

# 2022 State Journalism Championship



## #9 Newspaper Sports Feature Writing

**Time Limit – 1:15**

**Directions:** Assume the role of reporter for a student newspaper. A group question-and-answer session will be conducted with the interviewee. The group interview will last 10 to 15 minutes. Prepare questions to ask and take notes on the responses. The interview may not be recorded. Entries will be evaluated on originality, reader appeal and interest.

### When you are finished:

1. **Type your first and last name at the top of the document.**
2. **Save our document as a pdf file with filename: yourfirstlastname\_NPsportsfeature\_Class (For example: SusieSmith\_NPsportsfeature\_ClassA).**
3. **Notify the proctor when you are finished.**

Jerrett Mills was named the next athletic director at Northeast in May 2021. He previously served as the Interim Athletic Director and as the Associate Athletic Director for three years at Northeast Community College. Mills assists in all aspects of day-to-day operations of the athletic department, including all sports information responsibilities and game management duties, serving as the primary administrator of the Northeast social media accounts and the webmaster for the athletic website. In addition, he is responsible for creating game-day programs, promotional items, fundraising and the ongoing technological evolution of media relations of the department.

During the 2019-2020 school year, Mills led the publicity efforts of the Northeast volleyball team's return trip to the NJCAA DII National Tournament in Charleston, W.V. He also helped with the revamped effort of the Hawks Boosters campaign.

In his first year at Northeast, he helped kick-off the new athletic website, [www.northeasthawks.com](http://www.northeasthawks.com) while enhancing the marketing efforts for the department. Under Mills' guidance, the department was awarded their first CoSIDA publications award, finishing in the top-10 in the fall/winter/spring posters category. In the past year, he has raised the social media presence by more than 50 percent, while covering the Northeast volleyball national tournament trip and the historic run of the Northeast baseball team to the NJCAA DII Baseball National Tournament in Enid, Okla.

In 2019 under Mills' direction, former volleyball standout Kalli Brester became the first CoSIDA Academic All-American in the history of Northeast Athletics. He also helped lead the addition of the Northeast rodeo program.

At Northeast, Mills also serves on various committees, is a Title IX Investigator and the advisor for the Northeast Student-Athlete Council.

The Norfolk, Neb., native brings a wide-range of experience to the Northeast Athletic Department, previously serving in an admissions role with Wayne State College in Wayne, Neb. At Wayne State, he was responsible for assisting in the recruiting efforts of one of the largest freshman classes at WSC. Prior to Wayne State, Mills was the Sports Information Director at Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, S.D. At Dakota Wesleyan, Mills was in charge of maintaining the athletic department's website, social media accounts, photography, record keeping and statistics for the school's 16 athletic programs. In 2018, Mills earned three top-3 finishes in the annual NAIA-SIDA Publications Contest, with a first, second and third-place finish in the media guide/brochures category. In his first year, he was a finalist for the Great Plains Athletic Conference SID of the Year.

Mills attended Dakota Wesleyan and graduated in 2016 with double majors in journalism and communications and attained his Masters of Arts degree in educational policy and administration.