Tess Atkins

JOR 115

Test 3

Final

Part 1:

In Robert G. Kaiser’s words, “News as we know it is at risk,” I think he is saying that the way we used to obtain news from newspapers and magazines is no longer. Social media is taking the spotlight away from printed news and is making news cheaper and easier for citizens to obtain. “There is no point in trying,” Kaiser said. “To predict just where it will take us,” when he spoke about the digital age and how it has just begun. I think Kaiser is worried about how news on social media will change the world of journalism for more bad then good.

Today, there is no going around the fact that news reporting in journalism is changing. Newspapers all over the country are going out of business and journalists are losing their jobs at the newspapers they write for everyday. The film, “Page One,” takes you through the everyday lives of a few of the writers at the New York Times Newspaper. Throughout the film journalist, David Carr, goes to meetings and interviews where he supports the notion that the New York Times is doing well financially and they will not stop printing. However, despite Carr’s optimism throughout the film, a segment of “Page One” shows many cuts to employees at the paper. This addresses business elements of the problem of news today because it shows people are losing their jobs because the paper does not have enough money to keep paying these positions.

“All we know for certain is that we are lighting out for new territory,” is what Kaiser said when talking about the world of news media. The “new territory” Kaiser refers to is social media. For years, journalists have published there work on print in newspapers and in magazines. Now however, in the beginning of the “digital age,” news has a future on social media. Websites such as Twitter and Facebook release news stories every day, all day. Although those stories may not be reliable. The new territory that journalists are leaving their newspaper homes for is the evolution of news reporting on social media and the internet as a whole.

Democracy plays a huge part in the success of the news business. Kaiser refers to democracy in news business as the “watchdog.” What Kaiser means by this is, a lot of online sources are monitored by the government in the United States. This is to make sure nothing false is being said and that no private information about the government is being said. Democracy is connected to the success in the world of news business because overall democracy has the power to take away or keep any news that goes on the internet whether or not the article follows a code of ethics.

I am not optimistic about finding a journalism job after graduation. My generation is very social media savvy which gives us a huge advantage in navigating the digital age. I have faith in soon to be journalists that we will find a way to make money as well as report online in a successful way. Citizens are already making the change from print to screen and the number of people making this switch will only grow as time goes on. With that being said, I am more excited to find a job then optimistic for after graduation.

Part 2:

Dear Alaina,

Things are going great here at URI Daily News! I’ve been writing a lot for the paper as well as our website about the stress students endure during finals, fun activities that are going on around campus, and places students can go for extra help!

I am writing this letter to you because as one of my friends and classmates here at URI, I think you would benefit greatly from purchasing the URI Daily News either on our website or our newspaper. By reading our paper, you will be more informed about what is going on, on campus and gain more knowledge of activities or clubs you can take part in! Journalism is very important to budget for because it is how you will get news and information about URI!

The business of journalism is changing, there’s no question about that. We can’t deny the fact that most of our information we get is from online sources. The question here is, how do journalists and the news continue to make money for print and for screen? The answer, we continue to charge for the newspaper and we buy ads online to help pay.

In the film, “Page One” that we watched the other day, they talked about how the New York Times website charges people monthly to read their news just like their newspaper does. The cool thing about this, especially for a student like yourself, is you can pick either the newspaper or website to pay for! The same goes for URI Daily News. If you pay for our news online, you can easily access it on your phone wherever you are in order to stay up to date on the latest information about URI.

I promise that if you invest in our website or newspaper, it will make all of the journalists’ work worthwhile. The journalists at URI Daily News work hard to get stories everyday. In between classes, Friday and Saturday nights, and during study hours, the journalists that write for this news network work hard every chance they get to write and get a story for URI students and faculty. They host interviews and go to events to cover them. The journalists love to do this, but they also love to do it because it keeps the citizens of their community informed. By paying for our news, you would not only be making the journalists’ time count but would benefit yourself for staying in the know.

I understand that this is just concerning our college campus, but journalists all over the world struggle with citizens who don’t pay for their stories everyday. If people stop paying for news, their will be no journalists to report the news. What will happen then? We will have a community and a nation of citizens who don’t know anything about what is going on around them.

Please take into consideration all of the aspects of journalism I mentioned above. As journalists, we work very hard at URI Daily News to write stories that interest both students and faculty. We cover events to keep everyone on campus informed and to also give them an opportunity to become more involved with knowing more about what is going on at URI. I hope you invest in our daily news!

Sincerely,

Tess Atkins