

## Labor and the media: the transit strike



Photo: MSNBC

By UPPNET News Editor

Organized labor is constantly bashed in the mainstream media. There is no news here. In the 150 year history of the New York Times, the paper has never endorsed or given support to any strike, anywhere in the United States. Not much news here either.

The recent transit strike in New York was no exception. Every single major media outlet attacked the transit workers calling them all kinds of names, impugning their commitment and trashing their abilities. Roger Toussaint,

the leader of the union, was criticized constantly.

In spite of the barrage of attacks many New Yorkers supported the union—at least initially. But in any public worker strike the public has to be part of the strike support. In order for the union to win decent settlements the public has to be an important ally in any strike mobilization and strategy. The key to winning the public over is a long-term, well-planned campaign to reach the public through the media. After all, in New York and in most major cities “the public” are other working people who need well funded public services in order to survive and prosper. Pitting the public against the public workers is a key aspect of the employers’ strategy and must be countered with equal force and thought by the union.

Did local 100 have a choice? Could the local have responded differently? In the New York case the answer is yes.

Starting in March of 2005 local 100 was approached repeatedly to plan a media strategy and get their voice out on the radio. The idea was that if the union could reach people on a constant basis with their story, and the story of the funding and needs of the subway system, that they would set the framework for the difficult negotiations soon to come. When a segment of the work force—in this case the transit workers—have benefits greater than many of the people who ride the subways, it is particularly important that the union reach out and mobilize other workers to support the transit workers, and to see the transit worker fight as their fight.

Yet in the months prior to the expiration of the contract no meaningful media outreach occurred. The average person living in metro New York heard nothing from the union until just a few days before the strike began—and what they did hear came through the mainstream media.

There was no recognizable union voice on any major media outlet in New York City. While this is usually the case in labor disputes, the difference in New York lay in the possibility that the union had an alternative. Stations such as the Air America affiliate in New York approached all the unions in the city with the possibility of getting their views on the air in a consistent cost-effective manner. By and large this offer has been refused.

As the strike began and the clear desire of Governor Pataki to break the union became evident, the need for active public support—rather passive acceptance of the strike— was evident to all. But it was too late to then educate and motivate. In fact the most widespread use of the mass media by the union occurred after the strike, when the union leadership ran commercial urging union members to accept the contract.

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## LaborTech gets new website

From LaborTech 2006 Organizing Committee

LaborTech is planning to hold another international labor/media communication conference this coming November 16th, 17th & 18th, 2006 in San Francisco. The Digital Revolution & A Labor Media Strategy will be the focus of this important labor communication conference. There will be panels and workshops on how to produce labor radio and labor video programs and get them on cable and the internet, how to break the information blockade and how unionists and union local, councils and Internationals can use new communication technology to organize and get information out to their members and to the public about their critical issues. We will also look at how the convergence of the digital revolution and the internet is affecting the outsourcing of jobs in the US and throughout the world and what is being done to organize these workers. We need your endorsement and support.

Our new web site [www.labortech.net](http://www.labortech.net) will also present papers around these issues and we will be streaming parts of the conference on the internet.

## Labor Notes Conference panel: Strategies for Labor Media

Labor needs some new ideas for communicating with members and the public. Our speakers discuss a national workers' radio project, using a website in an ambitious organizing drive, starting a citywide labor newspaper, and how new leaders in the International Labor Communications Association are attempting to help make union newspapers more democratic. Panelists: Frank Emspak, WINS Radio; Marty Fishgold, International Labor Communications Association; Bernie Hesse, UFCW Local 789; Richard Harding, Canadian Auto Workers Local 200; Chair: Leah Samuel, Labor Notes

The Labor Notes Conference will take place on May 5–7. More info: <http://labornotes.org/conferences/index.shtml>

From WIN radio

## California teachers protest one-sided ABC broadcast

By Doug Cunningham

March 9, 2006—From New York to Los Angeles Wednesday hundreds of members of the America Federation of Teachers protested ABC's airing of a John Stossel story that teachers say was a one-sided attack on public education, teachers and their union. Fred Glass, Communications Director for the California Federation of Teachers. He says the Stossel piece relied on false right-wing media talking points.

Fred Glass: "Public education is always, quote, failing, unquote. And teacher unions are always in the way of reform and any kind of efforts to improve public education. Neither is true, but if they repeat these lies often enough they figure that they're going to make a big dent in public opinion. And that's what they've managed to do over the years."

[www.laborradio.org/node/2777](http://www.laborradio.org/node/2777)

## ABC's download pay irks unions

By Jesse Hiestand, [www.backstage.com](http://www.backstage.com)

February 28, 2006—ABC's decision Monday to use the discounted, home video rate to pay residuals for iPod digital downloads has angered Hollywood's above-the-line unions and set the stage for a legal showdown.

SAG pledged to file an arbitration against ABC for introducing digital downloads without first bargaining with the union and for seeking to use a residual formula crafted more than 20 years ago to address the emerging videocassette business. That formula allows studios to retain 80% of revenue to cover manufacturing, marketing and other costs while paying residuals out of the remaining 20%.

"Today, ABC advised the guild that it intends to pay residuals to performers based on the video-cassette formula — a formula that does not apply to this new platform," SAG president Alan Rosenberg said. "ABC's actions are flatly inconsistent with our collective-bargaining agreements and with labor law obligations and fail to fairly compensate performers for the use of their work and images."

The Walt Disney Co. reiterated its position that the iPod downloads should be covered under the home video residual formula in a statement issued Monday.

"If the guilds have a different point of view, they have the right to challenge the company's determination before a neutral arbitrator. In the end, this is simply a dispute over how to interpret a provision under agreements that provide the means for resolving that dispute," Disney said.

Rosenberg said legal action would be taken against any other company that violated SAG's contract.

WGA East and West also said they will pursue legal action for the perceived violation of their contract. The writers believe that a more applicable formula would be that of pay TV, which pays a 1.2% residual rate out of 100% of revenue.

"ABC's unilateral decision to pay digital-download residuals at the home video rate is a violation of our contract and an insult to our hard-working members," WGAW president Patric Verrone said. "It is unacceptable, and we will aggressively pursue all legal options at our disposal."

Added WGAE president Chris Albers, "The members of our guilds demand the companies pay what they are contractually obligated to pay and not a paltry residual rate based on an irrelevant home video formula from the age of Betamax."

DGA also said it plans to pursue legal action over this application of the home video formula. "Such payments are not consistent with the DGA's collective-bargaining agreement, and we will be filing claims against ABC and any other company that pays residuals on video iPod downloads according to the home video formula," DGA president Michael Apted said.

The controversy started in October when Apple Computer introduced the video iPod and the ability to buy episodes of "Lost," "Desperate Housewives" and other ABC shows through the iTunes store for \$1.99.

The announcement blindsided the unions, which had not been consulted beforehand. AFTRA, DGA, SAG and WGA immediately issued a joint statement saying that they had "not yet heard from the responsible employers of our

*continued on page 3*

## **Cape Town, South Africa: International Workshop**



# **Workers' Education and Workers' Media in a Global Economy**

[www.wwrp.org.za/frames.htm](http://www.wwrp.org.za/frames.htm)

The International Federation of Workers' Education Associations in partnership with Workers' World Media Productions will be hosting the Workers' Education & Workers' Media in a Global Economy on April 4-7, 2006, Cape Town.

New technologies and new ideas are opening up new possibilities for trade unions, labour media producers and service groups and workers' education organisations—potentially engaging many more workers in education programmes through the imaginative use of print, radio, film, video, music, and the new media of the Internet.

In 2003, IFWEA took the decision to launch a new programme designed to explore how we could develop international co-operation between media and education groups—and potentially a new international network to share and co-produce new material and new projects.

The programme is to be launched with an international workshop, to be held in Cape Town, South Africa, from April 4-7 2006, to which all IFWEA member and partner organisations are invited to attend. The workshop will provide an opportunity to introduce exciting and innovative work in labour media, share experiences and ideas on harnessing media to workers' education, and enable us to develop practical plans for co-operation.

Thanks to the support of FNV Mondiaal, we are able to provide financial support to a limited number of Southern-based affiliates to cover costs of accommodation and transport.

There is no fee to participate in the workshop. Good quality hotel accommodation will be available at the workshop venue, costing R550 (USD 90) for a single room, or R300 (USD 50) for a shared room, per night.

