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RALEIGH, N.C. 27607
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APRIL 17, 1984

C-SPAN
Suite 155
400 North CAPITOL ST.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

DEAR SIRs,

The printed word has always served as my most important and favorite source of information. Unlike the electronic media, with its emphasis on short or headline reporting, print media allows the citizen to discover and understand the events and issues of our time more fully. I have relied, therefore, heavily on newspapers and magazines to inform myself on the news of the day. I have most certainly depended on print media to attempt an in-depth understanding of the more complex or complicated issues.

C-Span has changed my attitude completely. C-Span, it would seem, combines the best of both worlds. It is able to both inform and provide

in-depth, sophisticated coverage of issues and events as an electronic medium. I watch C-Span, therefore, because it is the best opportunity I have, as a common citizen, to learn the truth! I can actually watch my government in its deliberations as they happen. I no longer must rely on a reporter's summary in tomorrow's newspaper, if indeed such a summary is forthcoming.

C-Span also has a multitude of in-depth programming on many issues. The presentations are live, or unedited tapes, which allow the viewer to evaluate, firsthand, the participant's opinions or expertise. C-Span has definitely surpassed the print media by enabling us to gain information as well as a more complete knowledge of complex subjects in an uncensored or unedited format.

I watch C-Span because it takes the time to do the job right. The networks are dominated

by a desire for speed that provides little chance for realistic understanding. They are, of course, controlled by the ratings game and cannot, consistently, present meaningful broadcasts. C-Span can, and does!

Finally, I watch C-Span because I enjoy it. I truly believe that much of the real drama on television can be found on C-Span. I actually become so engrossed in the shows that I experience a variety of emotions - anger, sadness, joy, frustration, and satisfaction. This essay may not win me a trip to Washington, but I sincerely hope C-Span's producers will continue their efforts. Those efforts are, simply, the best that television has to offer. My heartiest congratulations!

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

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