

Lecturer Alerts

This lecture is intended to be continued in a subsequent class section. The atmosphere envisioned is a seminar, with students (having read the examples ahead of time) working their way through Workbook examples with their teacher. The point is to begin developing their ability to deconstruct in real time.

After this lecture, students will be able to:

1. Begin to apply key lessons of News Literacy in real time to find or identify reliable information.
2. Use the IMVAIN test of source reliability on the fly.
3. Distinguish, on the fly, between direct and indirect evidence and even spot-check if conclusions are logical or not.
4. Begin to correctly use the terms "Transparency" and "Context" to judge the professionalism of news reporting.
5. Use the Deconstruction Workbook as a means to rehearse detailed and sophisticated judgment of news reports.

These are the capstone skills of this course, encompassing all 6 outcomes promised by the syllabus.

Reminder: Bring Deconstruction Workbook to Recitation, too



Print it.

Read it.

Bring it

'Deconstructing' the News

Is Too Much Texting A Mental Illness?



How to Assess the Reliability of the News

Texting.wmv

Deconstruction: *"Application of News Literacy concepts to the analysis of component parts of a news report in order to dispassionately judge its reliability."*



A Deconstruction Worksheet How to Judge Reliability

- 1) Summarize the main points: Does the headline and the lead support the main point(s)?
- 2) How close does the reporter come to opening the freezer? Is the evidence direct or arm's-length?



A Deconstruction Worksheet How to Judge Reliability

- 3) Evaluate the reliability of the sources using I'M VA/IN
- 4) Does the reporter make his/her work transparent?
- 5) Does the reporter place the story in context?



A Deconstruction Worksheet

How to Judge Reliability

- 6) Are the key questions answered?
 - Who -What -When -Where? -Why? -How?
- 7) Is the story fair?



And The Whole Point Is....


What can a news consumer
Do with this information

Is it actionable?

Context & Transparency
 Two Ideas Students Struggle With



Key Definitions

Main Entry: **con-text** 
 Pronunciation: \ˈkən-ˌtɛkst\
 Function: *noun*

Context: Facts that surround an event or elements of a news story and provide meaning or significance

Deconstructing the News

The power of Context

However, behind the image of two-year-old Jingdan lies a tale not of intentional cruelty but, it seems, one of misplaced love and fear: his sister disappeared from the same spot just two weeks ago.

"I was afraid I would lose him too," their father, Chen Chuanlu, said today.



Context


The New York Times

Education

As College Fees Climb, Aid Does Too

When you look at how much students are actually paying, on average, it is lower, after adjusting for inflation, than five years earlier."

Key Definitions

Main Entry: **trans-par-en-cy** 
 Pronunciation: 'tran(t)s-'per-an(t)-se'
 Function: *noun*
 Inflected Form(s): *plural trans-par-en-cies*
 Date: 1591

Transparency: The reporter specifies in the story what he or she *does not* know, and why it could not be learned; how they know what they do know; when the reporter pulls the curtain aside.

TRANSPARENCY



A Source Who
Saw Her Boss
And Fears
Retribution

TRANSPARENCY

*"...lax oversight of the district's credit card, (was) among a series of financial irregularities **outlined in a critical audit** of the Wilton-Lyndeborough School District."*



Deconstructing the News

Transparency is Openness about Methods

Tracking Number	Service	Status	Date
9505 1234 5678	First Class® Mail	Delivered	11/06/13
9505 1234 5678	First Class® Mail	Delivered	11/06/13
9505 1234 5678	First Class® Mail	Delivered	11/06/13
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9505 1234 5678	First Class® Mail	Delivered	11/06/13

- "Could not be reached"
- "Requested anonymity because she feared losing her job"
- "A reporter attempted to contact the family at home, but no one came to the door."
- "The information could not be independently verified."

Deconstruction



1) Summarize the main points of the story

Deconstructing the News

How Reliable is the Headline?



Is the Headline Supported By the Story?

Deconstructing the News

How Reliable is the Headline?

Assaults Plague Campus

On October 17, 2008, Peter Riegner, the Vice President of Student Affairs sent an e-mail to the entire university informing students, staff and faculty of the recent sexual assault of two female students.

