

Issues Address by the Program Department

3rd Qtr. 2008

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ISSUE: GENERAL

60 MINUTES

7P-8P

7/27/08

“A Bigger Leap For Mankind” – With the Space Shuttle program ending soon, NASA is planning to return men to the moon in preparation for a manned flight to Mars. Among those interviewed include: Dr. Rick Gilbrech, NASA’s exploration chief; Dr. Mike Griffin, NASA’s director and Steve Squyres, principal investigator for the Mars rovers Spirit and Opportunity.

9/21/08

“The Candidates” – For a special 40th anniversary edition of 60 Minutes, the two parties’ presidential nominees appear in separate interviews, each aired in two parts. Both candidates are questioned on the main issues concerning most voters, such as the faltering U.S. economy, energy, healthcare, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. “McCain” – this interview with Arizona Senator John McCain, 2008 Republican Presidential Nominee. “Obama’08” – This interview with Illinois Senator Barack Obama, 2008 Democratic Presidential Nominee.

ISSUE: ECONOMICS

60 MINUTES

7P-8P

7/6/08

“Should We Make Cents?” – This segment is a report on the ongoing debate over the U.S. Mint abolishing the production of pennies and nickels. Whose metal content is worth more than their face value. This segment includes interviews with: U.S. Mint Director Edmund Moy; Stephen Dubner, co-author of Freakonomics; Mark Weller voice of Americans for Common Cents, a pro-penny group.

9/28/08

“The Bailout” – This is an interview/profile of Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, as he deals with the nation’s unfolding economic crisis. Paulson, once the chairman of Wall Street investment bank, Goldman Sachs, approached Congress with a controversial \$700 billion bailout plan to save the national economy and which would give him perhaps more power than any Treasury Secretary has ever had. Also includes comments by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.

ISSUES: ENVIROMENTAL

60 MINUTES

7P-8P

7/6/08

“King of Congo” – This is a report on the plight of the mountain gorilla in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a desperately poor country in Africa. Who is currently embroiled in a civil war leaving park lands unprotected, conservationist fear that poachers, the charcoal trade and disease will threaten the last few “Kings of Congo”. Among the interviewed are: Dr. Emmanuel de Merode, Wildlife Direct; Augustin Kambale, park ranger and Rob Muir, Frankfurt Zoological Society.

9/7/08

“The King of Sushi” – This is a report on how the growing demand for bluefin tuna, highly coveted in Japan and the rest of the world as the ultimate taste experience in sushi, is impacting the traditional fishing industry in the Mediterranean. Needing to supply the demand, high-tech fishing methods are being used, which ultimately threaten to endanger the species.

ISSUES: HEALTH

60 MINUTES

7P-8P

7/13/08

“Lifeline” – In this report Remote Area Medical (RAM), founded by Stan Brock in 1992 to bring free medical care to remote parts of the world, now does 60% of its work in urban and rural America. Among those interviewed are founder Stan Brock and Dr. Ross Isaacs.

8/24/08

“The Wrong Medicine” – This is an interview with actor Dennis Quaid and his wife Kimberly, whose newborn twins nearly died of an overdose when they were mistakenly given two doses of the blood thinner Heparin, instead of Hep-lock, the pediatric version of the drug. Those interviewed include Diane Cousins, vice president of US Pharmacopeia; Debra Bello, a senior director at Baxter International, which manufactures the Heparin product in question and Thomas Priselac, the president and CEO of Cedars-Sinai Hospital.

8/31/08

“Awakening” – This is a report on people who have survived brain injuries, only to be trapped in a minimally conscious state. Some may have been misdiagnosed and may be more aware than previously thought. Thanks to the popular sleeping pill Ambien, some are actually re-awakening, allowing them to respond to others.

ISSUES: CRIME

48 Hours:

8P-9P

7/1/06

“Stolen Beauty” – This is a report on the October 2005 disappearance of Tara Grinstead, an 11th grade history teacher and beauty pageant queen from Ocilla, Georgia—and a similar case three months later, in January 2006, of Jennifer Kesse, a financial analyst from Orlando, Florida, who disappeared after she returned home from a vacation to St. Croix with her boyfriend. The account includes background details, surrounding circumstances, a possible link between the two cases, as well as information regarding the ongoing investigation by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and the Orlando Police Department. Among those interviewed are: Connie Grinstead, Tara’s stepmother, Gary Rothwell, special agent with the Georgia Bureau of Investigations and Rob Allen, Jennifer’s boyfriend.

