"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”  
-African proverb

**DOCUMENTARY DISCUSSIONS**
*MURDERBALL*

1) In your own words, what is the story being told in each documentary?

2) Who were the main characters in the documentary?

3) Which characters did you like the most and why?

4) What specialty did you like the most about this documentary?

5) Did you notice the camera work or images on the screen at all? If so, what did you notice?

**INTERVIEW PREP**

1) COMING UP WITH GOOD QUESTIONS
   a) Avoid questions with yes or no answers
   b) Craft your questions in a way to encourage conversation
   c) Fail safe question: “In your expert opinion....”
   d) Don’t be afraid to get personal (but respect the interviewee if they don’t want to get personal.)
   e) Practice, practice, practice. With family, with friends, with teachers, with strangers. Take note of what kinds of questions everyone likes to answer.

2) APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR
   a) Always be professional and courteous. (Even if they are not.)
   b) How to dress says a lot about you (and how your interviewee will react towards you.)
   c) Always be on time. Period.

**PRE-PRODUCTION CHECKLIST**
- research
- list of interviewees
- story angles
- email/phone script
- interview questions
3) PREPARE EMAIL/PHONE SCRIPT FOR INTERVIEW REQUEST

SAMPLE EMAIL REQUEST:

Dear XYZ,

I was recently accepted into a documentary filmmaking course hosted by the Downers Grove Public Library and financially underwritten by Best Buy.

The documentary I am making for this course is about XYZ.

I would like to interview you for this documentary, because your contributions to the fields of ghost hunting and electronic music have really pushed the envelope.

Your interview would be a great contribution to the story I am telling in documentary XYZ.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email, and I look forward to speaking with you more regarding an interview.

I hope you have a wonderful day.

Sincerely,  
Joanna Smith  
355-5555  
jsmith@email.com