According to Douglas Little, Assistant Chief of the State Beach Police Department, the two men allegedly involved with the assault occluded to the police. Little commented, "Both the Sheriff's County police and State Beach Police departments are working on the case together."

When asked about the safety of the campus community with respect to this sexual assault, Little responded, "There is no threat to the campus community."

an e-mail to the entire university informing students, staff and faculty of the recent sexual assault of two female students.

The police maintain they are doing their best to investigate but give little direct support. Little was unable to provide any information about the location of the assault on campus because of possible violations of the privacy of the two female students.

Aside from this recent incident, students also have the ability to become involved with the pro-active measures set in place by the university to minimize the occurrence of such attacks.

Is the Headline Supported By the Story?

Step 2: Deconstructing the News

Assess the evidence supporting the main points of the story.



- Direct Evidence?
- Indirect Evidence?
- Are The Inferences Logical?
- Did The Reporter Open the Freezer?



Direct Evidence

Mother Jones 47 percent video: Mitt Romney does damage control

Mitt Romney says his remarks were not "disparately stated" at a fundraiser in Boca Raton, Fla. In the satirically titled video released by Mother Jones, Romney says 47 percent of the people will vote for Obama "no matter what ... who believe that they are victims."

By Ben Thomas, Associated Press / December 18, 2012



"Forty-seven percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what. All right, there are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims."

Mother Jones VIDEO

Step 2: Deconstructing the News

The 16 minute recording, which the woman first took to The New York Times and then to the Queens district attorney, suggests the vast power of low-level immigration law enforcers, and a growing

Money, not sex, is the more common currency of corruption in immigration, but according to Congressional testimony in 2006 by Michael Marsell, former director of the agency's internal investigations, more than 3,000 backlogged complaints of employee misconduct had gone uninvestigated for lack of staff, including 528 involving criminal allegations.

Evidence: Did the reporter open the freezer?

Did the reporter open the freezer?

Los Angeles Times

California suppressed consultant's report on inmate suicides



SACRAMENTO — Gov. Jerry Brown has pointed to dozens of documents to make the case in court and on the stump that California's prisons are a mess, and inmates are receiving good care.

But those are at least one document the administration wanted to hide.

New court filings reveal that the state suppressed a report from its own consultant, warning that California's prison parole-work practices encouraged inmate deaths.



Step 2: Deconstructing the News



How close did the reporter come to opening the freezer? If not, did a reliable source open it?

What's the Evidence That Sen. Gillibrand Will Run for President?

DAILY NEWS

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand suddenly on the short list of potential presidential candidates for 2016

Democrat is raising her profile after speech to delegates at Charlotte convention and fund-raising efforts for fellow politicians

Continued on 2015

BY KENNETH LONETT / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS
GILLIBRAND: OCTOBER 16, 2014 6:00 PM



Direct Evidence?
Indirect Evidence?
Inference?

Test Inferences for Soundness

Main Entry: **ev-i-dence** ♦
Pronunciation: /e-vo-dən(t)s, -və-dən(t)s/
Function: noun
Date: 14th century

Main Entry: **in-fer-ence** ♦
Pronunciation: /In-f(ə-)rən(t)s, -f(ɛn(t)s)/
Function: noun
Date: 1594

Evidence: Information that proves or disproves something
Inference: Taking information that is accepted as true and then drawing a conclusion that may or may not be valid

Checking Inferences

The New York Times
Crime Blotter Has a Regular: Yankees Caps
 By MARY FRANKO
 Published 27 November 10, 2010



Deconstructing the News

USA TODAY **Pulling all-nighters earns lower GPAs**
 Update (2/14/2012 8:13 AM) | Comments: 10/23 | Favorites: 1/10
 By Michael Vietnam, Associated Press



In Tracher's first study, 85 students said they had pulled one or more all-nighters, and 45 said they hadn't done any. The survey was conducted in Psychology 101 classes, and included students in a variety of majors.

Is The Inference Sturdy?

Step 3:

Deconstructing the News

Evaluate Sources. Are They Reliable?