If you wish to attend the workshop, please complete the attached form and return to:

IFWEA Media Workshop  
c/o Workers' World Media Productions  
PO Box 245, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa  
Fax : +27 21 448 5076

Or email: [martin@wwrp.org.za](mailto:martin@wwrp.org.za)

We look forward to welcoming you to Cape Town.

In solidarity,

Dave Spooone, IFWEA      Martin Jansen, WWMP

*[UPPNET is planning on sending a representative to this event, and will make a report in our next issue.]*

## **The Media and NYC Transit Strike** *Continued from p. 1*

In New York, and in other cities as well, it is now possible to get the union voice heard—if our movement is prepared to invest in a long-term media strategy. The funds are there—it is a question of using them in a strategic manner—and recognizing that the public, mainly other working people, are a necessary part of any union struggle of significance. As a recent article in ILCA Reporter noted, California unions won the battle of the referenda by the astute and continuous use of the media. But he warned that unions might lose the war. He urged unions to transform their media strategy from a campaign-oriented approach to one of being a constant presence, so that the union movement, as a representative of the interests of working people, could shape public opinion, and not just react to it.

### **Labor radio coverage of NYC Transit Strike**

Check the archives of these web sites for labor radio coverage of the NYC Transit strike:

- Building Bridges, Your community and labor report, [www.wbai.org](http://www.wbai.org)
- WIN, Workers Independent News, [www.laborradio.org](http://www.laborradio.org)

## **Call for labor films & videos** *Continued from p. 8*

Please mail the following:

- 1) Application form
- 2) Video/Films
- 3) Any publicity materials if you have (poster/pictures/reviews etc.)
- 4) If you want your tape to be returned, please include self addressed envelope with postage

Mail these to:

LaborFest/International Working Class Film & Video Festival, PO Box 720027, San Francisco, CA 94172

For more information: 415-282-1908, [laborfest@laborfest.net](mailto:laborfest@laborfest.net), [www.laborfest.net/2006/2006film%20info.htm](http://www.laborfest.net/2006/2006film%20info.htm)

## **ABC's download pay irks union** *Continued from p. 2*

members” and looked forward to discussing the formula.

NBC and other programmers followed ABC's lead in selling episodes through iTunes, while a host of other shows have been made available to watch or own through Google and mobile phone companies.

SAG officials said they had been in discussions with ABC to find a mutually acceptable residual formula and were surprised at the response they got Monday.

Since ABC broke ground in this new medium, it also was the first to owe residuals, which are only now starting to roll in.

The unions want to prevent the industry from setting a precedent, especially one that seems to equate the virtual nature of downloads with the tangible nature of such hard product as videocassettes and their successors, DVDs.

This same formula was a central point of contention in the last round of negotiations two years ago, when union members unsuccessfully sought higher DVD residuals.



## May Day Labor Film Festival

5th Annual Reel Work  
May Day Labor Film Festival  
Santa Cruz County, CA  
[www.reelwork.org](http://www.reelwork.org)

We are pleased to announce our 2006 Program of Events, full of films, film makers, speakers, music and more!

This year Reel Work is April 23th to May 1st, International Workers Day



### Istanbul/Ankara

## First call for the 2006 International Labor Film & Video Festival

We are laborers, labor union activists, unionists, academicians and mass organizations in Turkey. We are organizing The First International Labor Film

And Video Festival in Istanbul and Ankara , in Turkey between April 30 and May 7. 2006, during the May Day celebration.

We invite you for your endorsement and participation.

This non-competitive festival is devoted to the screening of video and film on the lives and struggle of working class people all around the world, for the exchange and collectivizing of the experiences of the filmmakers, as documentary or fiction works of groups and individuals, committed to labor struggle; to spread the works that show the struggle of workers, unemployed, students, farmers and women as well as screening films that show the popular uprisings across the world. We believe this will help arouse interest in labor films and promote their production in Turkey and around the world.

The festival dates are set to follow the mass May Day activities. For a week, there will be a variety of events related with the labor movement in Turkey. On April 30 2006, the participants of the festival will commemorate the massacre of the 37 May Day participants in 1977, participate the May Day March in Istanbul, and visit a site of labor struggle.

If you have any queries about the festival, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.

In solidarity

DISK Basin-Is (Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions (DISK), Press Workers Union of Turkey), Halkevleri (People's Houses)  
[sendika.org](http://sendika.org)

Endorsers: San Francisco LaborFest (ABD); The Labor Video Project (ABD); LaborNet-US (ABD); James Petras (ABD)

For Contact: [laborfest@sendika.org](mailto:laborfest@sendika.org)  
[www.sendika.org/laborfest](http://www.sendika.org/laborfest)

### New LaborVision (Rhode Island) Series

## How Government Decisions Affect Working Families

Brought to you by  
Institute for Labor Studies  
Working Rhode Island



Additional Sponsors to Date:  
UA of Plumbing and Pipefitting  
RI Council 94 AFSCME  
National Education Association RI  
RI Fed. of Teachers and Health Professionals  
IBEW Local 99  
SEIU State Council  
Painters & Allied Trades DC 11  
RI Building Trades Council

Tues., March 14, 7-8 pm  
Thurs., March 16, 8-9 pm  
Sat., March 18, 5-6 pm

Tues., March 21, 7-8 pm  
Thurs., March 23, 8-9 pm  
Sat., March 25, 5-6 pm  
Statewide Interconnect B Channel 14

To sign up for monthly LaborVision updates,:

[www.laborvision.org/contact.html](http://www.laborvision.org/contact.html)

## NPR has put employees on mute

Fairness in the workplace is just as important as fairness in reporting, except at National Public Radio. Before skilled technicians reviewed their latest contract, management threatened to end talks if it wasn't approved. But technicians refused to sign off on a bad deal. So management walked.

Management still won't negotiate with NABET-CWA and continues to make sweeping changes in technical work without regard to the quality of its product, its dedicated employees or listeners.

NPR broke off negotiations with NABET-CWA after a resounding vote by members to reject the company's "last, best and final" offer. NPR then illegally implemented parts of their contractual changes. NABET-CWA technicians and AFTRA reporters and producers have filed unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board because of the job shifting caused by the implementation.

Visit [www.unionvoice.org/campaign/sosnpr/x8is5d447wd5bk](http://www.unionvoice.org/campaign/sosnpr/x8is5d447wd5bk) to tell NPR management to give workers respect, not threats, and return to the bargaining table.

In Unity,  
CWA e-Activist Network

## New labor videos/films

### Documentary film about airline workers & the industry



#### In a letter to KPFA Labor Collective:

Greetings,

My name is Melissa Koch and I am the daughter of a striking AMFA Local 33 mechanic who has been working on aircraft for 40 years. I am also a production assistant for a current film you may already have heard of, The Red Tail. You can check out our video preview streaming online at [www.redtailmovie.com](http://www.redtailmovie.com)

The Red Tail is a feature-length documentary film that looks beyond the headlines of the historic struggle between Northwest Airlines and the workers whose loyalty and dedication built the company. From a two-plane company in 1926, Northwest Airlines has become the fourth largest airline in world. Through a combination of personal stories of mechanics, flight attendants, pilots, ground workers, and union organizers, The Red Tail will explore this battle over money, power, and pride.

The Red Tail is not just the story of Northwest Airlines, this is the story of the state of the airline industry all over the world. The outsourcing of labor, removal of pensions, and corporate bankruptcy at Northwest Airlines raises much larger questions about where we want to go as a society.

I am writing today because I,m hoping that the you would consider placing a banner ad for The Red Tail on the main page of your website. (You can find these ads posted at [www.redtailmovie.com/bannerads.html](http://www.redtailmovie.com/bannerads.html)) We believe that independent media makers and workers around the world will be interested in helping us spread the word about unions and the state of the airline industry. Documentary film has the power to generate mass public support in a way unparalleled by any other form of media. Once the budget is raised, we will go into full production and tell the story of the workers to the masses!

We have already been receiving a great deal of media attention since production began. Our website traffic has skyrocketed to over 5,500 visitors per day and the numbers keep going up. If every visitor donated as little as \$20 US apiece, we would have our entire film budget raised in less than 3 days. This can be done! But we need to spread the word!

