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Quotes

“I just wanted to express my gratitude for your willingness to air the Hymns of Thanksgiving Concert. My family truly benefited from the program, and are indeed full of gratitude for what our Nation stands for. Thanks a million for all your hard work.”

Marsha Hull



Sawtooth Mountains, Stanley, Idaho
November 27, 2007

“This ‘Thank You’ is intended to go to all who had a part in producing “Hymns Of Thanksgiving” as well as all those participating in the choir and orchestra. I know of no other way to say thanks to so many for a wonderful evening of great music.”

Dick and Jody Shotwell, Filer

“I was thrilled at the professional and moving presentation of Hymns of Thanksgiving last Sunday and the IPTV presentation on Thursday. Rarely are there such wonderful community events, at no cost, that can bring the talents of so many together for the benefit of Idaho. This has become a wonderful tradition for our family.”

Kirt Naylor



OUTDOOR IDAHO Experiences MOTORIZED IDAHO

—Airs Thursday, December 13, 2007 at 8/7pm MT/PT
 —Repeats Sunday, December 17, 2007 at 7pm MT/PT

Motorized recreation has become a huge pastime in Idaho, and it’s getting bigger every year. There are over a hundred thousand



registered off highway vehicles in the state. That's more than ten times the number only twenty years ago. Add thousands of snowmobiles, jet boats, and other conveyances and you'll find a lot of people and machines in the backcountry.

It's no wonder Idaho is a mecca for motorized enthusiasts, what with grand swaths of public lands held by the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management and other agencies. And there's no question there is controversy surrounding motorized use of certain areas. But as the numbers of riders and drivers have grown, so has the push for responsible use.



Various agencies are encouraging folks to "stay on the trails." In fact, in Idaho's national forests it is now against the law to venture off designated trails. Meanwhile, scores of motorized clubs are trying to promote safety and good stewardship of the lands they use.

In this edition of Outdoor Idaho we're going to find out what's attracting ever growing numbers of recreationists to motorized sports. We'll join enthusiastic groups of trail bike riders, jetboaters, sand car drivers, and snowmobilers as they explore some of their favorite spots in Idaho's backcountry.



IdahoPTV Aired HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING

—Aired Thursday, November 22 at 7:00 p.m. MT/PT

—Also aired on IdahoPTV High Definition Channel

Thursday, November 22 at 9:00/8:00 p.m. MT/PT and Friday, November 23 at 6:00/5:00 p.m. MT/PT, and at 10:00/9:00 p.m. MT/PT

Idaho Public Television offered a holiday feast for the eyes and ears on the Thanksgiving evening of Thursday, November 22 when our statewide public television service aired **HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING**.

This annual concert featured a massed community choir and community orchestra with inspirational readings by Gov. and Mrs. C.L. "Butch" Otter. IdahoPTV captured the 90-minute concert for broadcast during the free event in Boise on Sunday (November 18).

In addition to the analog television presentation, **HYMNS OF THANKSGIVING** aired on the IdahoPTV high definition channel (sub-channel 5) on Thursday (November 22) at 9:00/8:00 p.m. MT/PT and Friday (November 23) at 6:00/5:00 p.m. MT/PT and again at 10:00/9:00 p.m. MT/PT.

Additionally in the Treasure Valley in Southwest Idaho, **CABLEONE** aired the concert on a continuous basis on their cable channel 67, beginning Thursday (November 22) at 9:00 p.m., and running through Sunday night (November 25).

Choir presentations include patriotic, spiritual and traditional folk songs, including "Distant Land," "O Danny Boy," "Shenandoah," "Lord, Make Me An Instrument of Thy Peace," "God Bless America" and more. The orchestra opens the performance with "Seventeen Come Sunday" from English Folk Songs Suite by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Other orchestral pieces include: "Amazing Grace" with bagpipes; "Adagio" from Concerto for Clarinet, K 622 (Mozart) with Larry Reeder on Clarinet; and "Elegie Op. 3 No. 1" (Rachmaninoff) with Del Parkinson on piano.



—IdahoPTV's Year End Fund Raising Campaign



Over the weekend of November 30-December 2, Idaho Public Television celebrated the holiday season with our annual December pledge campaign. Programs included **ASSASSINATION: IDAHO'S TRIAL OF THE CENTURY**, **BLUE MAN GROUP: INSIDE THE TUBE**, **NATURE "Christmas in Yellowstone,"** and **CELTIC WOMAN: A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**. During the live pledge event on Sunday night, December 2, volunteers from CableOne took pledges from viewers statewide.

