

# VARUN SHANKAR

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## EXPERIENCE

### The Washington Post

[washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

September 2021 – present

Sports Reporter and News Aide

- Covered high school field hockey in the Washington DC, Virginia, and Maryland
- Travelled to games, gathered information, and wrote on strict deadlines
- Developed detailed interviewing techniques to gather story ideas from a wide range of sources
- Kept track of data entries from coaches to gather high school sports scores from across the region

### The Diamondback

[dbknews.com](https://www.dbknews.com)

November 2020 – present

Sports Reporter

- Covered Maryland women's basketball's games and press availabilities, identified stories of interest around the program and its players
- Wrote four [articles](#) per week examining various aspects of the team, worked with editors to develop story topics
- Maintained a robust presence on both Instagram and Twitter to promote stories

### Blue Wire Podcast Network

[bluiwirepods.com](https://www.bluiwirepods.com)

June 2021 – August 2021

Network Content Intern

- Identified potential podcasts and podcast talent in dark markets to add to the network
- Managed internal documentation of potential additions to network
- Sent internal and external newsletters

### LoCoSports

[locosports.info](https://www.locosports.info)

April 2018 – June 2020

Staff Writer and Podcast Host

- Identified and reported [stories](#) of interest within Loudoun County high school sports, such as games and college commitments
- Hosted a biweekly video and audio podcast ([The Technical Fowl](#)) interviewing Loudoun County's best athletes
- Reviewed writing samples to ensure syntax structure, grammar and content are of the highest quality

### Loudoun Times Mirror

[loudountimes.com](https://www.loudountimes.com)

October 2018 – July 2019

Student Reporter

- Identified and reported [stories](#) of interest within Loudoun County high school sports, such as sports activities and college commitments
- Researched facts about sporting events to engage the reader in a way that is interesting and informative

### 808s and Bold Takes

[808sandboldtakes.substack.com](https://808sandboldtakes.substack.com)

February 2020 – Present

- Published a [newsletter](#) at least once every two weeks on a variety of issues
- Reviews content to ensure proper grammar and content
- Promotes extensively on social media using custom-made graphics

## EDUCATION

### University of Maryland

College Park, MD

Expected Graduation Date: June 2024

- Expected Majors: BS in Economics and BA in Journalism

### Dominion High School

Sterling, VA

Date of graduation: June 2020

### Academies of Loudoun

Leesburg, VA

Date of graduation: June 2020

## SKILLS

- Proficiency in Adobe Audition
- Website administration
- Journalistic skills
- Pronunciation
- Ability to work on deadline
- Attention to detail
- Writing and Editing
- Ability to work under pressure
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office