**Article Checklist**

**(20 points total)**

**Overall Content (1 point each)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Facts are verified with at least two sources:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Statements of opinion or fact are attributed

\_\_\_\_\_ Opinion is based on fact

\_\_\_\_\_ The word “that” is omitted when not absolutely necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_ Written in third person

**Lead (1 point each)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Has strong, interesting first words.

\_\_\_\_\_ Summarizes or hints at story’s subject and tone.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sparks interest in readers

\_\_\_\_\_ Does not being with *a, an, the, or past dates*

**Body (1 point each)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Has strong transitions

\_\_\_\_\_ Paragraphs are arranged so the most important information is first

\_\_\_\_\_ The meaning is clear

\_\_\_\_\_ Subject is clearly identified

\_\_\_\_\_Story has been developed properly

**Mechanics (5 points total)**

Spelling

Journalistic style

Grammar

Punctuation

Concise wording

Lack of repetition

Precise wording

Quotes are accurately attributed and punctuated

Opinion quotes are attributed to the source

“When asked, she said” form avoided.

**Photo included for publication (1 point)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No