Pledges of support over the weekend totaled \$96,200 on a goal of \$88,000!

Thank you all for your support!



—At press time for this GM Report, we learned that the Governor will give his State of the State/Budget Address to the Idaho Legislature and Judiciary from the Special Events (SPEC) Center on Monday, January 7 at 3pm MT/2pm PT. Idaho Public Television will provide pool coverage for Idaho media and will broadcast the address statewide live on both our analog and digital systems. In addition, we will stream the address at idahoptv.org. The address will be re-broadcast later in the evening at 8pm MT/PT on our analog systems and at various times on our HD service.

In addition, we will begin our LEGISLATURE LIVE coverage of the organization sessions of the House and Senate at noon MT/11am PT of that day via IdahoPTV's Learn and World digital multicast channels and via the internet at idahoptv.org.

We'll have more information about these and other activities at the Idaho Legislature in the January GM Report.



—On Wednesday, November 29, Idaho Public Television was notified that four of our productions have achieved finalist status in the New York Festival's 2008 TV Broadcasting Awards Competition. In the next round of judging our work may be promoted to a Gold, Silver or Bronze World Medal. If not, it will receive a Finalist Certificate. The four programs are as follows:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Category</u>
Dialogue: Barbara Morgan	Talk/Interview
D4K	Educational/ Instructional Elementary
The Idaho Homefront	History & Society
Idaho Getaways	Travel & Tourism

We should know the final results in late December or early January. I'll keep you posted.

—At 9:30am on November 29, a semi-truck driving on Kendall Street in Boise hit an Idaho Power pole which carries both power and fiber optic telecommunications cabling for IdahoPTV's Network Operations Center. The area was without power for several hours. IdahoPTV was off the air statewide for about one hour.

We thank Idaho Power for their prompt attention to this issue. Power was restored to Idaho Public Television within 35 minutes and statewide service was restored by 10:30am.



—On Thursday, November 15, KCDT-TV, our analog transmitter for the Coeur d'Alene area, experienced a complete technical failure. Key transmitting components of the transmitter ceased to function. IdahoPTV engineers Mike Cramblit and Ken Segota traveled to the mountain top site at Canfield Butte by late morning to assess the situation. By 3pm, Idaho Public Television had chartered one of the State of Idaho airplanes to fly a replacement low powered transmitter from Boise to the area. Cramblit and Segota had the signal up and running by 6:50pm in time for the statewide broadcast premier of ASSASSINATION: IDAHO'S TRIAL OF THE CENTURY. Repairs to the transmitter were finished on November 23. IdahoPTV's KCDT-DT digital transmitter for the area was not affected. I would like to extend my thanks to Mike and Kenny for their hard work...and very long day!



—On November 14, the Presidents of the Friends groups and Foundation met with Ken Howell, attorney, and staff to review the proposed Bylaws that have been drafted from the Road

map document and to begin discussing the process for unifying the four non-profits of Idaho Public Television. From that meeting, the Presidents will send out communications to board members soliciting names for unified board leadership and whether they intend to continue to serve. In addition, staff is researching the optimal time for changing the financial processes associated with the groups. The next meeting of the Presidents is set for December 12.



—IdahoPTV DIALOGUE Shows Bring the Gift of Insight in December

- Airs Thursdays at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT
- Repeats Sundays at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT

On December 6, join historian and author Michael Beschloss and host Joan Cartan-Hansen to look at how lessons from the past might inform our current political climate. They discuss courageous Presidential action throughout American history—actions that often threatened to harm personal and political reputation, but that instead helped to preserve our nation.

On December 13, Jim McClure and biographer William Smallwood join Cartan-Hansen for a conversation about McClure's life and political career.

Author Richard Paul Evans burst onto the literary scene with his self-published book, *The Christmas Box*, which was picked up by a major publisher when its appeal became evident. Since then, he has written 11 New York Times bestsellers. On December 20, Evans speaks with host Marcia Franklin about his latest book, *The Gift*.

On December 27, religious historian and author Forrest Church, son of former Idaho Senator Frank Church, joined Cartan-Hansen for a conversation about what our nation's forefather really thought about God and politics. Church discussed how the history of religion in government has changed—in actuality and in perception—during 200+ years of U.S. history.



—Southern Oregon Public Television, which serves approximately one third of that state and KIXE, Redding, CA will be re-airing our DIALOGUE interview with Paula Kerger, President and CEO of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) in January. Both stations thought the interview did a good job of discussing issues.