Step 3:

Evaluate Sources

- 1) **I**ndependent Sources Are **Better** Than Self-Interested Sources
- 2) **M**ultiple Sources Are **Better** Than Single Sources
- 3) Sources Who **V**erify Are **Better** Than Sources Who Assert
- 4) **A**uthoritative/**I**nformed Sources Are **Better** Than Uninformed Sources
- 5) **N**amed Sources Are **Better** Than Unnamed Sources

(Mnemonic Device: **I'M VAIN**)

Deconstructing the News

Evaluate Sources Using IMVAIN

Independence vs. Self-Interest



VOICE

Eyewitness "Certain" Kimani Gray Was Unarmed When Police Shot Him

By Scott Stensbury, Phil. Del. 10:55:15 AM 11/07 AM

Categories: Blacklyns

"After the anti-crime sergeant and police officer told the suspect to show his hands, which was heard by witnesses, Gray produced a revolver and pointed it at the officers, who fired a total of 21 rounds, striking Gray several times," Paul J. Stevens, the chief spokesman for the Police Department, said.



Tahara Singh claims to have watched the entire scene unfold from her window. She told the Daily News she is "certain [Gray] didn't have anything in his hands" when he was shot.

Deconstructing the News

Evaluate Sources Using IMVAIN

Multiple aka Corroboration



Sources Asserting vs. Verifying

ALJAZEERA

PLO officials call for Arafat inquiry

Executive committee member says Arafat's poisoning by polonium was a crime "committed by a state."

A report by Swiss experts, obtained by Al Jazeera, showed that Arafat's enhanced remains contained 18 times the natural levels of the highly radioactive isotope, polonium-210.

"The [test] results proved Arafat was poisoned by polonium, and this substance is owned by states, not people, meaning that the crime was committed by a state," said Haniyeh Abi Saeed, a member of the PLO's executive committee.

Qassab al-Nar, another member of the PLO's executive committee, told Al Jazeera the report may prompt the committee to push for an "independent and internationally credible investigation into this crime". "They [investig] have the means and the motives in order to commit this crime. This is a scandal and a crime that makes the world responsible."

Qassab al-Nar said that as a key to door to enter the Arafat, who was in the final living under his Liverpool Mosque compound, was not killed by one soldier. "Rampy (Qassab) and J.P. in reference to J.P. (2001) Israeli agents of the president's Ramallah headquarters. "The instructions were to take every precaution to avoid Arafat being accused of Arafat's death," said Qassab, who acted as Haniyeh's spokesman.

Trustworthy Anonymous Sources Are Offered to You With:

Transparency Characterization Corroboration

Anonymous Sources

Transparent enough?

Characterized enough?

The Washington Post

Benghazi attack may cloud Clinton's legacy

At a moment when the Department of Defense is seeking to distance itself from the attack, the White House is trying to make the most of the incident.

"The [attack] is a tragedy, and it is a tragedy that we cannot ignore. There is a lot of speculation about the attack, but the fact is that it is a tragedy that we cannot ignore. There is a lot of speculation about the attack, but the fact is that it is a tragedy that we cannot ignore."

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The Los Angeles Times

Town hall awaits Obama and Romney

Obama made a connection between Clinton and Bush on the campaign trail. Obama has more to say about when speaking directly to a voter, rather than a camera. In a candidate-on-the-trail town hall, the Obama campaign will likely face a tough question: when it came to financing and connecting.

It's the same problem that troubled his first debate performance could dog his second. He is still a rising politician who practices the art of the state-of-the-union, as well as a former law professor who has found it hard to shake his academic persona.

"When he is in a town hall, he can be seen as a real person," said a person close to the Obama campaign who asked not to be identified while talking about the president's challenges. "The risk is the same tendency to get professional responses. He has to be a real person."


Step 4:

Deconstructing the News

Does the reporter make his or her work transparent?



Key Definitions

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Deconstructing the News

What is the example of transparency?



National Public Radio Reports from Basra

Npr_basra.wmv

Transparency

Teen rape trial shines unwelcome spotlight on Ohio town, football team

By Christine J. Gorman, CNN

CNN Justice



Both boys have been identified by a judge in court, by defense attorneys and in newspapers and other media reports.

