

A Summer of Page-Turners and Power Plays

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Welcome back to the Spotlight! Across the country, the school year is coming to an end, kids are starting summer camp (or rookie camp for those fortunate enough to have been drafted in the NBA Draft this past week), and for many, things may begin to slow down. But just because the classrooms are empty doesn't mean the learning stops. Indeed, the Spotlight is just getting warmed up, with much to cover in the months ahead-from the World Cup to Major League Baseball to the WNBA to Wimbledon and the US Open (both in golf and tennis) to summer premieres and blockbusters, Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's nuptials and anything in between. There may even be some grilling tips or marshmallow toasting interspersed - I'm not above that. So, pack up your trunks, slather on the sunscreen and get ready for the first summer of the rest of your sports and entertainment interested lives.

- Fresh off of writing a compelling success story through the NBA Playoffs on his way to the championship, New York Knicks' 1A point guard Jalen Brunson announces the forthcoming release of a children's book called "Jalen Plays It All." If the rush to get Knicks merchandise is any indication, my kids may age-out of the intended audience by the time I get a copy.
- NBA superstar Kevin Durant and business partner Rich Kleiman's sports, business and entertainment media company Boardroom scores a wide-ranging deal with Amazon's Wondery to distribute and sell advertising against Boardroom's podcasts and produce live events and activations. Meanwhile I'm a little wondery as to why Amazon isn't interested in my "Boredroom" venture...
- Pop icon Madonna announces plans for her first biopic were abandoned after disagreements over the film's budget - after all, we *are* living in a material world. And yes, if/when the project goes forward in the future, the budget will be approved for the very first time.
- Hasbro catches flak for requiring their child voice actors to grant the company the right to make A.I.-generated reproductions of their voice, bringing a new, uncomfortable meaning to company's popular game, "Guess Who?"

Endorsement Deals, Sponsorships & Investments

[NBPA Launches Plyrs Untd Consumer Brand to 'Own the Game' Beyond the Court](#)

June 24, 2026 via Campaign Live

[Reddit Co-Founder Alexis Ohanian's Firm Acquires Boise-Based ONIT Sports Card Company](#)

June 22, 2026 via Idaho Business Review

[David Beckham's Pre-World Cup Plans to Earn Him Huge 'Nine-Figure Sum'](#)

June 21, 2026 via Manchester Evening News

[100 Consecutive Majors: From the Fairway to the Future of Finance, KuCoin and Adam Scott Mark a Milestone Defined by Consistency and Trust](#)

June 19, 2026 via PR Newswire

Sports

[Knicks Superstar Jalen Brunson's Children's Book, "Jalen Plays It All," Set to Release Next Year](#)

June 25, 2026 via New York Family

[NIL Ledger Launches Financial Management Platform for College Athletes Managing NIL Income and Tax Obligations](#)

June 23, 2026 via GlobeNewswire

[Soccer's Superstars Shift World Cup Spotlight](#)

June 23, 2026 via Front Office Sports

[PGA Tour Greenlights New Two-Series Structure to Begin in 2028](#)

June 23, 2026 via Front Office Sports

[New 49ers CEO AI Guido on Running 'the Globe's Team' and Hosting More Super Bowls](#)

June 23, 2026 via NY Times

[Seattle Named Top World Cup Venue by The Athletic Rankings](#)

June 22, 2026 via USA Today

[ESPN Fan House Opening As Engagement Hub For College Sports Fanatics](#)

June 22, 2026 via Deadline

[College Sports Sees Pivotal Moment as Senate Looks to Move Legislation on NIL, Transfers Across Goal Line](#)

June 21, 2026 via Fox News

['Messi is his Own Economy': Ahead of Two World Cup Group Stage Matches at Dallas Stadium, Inside Lionel Messi Inc.](#)

June 21, 2026 via Lancaster Online

Music Biz

[Warner Music Launches Pilot with Indie Record Stores to Test Whether Fans Unwanted Vinyl Can be Recycled](#)

June 26, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

[Suno is Paying Grants to Independent Artists... So Long as They Agree Not to Criticize Suno](#)

June 25, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

[Influence Media Emerges as Winning Bidder for Anthem's Music Assets with \\$650M+ Offer](#)

June 24, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

[Deezer Launches a Remix Tool that Does not Use AI and Pays Artists for Every Stream](#)

June 24, 2026 via The Next Web

[Speak When? Everything \(We Think\) We Know About Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's Upcoming Wedding](#)

June 23, 2026 via Los Angeles Times

[Rapper Swizz Beatz, Music Publishers Sue Lake Norman Bar for Allegedly Playing Music Without a License](#)

June 23, 2026 via WBTV

[Donna Summer's Legacy 'Works Hard For The Money' In Primary Wave Deal](#)

June 22, 2026 via Forbes

Film & TV

[Hasbro's TV Contracts Allegedly Ask Child Voice Actors to Sign Rights Away for AI Use](#)

June 25, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

[Fanatics Sportsbook Is Turning Real Bets Into An Animated Series](#)

June 25, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

[As Michael Jackson Movie Nears \\$1B, Madonna Says her Biopic has Been Scrapped](#)

June 24, 2026 via Music Business Worldwide

[UTA Partners on New Digital Insights Tool For Creators, Brands](#)

June 23, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

[DDA Talent, Worldwide Production Agency Merge To Create Leader In Below-The-Line Representation](#)

June 23, 2026 via Deadline

[Amazon's Wondery Strikes Deal With Kevin Durant's Boardroom](#)

June 22, 2026 via Hollywood Reporter

[ATP Announces Global Launch of ACES: The ATP No. 1 Club Docuseries](#)

June 22, 2026 via ATP

[Dem Senators Urge FCC to Pause Paramount-Warner Bros Discovery Merger Over Foreign Investor Concerns](#)

June 20, 2026 via Fox Business

[Netflix Inks Development Deal with Ryan Coogler's Proximity Media Television](#)

June 19, 2026 via RealScreen

[Apple TV is Making an Entire F1 Race Weekend Free for the First Time](#)

June 19, 2026 via Awful Announcing

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