—A number of people have asked me about how many people will be affected by the federally mandated shutdown of analog television scheduled to occur on February 17, 2009. According to Nielsen January 2007, here are the figures:

Boise area	72,413 households, or 189,772 people
Idaho Falls/Pocatello	23,428 households, or 61,382 people
Spokane (inc. N Idaho)	64,860 households, or 142,692 people
Twin Falls	9,357 households, or 24,515 people



—On November 15, Friends of Idaho Public Television, KAID/KIPT, Inc. Board President Eve Chandler was a keynote speaker at a fund raising event for Bogus Basin Ski Area. Her twenty minute presentation looked back at more than 65 years of service Bogus Basin has given to the community. In attendance was Jack Simplot!



—Great news, in November, Idaho Public Television received a grant of \$3,500 from the Perc H Shelton and Gladys Pospisil Shelton Foundation to support early childhood reading efforts in the McCall area. During the spring of 2008, the grant will engage early childhood educators and kids in several activities based on the Raising Readers and PBS's It's A Big, Big World program. Thanks so much to the Perc H Shelton and Gladys Pospisil Shelton Foundation!

IdahoPTV Mail Bag

November 25, 2007



Dear Idaho Public Television:

Are you or will you be transmitting digital signal through your transmitting stations that reach people in the Valley County, McCall, Donnelly and Cascade area? I reviewed information on the www.Antennaweb.org site which informed me that people who obtain over-the-air signal for their TV viewing in these areas will not be able to receive digital signal. Do you know of other broadcasters that are or will be transmitting over-the-air digital tv signal to serve the Valley County area?

Howard Wright, McCall

Howard,

Thanks for your email regarding digital television broadcasting in Valley County.

I'm happy to tell you that Idaho Public Television will be turning on a DTV signal next summer broadcasting from No Business Peak.

We've got the funding, license and location.

Warm regards,

Peter Morrill
General Manager

November 14, 2007

Dear Idaho Public Television,



I saw the show "Judgment Day: Intelligent Design On Trial" When the school board in Dover, Pennsylvania, required biology teachers to read a statement supporting creation by an intelligent agent as an alternative to evolution, parents sued. I saw the town torn apart by controversy. NOVA interviews townspeople, scientists and lawyers during the six-week trial and shows a definite bias towards evolution.

While I do not take a stand on either, I do know enough about both to know that evolution has many fraudulent findings which go largely unmentioned. We have textbooks in school with proven false claims from evolutionist still in the books and taught! This film was biased.

Case in point, the DNA discussion in the trial. Do you really think it is that simple to show the transition from ape to man through an presumed animation and jump to conclusions? What about the other proteins and information that shows how this test might fall short?

I will not support Idaho Public Television because it is slanted toward evolution.

Evolution is still unproven as is creationism. The show you put on clearly made the creationists look like fools while making evolution look credible and true.

Shame on Idaho Public Television. You lost my support and I will tell as many people about this slanted programming to turn them away from you as well.

Signed, Diego Curt

Dear Mr. Curt:

Thank you for sharing your thoughts about last night's NOVA program "Judgment Day: Intelligent Design on Trial." The program never purported to be a definitive exploration of evolution, but rather to examine the court case that determined whether the introduction of intelligent design in the Dover schools violated the establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution. The interviews were with the actual participants in the case including the defendants of intelligent design and their attorneys. The reenactments of the courtroom proceedings came directly from the court transcripts.

I'm sorry you felt that the program was less than satisfactory.

Ron Pisaneschi
Director of Broadcasting

(From the author of Debaters & Dynamiters, David Grover)

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

To: Bruce Reichert

Subject: Assassination: Idaho's Trial of the Century November Premiere



Thanks, Bruce, for your kind words. We thoroughly enjoyed our visit to Boise, and it all went far beyond our expectations for a great production on the screen and a great moment in the theater.

Thanks, too, for identifying and locating the new website for us. I immediately went to it, and was very impressed with the balance and professionalism of it; it will serve me as a reference work for the future, in remembering all the performances of actors, production personnel, fundraisers, community support. et al. Also, we saw the four pictures you asked about, with no difficulty....

