

# Lauren Dugan



The other day I came across a bag that read: "a little bit of yankee, a little bit of y'all." I didn't [buy](#) the bag, but I adopted the saying.

My first sight of the south was from the seat of a U-Haul when I made the ten hour drive to the Queen City. Being from the Northeast, I was reluctant to turn my NJ pizza diet to Carolina barbecue, but snow for sunshine was an easy trade. On my first day in our [newsroom](#), I quickly learned that all those rumors of southern hospitality were very true.

Since I started reporting at Fox46 Charlotte in 2016, I have covered the Keith Lamont Scott protests, Billy Graham's funeral, the 2017 total solar eclipse, the hack attack on Mecklenburg County, and a lot of breaking news. My [office](#) is my car, full of a wardrobe for every occasion and weather event, but I love constantly being on-the-go: talking with neighbors at the heart of a story and tackling a new adventure each day.

Before Fox46 Charlotte, I started my career as a Vatican Correspondent for WTXF Fox29 Philadelphia. No, I did not pick up a word of Italian. But I did pick up a lot of pizza. At the Vatican, I worked on the breaking news coverage of the #PopeinPhilly announcement, preparations for the papal visit to the U.S. and the 2015 Philadelphia World Meeting of Families. I also reported on the controversial discussions on same sex marriage and communion for divorced Catholics in the 2014 Extraordinary Synod of Bishops.

Once I returned state side, I reported as a one-man-band on local developments around the Pope's visit to Philly and features around the City of Brotherly Love. My report on an endangered veteran suicide prevention

program, Vets 4 Warriors, was used in a plea for funding to the U.S. Department of Defense in Washington D.C. A couple months later, funding was granted by then-NJ Governor Chris Christie. I have also landed many exclusive and high profile interviews with Vatican Officials, Congressmen, Nobel Prize winners, athletes like Mark Sanchez and Mone Davis, Jay Wright, Buddy "Cake Boss" Valastro, and Jim Gaffigan.

Before I fell in love with local news, I once saw myself as a sports reporter. Ask me my teams and it's college sports over the pro's any day. They say you have to start small... and by small I mean in the back corner of dingy pool bleachers, looking through binoculars, calling water polo games into a cheap radio headset. Years of hard work later, I found myself on the sidelines of the NCAA 2016 Men's Basketball Final Four and National Championship, reporting for ESPN U Campus Connections and Villanova University [Communications](#) Office. Sorry Tar Heel fans and Page Fehling, but Villanova is my alma mater and, to me, that is the greatest sporting event of all time.

If you haven't guessed from the pizza comments, I'm originaly from New Jersey. Before Jersey Shore jokes enter your mind, I would like to fill it with pictures of cows and tractors. It's called the Garden State for a reason! When I'm not reporting, you can find me running down the Rail Trail, swimming laps, or volunteering with Mecklenburg County Special Olympics... a love I have carried with me state-to-state and grown since high school.

Enough about me... I want to hear about you! YOU are what make me jump out of bed at 2AM everyday. Your stories are what connect us... the yankee transplants and QC lifers. Let us at Fox46 Charlotte get you results!