FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Marathon broadcast of BBC's The Office airs on PBS 45 & 49

Entire first season of hit British comedy airs on Feb. 16

KENT, Ohio — Feb. 14, 2006 — Here’s your chance to experience a completely different kind of employment. PBS 45 & 49 presents the complete first season of the British show The Office — all in one evening — on Thursday, Feb. 16 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Office is a place of petty rivalry, bad flirting and easily bruised egos. Filmed in documentary style, this sharply observed and highly acclaimed comedy exposes the excruciating truth about the world of nine-to-five. Set in a branch of the Wernham Hogg stationery company near London, the first season introduces smug, lower-middle-manager David Brent, who attempts to run an office while desperately craving the affection of his staff. His team consists of an army-obsessed territorial yes-man, Gareth Keenan (Mackenzie Crook of Pirates of the Caribbean). A self-appointed “team leader,” Gareth is constantly bickering with witty underachiever Tim (Martin Freeman of Love Actually), an apathetic salesman who breaks up the monotony of his day pining after the sweet and long-suffering receptionist, Dawn (Lucy Davis of Pride and Prejudice).

David Brent exhibits innovative (and not recommended) management techniques, which include joking about firing the receptionist for the heinous crime of stealing Post-It notes, terminating nonexistent employees when asked by the head office to “cut back” and making derogatory jokes about anything and anyone.

Experience laugh-a-minute business employment like you never have before watching the entire first season of The Office. Season two of the show is coming — watch for it this summer on Saturday nights on PBS 45 & 49.

About PBS 45 & 49

PBS 45 & 49 is owned and operated by Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio, Inc., a private, nonprofit corporation. A trusted community resource, PBS 45 & 49 uses the power of non-commercial television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire.

###