



press release

Contact: Diane Steinert
steinert@wneo.org
330-677-4549

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brown, DeWine to appear on PBS 45 & 49 special broadcast

*NewsNight Akron expanded to include interviews
with senatorial candidates, discussion about Issue 3*

KENT, Ohio — Oct. 31, 2006 — PBS 45 & 49 offers a special opportunity to learn more about the candidates and Issue 3 in a format that emphasizes dialogue rather than confrontation. The weekly PBS 45 & 49 news program **NewsNight Akron** will be extended on Friday, Nov. 3 to include interviews with Ohio's U.S. Senate candidates and discussion about State Issue 3. The regular **NewsNight Akron** show that airs for a half hour at 9 p.m. will be followed by **NewsMaker Akron** special election coverage that will air until 11 p.m. The election feature will air again on Saturday, Nov. 4 at 4:30 a.m. and Sunday, Nov. 5 at 10:30 p.m.

NewsNight Akron host Vincent Duffy interviews Sherrod Brown and Mike DeWine separately and asks similar questions of each. Topics covered include the candidates' views on the war in Iraq, how to help middle-class Ohioans, the future of health insurance and thoughts on balancing the state budget.

Also on the **NewsMaker Akron** special, panelists Steve Hoffman and Jody Miller interview Cuyahoga County Commissioner Peter Lawson Jones, who represents advocates of Issue 3, and Rob Walgate, outreach director for the Ohio Roundtable, who presents opposing arguments. State Issue 3 is an amendment to the state's constitution that would permit up to 31,500 slot machines at seven horse racing tracks and at two Cleveland non-track locations.

Following the show's airing, more election information will be available on PBS 45 & 49's Web site, <http://www.pbs4549.org>, including a taped interview with gubernatorial candidate Kenneth Blackwell. The opposing candidate, Ted Strickland, declined to participate in an interview. Visitors to the Web site also will be able to view the **NewsMaker Akron** election special, which will be segmented by topic.

"We chose to interview the show's guests separately in an effort to present thoughtful discussion rather than a heated debate," said Don Freeman, PBS 45 & 49 chief operating officer. "The program and our Web site offer viewers informative, convenient ways to analyze both Ohio's Senate race and Issue 3."

About NewsNight Akron

NewsNight Akron airs every Friday night at 9 p.m. on PBS 45 & 49 and offers spontaneous, lively, in-depth discussions about issues that affect the lives of people in greater Akron. Hosted by Vincent Duffy, director of programming and operations at 89.7/WKSU-FM, **NewsNight Akron** features a roundtable discussion with a panel of local journalists that covers both breaking news stories on topics such as education, the community and local business, as well as ongoing subjects including elections and major news stories. Serving as regular panelists on the show are Steve Hoffman, political writer at the *Akron Beacon Journal*; Jody Miller, editor and publisher of *Bath Country Journal*; and Ed Esposito, Joe Jastzremski and Larry States, all of whom are members of the Rubber City Radio Group news staff.

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 noncommercial television and related services to enrich the lives of people through high-quality programming and educational services that teach, illuminate and inspire. For more information about PBS 45 & 49, visit <http://www.pbs4549.org> or call 1-800-854-4549.

##

**PBS
45 & 49**

Northeastern
Educational Television of
Ohio, Inc.

**1750 Campus
Center Drive**

P. O. Box 5191

Kent, Ohio

44240-5191

Phone
330.677.4549

Fax
330.678.0688

E-mail
questions@wneo.org

Web Site
www.pbs4549.org