CNN is not identifying the girl, who also is a juvenile, in accordance with its policy not to release the names of alleged rape victims.

Deconstructing the News

Corrections are Institutional Transparency

The New York Times

Corrections

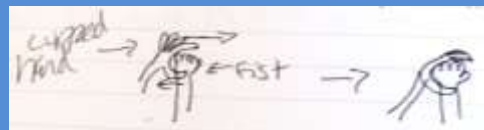
NY Times
 The article on Thursday about the rape trial in Franklin County, Ohio, was published incorrectly in both print and online editions. The article incorrectly reported that the judge had identified the names of the two boys accused of the rape. The judge had only identified the names of the boys in court, and the judge had not identified the names of the boys in any other public forum. The article also incorrectly reported that the judge had identified the names of the boys in court, and the judge had not identified the names of the boys in any other public forum.

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Step 5: Deconstructing the News

Does the reporter place the story in context?



Deconstructing the News

Does the reporter put the story in context?

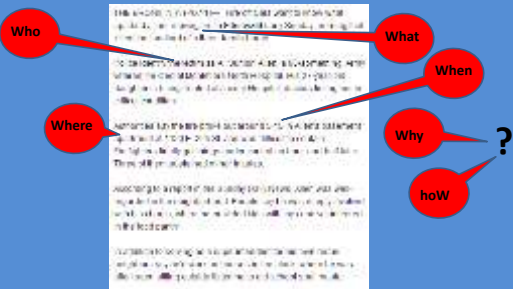


A Car Is Stolen Every 20 Minutes

Nassau and Suffolk are two of New York's 62 counties, but account for 10% of car thefts.

Step 6: Deconstructing the News

Are the key questions answered?



GAP Analysis: Are all Questions Answered?

The New York Times

Bronx Zoo Cobra Found Alive

Updated | 4:51 p.m.

She's been found!

An Egyptian cobra at the Bronx Zoo that had been missing for seven days was discovered "alive and well" on Thursday inside a nonpublic area of the zoo's Reptile House, not far from where she disappeared, said James J. Breheny, the zoo's director.

Step 7: Deconstructing the News

Are people and their ideas fairly presented?
Is fair language used?

Angels We Have Heard On Harleys

More Than 30,000 Roar With The Gift-giving Spirit
December 9, 1996 By JOSE LAMBIET Staff Writer

SUNRISE - The burly, Harley-riding bikers seemed unlikely Santas. But the oil-dirty folks with unkempt hair and tattooed arms were filled with the Christmas spirit on Sunday as they roared into Markham Park, more than 30,000 strong, to donate toys to the less fortunate.

The bikers, including members of the infamous Outlaws gang, surrendered donations of tiny stuffed animals, bicycles and Nintendo games to off-duty police officers who had volunteered to work in the eighth annual Christmas Toys in the Sun Run.

And The Whole Point Is....

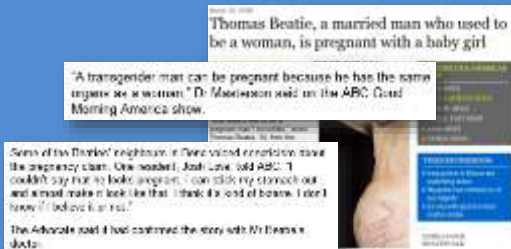
What can a news consumer
Do with this information
Is it actionable?

Deconstructing the News Case Study: The pregnant man story



Assess reliability by Evaluating Sources & Evidence

Deconstructing the News Case Study: The pregnant man story



Do These Sources Help?

Deconstructing the News Case Study: The pregnant man story



Does This Sonogram Help?

Deconstructing the News

Case Study: The pregnant man story

'Pregnant man' Thomas Beatie gives birth to baby girl



Do Baby Photos Help?

Deconstructing the News



How reliable?

Texting.wmv

Deconstructing the News



Weigh sources and evidence

A Deconstruction Worksheet

How to Judge Reliability

- 1) Summarize the main points: Does the headline and the lead support the main point(s)?
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A Deconstruction Worksheet

How to Judge Reliability

- 3) Evaluate the reliability of the sources using I'M VA/IN
- 4) Does the reporter make his/her work transparent?
- 5) Does the reporter place the story in context?