This film project has hit a chord with people around the world. Given this interest, we have begun development of an aggressive grassroots distribution campaign. In order to do this, however, we need to build a large global network

## Are You A Teamster? The Tom Leedham 2006 Campaign



Video by Labor Beat, 30 minutes. Follows candidate for IBT General Presidency Tom Leedham during a few days campaigning among Chicago-area Teamsters. Includes stump speech in which he outlines campaign issues. Also a special interview, in which Leedham discusses AFL-CIO split and the role of democracy in the unions, Stern's labor-management model for CTW, and the UPS strike. To order "Are You A Teamster? The Tom Leedham 2006 Campaign", send check for \$15 to: Labor Beat, 37 S. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60607. Indicate whether dvd or vhs. More info: [mail@laborbeat.org](mailto:mail@laborbeat.org), 312-226-3330

### Auto Workers protest Detroit Auto Show

This video is by Labor Video Project. On January 8, 2006 over 500 auto workers protested outside the entrance of the North American International Auto show in Detroit, Michigan. The rally which was called by Soldiers of Solidarity included auto and parts plant workers from the US and Canada. 10 minutes 14 MB QuickTime movie: [www.indybay.org/uploads/detroit.mov](http://www.indybay.org/uploads/detroit.mov)

Over 500 auto assembly and parts plant workers as well as retired auto workers protested against the attacks on wages, pensions and healthcare by the auto companies. They also were angry that the UAW leadership refused to support the rally or other labor protests against these attacks. The rally was called by Soldiers of Solidarity ([www.soldiersofsolidarity.com](http://www.soldiersofsolidarity.com)) and included auto and parts plants workers from throughout the Midwest. For more info: Labor Video Project, P.O.Box 720027, San Francisco, CA 94172; (415) 282-1908; [lvpsf@labornet.org](mailto:lvpsf@labornet.org)

of union members.

Please let me know if this is something that you would be willing to do. We are looking for unions and independent media sources to stand in solidarity with this project, AMFA National, AMFA Locals' 33, 5, 8, 2 and 11, IAM Local 1040, the PFAA, NWA ALPA and other non-union websites have already agreed to posting a banner ad.

Respectfully,

Melissa Koch, Production Assistant, The Red Tail  
[www.redtailmovie.com](http://www.redtailmovie.com), 651-291-7727

# SEIU develops network of community access television producers

By Lori Ellis, Communications Specialist, SEIU 503

Recently, we held a workshop for members all across the state to gather together and hear about the opportunities community access television offers them in getting labor's message out to the public.

We asked a senior staff member at CCTV—Salem, Oregon's access station—to attend the workshop and give an orientation presentation to the attendees. We also had our communications director here at Local 503 speak to the members about general messaging, tips on how to best present yourself on television, public speaking, etc.

We produced a video, which was shown at the workshop, explaining the benefits of utilizing this medium and

giving examples of similar programming being done in other areas that might aid in developing a format for their own programs. Each participant received a binder that contained a copy of that video, planning and production information, and a list of access stations across the state.

After a question and answer session, our members wrote their contact information on a list, and that list was given to all participants. Thus...the beginning of the network of potential SEIU labor programming producers in Oregon!

For more information:  
ellis@opecseiu.org  
(503) 581-1505, ext. 136

## Introductory Training: Community Access Television

YOU can produce television programming that gives workers a voice. Call the shots, and tell our story! No Experience Necessary!

Community Access Television enables people to express their creativity, explore important issues and exercise their First Amendment Rights through television.

Public access facilities across the state provide training from the ground up; expertise and production tools for local residents and nonprofit organizations to produce their own non-commercial programming for cable and webcasting.

You can be part of SEIU's own network of labor productions.

The curriculum includes information on how to get involved in your area, and an orientation video.

Community Access offers a great opportunity for member-made labor television! For more information:

[www.seiu503.org/videos/catvfrontpg.cfm](http://www.seiu503.org/videos/catvfrontpg.cfm)  
[www.seiu503.org/videos/catvbinder.cfm](http://www.seiu503.org/videos/catvbinder.cfm)



John Cook, Home-care, trained at his local Community Access station.



## US & Canadian Labor Broadcast Programs\*

Show Title, Producer, City/Station, Phone No.

*Fighting Back*, Ralph Kessler, Berkeley, CA, 510-845-9285, KUSF 90.3 FM  
*David Bacon on Labor*, David Bacon, Berkeley, CA, 510-549-0291, KPSA 94.1 FM  
*Labor Line*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, SFLR 93.7 FM,  
*Working LA*, Henry Walton, Panorama City, CA, 818-894-4079, KPFF 90.7 FM  
*Talking Union*, Larry Dorman, Rock Hill, CT, 880-571-6191, WATR 1320 AM  
*Labor Express*, Jerry Mead, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, WLUW 88.7 FM  
*Labor Beat*, Larry Duncan, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, Chan. 19, cable tv  
*Illinois Labor Hour*, Bill Gorrell, Champaign, IL, 217-359-9338, WEFT 90.1 FM  
*AFSCME On-Line*, Dan Hart, Dorchester, MA, 617-266-3496, cable-tv  
*Heartland Labor Forum*, Judy Ancel, Kansas City, MO, 816-235-1470, KKFI 90.1 FM  
*Minnesota at Work*, Howard Kling, Minneapolis, MN, 612-624-5020, MCN Cable  
*Building Bridges*, Ken Nash, New York, NY, 212-815-1699, WBAI 99.5 FM  
*Communique*, Bill Henning, New York, NY, 212-228-6565, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*It's Your City, It's Our Job*, Pat Passanilin, New York, NY, 212-815-1535, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*America's Work Force*, Jerrod Sorkey, Eastlake, OH, 440-975-4262, WERE 1300 AM  
*Boiling Point*, Michael Wood, Cincinnati, OH, 513-961-4348, WAIF 88.3 FM  
*Talking Union*, John Lavin, Norristown, PA, 610-660-3372, WHAT 1340 AM  
*Labor on the Job*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, BUT Ch. 29 cable  
*Rhode Island Labor Vision*, Chuck Schwartz, Cranston, RI, 401-463-9900, Ch. 14, cable-tv  
*Talkin' Union Labor*, Rick Levy, Austin, TX, 512-477-6195 internet radio  
*Which Side Are You On?*, Hal Leyshon, Middlesex, VT, 802-223-4172, radio  
*Radio Labor Journal*, Bil Borders, Everett, WA, 425-921-3454, KSER 90.7 FM  
*WIN*, Frank Emspak, Madison, WI, 608) 262-0680, www.laborradio.org  
*LaborVision*, John Webb, St. Louis, MO, 314-962-4163, DHTV,  
*OPEU Productions*, Wes Brain, Ashland, OR, 541-482-6988, cable-tv  
*Labor Link TV*, Fred Lonidier, La Jolla, CA, 619-552-0740, cable-tv,  
*First Tuesday*, Leo Canty, Connecticut, 860-257-9782, cable-tv,  
*Letter Carriers*, Carl Bryant, San Fran., CA, 415-885-0375, Today TV 214, cable-tv,  
*726 Express*, Stewart Ransom, New York, NY, 718-761-6681, Staten Is. Cable  
*Rank-And-File*, Larry Maglio, New York, NY, N.A, Staten Is. Cable  
*Labor on the Line*, David King, Portland, OR  
*working TV*, Julius Fisher, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 604-253-6222  
*Labor Radio*, Bill Zimmerman, Portland, OR, 360-695-6552  
*PM Primetimes Labor Show*, Larry Johnson, www.gmptoday.org, Kokomo, IN  
*Working New York*, Mario Cilento, www.nysaficio.org, Albany, NY, 212-777-6040

\*This list may not be complete. Additions contact:  
UPPNET News editor Larry Duncan at: [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)

## UPPNET National Executive Board

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## UPPNET OBJECTIVES:

1. To promote and expand the production and use of television and radio shows pertinent to the cause of organized labor and the issues relevant to all working people.
2. To establish and promote the general distribution and circulation of this programming.
3. To address issues regarding the media and its fair and democratic use and accessibility by labor and other constituencies generally.
4. To encourage and promote the preservation of television and radio broadcasts pertinent to labor.
5. To establish a code of ethic governing television and radio production practices and other such matters UPPNET may determine as relevant to its work.
6. To require all productions to work under a collective bargaining agreement, secure waivers or work in agreement with any television or movie industry union having jurisdiction in the area.

[www.uppnet.org](http://www.uppnet.org)

## IATSE locals sign agreement with internet production

By Lauren Horwitch

February 02, 2006—The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) scored a victory Jan. 26 in its quest to establish professional working standards on ultra low-budget productions and content produced for the Internet.

Just four hours before the strike deadline, two local IATSE chapters in Tennessee and Northern Mississippi signed a collective bargaining agreement with Lovely by Surprise, a low-budget film slated to premiere on the Internet.

