



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Western Reserve PBS's Final Edition: Journalism According to Jack and Jim Knight Wins 2010 Ohio SPJ Award for Best Documentary

KENT, Ohio — Sept. 28, 2010 — **Final Edition: Journalism According to Jack and Jim Knight**, which premiered on Western Reserve PBS in October 2009, won a top award in the 2010 Ohio Society of Professional Journalists competition. The hour-long documentary, produced by University of Akron professors Paul Jacoway and Kathleen Endres, won first place in the Best Documentary (Television — All Markets) category.

The documentary tells the story of the Knight family, the Akron Beacon Journal and the rise and fall of Knight-Ridder Newspapers. John (Jack) and Jim Knight were Akron brothers and prominent national figures who owned and ran the Beacon Journal newspaper in the 1900s. They eventually created the Knight-Ridder Newspapers Inc. empire of 31 daily and 26 nondaily newspapers in 28 U.S. markets. The brothers also founded the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, now based in Miami, Fla.

Three years in the making and narrated by David Lieberth, deputy mayor of the city of Akron, **Final Edition** features interviews with popular local newspaper writers Abe Zaidan and Michael Douglas, Beacon Journal Editor Bruce Wings and Knight Foundation President Alberto Ibarguien. The documentary was underwritten by a grant from the Ohio Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Encore presentations of **Final Edition** will air on Western Reserve Public Media's Fusion channel (WNEO.2/WEAO.2) on Thursday, Oct. 28, at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. and on Saturday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m.

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“We are honored to be the presenting station for this important documentary,” said Trina Cutter, Western Reserve Public Media president and CEO. “Western Reserve Public Media makes a very deliberate effort to partner with independent filmmakers, and our goal is to be the premier TV station for quality work such as **Final Edition.**”

The 2010 Ohio SPJ Awards competition honors print and broadcast journalists from Ohio and bordering states who best served the public interest in 2009. The awards, which are presented by the Cincinnati, Columbus and Cleveland chapters of the SPJ, were judged by members of SPJ chapters throughout the United States. Award winners will be recognized on Saturday, Oct. 30, at the organization’s awards ceremony in Columbus.

About Western Reserve Public Media

Western Reserve Public Media (formerly PBS 45 & 49) is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation and consortium of Kent State University, The University of Akron and Youngstown State University. A trusted community resource, Western Reserve Public Media uses the power of commercial-free television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire.

Western Reserve PBS, a service of the organization, is the only broadcast television service that reaches all of northeast Ohio. It is available to 1.8 million households and 4.4 million people in the Cleveland and Youngstown designated market areas. In an average week, over 500,000 households tune in. The organization also operates three standard definition channels, Fusion (WNEO.2/WEAO.2), MHz Worldview (WNEO.3/WEAO.3) and V-me (WNEO.4/WEAO.4).

Through funding from eTech Ohio, Western Reserve Public Media provides K-12 educational technology training and instructional television programming to 21,500 educators and 256,700 students in eight Ohio counties. For more information about the organization, visit www.WesternReservePublicMedia.org or call 1-800-554-4549.

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