

UA-4310722-15

Women's History Month: Amanda Pflugrad (FoxSports Reporter)

Added by [Gregg Snyder](#) on March 13, 2012.

So far this month in our celebration of women in sports, we've talked to a few reporters who have made a name for themselves through their current jobs. Today we talk with one that was already known around the sports world, particularly men. Amanda Pflugrad is probably the only college football cheerleader any guy could randomly name. The former Oregon cheerleader is now working for FoxSports as a sports reporter. She's also a model and has taken some time out of her schedule to talk with us...

You have been around sports basically your entire life, can you tell us a little bit about that?

As a daughter of a football coach, I can remember running around on a football field and going to watch my dad's practices and games. Saturdays I was on the field and Sundays I was in his office usually making a few quarters to clean it and to file away the latest game plan. I even remember watching film with him. Growing up I felt like I had a huge family because all of his players looked out for my brother and I. I also feel very fortunate that I was able to cheer for both my dad and brother when we were at Oregon.

Where are you at now, what are some of the things you are currently doing or working on?

Right now, I am covering charity events that the pro athletes are involved with here in the Valley. I was also able to report during bowl week at the MAACO Bowl in Las Vegas for both Arizona State and Boise State this past December, which was an amazing experience. The most recent coverage that I am involved with is being a play-by-play announcer for ASU gymnastics for Fox Sports Arizona. I'm doing interviews at their practices and writing articles for Sun Devil Athletics. I participated in gymnastics for almost ten years, so I've enjoyed being back in the gym. I am in the works of doing more sports features and have some upcoming projects with Rand McNally and USA Today.

When did it really sink in that you wanted to pursue a career in sports journalism and broadcasting?

It started my junior year in college. I was taking even more in depth classes for broadcasting and learning the hands on experience with production, shooting and editing. However, it was Oregon News, which I took my senior year that really offered me a chance to report on both sports and news. Being in the journalism lab every day and producing packages every week I felt like that was where I was supposed to be. I loved my classmates and my professor Rebecca Force really prepared the class for how a news station is run. It was a lot of work but I really enjoyed communicating with people and telling their stories through a creative outlet.

As you began studying for this career, was there anyone in particular you used as a role model or inspiration?

I would often watch the games that Erin Andrews broadcast to study her delivery. Samantha Steele was another female reporter who I tried to emulate with studying her work. I was also impressed with the poise and confidence of Fox Sports Arizona's Jody Jackson. I have tried to apply and develop that into my own reporting.

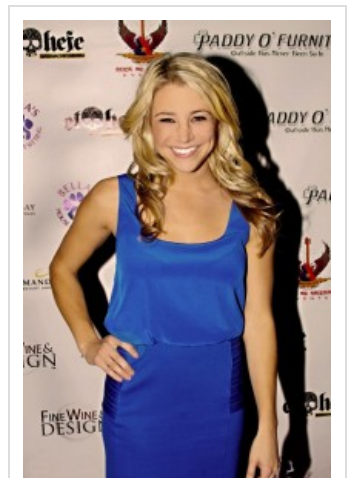
We know football is one of your biggest passions, but you've also done things in fashion, travel, modeling, and more. Which area outside of sports is your favorite?

I would have to say traveling. I love to experience new avenues and I think with traveling you learn so much about other people and yourself. This summer when I was a travel host for Rand McNally, we were in a different town every other day meeting new people and seeing their way of life. It really opened my eyes that there is so much out there. The families that invited us to spend the day with them were so open and I loved interviewing them and hearing their stories. In addition, when I was traveling I was able to try an array of different foods that I normally wouldn't eat. I loved all the food from the South and developed a hankering for Sweet Tea!

Covering charity events is something you have done quite a bit of lately, what does that mean to you?

I get so much fulfillment in seeing others help people who are in need. I believe that it is so important to give back to others, especially those who are less fortunate. I think that there needs to be more of that. I am very blessed to have the opportunity to raise awareness for these charitable organizations and help them raise money. In addition, bringing light to athletes who are giving back to others in their community always makes a great story.

