pop star Dua Lipa notches a copyright lawsuit victory surrounding her smash hit "Levitating," with the court citing a case related to fellow pop recording artist Ed Sheeran's "Shape of You" to conclude that "a chord progression and harmonic rhythm, in combination, could not constitute protectable expression under copyright law." Now that's something to sing about

For inquiries and/or unabashed compliments, please feel free to contact me at josh.bloomgarden@foster.com or add me on LinkedIn.

Endorsement Deals, Sponsorships & Investments

[Metropolitan Park casino project in Queens wins City Council zoning approval](#)

March 28, 2025 via *Gothamist*

[Investing in Athlete Futures Proves to Be a Hard Sell](#)

March 25, 2025 via *Sportico*

[Juju Watkins groundbreaking NIL deal with Fanatics](#)

March 24, 2025 via *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*

[Silver Lake Closes Endeavor Purchase, Shifts Executives](#)

March 24, 2025 via *Sportico*

[Game on: Seattle Mariners add Nintendo patch to jerseys in new sponsorship deal](#)

March 21, 2025 via *GeekWire*

Sports

[Why Pro Athletes Are Getting First Look at Start-Up Deals: 'Shark Tank' Guest Star](#)

March 24, 2025 via *Front Office Sports*

[Athletes' NIL in Advertising Could Pose Legal Problems, Judge Rules](#)

March 24, 2025 via *Sportico*

[What Could Vanessa Trump's Ties to Tiger Woods Mean for Her Golfer Daughter's NIL Deals?](#)

March 24, 2025 via *Women's Wear Daily*

[March Madness meets transfer portal in world's biggest scouting combine](#)

March 24, 2025 via *MyNorthwest - Sports*

[How Duke Star Cooper Flagg Became The New Face Of Gatorade](#)

March 23, 2025 via *Forbes*

From Bronx Cheers to Flushing Fears: Opening Day Drama, Napster Nostalgia, and a Pop Culture Power Play

Hailey Van Lith should be viewed as a case study for athletes

March 21, 2025 via Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Music Biz

Dua Lipa wins major copyright lawsuit over hit song Levitating (with a little help from Ed Sheeran)

March 27, 2025 via Music Business Worldwide

ASCAP warns US creative economy 'will be undermined' if copyright laws loosened for AI developers

March 25, 2025 via Music Business Worldwide

Infinite Reality acquires revived music service Napster for \$207M

March 25, 2025 via Venturebeat

Concord Acquires Stem Distribution to Boost Indie Artist Services

March 24, 2025 via Billboard

Film & TV

Our Future Festival Home

March 28, 2025 via Sundance.org

Paramount+ Acquires 'The Children Of October 7' Documentary About Israeli Kids Impacted By Hamas Attacks

March 26, 2025 via Deadline

Norman Salik, Who Placed Ray-Bans in 'Top Gun,' Dies at 93

March 24, 2025 via Women's Wear Daily

Fred Rogers Productions Partners with Milton Hershey School on First-Ever Digital Sponsorship for Mister Rogers' Neighborhood

March 24, 2025 via Shippensburg News-Chronicle

Talent Manager's Fraud Claim, Over Buyout of His Share of Company Formed With Client, Is Struck Down

March 21, 2025 via Law Technology News