

# BRIAN WEBSTER

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## Professional Summary

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Writing and editing professional with over 20 years of experience. Highly organized and accustomed to producing excellent copy on short deadlines. Self-starter with experience collaborating on close-knit teams.

## Skills

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- Exceptional writer
- Sound editorial judgment
- Investigative skills
- Proofreading
- Editing
- Research expert
- AP style
- Chicago style
- SEO knowledge
- Facebook
- Twitter
- LinkedIn
- Chicago Manual of Style
- Managing freelancers
- Active listener
- Quick turnaround

## Work History

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**Freelance Writer/Editor** 11/2006 to Current

### Independent Writer/Editor

- Served as ghostwriter for a self-improvement/career development book for medical professionals.
- Served as ghostwriter for a book on dating/social dynamics.
- Was head editor for a book about America's opioid crisis.
- Editor/polisher for English-language educational materials published in China.

### Data Coordinator/Reporter

08/2017 to Current

#### The St Louis Post-Dispatch – Maryland Heights, MO

- Collected and input results and statistics from high school sporting events.
- Maintained flow of information on events covering 160 high schools in the Greater St. Louis area.
- Covered sporting events and wrote occasional features.

### Sports Writer/Night Sports Editor

04/2014 to 08/2017

#### The State Journal-Register – Springfield, IL.

- Planned 6-10-page daily section, then read, edited and wrote headlines for all local and wire copy for print and web publication.
- Concurrently managed and oversaw numerous writing projects under strict deadlines.
- Covered live events, wrote features, kept and managed accurate statistics.
- Regularly updated digital media with snappy, timely content.
- Ensured all copy maintained Associated Press style and followed in-house guides for print and website content.
- Managed writers, remote freelancers, designers, media specialists, production staff and others.

## **Sports Writer**

03/1998 to 11/2013

**The Jacksonville Journal-Courier** – Jacksonville, IL.

- Wrote, edited and produced stories for print and digital platforms.
- Edited footage to create videos for the newspaper's Varsity.com website.
- Followed through on beat sources, contacts and leads to gather information for stories.
- Researched and wrote up to 12 articles per week.

## **Sports Editor**

10/1995 to 02/1998

**The Carthage Press** – Carthage, MO.

- Organized material, determined area of emphasis, and wrote stories according to prescribed editorial style and format standards.
- Planned, designed, took pictures for and laid out each day's sports section.

## **Education**

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**Bachelor of Arts:** English

**Missouri Southern State University** - Joplin, MO.

- Minor in Communications

## **Awards**

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- Won 19 state and national journalism/writing awards from 1996 to 2006, when I stopped entering contests due to newspaper budget constraints. I am happy to provide a list of my awards upon request.