A Deconstruction Worksheet

How to Judge Reliability

- 6) Are the key questions answered?
- Who -What -When -Where? -Why? -How?
- 7) Is the story fair?

And the Whole Point Is...

Is it actionable?

- Can you reach a conclusion?
- Can you take an action?
- Can you make a judgment?
- Can you share this information?

Assignments:

1. Bring Deconstruction Workbook to Recitation
2. Writing assignment: "Deconstructing the Washington Post's report on Walter Reed Hospital"



Housekeeping, Announcements & Notes

Countdown To Test #2

Held in Recitation,
Emphasizes Lectures 7-11,
(Fairness & Bias through
Deconstructing TV News)
Same format: 10 questions, 100
points possible.



Thus endeth the Lesson...

Example 4

Afghan investigator: US burning of Qurans was intentional



Quran-burning an accident, U.S. tells Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan — The U.S. apologized Tuesday for the burning of Muslim holy books that had been pulled from the shelves of a detention center library adjoining a mosque here in eastern Afghanistan because they contained offensive messages or images.

The White House echoed military officials in saying that the burning of Qurans and other Islamic reading material had been tossed in a pile of garbage was an accident.

Deconstructing the News

All Agent, a Green Card, and a Decree for Sale

The 16-minute recording, which the woman first took to The New York Times and then to the Queens district attorney, suggests the vast power of low-level immigration law enforcers, and a growing desperation on the part of immigrants seeking legal status. The aftermath, which included the arrest of an immigration agent last week, underscores the difficulty and danger of making a complaint, even in the rare case when abuse of power may have been caught on tape.

The Main Points Aren't Always in the First Paragraph

Deconstructing the News

How to Assess Source Authority

Experts Had Long Criticized Potential Weakness in Design of Stricken Reactor

By TOM SHELLEY



"Not banning them might be the end of nuclear power," said Mr. Lochbaum, a nuclear engineer who spent 17 years working in nuclear facilities, including three that used the G.E. design.

Is the Source Authoritative? Independent?

Why or Why Not?

Deconstructing the News

How to Weigh Sources

Accused G.I. 'Snapped' Under Strain, Official Says

By ERIC SCHMITT and WILLIAM ORRLEY

"When it all comes out, it will be a combination of stress, alcohol and domestic issues — he just snapped," said the official, who has been briefed on the investigation and who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the soldier has not yet been formally charged. His comments drew from accounts of the sergeant's state of mind from two other soldiers with whom he illicitly drank alcohol on the night of the shootings, the official said, and those soldiers face disciplinary action.

Verification or Assertion?

Deconstructing the News

How to Assess Source Reliability

The New York Times

Criticism and Questions Over Plan to Move Macy's Thanksgiving Parade Out of Times Sq

By Noah Feldman
Published: 11/11/11

But some critics are skeptical. A community leader who spoke on the condition of anonymity to preserve his publicly neutral stance, said he was at a meeting with Macy's representatives last year, at which the retailer "threatened to move the parade to another city," unless the route changes were agreed upon.

How Do You Weigh the Anonymous Source?

Does the Headline Match the Story?

Japan to officially celebrate end of US occupation after WWII

THE VOICE OF RUSSIA

Japan will officially celebrate the end of the US occupation of the country for the first time since the end of the Second World War. The government will use the forthcoming event to galvanize a campaign to revise the post-war constitution.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told the MPs earlier today that the growing number of young people today is unaware that there was a seven-year long period after the war when Japan was deprived of sovereignty.

The US officially ended its occupation of Japan on April 28th 1952, when the San Francisco Peace Treaty between Tokyo and most of those who formed part of the anti-Nazi Allied Nations took effect.

Voice of Russia, TASS

Asserting vs. Verifying

US jobless rate drops to 7.8% in September

October 08, 2012 | @blacksyouthsquad

THIS STORY APPEARS IN: **The Boston Globe**

Jack Welch (@jack_welch)

Unbelievable jobs numbers...these Chicago guys will do anything...can't debate so change numbers

Boston Globe

John E. Silvia, chief economist for Wells Fargo & Co. in Charlotte, N.C., said he finds the employer survey numbers to be more reliable, but that he does not see evidence of a conspiracy in Friday's report.