IATSE Local 600 International Cinematographers Guild and IATSE Local 492 Studio Mechanics, with the assistance of IATSE Representative Scott Harbinson, signed the first-time agreement which calls for retroactive benefits, reduced time interval from 16–12 hours, housing guarantees, meal penalties, rest periods, and other professional standards.

## Everett, Washington's new labor radio show

Listen up: If you're in the neighborhood of KSER-FM 90.7 out of Everett Washington—maybe from Whatcom County to north King County—you can pick up the new labor program Part of The Union with Bill Johnston, Ross Rieder and Roger Yockey. Bill and Roger are both retired from UFCW and Ross still works for PNW Labour History Association. The program is labor commentary and news. It airs every third Tuesday at 4:30 pm. The February program was an interview with Luis Moscoso, staff representative of UFCW-WPEA, and secretary of the Washington State Democrats. March interview will be with an activist in the Mal-Wart campaign.

More info: [RossR241@aol.com](mailto:RossR241@aol.com)

**LaborFest 2006**

**Call For Labor Films & Videos for July '06 Including 3 Min. Shorts**

The deadline to submit all videos is May 1, 2006

The 13th annual International Working Class Film and Video Festival is launching a national and international call for labor documentaries, dramatic works or animations.

The videos should illuminate the issues facing working people and the unemployed. They could include the effects on working people of the war in Iraq, repression and democratic rights for working people, the crisis facing retired workers and the growing Wal-Martization of the economy.

If submitted from outside the US, we prefer work that

either contain captions or an English voice over, however, we will accept all submissions.

If work is submitted in languages other than English, a printed narration is requested.

We are also having a competition for 3 minute videos. Producers of those videos chosen will be given 3 minutes to present their videos at the festival.

It will be accepted in PAL or NTSC.

Producers of the videos screened will also invited to present their videos at the festival screenings.

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**For UPPNET News back Issues:  
[www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm](http://www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm)**

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WORKERS' STORIES ON RADIO  
AND TV –SUPPORT US, JOIN US.**

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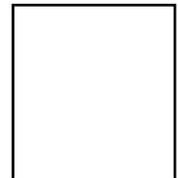
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## Labor Media movement grows globally

### Turkey



Turkey Labor Fest contingent at May Day march in Istanbul.

### First Working Class Film and Video Festival

By Steve Zeltzer, lvpsf@labornet.org

The first international working class film and video festival titled "Against Neo-Liberalism, 20 Countries and 40 Films" was held in Turkey in early May 2006 and was a resounding success. Over 8,000 attended the various films screenings and for the first time, working people in Turkey had an opportunity to see the global struggle of working people through film and video.

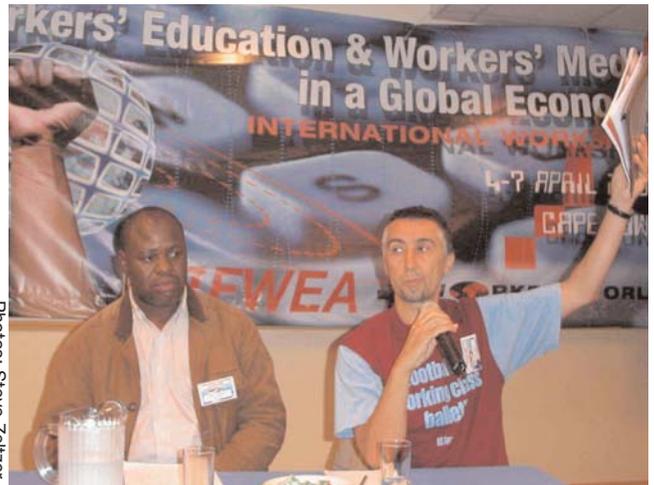
The organizers had arranged for posters to be up in the back window of over 300 city busses in Istanbul and publicity about the festival was in most major newspapers

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### South Africa



Photos: Steve Zeltzer

(L) Mike Chungu, Workers Education Association of Zambia (WEAZ); (R) Martin Jensen, Director of Workers World Media Productions.

### Capetown Labor Media Conference

by Steve Zeltzer, lvpsf@labornet.org

In one of the first international labor communication meetings in South Africa, Capetown based Workers World Media Productions ([www.wwrp.org.za](http://www.wwrp.org.za)) and the International Federation of Workers Education Association (IFWEA) hosted over 50 trade unionists, labor activists and organizers from non-profit organizations around the world on April 4th through the 7th. The conference, which was titled "Workers' Education and Workers Media In The Global Economy", focused on how workers can use new media and technology in getting their messages out.

Many of the trade unionists were from Africa including Malawi, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Ghana as well as South Africa. A critical question debated at the meetings was how to organize labor media when only 5% of the population have electricity in Africa and many workers cannot afford cameras, TV's or telephones.

One important contribution to this question came from an Indian based women workers organization called Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA). Namrata Bali and garment worker Shanta Koshti explained how they had trained self employed women to shoot and edit video and also how they had used mobile generators to show films and videos to workers in their communities where there

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# Berman's Center for Union Smears Hits TV Screens

Wall Street Journal, May 19, 2006

A scene from the ad The new industry-funded front group from lobbyist Rick Berman, the Center for Union Facts, has launched its first TV ad campaign. The 30-second spot, running on Fox News and local markets, has “actors posing as workers” saying “sarcastically what they ‘love’ about unions,” like paying dues, union leaders’ “fat-cat lifestyles,” and discrimination against minorities. The ad campaign cost \$3 million, which was raised “from companies, foundations and individuals that Mr. Berman won’t identify.” Another TV ad will be filmed in June. Labor and economics professor Harley Shaiken said the effort “to create an anti-union atmosphere” more generally, as opposed to business-funded ads against a particular union organizing drive or strike, “is a new wrinkle.” Needless to say, an AFL-CIO spokesperson called the ad’s accusations “unfounded and outrageous.”



## Reuters soundman 'killed unlawfully'

By Julia Day

April 10, 2006 —The shooting of a Reuters soundman by US soldiers in Iraq last year was “prima facie unlawful”, an independent investigation commissioned by the news organization has found.

American troops breached their rules of engagement when they shot dead Waleed Khaled, an Iraqi working for Reuters, according to the Risk Advisory Group, a risk management consultancy that investigated the incident at the behest of Reuters.

Khaled was killed and cameraman Haider Kadhem was wounded when soldiers opened fire on their car in western Baghdad on August 28 2005, as the pair covered the aftermath of an insurgent attack on Iraqi police.

The report said the soldiers’ use of force was neither proportionate nor justified.

“We conclude, based on the independent evidence and the evidence of Haider Kadhem, that no hostile act took place and no act could have been legitimately mistaken as indicating hostile intent,” the investigation report said.

“The engagement was therefore in breach of US rules of engagement and, in our opinion, on the current evidence was prima facie unlawful.”

## Turkey *Continued from p. 1*

and on the web. The massive job of translating most of the videos, getting captions on the films, arranging the venues, getting national press out and organizing the international delegation required a well organized and talented planning committee and a high degree of organizational ability since the festival was produced on a very small amount of money and in only 6 months.

The opening night in Istanbul was a packed event. Over 1,500 participants crowded the theater and many were standing due to the huge turnout. A highlight of the opening was the invitation to leading directors and workers of films about working people in Turkey to accept awards and talk about their work. Sonay Kanat (set worker), Recep Bicer (light effect worker), and Suha Kapki (film cameraman) were honored for their work and were so surprised they were speechless.

Film director and writer Vedat Türkali gave a lively presentation of how he had engineered support for his labor films in the face of anti-communist control of the film industry and received a standing ovation.

Türkali is the writer of “Sun over the Swamp” and “Awakening in the Darkness”. He also has written screen plays for renowned film maker Yilmaz Güney. He was born in 1919 in Samsun. He graduated from Istanbul University Turkology Department and worked as a literature teacher in military high schools. Türkali was initially known for his poems that he distributed in revolutionary intellectual circles. He was arrested in 1951 for his political activism and sentenced to nine years in prison. After his release on probation in 1958, he wrote over 40 screenplays and directed three films. Türkali has been a central influence in the growth of Turkish Cinema. He is also an important figure for Turkish left. In his speech at the opening, he discussed the writing and film taking process of “Awakening in the Darkness”. He talked about the political conditions, workers union’s situations and social consciousness in 1970’s. He also mentioned the difficulties of making films during that time.

