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Radio II

Podcast Research Paper

Having the ability to create our own podcast for this class really intrigued me. Over the past few years I’ve started to listen to more and more, and find that they are growing, and an increasing amount of people are listening to them. A category that I like is Sports; particularly UNO/Hockey. I think this has potential for a solid listening base, not just for UNO students, but for anyone in the Omaha community, considering our hockey program has recognition and has tons of fans that follow the team throughout the season. The age group that I am projecting is realistically 18-25, but it could go up to a higher age group, maybe up to 50 since sports is a popular category.

My podcast is called “Maverick Powerplay”. I want the title to be simple but at the same time let everyone know what it’s about right away. I want to inform the students and faculty of UNO about the hockey team and everything that’s going on with it. My main points of focus would be stats and analysis, including my own opinion about teams that we’ll play and our overall performance. This season is actually the perfect time to start this podcast because of the new head coach, Mike Gabinet, so it’ll be interesting to see how he transitions this team from Dean Blais’ leadership for nearly a decade.

I found on iTunes and other places to download podcasts, that there’s a lot of broad sports podcasts, but hockey is on the shorter end of the stick. There’s “Undisputed” with FS1/Fox Sports and they discuss a variety, but I’d want to cut that down and make it more simple and easier to follow; focusing on a smaller group. But what makes Undisputed so good in my opinion is having Skip Bayless and Shannon Sharpe together talking stuff over to give different sides and views, which makes you think. A podcast with similar interest would be “The TSN Hockey Bobcast”, “Off the Post” (Canadian), and “Puck Soup” (Vice Sports). The main concept of those is pro hockey, NHL, and everything that is going on in the league. They discuss any topic that would give listeners a reason to tune in like injuries, trades, predictions, etc. Another good way to get listeners and views is to invite guests and put them in the spotlight. They obviously have a staff involved in deciding how things are laid out, but for the most part, they seem pretty laid back and people just get to say what they want and express their opinions, which is why I like to listen to podcasts; to get away from the stresses of school and work and just take a breather.

I think for mine I might include Kirk Thompson, former UNO Goaltender and now Student Coach for the team. He would definitely be able to give some words of wisdom since he’s been where they have and is directly involved with them. I believe I have what it takes to do a podcast in this category because I have been playing hockey and have been around it my whole life, so it shouldn’t be a problem; the only thing I haven’t done is record myself so it might be a challenge at first to get situated but I think I can do it.

From what I know, podcasting has been around for over a decade and it has been growing at a fast pace. In my opinion, I think podcasts will be booming within the next 10-20 years just because people love speaking their mind, and having the ability to listen to literally anything they can think of; there’s a podcast for any topic/subject. So overall, I have high hopes for my hockey podcast. The demographics are appropriate and reasonable at 18-25 in the Omaha area, and the possibilities are endless. I hope I learn a lot from this semester, and possibly even consider this as part of my future career if I enjoy it and have success with it.

**Outline:** Create 3 podcasts about UNO Hockey and have 1-2 guest speakers total related to the team. Give UNO students and community insight about the program and go in depth about the hockey team and everything that’s going on this 2017-18 season.

**Podcast Title:** “Maverick Powerplay”

**Intro:** “Hello, and welcome to Maverick Powerplay. I’m your host, Phil Lemen, and this podcast is all things Maverick Hockey, all the time.” —outro song with fade—

**Podcast 1:** “New Coach, New Beginning”

**Summary:** The UNO Hockey team has a new head coach, Mike Gabinet, former Maverick defensemen / assistant coach. After Dean Blais stepped down last season, the athletic department turned to a young man with a bright future and a lot of potential. I’m going to be discussing his role, the new freshman on the team and current players, and how everything is looking for the squad.

**Podcast 2:** “Off To A Good Start (Hopefully)”

**Summary:** I’ll be going over the teams record and analyze how they’re doing in my viewpoint. Also, I’ll mention some tactics that could help them do better in the long run. I would like to have Kirk Thompson come in and give us his stance on how the team is doing and hopefully he’ll give some good quotes for us.

**Podcast 3:** “The Halfway Point”

**Summary:** Since this class is only going through December, we won’t get to fully see the end of the season record and outcome, but I’ll discuss my thoughts as we move further in to winter and face different teams in the NCHC.

**Outro**: “You’ve just been a part of the Maverick Powerplay, thanks for tuning in, and we’ll see you next time.”

**Citations**

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