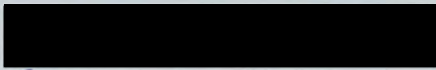


cc: L. Kerr ✓
A. Palmer ✓
K. Denny ✓


Greenville NC 27858
January 25, 1991

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Dear C-Span -

The other afternoon I was watching a speech by Rep. Lee Hamilton to the National Press Club. I was so excited by it because it made sense.

However, at 5:30 - without any apology or explanation, the speech was cut off and some dumb local-university-coach sports program was aired. (The same thing happened during the Senate Ethics Committee hearings that I was watching with rapt attention.)

The next day I called the manager of the local Cable Television. After a bunch of gobbledeook I managed to hear him say that they "had a contract" to air this nonsense (easily available on any number of local news broadcasts and special sports shows). Persistent questioning produced the information that the "contract" was not purchased by nor initiated by the university sports programs, but by the C-Span station!

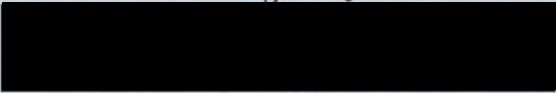
I resisted buying cable service until the Iran-Contra hearings. I bought the cable service because of its public affairs programming and because it offered full news coverage, not pre-digested into

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sound-bites by some newsperson who feels he/she needs to tell me what I might have heard!

I have read your brochure "All About C-Span" and I find nothing at all about interruption of important speeches or House of Representative activity to air inane sports programming. How and why can this be allowed?

Sincerely yours,



P.S. You should have heard the convoluted rationale for not carrying C-Span II!