So we had a great trip, in all respects. Marilyn joins me in sending best wishes to you and your associates at Idaho Public Television. We hope you have another real winner like Assassination soon! Dave Grover



Our IdahoPTV Productions



DIALOGUE Talks to Forrest Church About the Separation of Church and State

–Airs Thursday, December 27th, 8:30pm MT/7:30pm PT
 –Repeats Sunday, December 30th, 5:30pm MT/4:30pm PT



A recent Belifenet poll reveals that 55 percent of Americans believe the United States was founded as a Christian nation. Yet, George Washington actually railed against the interference of the clergy in government matters.

On this DIALOGUE, religious historian and author Forrest Church joins host Joan Cartan-Hansen for a conversation about what our nation's forefather really thought about God and politics. Because this is a taped program, there will be no viewer calls or e-mails.

View or listen to DIALOGUE episodes in a variety of formats:

- ◁ Traditional analog over-the-air broadcast airs Thursdays at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT, with repeats Sundays at 5:30/4:30 p.m. MT/PT, on channels 35-KUID/26-KCDT, 4-KAID/13-KIPT, and 10-KISU. Analog also is available through cable and satellite; consult local suppliers for channel numbers.
- ◁ High-definition over-the-air broadcast airs Thursdays at 9:30/8:30 p.m. MT/PT, usually with repeats on Sundays at 8:30/7:30 p.m. MT/PT, on channels KUID-12, KCDT-45, KAID-21, KIPT-22 and KISU-17. The high-definition broadcast also is available through some cable companies; consult local suppliers.
- ◁ Standard-definition over-the-air broadcast airs between 7:00/6:00 a.m. and 3:00/2:00 p.m. on Citizen-4 digital channel. The frequency, days and times may vary. The standard-definition broadcast also is available through some cable companies; consult local suppliers.
- ◁ Video streaming from idahoptv.org/dialogue is available in high-bandwidth or low-bandwidth format. Windows Media Player is required; a free download is available.
- ◁ Video download from idahoptv.org/dialogue; ultra-high bandwidth required.
- ◁ Podcasts (MP3, audio-only; and MP4, audio-video for video iPods) are available for download from idahoptv.org/dialogue.
- ◁ NPR News 91 audio-only airs in Southwest Idaho. Sundays at 11:30 a.m. MT.
- ◁ KISU FM audio-only airs in Eastern Idaho. Mondays at 6:30 p.m. MT.



McClure, 1974

DIALOGUE Talks With Jim McClure

—Airs Thursday, December 13th, 8:30pm MT/7:30 pm PT
 —Repeats Sunday, December 16th 5:30pm MT/4:30pm PT

When Jim McClure stepped in to run for Congress in 1966 after the Republican nominee was killed in a plane crash, no one knew he would become one of Idaho's best know political figures of the 20th century. McClure served for three terms in the House of Representatives and for 18 years in the U.S. Senate. He worked with six presidents and helped shape Idaho and American history.

On this episode of DIALOGUE, McClure and biographer William Smallwood will join host Joan Cartan-Hansen for a conversation about McClure's life and political career. Viewers are encouraged to e-mail questions before the show or call in during the live program.



Historian Michael Beschloss on DIALOGUE

—Airs Thursday, December 6th, 8:30pm MT/7:30 pm PT
 —Repeats Sunday, December 9th 5:30pm MT/4:30pm PT

Defying overwhelming public criticism, this American President decided to negotiate rather fight. He worried that his choice would forever ruin his place in history. But George Washington's fears were unfounded. His decision to support a treaty with Great Britain saved a young nation.

This episode of DIALOGUE, Historian Michael Beschloss joins host Joan Cartan-Hansen for a discussion about the most courageous acts in Presidential history. Beschloss is an historical commentator for ABC and the NewsHour with Jim Lehrer. He is the author of several books including his latest, *Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America 1789-1989*.

Beschloss was in Idaho in October to speak at the Idaho Humanities Council Distinguished Humanities Lecture and Dinner. Because this is a taped program, there will be no viewer calls or e-mails.



DIALOGUE Revisits the 1972 Sunshine Mine Disaster

—Aired Thursday, November 29, at 8:30pm MT/7:30 p.m. PT

On this episode of DIALOGUE, host Marcia Franklin sat down with three people who lived through or have studied the 1972 Sunshine Mine disaster. Peggy Delange-White, who lost her father, uncle, and brother-in-law in the calamity, and Bob Launhardt, who was the safety engineer for the Sunshine mine, discussed their recollections of the event, and talked about the scars that remain in the local community. Author Gregg Olsen, whose book, *The Deep Dark*, recounts the event, also offered his insights.

