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**C-SPAN SIGNS CONTRACT WITH AMERICA ONLINE TO GIVE  
VIEWERS MORE INFORMATION AND MORE INTERACTION**

**Demonstrations on board the C-SPAN School Bus at the Western Show**

Washington, DC December 1, 1993 --- C-SPAN has joined forces with America Online, a leading provider of on-line computer services, to offer C-SPAN viewers current programming information as well as a variety of other interactive services. **America Online will offer:**

- \* C-SPAN schedule information in real time;
- \* background information relevant to C-SPAN programs;
- \* an electronic "chat room" for on-line discussions between viewers;
- \* and a new conduit for viewer feedback to C-SPAN.

"For C-SPAN, on-line communications adds another dimension to our role as America's electronic town hall," said C-SPAN Vice President Jana Fay. "We want to offer our viewers a new information conduit to the network and provide a way to help viewers learn more from the programming."

Beginning December 1, America Online will provide real time C-SPAN programming information for the hearings, press conferences, policy forums and other public affairs programs surrounding C-SPAN's live coverage of the House and Senate. C-SPAN's regularly-scheduled programs, such as Booknotes, Road to the White House, Live Viewer Call-in programs and America and the Courts will also be listed, with guests and topics included as the shows are booked.

In addition to scheduling, America Online will offer additional ways for viewers to interact among themselves and with the network. Guest bios and entire documents such as bills before Congress, transcripts of testimony, and published articles will be available as part of a menu of further background information on C-SPAN programs. AOL and C-SPAN have agreed to allow AOL subscribers to hold continuous interactive on-line conversations in chat rooms about the issues and ideas discussed on C-SPAN.

C-SPAN is currently available in 59.8 million households nationwide and around the world via satellite. C-SPAN is funded entirely by America's cable television companies as a public service.





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