

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER: OUR SPORTIEST STAFF

THE COMMANDERS BEHIND THE CAMERA

David Antilley started as a student in Fall of 1986 and later began his career at Northwestern State University in August of 1992.

He has always had a love for Northwestern athletics and recalls childhood memories of watching everything from indoor track to football. While in college, he did stats and engineering for radio broadcasts of football games. As an upperclassman, he was given the opportunity to work for ESPN, but after prayer and careful consideration, he declined the offer because he wanted to work with students; Now 30 years later, he can do both.

Mr. Antilley has been working with ESPN+ since its inception and was a voice in discussions regarding how ESPN+ would run. At Northwestern, you can get hands-on experience with ESPN+ as a freshman, which sets us apart from other institutions. With Mr. Antilley, "if you have the eagerness and the willingness to work, we'll put you to work. And all of that work will give you confidence, training and the ability to go out and get a job." In the future, he hopes that Northwestern's ESPN+ program remains one of the best programs in our conference and implements ways to improve the viewing experience of those who stream. The department is glad to have a trusted mentor to guide students to success.



David Antilley

James Stanfield has been close to Northwestern State University his entire life, but it wasn't until July of 2022 that he became a valuable member of university staff.

Since then, he has been ESPN's point of contact. Even as a student, he did camera operation for football games as well as directed basketball and baseball livestreams. This experience prepared him for the position he holds now, and students today get the same opportunity.

Mr. Stanfield says, "You can work with us and be ready to work for any network, like CBS, ESPN, NBC, and even news organizations, since we use most of the same gear that news organization use in our sports productions." In the future, he hopes that the program can grow from internet streaming into being live on networks such as ABC and ESPN. It is professionals like James Stanfield who allow students the opportunity to gain experience that could jumpstart their careers in sports media. NSU is lucky to have such a talented former student setting up today's students for success.



James Stanfield

Sports Media- Student Testimonials



Stanley Shaffstall

Sports media students have several ways to gain hands-on experience while at NSU. With ESPN+ and NSU-TV, students help produce footage of high school and college athletics that is aired on local stations and available for streaming through ESPN. Gaining this experience opens windows of future opportunity for students. Hear from two sports media students below about their experiences working with these two platforms:

"I started working with ESPN+ about two years ago by enrolling in a sports production class that Mr. David Antilley instructed. I then began working as a live cameraman for multiple sports such as football, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, and volleyball. By staying dedicated and working hard, I was able to get other opportunities within the production trailer. I now work as director, graphic operator, and cameraman for all sports we cover at NSU." - Stanley Shaffstall



Michan Lacey

"Filming Friday night football was surreal. You can feel the energy when watching it on TV, but being there behind the camera, experiencing the thrill in real time, is indescribable. It was kind of scary at first, being on the sidelines and having to dodge being tackled by high school football players sometimes, but it's all worth the excitement as well as the knowledge you gain every time you pick up that camera and choose passion over the fear. It's hard work, but you have so much fun it doesn't even feel like work. You get to capture awesome plays that thousands will see, moments that players won't have to say, 'You should've been there to see it!' They'll be grateful for that and remember you, the one with the camera. Being part of NSU-TV was the highlight of my college career, and I am grateful for the opportunities that came along the way. It's pretty awesome to catch your shots on the news." - Michan Lacey



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Northwestern State University is a place where students can experience sports media in the same way professionals do. With talented students and hardworking instructors, the future of our department is exciting.