Although it happened more than 35 years ago, Idaho still feels the effects of one of the largest mining disasters in the United States. In May 1972, 91 men lost their lives in the Sunshine mine in North Idaho when a toxic fire deep underground got out of control. That tragedy, coupled with the closure of the Bunker Hill mine broke the area not only economically but also emotionally.



D4K Studies Owls

—Airs Tuesday, December 18th 2:00pm MT/1:00 pm PT



Owls are amazing birds of prey. They live in almost every part of the world and there are over 200 different kinds. Owls are basically nocturnal and live a solitary life. So, what is a group of owls called? It is called a parliament of owls. Have more questions about owls? This month on D4K, host Joan Cartan-Hansen and her guest scientists, Vicky Runnoe from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and Larry Ridenhour from the Bureau of Land Management will answer your questions.

Students can send their questions through e-mail to D4K@idahoptv.org, fax them in before the show to (208) 373-7245 or call in live during the program to (800) 973-9800. Students who send in a question are eligible to win a DVD player and DVDs for their classroom.

The D4K Web site offers facts, links, reading lists, a glossary, pod casts of programs and special D4K web exclusive programming.

Force and Motion

—Airs Tuesday, January 15th 2:00pm MT/1:00 pm PT



A force is basically a push or a pull. Forces like gravity, inertia, and momentum affect everything. Sir Isaac Newton developed his laws of motion to explain how forces act. What are these laws? And how do roller coasters and bumper cars illustrate how Newton's laws work? D4K host Joan Cartan-Hansen will be joined by Steve Shropshire, Professor of Physics from Idaho State University and Jim Dull, Associate Professor of Physics from the College of Idaho.

The D4K Web site offers facts, links, reading lists, a glossary, pod casts of programs and special D4K web exclusive programming.

Green Energy was November's D4K

—Aired Tuesday, November 20, at 2:00pm MT/1:00pm PT

On this episode of D4K students found out how they could make buildings “greener;” use the sun, wind and ocean to create green energy; and change our personal actions to make the world a healthier place for everyone.



Host Joan Cartan-Hansen sat down with Jon Van Gerpen, professor and head of the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering at the University of Idaho, and Robert Neilson, manager of the Biofuels and Renewable Energy Technology Department at Idaho National Laboratory. They discussed green energy and answered questions that students submit through e-mail to D4K@idahoptv.org, faxed in before the show and called in during the live program.

Idaho Public Television in the News



By Diane Ronayne, Idaho Statesman, December 2, 2007



'ASSASSINATION' REVISITED

On Nov. 7, the Egyptian Theater in Boise was packed with hundreds of locals who took part on- and off-camera in creating “Assassination: Idaho’s Trial of the Century,” produced by our very own Idaho Public Television.

At this special showing, they got to see their work on the big screen before its debut on thousands of little ones.

Tonight, Channel 4 airs it in high definition at 7:30 p.m. Then, at 10:30 p.m., secrets of how this movie was crafted will be revealed in “The Making of ‘Assassination.’”

“Assassination” recreates the 1907 trial of “Big Bill” Haywood, accused of assassinating Gov. Frank Steunenberg. In the process, it examines choices Americans had then - and have now - about how to respond to terrorism.

Although it's a documentary, the show is as entertaining as fiction, thanks to writer/producer Bruce Reichert's finely drawn script, Pat Metzler's artistic directing, Judy Austin's painstaking research, Joan Yost's magical re-enactments and Byron Johnson's fruitful fundraising to pay for it all.

Theater buffs will recognize pros Matt Clark, Doug Copsey, Joe Golden, Arthur Glen Hughes, Richard Klautsh, Stitch Marker, Dan Peterson, Gordon Reinhart and M.A. Taylor, as well as folks better known in other arenas, such as Vern Bisterfeldt, Marcia Franklin, Kay Hummel, Brian Cronin, Russ and Mia Fereday, Dave and Marshall High, Gordy Williamson, Barzy Young, Joe Zimmer and many others. In all, more than 200 volunteers were involved in the “Trial of the Century.” To learn more, go to <http://idahoptv.org/productions/specials/trial/>.



KBSU News Story on ASSASSINATION: IDAHO'S TRIAL OF THE CENTURY

November 8, 2007

"It's a cold December evening in 1905 and Frank Steunenberg is returning home. Six years have elapsed since then Governor Steunenberg declared martial law in northern Idaho's silver mining region. Tonight there's nothing to suggest that this evening would be his last or that the explosion heard in a small frontier town would awaken an entire nation."

