

Sport at the Service of Humanity Conference

November 4–6, 2026

South Orange, New Jersey

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY
1856

Introduction

Seton Hall University is proud to host the **Sport at the Service of Humanity** (SSH) Conference in South Orange, New Jersey. The conference, developed in consultation with the Vatican Dicastery for Culture and Education (formerly the Pontifical Council for Culture), is designed to advance the meaningful work of the Sport at the Service of Humanity initiative that focuses on three pillars: Inspiration, Inclusion and Involvement. The theme of Seton Hall's conference is "Communication, Collaboration, Community: Sport at the Service of Humanity."

The Sport at the Service of Humanity Conference at Seton Hall brings together leaders in athletics, media, education, faith communities, and youth sports to harness the power and visibility of sport to effect positive change in the world.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- **Monsignor Joseph Reilly, S.T.L., Ph.D.,** *President of Seton Hall University*
- **Bob Ley '76,** *Award-winning sports journalist; Founder, Center for Sports Media*
- **Val Ackerman,** *Retired BIG EAST Commissioner; Founding President of the WNBA*
- **David Eades,** *Broadcaster and writer; Board Director of Sport at the Service of Humanity Foundation*

**All Conference events will be held in Bethany Hall unless noted otherwise.*

SPORT at the SERVICE OF HUMANITY

Agenda

DAY 1	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Noon	Shuttle from hotels to main campus
12:30 p.m.	Conference Registration, Lunch with Welcoming Remarks by Val Ackerman and David Eades
1:30 p.m.	Opening Keynote: Bob Ley '76
2:15 p.m.	*Break*
2:30 p.m.	***Narratives That Serve: Storytelling, Sports and the Common Good***
	Moderator: Benjamin Pincus, Associate Dean for Assessment and External Engagement, Seton Hall University
	• Corey Leff, Founder and Publisher, JohnWallStreet
	• Josh Oshinsky, Head of Creative Development, Scripted and Unscripted, ESPN
	• Sarah Spain, Emmy and Peabody Award-Winning Journalist and Content Director, iHeart Women' Sports, Host of "Good Game with Sarah Spain", Minority Owner San Francisco Signal (LOVB)
3:45 p.m.	*Break and Campus Tour*
5 p.m.	Mass in the Chapel, Father James Hamel
6 p.m.	*Reception and Dinner*
8:30 p.m.	Shuttle to hotels

DAY 2	THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5
7 a.m.	Shuttle from hotels to main campus
7:30 a.m.	Sport Activity: Richard and Sheila Regan Fieldhouse
8 a.m.	*Breakfast, Bethany Hall*
8:45 a.m.	Opening Reflections: David Eades — From Communication to Collaboration
9:30 a.m.	***Major League Social Initiatives: Leveraging Sports for Positive Social Change***
	Moderator: Jonathan Farina, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Seton Hall University
	• Ethan Medley, Director of Community Relations and Youth Football, New York Football Giants

AGENDA CONTINUED

Agenda

- **Andrew Simon,** Executive Director of the Buccino Institute and Professor of Psychology, Seton Hall University

10:45 a.m. *Break*

11 a.m. ***Telling the Story of the Meaning of Sport***

Moderator: Robert Boland, Assistant Professor of Law, Seton Hall University

- **David Maraniss,** Pulitzer Prize Winner and former Editor of *The Washington Post*
- **Don McPherson,** College Football Hall of Fame Member

12:30 p.m. *Break*

12:45 p.m. *Lunch*

2 p.m. **Spotlight Session: Tatum Colitz,** Senior Associate Athletics Director for Compliance and Student-Athlete Development and Senior Woman Administrator, Seton Hall University

3 p.m. **Keynote: Monsignor Joseph Reilly, S.T.L.,** President of Seton Hall University

3:30 p.m. ***Servant Leadership Through Athletics: Leading Yourself and Others***

Moderator: Bryan Felt, Director of Athletics and Recreation, Seton Hall University

- **Stephen Beaman,** Seton Hall Graduate Student and Former Student Athlete
- **Ghana Imani Hylton,** Director, Campus Inclusion at Seton Hall
- **James Enzler,** Head Coach, Seton Hall Women's Tennis
- **Loukia Papadakos,** Senior, Seton Hall Women's Volleyball Team

4 p.m. Breakout Session

5:30 p.m. *Dinner, Rotunda, Walsh Library*

7 p.m. Men's Basketball Game in Walsh Gym

9:30 p.m. Shuttle to hotels

AGENDA CONTINUED

Agenda

DAY 3	FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6
7:30 a.m.	Shuttle from hotels to main campus
8 a.m.	*Breakfast, University Center, Event Room*
8:30 a.m.	Opening Reflections: David Eades — From Collaboration to Community
8:45 a.m.	***Opportunities Abound: Moving from Campus to Community***
	Moderator: B.J. Schecter, Executive Director, Center for Sports Media
	• Breeana Cassidy, Program Manager, New Jersey Youth Soccer
	• Niamh Campbell, Senior, Pirate Sports Network, Center for Sports Media
	• Angelina Diaco, SHU TV
	• Samuel Stinson, SHU TV
9:45 a.m.	*Break*
10 a.m.	Keynote: Val Ackerman, Outgoing BIG EAST Commissioner
11 a.m.	***Sports in the Curriculum, Seton Hall Faculty***
Noon	*Lunch to Go*

For more information about
the event, please visit
setonhall.edu/ssh

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SHU-104778-26