He said he suspected September's rise in part-time employment was due to college students returning to school and taking part-time jobs.

The question that has confounded many economists, he said, is whether the sluggish rate of job growth that the nation has experienced for the last three years is now the "new normal."

"Things are getting better, the economy is continuing to improve and people are getting jobs," Silvia said. "The challenge we all have is the economy's just not growing the way we had expected."

Find the Context

McClatchy-Marist poll shows Obama tumbling in voters' eyes

McClatchy



At least some of the president's fall to Earth lies in the fact that voters no longer see him in the context of an election. He has to stand alone in the eyes of voters again and doesn't benefit from the comparison with Republican rival Mitt Romney.

Another factor in the president's decline is anxiety about the economy and the country.

The national survey, conducted four months after Obama was re-elected with 51 percent of the popular vote, found 45 percent of voters approving of the way he's handling his job and 48 percent disapproving.

figure and in the driver's seat. During the election, it was him versus Romney. Now it's him versus people's expectations for the country."

Obama still outpaces Congress by a large margin.

Deconstruction Step 7: Is it Fair?



Gov rips 'Housewives' hubby

By DAN MARGAN
Last updated 7:24 AM, March 17, 2011
Published 1:58 AM, March 17, 2011

The show may be "Real," but his home, apparently, is not.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie yesterday suspended — and demanded the resignation of — the husband of one of the "Real Housewives of New Jersey" from a water commission, saying he misled officials about his "real" residence.

Christie said Albert Manzo, whose wife, Caroline, is a star of the reality show, had claimed in 2008 — when he was nominated to serve on the North Jersey Water District Supply Commission — that he lived in the Brownstone restaurant in Paterson, which he co-owns.

In reality, Christie said, Manzo lives with his wife in Franklin Lakes, in a home featured in episodes of the Bravo reality show.

Manzo maintains the Brownstone is his legal residence and he won't resign.

Deconstructing the News How Transparent is the Story?



Who has a better pension: Romney or Obama?

When it comes to the presidential candidates' pensions, the numbers are more stark than ever.

Retirement packages stacked one of a series of contradictions during the Tuesday debate between President Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney.

The exchange took place during a discussion of China policy, with the president accusing the former Massachusetts governor of hypocrisy when it came to tough talk against the nation that bores the world's financial markets.

Illinois is infamous for its lavish pension plan for former lawmakers. A Freedom of Information Act request for Obama's pension amount submitted Wednesday to the General Assembly Retirement System of Illinois was not immediately answered, nor was a call to the Obama campaign.

In one of the nation's tightest markets, Obama answered, "I don't look at my pension. It's not as big as yours as it would be as long as I don't check it that often."

The results sparked some audience laughter — and yet another Romney critique.

"Let me give you some advice. Look at your pension. You also have investments in Chinese companies, you also have investments outside the United States," he said.

The fact says Romney is likely correct.

Does the Headline Match the Story?

Columbia Students Are Obsessed With Nutella, Consuming Up To 100 Pounds A Day (UPDATE)



Columbia University students are obsessed with Nutella.

How obsessed? Columbia College Student Council representative Peter Radtman told the Columbia Spectator and The New York Times that according to Frank Deane, the executive director of university dining, the amount of Nutella consumed in the first three to four days after Nutella was added to the dining hall selection, demand was extraordinarily high, with students enjoying a large amount in that short initial period. The actual cost was only around \$4,000, and quickly dropped to \$400 per week for dining halls that serve some 1,600 students, seven days a week at three campus locations. Happily, the media attention to Nutella-gate has not done on the amount people have been taking in recent days.

Does the Headline Match the Story?

Dad Arrested After 2-Year-Old Texas Girl Dies Following Spanking



Nicholas Williams was arrested last week after police say he spanked his 2-year-old daughter to hard that she died, still in health reports.

According to the arrest affidavit, police and paramedics responded to a 911 call made by a woman saying that the child was not breathing at a residence in South Texas, on May 25.

When police arrived, they found the daughter.

The officer began performing CPR on the child, but as time later, after being pronounced dead.