This was the first time for many of these film workers that they had been honored for doing film work about working people and some of them broke down on the stage talking about their struggles. The festival also honored the Cetin Uygur of the Underground mine Worker Union and a film about mine workers. “Maden: The Mine” had shown for the first time the lives and conditions of mine workers in Turkey. He reported that this film had produced a profound impact on miners who could now see their lives and battles on film. Also at the opening, labor photographer Ozcan Yurdalan presented his photos of workers in struggle and the important mine workers strike in 2002. ([www.fotografvakfi.org/turkce/roportajdetay.asp?rop\\_id=7&ss=0](http://www.fotografvakfi.org/turkce/roportajdetay.asp?rop_id=7&ss=0))

The festival received national publicity by major television networks who covered the opening and interviewed many of the international producers as well as participants. This was shown on national television and also there was radio coverage prior to the festival nationally and locally.

The opening also included a chorus Ruhi Su Dostlar Chorus singing “The Internationale”, a musical band called Group 45’ers and the showing of the film “Bloodletting” ([www.lornagreen.org](http://www.lornagreen.org)) by US director Lorna Green. This

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## Turkey *Continued from p. 2*

film, which shows the state of US medical care and the system of medical care in Cuba, had been chosen to expose what the likely result would be if the government is successful in privatizing medical care in Turkey.

Even one of the right-wing daily national newspapers, *Vatan*, covered the festival and gave it a full page story when a former bankrupt millionaire capitalist Halil Bezmen, attended the opening. He used to be the fourth largest capitalist, but since his bankruptcy he is now a journalist and he supported the Laborfest initiative. Bankrupt multi-millionaire attends festival was the focus of the article and it showed again that this festival was receiving attention from more than the usual places.

This opening and all the screenings were free and most of the screening venues were packed as viewers were provided first hand look at struggles from China, South Korea, Argentina, Venezuela, the US, South Africa and Spain. They were held at various cultural centers and also smaller theaters in the Istanbul and also were held later in the week in Ankara, Bolu and other cities.

Also, a delegation of labor film makers attended the festival and on May 1 they joined the working class in a large Istanbul May Day march and rally with a banner representing the festival. They also made reports on the work of labor media around the world. Jungmi Park from South Korea's Labor News Production ([www.lnp89.org](http://www.lnp89.org)) reported on the use of new technology by working people and also that she is now working on a film about the use of such technologies like listening devices and cell phones to spy on workers at Samsung in order to prevent unionization.

Michal Freedman of Video 48 presented "A Job To Win" ([www.hanitzotz.com/video48/film%20workers.htm](http://www.hanitzotz.com/video48/film%20workers.htm)) about the working conditions and lives of Palestinian construction workers living in Israel and this again was the first time that workers in Turkey had been provided with a film about the actual lives of Palestinian workers.

The showing of *Bread and Roses* by UK working class director Ken Loach on the struggles of immigrant workers and organizing in the US and "Fighting Wal-Martization" ([lvpsf@labornet.org](mailto:lvpsf@labornet.org)) also provided a sharp vision of the realities for millions of workers. Also in the light of the first mass worker May Day protests in the US since the 1930's [see p. 6 -Ed.] these films provided a critical backdrop of the situation in the US working class that is not been seen in the Turkish mainstream media.

"Fighting Wal-Martization" surprised many workers and union organizers who for the first time saw the bitter anger of US workers who are facing the Wal-Martization of the US economy. Some organizers of similar retail operations in Turkey were extremely interested in getting copies to show to their unions and workers in Turkey who are seeking to organize such companies. Plans were also being made to circulate some of the films for unions to begin screening them to their memberships.

A delegation of 3 film makers from Durban, South Africa also participated in the festival with their film "Breyani and the Councillors" ([giless@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:giless@ukzn.ac.za)) about the struggle of the shack dwellers in Durban. This film exposed the false promises made by the ANC to carry out the Freedom Charter and provide housing for the poor Blacks of South

Africa. The film which has also been selected by the Durban International Film Festival was very well received in Turkey where similar problems of housing for the poor are systemic.

The delegation also visited a poor working class housing tract in Ankara which is threatened with destruction by developers and the rich who do not want a poor community in their midst and especially a poor community that has a left organized presence. The Halkevleri "People's Houses" movement is some what similar to the Polo Obrero movement in Argentina which helps organize people in the community for food, housing and healthcare. The festival itself was also co-sponsored not only by [www.sendika.org](http://www.sendika.org) and Halkevleri but by the Press and Film workers unions from DISK (Progressive Workers' Confederation) and other unions in Turkey. Some of these unions made significant contributions to hold the festival. [www.sendika.org](http://www.sendika.org) is the first and largest labor news and information portal in Turkey and provides regular labor news in English ([www.sendika.org/english/](http://www.sendika.org/english/)) as well as having a portal on working class news and information from Latin America. Many workers now go to this sight from internet cafes to get information and also to ask questions about labor rights and union issues. They have a panel of labor experts who respond to questions from workers who email in their inquiries.



The international delegation also visited striking textile workers in Istanbul who had been fired for trying to organize a union and were encamped outside the factory and also steel fabrication workers outside Ankara who also had been sacked after seeking unionization to protect their health and safety. Many workers in Turkey face extremely dangerous working conditions and what the delegation learned is that there is very little legal labor rights that are protected under the laws. In fact many of the striking workers both in Istanbul and Ankara reported that they had been told that once Turkey joined the European Union and the EC, their labor rights would be protected but they had now discovered that this was false propaganda.

## Turkey *Continued from p. 3*

The people of Turkey, like South Africa and many other countries around the world, have been told that it is hopeless to fight the policies of the IMF and World Bank. The corporate controlled media have propagandized that Turkey and South Africa must privatize their economies and carry out these policies if they hope to join the rest of the developed world.

What the festivals have provided were concrete examples that workers throughout the world have not accepted these measures and as in the case of Argentina, Bolivia and Venezuela the working class is on the offensive. For workers in Turkey to directly see these struggles was a new and historic moment.

The premier screenings of “The Take”, “Venezuela Rising” and “The Gas Is Not From Sale” from Bolivia (octubrecombatiente@yahoo.es) had a powerful impact on many of the viewers. For the first time on film, they could see the movements of workers in Latin America who have faced the destruction of their economies directly due to the policies of the IMF and World Bank and their political fight-back in part by taking over their factories and workplaces.

Another film “The Bitter Case Of Coca Cola” about the violent and murderous attacks on Colombian Coke union organizers was also being screened for Turkish Coke workers who have faced the same union busting attacks by Coca Cola.

Films from Turkey were also included from the 70’s and films today about the Kurdish paper collectors in Ankara “Kagıt I’s,çileri” (Pickers of the Waste Paper) who have been forced off their lands by military attacks and now are faced with having their jobs destroyed by the contracting out of their work. “2 Eylül Direniş,i” (The Resistance of ‘2nd September’) and “Güneş,e Dönük kamera” (Camera Towards The Sun).

The festival played a concrete role in strengthening international labor communication and solidarity and certainly encouraged film and video makers in Turkey that they would have a venue for such films and videos. It also provided an opportunity to look at the struggles of working people from a global perspective using a vehicle that most working people and poor are familiar with and that is cinema. The fact that the festival was totally free of charge also surprised many people. As a result of globalization of the media in Turkey, most working people cannot afford the cost of a movie theater ticket and this was an opportunity to actually go to a movie for many.

In fact, following the festival, dozens of calls were received from people throughout the country inquiring how they could replicate the festival in their own communities. This of course is one of the most powerful uses of festivals such as these and that is the opportunity to replicate the same festival throughout the many cities and communities in the country. At total of 8,000 festival participants attended with 3300 in Ankara, 4,700 in Istanbul and in Bolu about 1,000 people attended in a city with a total population of 80,000.

A panel on labor, communication and technology was also held in Istanbul on May 4th and reports were made about the use of new telecommunication technology and software. One of the founders of the first international labor

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## Capetown *Continued from p. 1*

was no electricity.

SEWA presented an important video on how they used labor media technology to tell the stories of women who work in the homes or street vendors and how they have organized and developed power over their lives using these communication technologies. Dave Spooner, president of IFWEA, reported that it would be very important for the training of shop stewards from the UK T&G where he has classes to be able to have video segments about workers around the world and the need to make this available was important to his work. Many of the trade unionists from poor countries in Africa were encouraged by seeing that even with little infrastructure and resources new technology



*Conference delegate John Odah, President of the National Labor Congress of Nigeria, speaks from the floor.*

could be used to show their issues and struggles.

