A scenario for news

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Jeff Jarvis, the journalist/academic who helped pioneer the concept of Networked Journalism spends a lot of his time picking fights and sparking ideas. Today he has attempted to put something positive up on a scenario for news.

It is a list of key thoughts about what news will look like in the future. As Jeff admits it's mostly not new stuff but it is a useful compendium of models for the business of journalism.

Here's the key points:

- 1. The next generation of local (news) won't be about news organizations but about their communities
- 2. The local news organization inevitably will be smaller
- 3. The heart of the work of local news organizations will be beats (specialist or geographical areas)
- 4. Editing will change
- 5. Some only some journalism will be supported by the public.
- 6. Investigative journalism will continue
- 7. Do what you do best and link to the rest will be a foundation of the future architecture of news.
- 8. Specialization will take over much of journalism.
- 9. Reverse syndication presents one possible model for supporting deep, specialized reporting of broad interest by national news organizations.
- 10. News will find new forms past the article
- 11. News organizations will be disaggregated as many functions are split off or outsourced.
- 12. News organizations won't be the only companies involved in news.
- 13. Revenue will still come from advertising.

Jeff wrote the preface to my book SuperMedia so you won't be surprised that I agree with his core thinking:

"Could journalism die? Yes, but I have faith and optimism that it will survive, evolve, and grow. I believe there will be a growing market demand for journalism; I know there is a growing need."

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