An autopsy was performed on the girl the next day. The deputy medical examiner noticed several bruises on the victim's head, face, back, buttocks, chest and arms. The injuries were greatest in the head and buttocks region according to the arrest affidavit. The preliminary cause of death was ruled to be blunt force injuries.

Williams was charged with injury to a child, a first-degree felony.

Deconstructing the News

Where is the Lead?

The New York Times

Dope Tests in Ice Fishing? No, Beer Doesn't Count



WAUSAU, Wis. — The ice fishermen spent a week on the frozen lake, and on the last day, after emptying perch and bluegill from their buckets and scrubbing bait from their hands, several winners of the World Ice Fishing Championship were ushered into their rooms in the Plaza Hotel.

There, an official from the United States Anti-Doping Agency ordered them to provide urine samples for a surprise test to detect steroids and growth hormones — drugs not normally associated with the quiet solitude of ice fishing.

2nd Paragraph

Anecdote: 1st Paragraph

With doping a rampant problem throughout sports, drug testing has arrived at the most unlikely places, including the chilly Big Egg Pointe Reservoir, where competitors hide fish in their pockets and police patience over power.

Lead: 4th Paragraph

Deconstructing the News: Inference

Romney seeks advantage on Libya issue after debate



Tuesday night saw Obama bring the desired energy sought by worried Democrats after his lackluster performance in the first debate two weeks ago in Denver.

This time, a focused Obama defended his policies and challenged Romney on shifting positions on key issues while arguing his Republican rival's proposals would harm the wealthy if elected on November 5.

Romney repeatedly attacked Obama's record, saying millions of unemployed people and a sluggish economic recovery showed the president's policies had failed.

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Lead
Paragraph

Deconstructing the News

How to Weigh Sources



Eyewitness "Certain" Kimani Gray Was Unarmed When Police Shot Him

By Alan Gershenov, Staff, NBC 10 10/14 11:07 AM
Continued on Slide 4

"After the anti-crime sergeant and police officer told the suspect to show his hands, which was heard by witnesses, Gray produced a revolver and pointed it at the officers, who fired a total of 11 rounds, striking Gray several times." Paul J. Browne, the chief spokesman for the Police Department, said.

VS.

Tiahana King claims to have watched the entire scene unfold from her window. She told the Daily News she is "certain [Gray] didn't have anything in his hands" when he was shot.

Verification or Assertion?



Asserting vs. Verifying

New York Soda Size Limit Statute Barred by State Judge

Bloomberg

"The loopholes in this rule effectively defeat the stated purpose," Tingling wrote. "It is arbitrary and capricious because it applies to some but not all food establishments in the city. It excludes other beverages that have significantly higher concentrations of sugar sweeteners and/or calories on specific grounds and the loopholes inherent in the rule, including but not limited to no limitations on refills, defeat and/or serve to gut the purpose of the rule."

Chris Gindlesperger, a spokesman for the American Beverage Association in Washington, one of the plaintiffs, had said the ban would have cost local bottlers and distributors at least \$790,000 combined to retool, remodel, re-label and restock.

Today, his group said in a statement that the ruling "provides a sigh of relief to New Yorkers and thousands of small businesses in New York City that would have been harmed by this arbitrary and unpopular ban."

Anonymous Source



US intel sees missile movement in North Korea

US intelligence has seen missile and launch components move to the east coast of North Korea in the "last few days", a US official with direct knowledge of the information tells CNN's Barbara Starr.

The movements are consistent with that of a Musudan missile, the official said. The Musudan missile has a 2,000 mile range and can threaten South Korea, Japan, Guam and southeast Asia.

The US is looking for a hidden North Korean east coast launch site of mobile launchers, the official said, which are of concern because a launch from the east coast would go over Japan.

The official said it is believed such a missile launch would be a "test" launch rather than a targeted strike. That is because it appears the North Koreans have only moved components so far. The US is waiting to see if North Korea issues a notice to its airman and mariners to stay out of the region.

Is there transparency? Characterization? Corroboration?

Transparency and "Quote Approval"



Deconstruct this story

Evaluate the reliability of sources using the IM/VAIN.

Does the reporter open the freezer?

