

Good journalists

Stempel legacy

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name Herman B. Wells, instead of Herman B Wells (without a period), got an automatic "F" for that day.

Students of Professor Stempel's editing class were taught the variety of type faces in general use, how to crop photos, how to write headlines and sub-heads and most important of all, how to exercise judgement about which stories were most important each day and where to put them on the front page.

Final examination in his editing class consisted of a packet of raw newspaper copy, photos and a blank layout sheet. In a couple of hours students had to

decide what stories and photos to use and where they were to go on the page. That also included the writing of headlines, sub-heads and cutlines for photos — in other words, a finished product.

The various honors John Stempel received, such as being elected to the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame in 1970, were long in coming and well-deserved. Perhaps his greatest legacy, however, are the generations of good reporters who grumbled when they were his students, but mentally bless him today because his rigorous training gets them through a hectic news day.