



news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

President Obama's Afghanistan Speech to Air on Western Reserve PBS

KENT, Ohio — Monday, Nov. 30, 2009 — Western Reserve PBS will air a delayed broadcast of **The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer**'s coverage of President Obama's Tuesday, Dec. 1, speech outlining his new Afghanistan war strategy. The presidential address, which will take place at 8 p.m. at West Point, will air on Western Reserve PBS WNEO/WEAO 45.1/49.1 at 11 p.m. Following the speech, which is predicted to be 30 to 40 minutes in duration, **The NewsHour** will provide a brief analysis of the president's remarks to round out the hourlong broadcast.

About The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer

The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer is seen five nights a week on more than 315 PBS stations across the country and is also available online, via public radio in select markets and via podcast. The program is produced by MacNeil/Lehrer Productions, in association with WETA in Washington, D.C., and Thirteen in New York. Corporate funding for **The NewsHour** is provided by Chevron and Intel, with major funding from the Atlantic Philanthropies, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and public television viewers.

The show will make major changes in its broadcast and digital news product, effective Dec. 7, 2009. Among the changes announced recently are a change in the name of the program to **PBS NewsHour**; a change in the broadcast format – moving from a single anchor to a dual anchor each evening; and the addition of a correspondent who will serve as a bridge between **The NewsHour**'s broadcast and digital platforms. Jim Lehrer will remain executive editor and primary anchor of the new **PBS NewsHour** and will lead the transition.

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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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