

THOMAS L. BLODGETT

8 West Erie Drive
Tempe, Arizona 85282
602.620.4873
thomas.blodgett@gmail.com
Website: www.tomblodgett.net

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Energetic, passionate journalist with a track record in developing self-sustaining coverage models with emphasis on quality storytelling and giving employees support and room to succeed. Excel at engaging with public and giving personality to coverage. Early devotee to new platforms and ways of telling stories and delivering news. Strong believer in building and connecting with community.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial Advisor, Student Media, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ., 2014 - Present

- Mentor student journalists on editorial excellence, ethics and professional development

Instructional Professional, Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ., 2005 - Present

- Teach one section of JMC 201, News Writing and Reporting, or JMC 302, Sportswriting
- Developed power points used in most 201 sections
- Aided dozens of students in gaining scholarships, internships and employment

Community Engagement Specialist, The Arizona Republic, Phoenix, AZ., 2014 - 2017

- Edit for publication and post editorial content from contributors outside newsroom
- Charged with assigning and editing content for annual Winter Visitors Guide

Associate Content Manager, The Arizona Republic, Phoenix, AZ., 2002 - 2014

- Successfully expanded award-winning high schools coverage across multiple platforms
- Engage with readers through highly successful online chat and social media
- Forged partnership with Channel 12 for "Friday Night Fever," helping establish Rocky Mountain Emmy-winning coverage and achieving record ratings
- Supervise and build into team two reporters, a columnist, copy editor, news assistant, three interns and six scoretakers at the state's largest media company

Content Coordinator, The Arizona Republic, Phoenix, AZ., 1999 - 2002

- Produced content for the Southeast Valley zone products
- Duties eventually expanded to include responsibility for other zones

Copy Editor, The Arizona Republic, Phoenix, AZ., 1996 - 1999

- Served on rim and as proofer and wire editor on the sports desk

Sportswriter, The Arizona Republic / Phoenix Gazette, Phoenix, AZ., 1995 - 1996

- Covered high school sports after the merger of the two newspapers.

Zone Sports Coordinator, The Phoenix Gazette, Phoenix, AZ., 1990 - 1995

- Expanded high school sports coverage into signature coverage for daily sports section
- Reported, coordinated daily and zone coverage of high school sports for the afternoon daily

Copy Editor, The Phoenix Gazette, Phoenix, AZ., 1987 - 1989

- Served on rim and in slot and set agate in the sports department

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Journalism, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

- Named the outstanding undergraduate student for journalism
- Some postgraduate work in mass communications, 2006-07

AWARDS

Arizona Press Club, sports feature, third place. Recognized for story for story on Arizona high school mascot names.

Best Practices in Digital Media: Part of a team recognized by the Newspaper Association of America *Presstime* magazine for expanded online content of high school football in 2004

Rocky Mountain Emmy, Sports Programming: Part of team recognized for The Republic and KPNX - TV's *Friday Night Fever* highlights show.

Sigma Delta Chi Award, sports writing honorable mention, Recognized for a feature on how the Fredonia High School football team helped in the town's healing after the town's sawmill was closed

Silver Ingot, Company recognition from Phoenix Newspapers Inc. for editorial plan on expanded high school sports coverage in 1991

Hearst Awards. Second place in editorial writing and 19th place in sports writing in college journalism's "Pulitzer Prize."

Outstanding Faculty Associate of the Year, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication, Arizona State University. Recognized for classroom work, 2010-11.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Student Media Advisory Board, Arizona State University. Served as member since 1992 and as chairman from 2001 – 2006

Director of Operations, Vendetta AZ 18U Softball. Founded, administer and help coach an 18U team serving girls from across Arizona and has played in tournaments in four states, 2012 – Present.

Assistant District Administrator, Arizona District 13 Little League. Restarted Little League Softball in the Tempe-Chandler-Guadalupe-Ahwatukee area, 2011-12.

President, Tempe Rio Salado Little League. Administered Little League Baseball in the central Tempe area for more than 200 boys and girls from 2009 – 2011.

Team Captain, United Way, Phoenix, AZ. One of two leaders in The Arizona Republic's sports department for the fund's fall 2006 pledge drive.

Volunteer, Broadmor Elementary School, Tempe, AZ. Taught Junior Achievement in several classrooms and assisted weekly in my child's class. Coordinated community celebration for school's 50th anniversary as chairman.