# Successful Magazine Development

(or turning your efforts up to eleven...)

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# Bio: Coast Monthly

sub-20K daily newspaper . existing staff . new product line

#### Where: Galveston, Texas

coastal community. 1 hour outside Houston.

#### Impact: Business

new business line . new profit center . halo effect











# Why magazines?

profitable. new relationships. tools in place

### Why now?

revenue pressure. expands product line. adds value

Why not?

well?





"Who are you? Who, who. Who, who?

# Step 1: Identify your niche.

Who are you?

Who do you want to be?

What is aspirational?



"You may call me a dreamer, but I'm not the only one."

# Step 2: Commit to being great.

Study magazines with your eyes wide open.

Find like-minded people.

Inject passion - lots of passion.





"And I see your true colors shining through..."

### Step 3: No multiple personalities.

Find your soul...magazine soul.

Develop your emotive elevator pitch.

Stay true to your soul (or USP).





"You're so vain, you probably thing this song is about you..."

### Step 4: No super-sized egos.

Bond over the dream.

Feed off of each other.

Everyone learns everything.

"Oh, I get by with a little help from my friends..."

# Step 5: Develop network of writers

Be the light to the moth.

Put the word out.

Build a team.



"Every picture tells a story don't it..."

### Step 6: Photos matter. Big time.

A different lens than a newspaper.

Find someone who loves photography.

Be inspired by others.













"And be a simple kind of man, be something you'll love and understand..."

#### Step 7: Keep Sizes Simple.

Limited choices.

Prime positions.

Learn a new language.

"Oh A, B, C, it's as easy as 1, 2, 3..."

### Step 8 : Sell Smart.

Annual contracts a must.

Discounts for frequency.

Full-pages your default sale.





"Cause you've got a friend in me.."

### Step 9: Plug and Play.

The skeleton is your friend.

Assign Christmas in July.

Build a culture of ownership.





"Well, shake it up now, all you've got, whoo, hoo..."

# Step 10: Never Get Comfortable.

Post Mortem Party.

Hold Monthly Product Meetings.

Get out the knife annually.





"It's the eye of the tiger, its the thrill of the fight..."

#### Step 11: Set Aggressive Goals

Set the goal; achieve, move the chains.

Where are you going?

High expectations are a good thing.





"We are the champions, my friends..."

#### Behind the numbers

Meaningful print profits

Elevates your brand value.

Creates a solid way forward.





"Stand up, stand up, don't give up the fight!"

#### Impact on Southern Newspapers

magazine titles in small markets

millions of dollars in revenue

created meaningful value in markets







Scottsboro, AL

Lufkin, TX







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