That's the opening scene from *Assassination: The Trial of the Century*, which was more than a year in the making. It chronicles the trial that resulted from the murder of Governor Steunenberg and the remarkable events that surrounded it. Retired Idaho Supreme Court Justice Byron Johnson proposed the project to Idaho Public Television after spending some time with the Idaho Legal History Society. Johnson says the murder of Governor Steunenberg and the trial stems from a turbulent period in history.

"It came at what I'll call the cusp of what some call class warfare. More boldly stated, the working people who had organized themselves into unions in the latter part of the 19th century were butting heads with what many would call the capitalists, the owners in this case of mines."

Almost immediately after Governor Steunenberg's murder, a man, eventually identified as Harry Orchard, was arrested. He confessed to setting the bomb but pointed the finger at Bill Haywood and two other officials at the Western Federation of Miners as the conspirators behind the plot. In May 1907 Haywood went on trial in Boise. *Trial of the Century* writer and producer Bruce Reichert says an early production decision set the tone for the entire project.

"We decided not to use still photographs but to recreate the trial. It is a pretty bold move. We had never tried anything like that before. I'd wake up in a cold sweat every once in a while thinking, 'Oh, we're going down the wrong road. We can't possibly pull this off.'"

The task was daunting for any producer trying to recreate the dream team of attorneys. The prosecution was led by Idaho's best attorneys James Hawley and William Borah. Haywood's defense team was led by Clarence Darrow of Chicago and Edmund Richardson of Denver. The trial scenes include Clarence Darrow's opening statements to the jury defending the need for a strong union.

"The smelters vomited forth poison and death and they set out to work, they set out to work as best they could as a great organization to correct these evils."

Reichert says the reenactments work because the actors were able to bring the transcripts to life such as James Hawley's closing statement.

"It is time that this stench in the nostrils of all decent people living in the West is buried."

Five days of filming at a courtroom in the Borah Post Office building in downtown Boise recreated the highlights of an 81-day trial. It came to a conclusion during a blistering July day with no air conditioning. Finally, a jury, composed mostly of Idaho farmers reached their verdict.

“The State of Idaho versus William D. Haywood. We the jury in the above entitled cause find the defendant, William D. Haywood, not guilty.”

“Not guilty. Not guilty. You’re free.”

Retired Idaho Supreme Court Justice Byron Johnson says the Haywood trial is significant on several fronts.


“This was the trial that established Boise, Idaho as a legitimate community within the world, even abroad. People knew about Boise. It wasn’t just some Hicksville out here in the sagebrush. And he, Clarence Darrow, called Boise the Athens of the Sagebrush, he was so taken with it.”

But more importantly said Johnson, this trial amounts to what he calls the paragon of the rule of law.

“The popular sentiment was, convict him and hang him. The evidence did not support that. There was not sufficient corroboration. The jury listened to the court’s, the trial judge’s instructions and said, “Our duty is to acquit him.” And that’s what they did.”

Winding up on the losing side didn’t seem to affect the prosecution team. James Hawley went on to become an Idaho governor. William Borah served in the United States Senate for more than three decades. Clarence Darrow meanwhile won his additional fame in the so called Scopes Monkey Trial in 1925. The judge who gave the critical jury instructions came under intense criticism and lost his next election. Harry Orchard spent the rest of his life at the Idaho State Penitentiary in Boise.

For Boise State Radio, I’m Don Wimberly.

 Idaho-Grown for PBS, Monthly selections from Community Cinema highlight Independent Lens

NOVEMBER 7, 2007

BY RACHAEL DAIGLE, Boise Weekly

“Boise was the birthplace of community cinema,” explains Boisean Lynn Allen. Four years ago, Allen was hosting an informal screening of documentary films from what became the Independent Lens series on PBS when a friend suggested she build it into a regular community gig. “So the next year, I pitched the idea to the Independent Television Service (ITVS) office in San Francisco, and they agreed to let me try a pilot program.”

Three years into what's now known as the *Diverse Perspectives: Community Cinema* series, Allen serves as the regional outreach coordinator for Idaho, which includes events in Lewiston, Pocatello, Nampa and Boise. Community Cinema, however, is now hosted in more than 40 cities nationwide in a season that coincides with the university calendar year. Each month, Community Cinema chooses a film from Independent Lens, screens an hour-long preview of the film and then hosts a discussion, often led by university professors, students and Allen herself.

