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### Times Facts

In 1997, Damian began his career with the *Times* covering sports in Pasco County. He later covered Pinellas County sports and NASCAR, and added back-up reporter for the Tampa Bay Lightning to his roles during the 1999-2000 season. In 2000, he became the primary reporter for the Lightning and covered them through their 2004 Stanley Cup-winning championship season, when he began covering baseball and, in particular, the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. In 2006, he returned to the Lightning beat.

### Talking Points

• Tampa Bay Lightning • Hockey • Minor & Junior Hockey • The Stanley Cup  
• Major League Baseball • Tampa Bay Devil Rays

Damian is a regular contributor to various out-of-town radio and T.V. shows, and also to the Hockey News.

### Education

Damian obtained his bachelor of arts degree in communications, with minors in English and political science, from Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y. in 1982.

### Background

Following his graduation from college, Damian spent five years with *Newsday* in New York City covering high school sports. He then moved to Florida where he joined the *Ft. Myers News Press*. In his seven years at the paper he covered college football, baseball and basketball at the University of Miami. He also spent time covering professional sports, including the Marlins major league baseball team and the NFL's Dolphins. From 1994-1997, before coming to the *Times*, Damian worked as Associate Editor for *Florida Sportsfan Magazine*.

### Awards

In 1992, Damian was chosen Sportswriter of the Year by the Gannett News Service. In 2004, following the Tampa Bay Lightning's Stanley Cup victory, Damian's columns and articles were published in a commemorative book celebrating the team's championship season. In 2006, Damian was one of two writers who won a Green Eyeshade Award from the Society of Professional Journalists for the piece "What Went Wrong: 10 Years of Devil Rays."

### Contact

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