One highlight of the conference was a labor film festival screening at the hall of the South African Clothing and Textile Workers Union (SACTWU). Over 275 workers from many COSATU unions watched Peter Miller’s film “The Internationale” and the film “The Take” by Naomi Klein and Avi Lewis. Many workers were surprised about the role Argentinean workers have played in taking over their bankrupt factories and running the factories themselves. There have been an epidemic of garment industry closures in the Capetown area and this film showed one avenue of dealing with these economic assaults.

Another important discussion was how to use the Internet to build labor solidarity and information. Eric Lee, the founder of [Labourstart.org](http://Labourstart.org), encouraged the trade unionists to contact him with articles and that he was interested in putting their campaigns and labor rights struggles on the Labourstart website.

Community labor radio and video on the internet was also a topic, and both Eric Lee, Martin Jansen and this writer encouraged unions to start learning how to do community radio and TV so they can reach broader audiences. The Union Producers and Programmers Network ([www.uppnet.org](http://www.uppnet.org)) in the US and the Labor Video and [LaborNet.org](http://LaborNet.org) have sought to build a labor media movement that would help train and educate working people on how to use the technologies and develop an international labor radio and labor video channel.

Plans were discussed on how to have greater exchange of labor video and radio programming and for the building of international working class film and video festivals in

*continued on page 5*

## Turkey *Continued from p. 4*

campaign web sites Chris Bailey from Cambridge reported on how this portal for the Liverpool dockers had mobilized and help lead an international campaign for the sacked 500 dock workers.

He also reported on the need to develop open source software for extremely low cost international telephone and video communication. There was also a discussion about how secure these new technologies were and whether the capitalists and their governments would be successful in either censoring the internet or preventing its use by working people and labor organizers. The use of the internet to present labor videos both on home computers but also on cellular phones was also discussed and participants were invited to attend the upcoming international LaborTech conference ([www.labortech.net](http://www.labortech.net)) which will be held in San Francisco on November 17th, 18th and 19th 2006. The need to use communication and information technology by labor was discussed in the context of confronting the global attacks working people face in every country.

The festival and events surrounding the festival have had wide reverberations and the planners are already working on the festival in 2007. They are also working on a political/social/art tour of the country for international guests along side the next festival and will be encouraging the arrangement of delegations of film makers and labor activists from around the world.

You can reach the festival organizers in Turkey at [laborfest@sendika.org](mailto:laborfest@sendika.org), [www.sendika.org](http://www.sendika.org)

You can also get information about the upcoming July 2006 LaborFest in San Francisco at [www.laborfest.net](http://www.laborfest.net)

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## South Africa *Continued from p. 4*

every country and city around the world. Plans are being organized for the upcoming Labortech conference ([www.labortech.net](http://www.labortech.net)) which will be held in San Francisco on November 17, 18, & the 19th 2006. Workers World Media Productions director Jansen reported that he and others are already producing community labor radio programs in several languages and they are working to establish a Capetown community media center that would produce programming that would be broadcast nationally on South Africa Broadcasting.

Myoung Joon Kim and Jiyoung Lee also discussed the use of community media in South Korea and the need to develop training for working people, women, disabled and others in these community media centers. Kim reported through a democratic activist initiative these community media centers have spread out from Seoul to other cities and they are now working on a satellite channel. Despite wide differences in wealth and the use of communication technology, the approach of all participants was to learn from each other and collaborate to build education and knowledge that would benefit all working people. Part of the discussion was also the need to defend the democratic rights to bandwidth and to challenge the digital divide so access to communication technology would be an important issue for working people and the labor movement.

The conference voted to establish a preparatory committee to plan further organizing and it was agreed that all the conference documents would be made available on the internet. [See Memorandum of Understanding on next column -Ed.]

## Memorandum of Understanding

We the participants in the IFWEA International Workshop on Workers' Education & Workers' Media in a Global Economy, held in Cape Town 4-7 April 2006, agree the following principles and common objectives for the future development of international co-operation in workers' media and workers' education:

1. We, as part of the international labour movement, have a responsibility to support effective international labour solidarity and trade union organization in the context of corporate globalisation, and to exploit new opportunities in the development of workers' media in support of that struggle.
2. Access to inclusive and participatory media is a right for workers, and we have a duty to struggle for press freedom, against censorship of workers and their representative organisations, and to defend public service media. In the context of new media, we need to assert new rights of freedom of expression and media access, including—where necessary—the formulation of new law in defence of those freedoms.
3. The workshop has demonstrated that there is an enormous wealth of knowledge and experience within the membership of the IFWEA and elsewhere in the international labour movement in the exploitation of video, audio, print and information and communication technologies.
4. Until now, the diffusion and awareness of this knowledge and experience has been largely limited to the national or regional arena. This workshop has enabled us to share our experiences from country to country and region to region.
5. As the result of our discussions, we recognise that we have a major opportunity to establish an international network and co-operative between workers' media and education organisations, capable of:
  - Effective international distribution of workers' media, enabling access to video, audio, print and new media products for the workers' education movement and the broader labour movement in general;
  - Co-operative production of new media products, enabling the development of richer and more diverse cultural and educational tools, reflecting workers' experiences and struggles worldwide;
  - Development of new and innovative cultural forms and tools in the new media, enabling international co-operation and experimentation with forms of cultural expression that reflect the values and principles of the world's democratic labour movement.
  - Encouraging and providing training opportunities for IFWEA members and labour media organisations in the development of skills and confidence in the exploitation of media for workers' education.

We agree to establish a small inter-regional committee of IFWEA member and partner organisations to consult closely with the workshop participants to:

1. Take immediate and practical steps to establish a platform for the exchange and dissemination of workers' media and educational resources;
2. Undertake a detailed feasibility study for the initiative, focusing on organisational arrangements, sustainability and resource mobilisation, affiliation guidelines etc.

*continued on page 7*

## **Video: Chicago's Immigrant Workers Rights March, May Day 2006**



Photo: Labor Beat

## **The Penthouse of Heaven**

Streamed at: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-3663927984454687227>

On May Day, 2006 the largest march ever in Chicago took place—to support the rights of immigrant workers. Labor Beat has produced a 27 minute documentary about that event and what led up to it: the earlier March 10 massive march which kicked off a national immigrants rights movement; follow-up community planning meetings for the next big march; the emerging role of the unions in this struggle, including the press conference on April 24 at Haymarket Square, with CFL (AFL-CIO) and Change To Win speakers; the last minute preparations of the organizers on the eve of the march; the launch point activities at Union Park on march day; and the great march itself of some 500,000 participants. Includes interviews with union spokespeople from UNITE HERE, UFCW, SEIU, Carpenters, U.E., and others, including Jorge Mujica of the March 10 Committee, and a speech at the Haymarket Square ceremony by James Thindwa (Chicago Jobs with Justice) reminding us that the negative effects of NAFTA have been forgotten in the national discussion about border crossings from Mexico. The message of the video also criticizes guest worker schemes, and calls for unionization, not just legalization, of immigrant workers, and living wage legislation.

The march participants remind us with their signs and in eloquent statements that this protest was not only about Mexican/Hispanic immigrants, but about all immigrants, from Poland to India to the Philippines. Don't miss our video about this historic day in the movement for social justice. More info: [mail@laborbeat.org](mailto:mail@laborbeat.org)

Cost is \$15. Indicate title "The Penthouse of Heaven", dvd or vhs, and send check to: Labor Beat, 37 S. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60607. Or make your order via PayPal at: [www.laborbeat.org/3/form1604.htm](http://www.laborbeat.org/3/form1604.htm)

Make Work Pay! seeks to unite millions of working people into a movement to restore the American Dream for all of us. Working with community groups, people of faith and public officials, the Make Work Pay! campaign seeks to secure for all working people.

## **Change to Win Statement on New Media Campaign**

# **Make Work Pay!**

A paycheck that supports a family. Affordable health care. A retirement with security. The freedom to form a union to give workers a voice on the job.

We call it Make Work Pay! because for too many people 40 hours of hard work does not provide the basics of the American Dream.

Make Work Pay! is mobilizing working Americans to confront the peril faced by the middle class. As CEO pay skyrockets and corporate profits go up and up, most workers are being left behind. The gap between the rich and everyone else is gaping and growing. We believe the best way to preserve the middle class and the American way of life that depends on a middle class is to help millions more workers unite with the union movement. To do that we are focused on uniting workers in the hospitality, construction, retail, food, healthcare, transportation and other critical industries.