"One of the things we really strive for in this series," says Allen "is a conjunction of community and campus. And we've been very successful in attracting a 50/50 crowd of community and students." Last month's preview of *Miss Navajo* (which airs on PBS November 13) was followed by a presentation from three students who'd traveled to the Navajo Nation. This month's featured documentary, *An Unreasonable Man*, about former presidential candidate Ralph Nader, will be followed by a short lecture from Ross Burkhart, Boise State professor and chair of the Political Science department.

"The title of *An Unreasonable Man* comes from a George Bernard Shaw quote," says Allen. "A reasonable man adapts himself to the world. An unreasonable man persists in trying to adapt the world to himself, therefore, all progress depends on unreasonable men."

Burkhart will discuss America's two-party political system and address why it works and why it doesn't, especially to the disadvantage of candidates like Nader, before opening up the discussion to the audience.

Remaining films this season include January's selection, *Banished*, the story of African-America families who were banished from three counties more than 100 years ago; *Mapping Stem Cell Research: Terra Incognita*, about one doctor's very personal quest to further stem cell research, is featured in February; and in March, Community Cinema screens *Iron Ladies of Liberia*, a behind-the-scenes look at the first freely elected female head of Liberia. In April, the final film of the series, *A Dream in Doubt*, is about post-9/11 hate crimes against Muslims in America that Allen says she feels is one of the most important films in the series.

Three of the documentaries shown in this year's season, including *An Unreasonable Man*, *Iron Ladies of Liberia* and September's *Please Vote for Me*, are selections that support Community Cinema's *Vote for Democracy* project, which examines democracy around the world and is augmented educationally with lesson plans and an outreach project.

Democracy, says Allen, is the underpinning theme of the Community Cinema series, with the Independent Lens series as the over arching sponsor. The ultimate goal, says Allen, is simple: to create social dialogue.

An Unreasonable Man previews at the Boise State SUB Nov. 13 at 5:30 p.m. and in Room 102E at the Boise State West in Nampa on Nov. 17 at 10:30 a.m. It premieres on IPTV, Channel 4, Dec. 18, 9 p.m. For more information on this film or the upcoming season, visit ITVS.org.

spokesmanreview.com » blogs

Eye on Boise

Betsy's Blog, November 8, 2007

It's your right to know

One way to promote compliance with the state's open meetings and public records laws is simply to educate people about them, from public officials to reporters to citizens, so that everyone knows what's required and what they're supposed to do. That's the idea behind a series of seminars that Idahoans for Openness in Government (IDOG) has been holding around the state since 2004 in partnership with Attorney General Lawrence Wasden; you may have gone to or heard about one near you. It seems to be working; the Associated Press reported earlier this year that since the seminars started, questions to the Attorney General's office about possible open meetings and public records law violations have dropped – from two to three a week, to roughly one a month.

IDOG (its website is www.openidaho.org) is a non-profit coalition of media folks, public officials, civic-minded groups and others; I'm IDOG's president and co-founder (with Dean Miller, the Idaho Falls Post-Register editor who's currently on a Nieman fellowship at Harvard). Our seminars proved so popular and we got so many requests that we applied for, and received, a \$30,000 grant to create a portable, DVD version of the seminar that we can make available to anyone. That's in production now, and will be out early next year. A highlight of the DVD will be skits driving home what is and isn't permitted under the law, which at the seminars are a fun, audience-participation thing. On the DVD, the skits are staged in the Idaho Public TV studios and acted out by Idaho Shakespeare Festival actors, with hilarious results.

Here's why I'm telling you this: Tonight, IDOG and its open meetings and records education efforts will be featured on Idaho Public TV. At 8 p.m. (7 p.m. Pacific), Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden and I will appear on live TV with "Dialogue" host Joan Cartan-Hansen for a special hour-long program focusing on Idaho's open meetings and public records laws. We'll be taking calls from the public (800-973-9800), and the show will offer the first look at the wacky but informative skits. The program will re-air on Sunday afternoon. Tune in and check it out; Dialogue also can be viewed online at www.idahoptv.org.

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'Trial of the Century' airs on IPTV tonight

By Chad Dryden

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Idaho's famed Trial of the Century took place 100 years ago in Boise, and to honor the centennial of the history-making trial, Idaho Public Television is broadcasting a special program Thursday.

"Assassination: Idaho's Trial of the Century" will air at 8 p.m. Thursday.

The program is a reenactment of the trial of William D. “Big Bill” Haywood, a union officer who was charged with hiring a hit man to assassinate former Idaho Gov. Frank Steunenberg in 1905.