7/8/08

“An Eye For An Eye” – This is a report on the October 2004 murder of Dr. Brian Stidham, a pediatric eye surgeon in Tucson, Arizona, and the subsequent investigation which led to the trial and conviction of his colleague Dr. Bradley Schwartz. The report also includes interviews with Andrea Depwe, Stidham’s sister; Joyce Stidham; Stidham’s mother; Dr. Joseph Miller, pediatric ophthalmologist, friend of Stidham and Detective Jill Murphy, lead investigator in the case.

8/2/08

“Addicted To Love” When police arrived at the Franklin, Tennessee apartment of Lesa Buchanan on the Fourth of July weekend in 2005, they were surprised by what they found in her home: a cache of prescription drugs and sex toys. Lesa and her boyfriend, Dr. Christ Koulis, had spent most of that final weekend in her bedroom, having sex. Koulis, a plastic surgeon, had called 911 when she stopped breathing, and said he performed CPR, but that there was no pulse. When Lesa was rushed to the emergency room, the doctors trying to save her life said Dr. Koulis told them nothing about the drugs she had been using—information that could have been crucial in saving her life. With Lesa dead, investigators quickly focused on the drugs. At her apartment, detectives discovered used syringes with traces of oxycodone—a powerful narcotic used to kill pain and available only from a prescribing physician. After a five month investigation, Dr. Koulis was arrested on four charges—ranging from simply assault to second degree murder. At the trial, prosecutors alleged Dr. Koulis had injected Lesa with oxycodone during the course of the weekend, which eventually led to her death. But defense claimed Lesa injected herself, and that she had a drug problem – a claim her family and investigators disputed. Ultimately, Dr. Koulis was found guilty of criminally negligent homicide. He will likely remain free until 2009, pending his appeal.

ISSUES: CRIME-Continued

48 Hours:

8P-9P

8/16/08

“Storm of Murder”- In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans was left with a breakdown of the city’s infrastructure and a severely challenged justice system struggling to cope with the highest murder rate in the nation. This report on the escalating murder rate in New Orleans focused on the January 2007 murder of filmmaker Helen Hill and the December 2006 murder of musician Dinerral Shavers, Among those interviewed about Helen Hill are Paul Gailiunas, her husband; her mother Becky and stepfather Kevin Lewis; her brother, Jake Hill. Among those interviewed about Dinerral Shavers are Kevin George, principal of Rabouin High School; his mother, Yolande, his sister, Nakita; Shamarr Allen, Chad Honore, fellow musicians in the Hot 8 brass band; and several of his students other interviewed includes: Lt Mike Glasser, Lt. Joe Meisch, New Orleans Police Department; William Halderman, and Deborah Gua.

9/06/08

“Love and Death in Alaska” – This is a two hour report on May 2, 1996, the body of Kent Leppink was found off a deserted road 90 miles south of Anchorage, Alaska. He had been shot three times. Police investigation discovered that he had been involved with Mechele Hughes, a young woman who worked as a stripper in a club called the Great Alaskan Bush Company. Mechele was also involved with two other men, John Carlin III and Scott Hilke. Ten years later, after further investigation, Mechele (now Mechele Lineham) and John Carlin was indicted for Lepplik’s murder. At his trial, Carlin was found guilty of first degree murder and sentenced to 99 years in prison. At her trial, she was also found guilty of first degree murder. She awaits sentencing.

ISSUES: CRIME

60 MINUTES:

7P-8PM

8/10/08

“Insanity On Death Row” – This is a report on the case of convicted killer Greg Thompson, who was originally found competent enough to stand trial for the murder of Brenda Lane. Prison doctors diagnosed him as schizophrenic and psychotic and he has been medicated by the state for most of his twenty-two years on death row. Thompson’s attorneys, Dana Chavis and Steve Kissinger, are appealing his case on the basis that he was mentally ill at the time of the crime and by law, should not be executed.