



C-SPAN AND THE CONSTITUTION
OVER 100 HOURS OF FIRST RUN PROGRAMMING

To mark the 200th anniversary of the United States Constitution, C-SPAN will offer over 100 hours of first run programming -- more than any other TV network -- throughout the year. Upcoming bicentennial events that C-SPAN will broadcast live from Philadelphia include:

- July 16 -- meeting of the U.S. Congress to celebrate the delegates' "Great Compromise"
- September 17 -- anniversary of the signing of the Constitution

Throughout the year, "Inside the Constitution" has aired views of Constitutional experts, public policymakers and the public on the document which has preserved democracy for 200 years. To date, C-SPAN viewers have been treated to lessons on constitutional history during such programs as a viewer call-in with Education Secretary William Bennett, an interview with former Chief Justice Warren Burger and a bicentennial speech by former President Jimmy Carter.

In addition, C-SPAN has also given voice to constitutional scholars -- whom television audiences might not otherwise become acquainted with -- on a number of topics: the Founding Fathers, Federalism, minorities and the Constitution and the continued influence of the document on lives of Americans.

C-SPAN has traveled to Thomas Jefferson's home Monticello, James Madison's Virginia estate Montpelier and Philadelphia landmarks to provide an historical setting for C-SPAN programs.

In an effort to compliment C-SPAN's coverage of America's commemoration of the signing of the Constitution, the network has distributed thousands of pocket Constitutions to the public.

Viewers won't want to miss C-SPAN's coverage of special Constitution bicentennial events from Philadelphia and our weekly series "Inside the Constitution."