Searching the Television News Archive

The Television News Archive is a service provided by Vanderbilt University, which has been recording and collecting news broadcasts since 1968. It contains 1030378 records, most of which are pulled from the major news channels (ABC, NBC, CBS, CNN, PBS, FOX, etc.). The archive has some streaming video available, but for copyright reasons it is not comprehensive. The researcher can make up for this by requesting a loaned copy of the segment.

The default search screen is the Advanced Search. While there is a Basic Search the Advanced Search has some helpful limiters which you can use to refine your search:

![Advanced Search Interface](image)

To start off there’s a search box which we have used by entering the keyword Watergate. From there you can refine your search in a number of ways. You can look for broadcasts from a certain time range (1972-1976, for example), look for segments from a certain network, exclude certain types of results, and even find clips featuring a specific reporter or anchor. In this case we’ve just looked for broadcasts about Watergate from CBS, and here is the results screen:
The results are organized so that the oldest indexed broadcast is shown first (this can be changed), and each link contains a record/abstract of the news segment. As you can see there are no icons in the Video category which means that these clips are available through loan only. A search for 2012 Presidential Election shows how it appears when streaming video is available:

As you can see there is now an icon in the video category for some of the entries. Clicking on a link of one of the results that has streaming video brings you the record/abstract:
To view the streaming video just click on View Video (and have RealPlayer installed):

**Decision 2012 / Republicans**

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(Video requires installation of the [RealPlayer](#))