HOW TO WRITE A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

(When requesting a letter of recommendation, write up a draft of the letter in which you address the following information for inclusion in the letter. In other words, what qualities or special skills do you have that make you a strong candidate for this <u>particular</u> job or internship. Submit the typed draft to me for approval at least one week before your deadline).

ACADEMIC ABILITY

- 1. Grades in: 1) TV Production courses; 2) Courses in Major; 3) Overall G.P.A.
- 2. Rank in class (Top 5%, 10%, 20%?)
- 3. Any Scholarships, Awards, or Academic Honors?

SPECIAL TALENTS/STRENGTHS

- 1. Writing, Producing, Directing, Art Direction, Unit Managing, Sound Design, Casting.
- 2. Camera, Lighting, Avid Editing, CG Titling, Audio, Boom, TD, AD, MIDI, Web Design, DVD Authoring.

QUALITY OF PRODUCTION PROJECTS

- 1. Portfolio/Demo Reel highlights that provide evidence of your particular strengths in TV production.
- 2. Any Awards for your production work in student video competitions and festivals. (CSU Fest/Emmys).

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

- 1. Professionalism punctual, dependable, disciplined, focused, team player, well liked, resilient.
- 2. Personal Drive self-starter, motivated, flexible, willing to relocate, nothing more important than career.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

- 1. Employment on Campus such as TA for production courses or Student Worker for Distance Learning.
- 2. Internship Experience in the television industry (the more, the better).
- 3. Any Job Experience in television or related experience.

TECHNICAL/EQUIPMENT SKILLS

- 1. Any software proficiency such as Word, Excel, Pro Tools, After Effects, Photo Shop, Flash, etc.
- 2. List model numbers of pro equipment with which you are proficient and experienced. (See List below):

TV PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT EXPERIENCE

Multi-Camera Studio Production

- 1. Operating Grass Valley 1200 Digital Switcher with Ultimatte for Hard Cyc Blue Screen Effects.
- 2. Designing/operating CG titles using Inscriber CG Supreme.
- 3. Hanging and operating Mole-Richardson and Kino Flo Studio Lights.
- 4. Patching and operating **Strand Dimmer System** (Mantrix 2S Console).
- 5. Directing live, 3-camera studio productions with crew.
- 6. Multi-camera system setup and calibration using Tektronix Waveform Monitor and Vectorscope.
- 7. Operating Hitachi Z-3000W Studio Cameras.

EFP Location Shooting Techniques

- 1. Betacam (UVW-100) with Fujinon 19x1 Inner Focus Broadcast Lens.
- 2. Peripheral Accessories: Sachtler Tripod, Sony PVM-8041 Field Monitor, and Cine 60 Battery Belts.
- 3. Lowel Lighting Kit and accessories such as Flex-Fill, Conversion Gels, and Diffusion Materials.
- 4. Sony ECM-55 Lav Mics and Sennheiser 416 Shotgun Mic with Fishpole, Shock Mount, & Zeppelin.

On-Line Video Editing

- 1. Avid Xpress editing on MAC and PC platforms; Final Cut Pro 3.0; and Premiere 6.0.
- 2. Linear Tape Editing with UVW-1800 Beta Decks, Sony FXE-120 Editor, and Tektronix WFM/VEC.

Audio Sweetening Post Production

- 1. Digital Audio Editing, MIDI music scoring, ADR, or Foley using the various software programs.
- 2. Mackie 1402 Audio Mixer.