



Joshua Cobbley

Student Reporter & Videographer

In the fifth grade I was already a reporter and a cameraman. I was working on *Wuzup Stonegate* a show that my teacher, Mr. Jarvis, had turned into my classes pet project. The show was a closed circuit broadcast where we would report on all the important happenings at Stonegate Elementary and it was also where I found what was to be my future.

Part of the reason I wanted to be a reporter when I was a kid was because of comic books. All the best super heroes were reporters: Superman, Spiderman, Batman wasn't but if anyone was going to buck the trend it would be him. I wanted to be like them, to be in the know and I knew that with training I too could become a "Newsman" (cue theme music). My only regret at the time was that I probably would not get to wear a cape, not professionally anyway.

Now I am a Broadcast Journalism major and I'm minoring in radio, television, and film. My motive for being



a journalist have evolved but I still love the idea of being a reporter as much as I love the idea of being a videographer. I have always wanted to travel and seeing new and interesting things. I figure that if I have a camera on my shoulder there might be people who want to pay me to be there. I have also found that there are a lot of people that may shy away from reporters but will flock to a camera. Whatever opportunities present themselves I'm looking to be a part of something bigger than myself and embrace the uncertainty that comes with being at the forefront of journalism.

One of the big topics in our curriculum is the changing news industry. In this world of increasing specialization I think there will be room for all forms of journalism. If the all golf channel worked then surely plethora of news channels will work beyond Fox CNN and MSNBC. There will be a lot of pop journalism and infotainment but with the internet and endless satellite and cable channels there will be a place beyond PBS where I'll one day be able to produce and present long form pieces, not to mention a place where I will one day air my pilot program that I'll be working to develop.

I have heard some people talking about how the internet is taking away from TV and newspapers and that peoples interest in the news is waning. The internet has already dramatically changed the face of news. It's bound to continue and that same tool that some suspect will lead the to death of our ilk is the tool that will set us free. It's a forum were we can be free of censors, free of the constraints of advertisers, and most importantly free to do the kind of journalism that is so often talk about and aspire towards but seldom broadcast.