

Gotham
Dec 30, 1991

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C-Span
400 N Capitol St, NW
Wash, DC 20001

Dear C-Span:

I wrote a few mos ago, saying C-Span is the cat's meow. That was understating it.

C-Span is perhaps the best program bdcast anywhere: on TV, or radio. Listen to Natl Public Radio (& WNYC, its sta in NYC) sometime to get some idea of how much it is jacked up by hype, external structuring. How much 'packaging' there is: pulsating, propulsive music; lots of fill-in segments ('creative' journalism!). The exaggeratedly ~~fast~~ fast pace, frequent insertions of all kinds of announcements (~~usually~~ usually canned yet). Besides getting to feel manipulated, it becomes so unpleasant to the ear.

It is the very absence of all this that makes C-Span (both channels) so good. One can actually hear it. One actually listens. (With WNYC, & NPR it frequently becomes just sound in the background. More & more often one's CD, & Bach found a better replacement.)

If C-Span were confined only to sessions of the Senate & House, it would be flat. Once again it is the remarkable imagination used in programming, the excellent (& at the same time broad) selection that makes it so ^{SUPERLATIVE} ~~fast~~. Over & over though the intention is to watch something else, the channel on which one finally alights is--one or the other C-Span.

Yet again, formally u cant know this. There is no subscription to ur (likely laudable) newspaper, or anything like that. Just random ~~viewing~~ viewing at convenient times--which surprisingly often yields something of interest. (Many topics, programs plainly may not ^{BE} Preference, personal taste & so on --obviously. No reflection on C-Span at all.)

It must take a ~~genius~~ genius to know to stay so quietly in the background/ & in this way to be so eloquent, effective. (& ur music is just right. Just so little. & at the same time, the right kind. As is true of ur announcements. Just as much as the viewer needs to know, no more. Delivered in a quiet, composed human voice.)

Kudos, kudos & more kudos. One cant say it too much-- or too ~~strongly~~ strongly! (& ur viewers will look forward to more of ~~of the same~~ of the same in 1992.)

All hail,

Appreciative viewer



C- [redacted] Span
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Washington, DC 20001