Being a woman covering sports, I'm sure you have heard people say things or act a certain way towards you. Can you tell us about some of the difficulties you have experienced?



Amanda Pflugrad

I think with any job it is about working hard and proving yourself and proving that you belong in the profession. Sports broadcasting was once a male dominated field, now more and more women are becoming sports reporters. There is always the idea that you don't know as much as a male reporter but I think if you do the research and know what you are covering you can earn respect.

You are probably the most famous college cheerleader ever, for many reasons. What do you think about that?

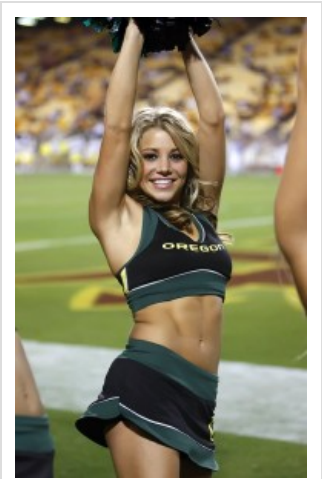
It is really flattering. I was just doing what I love to do. Some of my best memories were being an Oregon cheerleader. I met my best friends on the team and I think being involved with the program really developed me as a person.

Are you where you want to be in your career, or do you have further aspirations and goals?

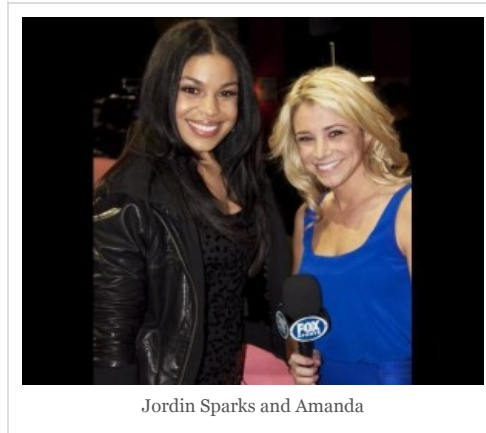
I think for me right now I just want to continue to develop and grow as a journalist and reporter. I would like to become involved in more sideline reporting and sports features in the future. I am in a great spot with gaining valuable experience. I want to continue to learn and push myself to be the very best that I can possibly be.

Looking back on what you have done so far in your career, is there one particular interview that is your favorite? Or how about one particular sporting event that stands out?

Two events that really stood out to me that I was able to cover was both the Premier Viewing Party of the Pat Tillman Legacy and Pat's Run. My dad coached Pat at ASU when he was under Head Coach Bruce Snyder. Pat would always come and hang out with my brother and I after practice. He would go out of his way to see our family. I have great memories of him as a little girl. I really admire who he was as a person and what he stood for. I felt honored to be able to cover his legacy that he has not only left in the community but throughout the entire nation. By covering these events, I was able to see all of the lives that he touched from teammates, coaches, and even fans.



Amanda is a former Oregon cheerleader



Jordin Sparks and Amanda

You can follow Amanda's work on her Twitter [@AmandaPflugrad](https://twitter.com/AmandaPflugrad)

Previous Women's History Month Interviews:

[Tina Cervasio \(MSG Reporter\)](#)

[Jennie Finch \(Softball\)](#)

[Jen Royle \(Reporter\)](#)

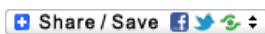
[Carolyn Blank \(Sky Blue FC\)](#)

[Chantal Sutherland \(Jockey\)](#)

[Jessica Quiroli \(MiLB Writer\)](#)

[Brittany Lincicome \(LPGA\)](#)

[Jessica Mendoza \(Softball\)](#)





About Gregg Snyder

Gregg is the owner of DoubleGSports.com. He started and has been running the site since October of 2009. You can reach him by email at doublesports@gmail.com. You will find Gregg's writings in many different areas of Double G Sports. Follow Double G Sports on Twitter @DoubleGSports and 'like' our Facebook fan page.

View all posts by Gregg Snyder →



King James to Return to Cleveland?



Onwards and Upwards for Maria Sharapova



The 2012 FA Community Awards



NFL Baller Rocks a "Hello Kitty" Car

blitz.porn.