

Sports & Entertainment Spotlight

Sports & Entertainment Spotlight: Winning Plays, Iconic Characters and Podcast Waves

By Joshua Bloomgarden on 12.19.25 | Posted in Sports & Entertainment Spotlight

Welcome back to the Spotlight! I'm not going to sugarcoat it. We live in some dark times. From one week to the next, we're confronted by a parade of horrors that threaten to take our light. The events of this past week have been no exception—whether it be the antisemitic terror attacks at a Hanukkah celebration in Australia or the tragic murder of the wildly talented director and entertainer Rob Reiner.

But even when the days are darkest, the lights always have a way of driving out the dark. From where I sit, it is fitting that this Sunday is the winter solstice, marking the day of the year with the least daylight, yet it is the last night of Hanukkah, on which each of the candles on the menorah are lit, pushing out the dark. And then every day thereafter, we get more and more daylight. Candles and Sun aside, we can all do our part to bring a little light to our communities—and I am fortunate to work in the sports and entertainment, helping others share their light.

- On the heels of the New York Knicks' NBA Cup Championship, Chipotle rolls out a new high-protein burrito in collaboration with Knicks' Josh Hart. Hart signaled his approval with a big thumb up.
- Sony acquires the intellectual property to Charles Schulz's "Peanuts" characters and comics. With a purchase price of nearly half a billion dollars, Sony hardly paid peanuts—that type of money is enough to turn Snoopy snooty.
- Netflix leans further into the podcast industry, acquiring distribution rights to three Barstool Sports podcast series in a deal reported valued in the eight figures. No word on whether Paramount will stir the pot.

With that, we wish you a happy holiday season full of light and love. We will circle back with you after the New Year.

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

Knicks Fans Can Try Josh Hart's 1,300-Calorie Chipotle Burrito

December 18, 2025 via SI

Netflix Paying Barstool 8 Figures Per Year Amid Podcast Push

December 18, 2025 via Front Office Sports

New Casino, NYCFC Stadium Moving Forward Next to Citi Field in Queens

December 17, 2025 via Engineering News Record

Qatari Fund, Arctos Buy Powell Jobs' Monumental Sports Stake

December 17, 2025 via Sportico

Holland America Line Secures Deal with IMG to Broadcast FIFA World Cup 26™ Fleetwide on Sport 24 Special Event Channels

December 16, 2025 via Canada Newswire

Big Media and Sports Deals Soared in 2025

December 16, 2025 via LA Times

MJ Mansion Buyer, Blocked on Timeshare, Takes a Wilder Shot

December 15, 2025 via Sportico

Tulane Head Coach Jon Sumrall Donates \$100,000 to NIL Fund

December 15, 2025 via New Orleans WDSU 6

Big 12 Nearing 'US\$500m' Private Capital Deal With RedBird-Backed CAS

December 15, 2025 via Sports Pro

Biggest Celebrity Drinks Launches of 2025

December 12, 2025 via The Drinks Business

Sports

Prediction Market Kalshi Self-Certifies Transfer Portal Trading

December 18, 2025 via ESPN

NBA Will Finally Decide on Expansion Next Year

December 17, 2025 via Front Office Sports

Knicks Decide Against Hanging NBA Cup Banner at MSG

December 17, 2025 via ESPN

Tulane's 'Bayou Jew,' Jake Retzlaff, Humbled By His CFP Spotlight After His difficult BYU Departure

December 16, 2025 via New Orleans WDSU 6

LeBron and Bronny James Striking Financial Contrast with Los Angeles Lakers

December 13, 2025 via Marca

University of Michigan Athletic Department Faces Scrutiny Following Sherrone Moore Arrest

December 12, 2025 via WXYZ 7 News Detroit

Music Biz

Xposure's Ryan Garber & Gregory Walfish on Financing Artists and 'Democratising the Music Industry'

December 17, 2025 via Music Week

Billboard Just Made 'Free' Streams Worth More On Its US Charts. YouTube is Still Not Happy – And Is Pulling Its Data

December 17, 2025 via Music Business Worldwide

The Weeknd Closes \$1 billion Catalog Deal with Lyric Capital

December 15, 2025 via Music Business Worldwide

Film & TV

Sony to Acquire Control of Peanuts in \$457 Million Deal

December 19, 2025 via Variety

Joe Rogan Speechless When Guest Tells Him Podcasts Can Be AI-Generated Now

December 17, 2025 via Futurism

Warner Bros. Discovery Recommends Investors Reject Paramount's Hostile Takeover Bid

December 17, 2025 via NBC News

The Oscars Have a New Stage on YouTube. The Audience May Have Other Plans

December 17, 2025 via Business Insider

Prosecutors Will Charge Rob Reiner's Son Nick With 2 Counts Of Murder In Killing Of His Parents

December 16, 2025 via WJOL AM Radio News

Emerging Sports

Xbox Bowl Brings Console Unrest to College Football Silly Season

December 18, 2025 via Sportico

Official Streaming Platform for the Games of the Future Abu Dhabi 2025 Powered by ADNOC Launches Ahead of Opening Competition

December 13, 2025 via Macau Business