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Sept₀ - Dec. 197V

Students will be introduced to the basic writing style used in the preparation of news and feature material for the print media. The emphasis of the course is on interviewing, writing and rewriting* In addition GO in-class assignments students will also be required to cover news stories outside the College, These may include covering court, covering meetings, and preparing individual news and feature **assignments***

The **City Editor of the Sault Daily Star**, Homer **Fuster**, will meet with the class for two hours each week. During ~~his~~ this time he will discuss a specific type of news assignment and students will be given stories to write related to this area.

Students are expected to produce copy in acceptable style following the format outlined in the Canadian Press Style Book. Copy is evaluated on its suitability for publication, and unsatisfactory stories may be returned to the student for rewriting

Students^ are continually being evaluated on the basis of the 'assignments they produce» All major assignments must be completed before a student will receive a final grade for the-course.

Outline

Topics covered in this course will include:

- 1) WHAT IS NEWS? A basic discussion of the elements of a news story. Examination of stories from various sources, and an assignment to prepare stories from fact sheets•

- 2) BASIC NEWS WRITING. How stories are obtained; how additional facts are gathered; how these facts are presented in newspaper style; the importance of the lead paragraph; accuracy; attribution; checking facts,
- 3) EDITING MARKS AND COPY STYLE. Use of standard editing marks to correct six errors* important aspects of copy style, use of capital letters, spelling, numbers, etc.
- 4) LEADS. Various types of leads, the importance of the lead paragraph, evaluation and writing of leads for various types of stories.
- 5) INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES. Preparation for an interview, questions, importance of quotes. taking notes, use of tape recorders, writing the interview story, choosing an appropriate lead, using the telephone.
- 6) SPORTS REPORTING. Examination of sports stories and class discussion with a sports editor. Students assigned to cover a sports event.
- 7) FEATURE WRITING, Types of stories, how different from news, quotes, color, the lead, organization, transition.
- 8) PEOPLE'S PAGE WRITING. Examination of stories from the people's page and discussion with the People's Page Editor of the Sault Daily Star.
- 9) CIVIC ELECTIONS, Pre-election stories, interviewing candidates, candidate meetings, the press conference, election night coverage, the wrap-up.

- 10) POLICE REPORTING* Police as a source of news, accuracy,
•what can and cannot be used, follow-up,
- 11) COURT REPORTING. Importance of court coverage, accuracy, stvl
legal restrictions. Students will cover a session of
provincial judge^Ts court.
- 12) SURVEYS. Designing the survey, telephone surveys, personal
interviews, tabulating the results.

Note: Some of the scheduled class hours will be used as writing
labs for students to work on current assignments, or to
rewrite unsatisfactory-stories,.