

Corporate alliances put squeeze on sports journalism

BY JOHN SHRADER / Sports journalism is dead. That was the notion in late August, when ESPN abruptly ended its relationship with PBS' "Frontline." ESPN had partnered with "Frontline" for more than a year on a documentary film examining the NFL's handling of head injuries. It looked like the perfect collaboration of the hard-hitting documentary team and the biggest, most powerful media machine the sports world has ever known.