Foster Garvey

Sports & Entertainment Beat

A Season for Bond and Gratitude

11.20.26

Welcome back to the light-Spot light. This week's news confirmed the soul-crushing truth that I will not be the next James Bond. Whether it be because of my minimal acting experience (you would think that playing the role of Bottom in a fourth grade production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" would have given me a leg up on the competition...), my shoddy, fake British accent or my not being handsome enough (OK, maybe not that one), Amazon MGM Studios gave the role to Robert Pattinson. Picking a guy who rose to prominence playing an undead character to play a character that can't be unalived is a safe choice, if you ask me. Suffice it to say, I am shaken, but not stirred, by the choice.

Although I was passed over for the silver screen, I remain thankful for all that I have: My beautiful family (I'll overlook the impassioned arguments from my eight-year-old insisting that we should buy Grand Theft Auto VI for him), my friends and loyal readers (who I recently found out are not mutually exclusive categories), my colleagues (not the least of which being my intrepid marketing team that plays a huge role in pushing my blathering out to the masses) and my clients (whose trust and interesting matters I do not take for granted). With that, the Spotlight will be off next week for the Thanksgiving holiday, returning the following week-presumably several pounds heavier.

- Ashton Kutcher's venture capital fund Sound Ventures adds to its string of successful tech investments, turning its $435 million investment in Anthropic into upwards of $7 billion after the AI company's IPO. Not even Claude could have foreseen that the "That '70's Show" actor would be flirting with billionaire status.
- Weeks after sending a cease-and-desist letter to a company called PlayVision over its AI-powered sports betting app, "Bron AI," LeBron James filed suit to stop the company from unauthorized use of James' name, image and likeness. Evidently, PlayVision neither ceased nor desisted.

Endorsement Deals, Sponsorships and Investments

Ashton Kutcher Celebrates Anthropic's Massive IPO as Firm He Cofounded Rakes in Billions: 'Kind of Cool When That Works Out'
November 19, 2026 via Variety

Mark Walter Sought $800M for Record-Breaking Sparks Sale
November 19, 2026 via Front Office Sports

Why Gap Has a Chief Entertainment Officer, and Why Your Company Might Need One Too
November 19, 2026 via Yahoo! News

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New York Knicks Star Josh Hart Inks Two-Book Deal With HarperCollins
November 18, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

Alix Earle Bares All: How the TikToker Is Becoming Beauty's Next Billion-Dollar Mogul
November 18, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

UConn's $32 Million-Plus Gampel Pavilion Naming Deal Lands in Court Over a Promise Made in 1989
November 18, 2026 via Fox News

LeBron James Just Sued An AI Sports Betting App - Here's Why
November 18, 2026 via Yahoo Sports

Leicester Part Ways With BC Game After Sponsor's Partnership With Porn Actor
November 18, 2026 via The Guardian

Novig, Flush With New Cash, Enters 7 NHL Team Deals
November 18, 2026 via Sportico

Washington Sells Naming Rights to Husky Stadium in Largest Naming Rights Partnership in College Sports History
November 12, 2026 via On3 NIL

Sports

LSU President Says He Has Instructed Will Wade to Not Play RJ Luis
November 20, 2026 via On3

Dan Hurley Says Use of Courts to Gain Player Eligibility 'Gross,' Slams Coaches for Doing So
November 20, 2026 via On3 NIL

N.Y. Sirens to Host Expansion Detroit Clutch in Second PWHL Game at Madison Square Garden
November 17, 2026 via CBC

In Scathing Rebuke of College Sports, Former Big 12 AD Calls NIL System Money Laundering
November 17, 2026 via AP News

SMU Athletics and Mustang Partners Announce Launch of Howard Center for Student-Athlete Success
November 10, 2026 via SMU Athletics

Music Biz

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Carlyle-backed Litmus Music Secures $475M in New Capital, With KKR Joining as an Investor
November 18, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

Symphonic Inks Deal to Bring 'Hundreds of Thousands' of Songs to Roblox
November 14, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

Film & TV

'Jeopardy!' Sets Inaugural Fan Convention in Washington, D.C.
November 19, 2026 via Variety

Pierce Brosnan Says Robert Pattinson Will Be a 'Magnificent' James Bond: 'Enjoy the Ride'
November 19, 2026 via Variety

Nikki Glaser Signs Deal With Newly Created Netflix Is a Joke Studios
November 19, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

Chris Pratt to Star in Sci-Fi Movie 'The Traveler' as He Inks Paramount First-Look
November 19, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

Venus and Serena Williams Set to Launch Season 2 of 'Stockton Street' Podcast on Dear Media
November 18, 2026 via Variety

Netflix Reportedly Seen as 'Frontrunner' to Land U.S. Broadcast Rights to 2030 FIFA World Cup
November 18, 2026 via Awful Announcing

Major League Volleyball Adds NBC Sports, ESPN to 2027 Media Lineup
November 17, 2026 via Sports Business Journal

Bat, Bond and Beyond: How Robert Pattinson Landed 007 (and What Comes Next)
November 17, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

Skin-Crawling Pharma Ads Crowd Out Deadlier Diseases on Sports TV
November 13, 2026 via Sportico

Emerging Sports

'GTA VI' Sales Surge Over $2B On Launch Day As Vice City-Mania Takes Over
November 20, 2026 via Deadline

Posted in Sports & Entertainment Spotlight

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