Make Work Pay! was initiated by Change to Win, a federation of seven international unions representing 6 million working people. The unions are the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Laborers' International Union of North America, Service Employees International Union, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, United Farm Workers of America, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, and UNITE HERE. Learn more about Change to Win.

Make Work Pay TV Spot: [www.changetowin.org/MWP/Images/Videos/MakeWorkPayAd.mpg](http://www.changetowin.org/MWP/Images/Videos/MakeWorkPayAd.mpg)

Audio only: [www.changetowin.org/MWP/index.htm](http://www.changetowin.org/MWP/index.htm)



## **Air America Launches *Workin' It***

Workin' It Radio  
Saturday's From 2-3pm EST  
TUNE INTO WLIB-AM 1190

Workin' It is a new weekly, one-hour radio show on Air America Radio focusing on working life in America. Hosted by comedienne, author, and former union organizer Jackie Guerra, the lively magazine program provides a break from the daily grind to make you think, laugh, and do something about the declining state of workers' rights. Workin' It is produced in partnership with the workers' rights advocacy organization, American Rights at Work.

Learn more at: [www.WorkinItRadio.com](http://www.WorkinItRadio.com)

Podcasting feed: <http://feeds.feedburner.com/workinit>

Alexandra Lescaze, Executive Producer  
Workin' It with Jackie Guerra on Air America Radio  
917-696-2494  
[a.lescaze@gmail.com](mailto:a.lescaze@gmail.com)

## US & Canadian Labor Broadcast Programs\*

### Show Title, Producer, City/Station, Phone No.

*Fighting Back*, Ralph Kessler, Berkeley, CA, 510-845-9285, KUSF 90.3 FM  
*David Bacon on Labor*, David Bacon, Berkeley, CA, 510-549-0291, KPSA 94.1 FM  
*Labor Line*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, SFLR 93.7 FM,  
*Working LA*, Henry Walton, Panorama City, CA, 818-894-4079, KPFF 90.7 FM  
*Talking Union*, Larry Dorman, Rock Hill, CT, 880-571-6191, WATR 1320 AM  
*Labor Express*, Jerry Mead, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, WLUW 88.7 FM  
*Labor Beat*, Larry Duncan, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, Chan. 19, cable tv  
*Illinois Labor Hour*, Bill Gorrell, Champaign, IL, 217-359-9338, WEFT 90.1 FM  
*AFSCME On-Line*, Dan Hart, Dorchester, MA, 617-266-3496, cable-tv  
*Heartland Labor Forum*, Judy Ancel, Kansas City, MO, 816-235-1470, KKFJ 90.1 FM  
*Minnesota at Work*, Howard Kling, Minneapolis, MN, 612-624-5020, MCN Cable  
*Building Bridges*, Ken Nash, New York, NY, 212-815-1699, WBAI 99.5 FM  
*Communique*, Bill Henning, New York, NY, 212-228-6565, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*It's Your City, It's Our Job*, Rudy Orozco, New York, NY, 212-815-1535, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*State of the Union*, Lilian Roberts, New York, Channels 34  
*America's Work Force*, Jerrod Sorkey, Eastlake, OH, 440-975-4262, WERE 1300 AM  
*Boiling Point*, Michael Wood, Cincinnati, OH, 513-961-4348, WAIF 88.3 FM  
*Talking Union*, John Lavin, Norristown, PA, 610-660-3372, WHAT 1340 AM  
*Labor on the Job*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, BUT Ch. 29 cable  
*Rhode Island Labor Vision*, Chuck Schwartz, Cranston, RI, 401-463-9900, Ch. 14, cable-tv  
*Talkin' Union Labor*, Rick Levy, Austin, TX, 512-477-6195 internet radio  
*Which Side Are You On?*, Hal Leyshon, Middlesex, VT, 802-223-4172, radio  
*Radio Labor Journal*, Bil Borders, Everett, WA, 425-921-3454, KSER 90.7 FM  
*WIN*, Frank Emspak, Madison, WI, 608) 262-0680, www.laborradio.org  
*LaborVision*, John Webb, St. Louis, MO, 314-962-4163, DHTV,  
*OPEU Productions*, Wes Brain, Ashland, OR, 541-482-6988, cable-tv  
*Labor Link TV*, Fred Lonidier, La Jolla, CA, 619-552-0740, cable-tv,  
*First Tuesday*, Leo Canty, Connecticut, 860-257-9782, cable-tv,  
*Letter Carriers*, Carl Bryant, San Fran., CA, 415-885-0375, Today TV 214, cable-tv,  
*726 Express*, Stewart Ransom, New York, NY, 718-761-6681, Staten Is. Cable  
*Rank-And-File*, Larry Maglio, New York, NY, N.A., Staten Is. Cable  
*Labor on the Line*, David King, Portland, OR  
*working TV*, Julius Fisher, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 604-253-6222  
*Labor Radio*, Bill Zimmerman, Portland, OR, 360-695-6552  
*PM Primetimes Labor Show*, Larry Johnson, www.gmptoday.org, Kokomo, IN  
*Working New York*, Mario Cilento, www.nysaficio.org, Albany, NY, 212-777-6040

\*This list may not be complete. Additions contact:  
UPPNET News editor Larry Duncan at: [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)

### Memorandum of Understanding *Continued from p. 5*

3. Prepare a detailed report and plan of activity, and;
4. Convene an international labour media conference within two years to formally launch the initiative.

The committee will meet within six months of this workshop.

Furthermore, we agree to report-back and organise similar workshops and discussions locally and regionally to promote the growth and development of the initiative.

This Memorandum of Understanding, having been discussed through small groups and subsequent plenary meeting of the workshop participants, was agreed on Friday 7 April 2006.



[www.laborradio.org/whoiswin](http://www.laborradio.org/whoiswin)

### UPPNET National Executive Board

**President:** Howard Kling, producer *Minnesota at Work*, [hkling@csom.umn.edu](mailto:hkling@csom.umn.edu)

#### Vice Presidents:

Judy Ancel, producer *Heartland Labor Forum* Kansas City, MO, [ancelj@umkc.edu](mailto:ancelj@umkc.edu)  
Carl Bryant, producer *Letter Carriers Today TV 214*, San Francisco, [carltv214@aol.com](mailto:carltv214@aol.com)  
Wes Brain, producer *OPEU Productions*, Ashland, OR, [brain@mind.net](mailto:brain@mind.net)  
Leo Canty, producer *First Tuesday*, Connecticut, [unionleo@aol.com](mailto:unionleo@aol.com)  
Fred Carroll, former pres. UPPNET, Los Angeles  
Larry Duncan, co-producer *Labor Beat*, Chicago, [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)  
Frank Emspak, co-producer *Labor Radio News*, Madison, WI, [emspakf@workers.uwex.edu](mailto:emspakf@workers.uwex.edu)  
Simin Farkhondeh, producer/director *Labor at the Crossroads*, New York, [Starkhondeh@cuny.edu](mailto:Starkhondeh@cuny.edu)  
Julius Fisher, producer *working tv*, Vancouver, Canada, [julius\\_fisher@bc.sympatico.ca](mailto:julius_fisher@bc.sympatico.ca)  
John Hamilton, *WORT/Access 4*, Madison, WI, [Nonfictin10@hotmail.com](mailto:Nonfictin10@hotmail.com)  
Ken Nash, Co-producer *Building Bridges: Your Community and Labor Report*, WBAI Radio, New York, [knash@igc.apc.org](mailto:knash@igc.apc.org)  
John See, 612-624-5020, producer, *Minnesota at Work*, [jsee@csom.umn.edu](mailto:jsee@csom.umn.edu)  
John Speier, 616-375-4638, producer, *Solidarity*, [Acclaimvideo@igc.org](mailto:Acclaimvideo@igc.org)  
Steve Zeltzer, producer *Labor on The Job*, San Francisco, [lvpsf@labornet.org](mailto:lvpsf@labornet.org)  
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UPPNET News editor: Larry Duncan, [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)

### UPPNET OBJECTIVES:

1. To promote and expand the production and use of television and radio shows pertinent to the cause of organized labor and the issues relevant to all working people.
2. To establish and promote the general distribution and circulation of this programming.
3. To address issues regarding the media and its fair and democratic use and accessibility by labor and other constituencies generally.
4. To encourage and promote the preservation of television and radio broadcasts pertinent to labor.
5. To establish a code of ethic governing television and radio production practices and other such matters UPPNET may determine as relevant to its work.
6. To require all productions to work under a collective bargaining agreement, secure waivers or work in agreement with any television or movie industry union having jurisdiction in the area.