The not-guilty verdict came as a shock to many, including Haywood’s lawyer. The trial, which was reported by more than 50 national and international journalists, was the climax of decades of confrontation between workers and capitalists in the mining camps of Idaho, Utah, Montana and Colorado. It featured a “dream team” of famous attorneys in what has been called a “struggle for the soul of America.”



Looking at life through an ‘Independent Lens’

The award-winning PBS series gets up close and personal with live screenings and discussions in local communities

BY Erin Ryan
Edition Date: 11/15/07



Jifeng Guo / ITVS

Eight-year-old Luo Lei addresses his fellow students during a campaign for class monitor at Wuhan Evergreen No. 1 Primary School in China. The surprisingly democratic election process in his classroom is featured in “Please Vote For Me,” which screened in Boise and Nampa in September.

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a moving picture is worth a million. “To see some of the conditions that people live in, to hear them talk about their ideals and their ideas, is so impactful,” said Lynn Allen.

Allen is a regional outreach coordinator for the Independent Television Service, or ITVS, and was involved in the original effort by Idaho Public Television and Boise State University to bring its visionary programming to the local screen. She said that ITVS was created by Congress in the early ‘90s with funds appropriated through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and it has since produced a treasury of independent films that strive to be educational, compelling and moving.

Local viewers were first treated to public previews of these films four years ago, when Idaho Public Television piloted the now Emmy Award-winning PBS series “Independent Lens.” Hosted by acclaimed actor Terrence Howard, the series covers everything from politics in China’s public schools to the ancient traditions of Navajo culture to the latest developments in stem cell research. People were invited to watch films at Boise State, listen to related speakers and then turn their reactions into a discussion.

The structure of the series is much the same today, though Allen says more and more people are joining the conversation. “That’s really what community cinema is all about,” she said. “In the Treasure Valley, we call our series “Diverse Perspectives,” and we have two goals. The first is to create social discourse around important issues, bring a local perspective to national and international themes. The second is to create a space where there’s a conjunction of campus and community.”

The campus part of the equation is overseen by Ro Alvarado Parker, director of Boise State’s Cultural Center. Along with Allen and Idaho Public Television program director Ron Pisaneschi, she sits down each year and goes through the dozens of “Independent Lens” titles produced by ITVS to select the best mix for Treasure Valley audiences.

“We really look at what’s happening on our campus and in the community, discussions that are going on, what’s important to students,” Parker said. “It was natural for the Cultural Center to be involved as the series has so many different topics and perspectives.”

The season typically starts in early fall, with one film screening a couple times a month through spring. Some professors at Boise State are offering extra credit to students who attend, though Parker said many students go because they are curious or passionate about particular subjects. She said first-year events drew crowds of about 20, which have grown to upwards of 100 people, depending on the film.

But why do they make the effort to see footage that is broadcast on PBS soon after? What brings people out of the comfort of their living rooms? “Even as much of a political junky as I am, and how interested I am in discussion of social issues, it’s hard to tempt me out after dark,” Allen joked.

She attends the screenings as part of her job, but if it wasn’t, she said she would go anyway for the chance to connect with her peers. “I think community engagement and conversation are critical for understanding the world as a whole and how national and international issues impact us on a local level. It’s about understanding that other people don’t have the same opinions, don’t think the same way I do and that they have valid reasons for the way they are and the way they think,” she said. “This creates a respectful and informative way to come to appreciate those other opinions.

“The advantage of this is that TV is usually a one-way media,” Pisaneschi said. “Part of our outreach is to take TV beyond the broadcast to connect with the community ... These are topics that people have strong emotional reactions to, and a moderator creates civic dialogue in response.”

Over the years, Diverse Perspectives has expanded to Pocatello in eastern Idaho and to Boise State’s West Valley satellite campus in Nampa. November’s film is an unsparing look at Ralph Nader called, “An Unreasonable Man,” which aired Wednesday in Boise and will show again Saturday in Nampa.

“A lot of people know nothing about his years as a consumer advocate. They don’t realize how much he impacts their daily lives, from buckling seat belts to labels on things we buy at the supermarket. So I’m very curious to hear people’s reactions,” Allen said.

In more than a decade of outreach work for ITVS and Idaho Public Television before that, she said, she is still passionate about the power of active media consumption. Not just watching a moving picture with an open mouth, but really thinking about its meaning with an open mind.

“Film appeals to so many of our senses,” she said, “and therefore, we remember it.”