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[REDACTED] Wilson, North Carolina 27896, [REDACTED]  
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September 13, 2004

Mr. Brian Lamb  
C-Span  
400 N. Capitol Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr Lamb:

Following is an E-mail I sent this morning to the Washington Post, which may not publish it but which you may want to see anyway. Thank God for C-Span!

Dear Editor:

In yesterday's "The End of Network News," Tom Rosenstiel laments the growing influence of cable and the corresponding decline of network television news, which he calls "arguably the most important development in American politics in the latter half of the 20th century." Many of us would award that accolade to C-Span, which Mr. Rosenstiel fails to mention it at all.

Never before C-Span could we witness the live deliberations of legislative bodies, committees, and commissions worldwide, major speeches delivered in their entirety, executive and judicial hearings, think-tank events, political rallies, and extended interviews with elected officials, statesmen, politicians, lobbyists, historians, and other authors and advocates. In contrast to the ego-driven style of network and cable personalities, the C-Span staff achieve virtual anonymity in drawing out their guests, on three channels, 24 hours a day every day, without commercial interruption and without spin.

Though C-Span callers represent strongly held opinions across the spectrum, they are virtually unanimous in expressing sentiments like "Thank God for C-Span." No other broadcaster receives, or deserves, so much praise.

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