**JCM 366: Television Production**

**1st News Package**

**Description**

You will research, write, shoot and edit a news packages. Your package must be between 1:00 and 1:30 in length and contain:

- at least one sound bite from at least one interview
- a cut-in or a cut-away shot
- B-roll footage
- a standup from the reporter.
- two-second video pads at the beginning and end of the package.

Everyone is a reporter for this first news package. You can shoot your own stand up, have a friend help, or have a classmate shoot it (in return for shooting theirs). In the future you will be paired with a partner.

**Purpose**

This assignment gives you practice shooting, writing, and editing. As a reporter you will gain experience researching a topic, interviewing and writing to the visuals. As the photographer, you will improve your shooting and editing skills, become more comfortable with the equipment, and learn to tell a good story.

**Grading**

You will be graded on the newsworthiness (as defined in class and in the handout on Blackboard) of the story, how clearly written and delivered it is, the quality and appropriateness of the person being interviewed*, and your on-camera appearance (professionalism). In addition, you will be evaluated on shot composition, audio levels, and technical quality of the edits.

A typed script indicating shots and sound bites is to be uploaded to the Blackboard site (Threaded Discussion area) by the due date.

**Video & Editing**:

- **C**  Most shots are in focus and are stable; no more than one break in continuity; all mandatory components of assignment present.

- **B**  All of the above and: good composition; audio sufficient; no glitches.

- **A**  Excellent composition and positioning of images; no glitches in editing; audio appropriate and correctly handled. Images enhance words.
Reporting:

C Sound bite not helpful to story or interviewee’s qualifications not made clear for the viewer; story purpose or flow line not comprehensible; not articulate on camera; not dressed appropriately for on-camera appearance.

B Story has clear purpose and flows well for viewer; sound bite well chosen and adds to story; good on-camera appearance.

A All of the requirements for B and: excellent story choice; articulate during voice-over and on-camera appearance.

Other:

* Do not interview your roommates or friends. Give that story to someone else. Also, do not do stories about organizations to which you belong: That is a conflict of interest. And finally, DO NOT do any story related to Homecoming: The show containing your first package will air LONG after Homecoming weekend.

Go all out on these two assignments. Our show, if shown over Time-Warner Cable, and has a potential audience of more than 25,000 homes; over the Internet as a stream,

A second or third interview, provided they are with people significant to the story you are telling, will improve your grades on these assignments. (For example, a story about equitable funding of athletic teams might have bites from Dr. Alan White, a coach, a female athlete, and a male athlete. Each person would only be on camera or heard for a few seconds, as they help tell the story.)

With news packages it is critical that your work is on time. As always, upload your .mov file to Quicksilver, upload your .dv file to the video server, and upload your script to Blackboard. Keep your project on your FireWire as well: You may want it later for an internship or job interview, or for your portfolio.