

Austin Z. Thomas

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Career Focus	I hope to be a full-time play-by-play commentator, calling games wherever I am, and have been putting in as much work as I can to set myself up for success and eventually reach the highest level.
References	Dan Vaughan , vaughan@xsbaseball.com (817) 739-3692 <i>Sioux City Explorers Director of Broadcasting and Media</i> Jake Adams , agm@raftersbaseball.com (612) 202-5881 <i>Wisconsin Rapids Rafters Assistant General Manager</i> Blake Gazaway , blake.gazaway88@gmail.com (417) 684-5105 <i>Show-Me Sports Network President/Play-By-Play Voice</i>
Experience	Radio Broadcast Intern , Wisconsin Rapids Rafters <i>May 2025 - Present</i> During the 2025 summer, I spent almost every day with the Rafters, calling all games on the radio at WFHR 97.5 FM/1320 AM. My responsibilities included preparing rosters, creating game notes, conducting interviews, writing press releases and coordinating moves/lineups with the league while also assisting ballpark operations and the television broadcast. Media Relations Associate , Sioux City Explorers <i>May 2024 - August 2024</i> I earned a more advanced role with the Explorers, broadcasting almost every home game with lead broadcaster Dan Vaughan. I also interacted with the players/coaches more, doing many pregame and postgame interviews while still maintaining similar duties to 2023 including game notes, stat packs, social media, press releases, running the board and game stories. Media Assistant , Sioux City Explorers <i>May 2023 - August 2023</i> As an intern with the Explorers, I worked almost every game, helping with game notes, making graphics for social media, live-tweeting, and writing player bios, press releases and game stories. During away games I ran the board at KSCJ 94.9 FM/1360 AM and took part in the pregame show while giving score updates throughout the game. For home games I created stat packs, learned to run replay, the video board, and PA. Occasionally, I made graphics for the video board or highlight videos as well. Show-Me Sports Network <i>August 2023 - Present</i> The Show-Me Sports Network is an online-based high school sports broadcasting site. As part of the network, I've called every varsity football game for Hallsville High School since starting and have commentated many basketball, baseball and softball games as well. KCOU <i>August 2022 - Present</i> I co-host multiple sports shows and help with live radio broadcasts on 88.1 FM Columbia. Helped with 73 live sporting productions. Was Sports Programming Director from Fall 2023 - Spring 2025 and now Sports Advisor for final semester.
Education	University of Missouri, Columbia, MO <i>August 2022 - Present</i> Currently am pursuing a Bachelor of Journalism and have completed the requirements for a certificate in Sports Analytics. Expected graduation Winter 2025. Currently hold a 3.81 GPA after six semesters. Lee's Summit West High School, Lee's Summit, MO <i>August 2018 - May 2022</i> Graduated in the top 10% of the class with a weighted GPA of 4.35 and unweighted GPA of 3.84 Achieved an ACT composite of 34 Completed the International Baccalaureate Career Programme
Achievements	Dean's List I made the University of Missouri Dean's List in each semester Fall 2022 - Spring 2025. Broadcasting MIJA 2022 Superior Live Sports Broadcast (x2), STAA Calls of the Week 6/25/24 & 1/28/25 Boy Scouts I successfully earned my Eagle Scout in late 2019 after participating in scouting since 2010.