When I first got into this business five years ago, I set goals for what I want to accomplish and where I want this career to take me. I don't think I'm no different than anyone else when I say my ultimate goal is to work Sports Illustrated or ESPN.

To reach those goals, however, certain steps must be taken. Unfortunately, it is time for me to take that next step towards reaching my goals.

This will be the last time the Mitchell Report will appear here. As of Wednesday, I am no longer a part of The Yazoo Herald. I will be moving back to Texas where I have accepted the assistant sports editor position with The Victoria Advocate (a daily newspaper).

When I first came here, I didn't know what to expect. Of course, I knew what my job would entail (for the most part), but what I didn't know was what it'd be like working in Yazoo City. With the rare exception, it was a great experience. Everybody treated me nicely and I saw that everybody here is friendly, something I'm still not fully used to after 18 years of big-city living.

Yes, it has only been a year since I first introduced the Mitchell Report and began working here. But it's a year I will never forget.

First off, I have to thank Jason Patterson for giving me this job and opportunity to meet some great people, especially the great high school athletes around here that aren't afraid when the tape recorder comes on. I can't thank him enough.

I also have to thank Jamie Patterson for her help and advice doing the day-to-day things, as well as being one of the best people I've had a chance to meet in Yazoo City. A big thank s goes out to all of my fellow co-workers for everything you guys have helped me with over the past year.

I couldn't have done my job without some help from people outside the office, as well. Fran Twiner, Dawn Rosenberg, Hank Lamb and Scott Jones all helped me get pictures when I couldn't' get them.

A big thank you goes out to all of the coaches, players and other school officials who've had to deal with me. I know I'm not everybody's favorite person, but I enjoyed working with all of you.

Now it's time for me to start a new chapter in my life, but unlike a book, chapters don't close in my life. They just get put on hold until I come back to them.