[www.uppnet.org](http://www.uppnet.org)

### Labor's Voices 3 *Continued from p. 8*

Contact Heather Appel, Labor's Voices 3 Coordinator, at 917-533-4796 or [heather.appel@gmail.com](mailto:heather.appel@gmail.com)

"Labor's Voices I and II made a real contribution to our appreciation of the rich history of progressive media and the arts and provided a solid basis for Labor's Voices 3."  
—Paul Robeson, Jr.

Sponsored by (in formation):

Center for the Study of Culture, Technology and Work (CUNY), New York Labor History Association, Metro New York Labor Communications Council, NYU Wagner Labor Archives, SSEU Local 371 AFSCME, Press Associates, LaborTECH, Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Interfaith Worker Justice...

Labor's Voices 3, April 26-28, '07

CUNY Graduate Center

34th Street and Fifth Avenue, New York, NY

[www.laborsvoices.org](http://www.laborsvoices.org)

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**Labor's Voices 3, April 26-28, '07**



**Media for a  
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Join hundreds of grass roots activists, journalists, organizers, labor communicators and media-makers who are organizing workers and communities into a new and vital labor movement. Labor's Voices 3 is an opportunity to:

- Explore media's role in organizing and building a new workers' movement;
- Build worker power through communications training;

- Connect disparate constituencies in unions, worker centers, independent media and universities;
- Discuss labor media and media reform to amplify workers voices;
- Develop a national labor media strategy.

In 2000 and 2002, Labor's Voices Conferences 1 and 2 challenged labor communicators to become more relevant to union members and unorganized workers by engaging them through a democratic media.

*continued on page 7*

**For UPPNET News back Issues:**  
[www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm](http://www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm)

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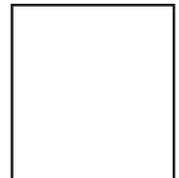
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## Oregon Farmworkers build radio station



photo: KPCN-LP

Speaking at the KPCN-LP 'barnraising' are (l to r) Adrian Valladares, Start up Coordinator for the Barnraising; Ramon Ramirez, President of PCUN; Petetridish, Director of Prometheus Radio Project.

Stream: [http://media.prometheusradio.org/movies/PCUN\\_video\\_news\\_release.mov](http://media.prometheusradio.org/movies/PCUN_video_news_release.mov)

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos de Noroeste (PCUN), Oregon's largest Latino organization and a national leader in the battle to protect and expand the rights of immigrant workers in the United States, has built its own radio station—KPCN-LP, 96.3 FM. On August 18-20, workers and families from across the Willamette Valley, the Northwest, the United States and around the world joined PCUN in Woodburn, OR to build this entire radio station, from the studio mic to the antenna (installed on top of Woodburn's water tower nearby). On the heels of legislative action in the U.S. Senate that could expand low power FM radio to thousands more communities, station builders came together not just to build KPCN with the workers of PCUN, but to strengthen the movement to stop major media corporations from taking up all America's airwaves.

"This summer won't be the first time that the farmworker organization, 21 years old with over 5000 registered

*continued on page 2*

## Chuck Schwartz, labor TV visionary



Chuck Schwartz, Executive Director of the Institute for Labor Studies and Research, passed away on Friday, July 21.

### UPPNET Mourns the Passing of Chuck Schwartz

We learned of Chuck's passing with surprise, sadness and a great sense of loss. As Larry Duncan of Chicago's Labor Beat has already written, Chuck was a person we "thought would always be there." That's because we still need him there. And he isn't. We are so sorry.

We knew Chuck as a tireless labor media activist and fellow conspirator, collaborator, friend and supporter. It seems at one time or another Chuck lent a hand or advice or ideas to most of us—or just plain ran some of the cable TV programs our loose network produces in Chicago, or Minneapolis, or San Francisco, Oregon, Connecticut. What's it been, 15 years? More? All those years...

Leo Canty, who has produced Connecticut at Work for most of those years, remembers the beginning when he "was looking for anyone anywhere in labor who could talk TV. Chuck was always way ahead of the game and gave me some pointers. When we were up and running Chuck ran our program on the RI network, giving us broader reach—and," he muses, "maybe easing his own pressure to find programming."

Randy Croce and John See, producers of Minnesota at Work, think they first met Chuck at a LaborTECH conference in Minnesota in the early 90's. They could be wrong. But they aren't wrong about all the times we shared programming. "You just knew there was this guy doing great work in Rhode Island, another one of us, someone who understood the need for the voice of working people to be on television."

Chuck's dedication to labor media was impressive. Many

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## **Farmworkers radio station** *Continued from p. 1*

members, has taken to the airwaves. Years ago, we broadcast for an hour a week on an AM station that served Woodburn and the Willamette Valley,” said KPCN-LP Start-Up Coordinator Adrian Valladares-Carranza. “Because of the program serving farmworkers and Latinos across the Valley, workers were able to voice their opinions and concerns in a way not heard before on Woodburn radio.”

But when an influential local farm owner learned that PCUN was covering labor rights on the air, the owners of the AM station took the show—and the voice of the farmworkers—off the schedule, violating PCUN’s contract with the station and prompting PCUN to file a lawsuit and win an injunction to air their final two programs. The show’s removal left the long-established Latino families and new community members without programming that they could trust.

Many of the stations in the Willamette Valley are owned by national media corporations Entercom, Viacom, and Clear Channel, who profit by using America’s airwaves, leaving little room for local programs. “This year, as Congress tries to limit the rights of immigrants, the Republican-led Federal Communications Commission is trying to put even more radio stations, newspapers, and TV outlets into the hands of America’s biggest media monopolies,” said Prometheus Radio Project organizer Siyade Gemechisa. “Local deejays from California to New York helped to bring millions of fighters for immigrant rights into our streets. As we work together to build KPCN-LP in August, we stand with labor leaders, religious groups, media activists, and millions of Americans to stop media monopolies from getting bigger. Low power FM radio stations like KPCN-LP are a real solution to media consolidation.”

Now PCUN is joining with the Prometheus Radio Project, a national group that supports and builds stations around the world, to build their own low power FM (LPMF) at 96.3 FM. Low Power FM station builders led the fight to protect local media ownership in 2002 and 2003, when almost 3 million people wrote the FCC, telling them that when just one or two companies owned the radio, TV, and newspaper outlets in a town, that democracy suffered. There are now over 750 low power FM stations on the air across the country, leading the fight for diverse, local, community media nationally.

PCUN and Prometheus invited the general public to come and help build and launch the station on the weekend of August 18th to 20th. You can find out more at [www.prometheusradio.org](http://www.prometheusradio.org) and [www.pcun.org](http://www.pcun.org).



*The antenna went up on the water tower on Sunday, August 20, sign on day around 6:30 pm. (The flag was removed because it was the property of the city of Woodburn.)*

## **Chuck Schwartz** *Continued from p. 1*

times what we knew of him was the person who went beyond the call of duty as they say, the extra mile, all those clichés trying to capture extraordinary work. Just last year the International Labor Communications Association (ILCA) benefited from that quality while planning their 50th Anniversary Convention in Chicago in 2005. The ILCA runs a media contest as part of their conventions and this time around there was a bit of a problem with some video judges pulling out late in the game. I’m on the ILCA Executive Council and was being asked by staff who could chip in. Next thing I know Chuck has volunteered and wound up doing a yeoman’s job of slugging through hours and hours of video within the deadline. There he was, being there again. I think that’s the last time I talked with Chuck, a little more than a year ago. My, how time flies.

And then too, some of us wear several hats—now there’s an understatement—just like Chuck. Judy Ancel, a labor educator who produces the radio show, Heartland Labor Forum, in Kansas City, remembers Chuck best from labor ed circles. “He was an inspiration because he was one of the few labor educators a decade ago who was doing media—at that time radio. He was always encouraging. It was good to have another labor educator who knew we weren’t weird for seeing labor media as important work for labor education.”

Well some people might say weird, but I say weird and visionary are cousins. And Chuck was truly visionary in his embrace of labor media, and television in particular. Few others have the energy and enthusiasm he had for labor communications and training. Our movement and our profession will miss that dynamic presence dearly.

On behalf of the Board of the Union Producers and Programmers Network (UPPNET) and other labor media activists in our circle of comrades, we say goodbye and peace to you, Chuck. To his family and friends, thanks for sharing him. Our deepest sympathy.

Signed,

Howard Kling, *President*

Union Producers and Programmers Network  
University of Minnesota Labor Education Service

*Vice Presidents*

Judy Ancel, producer, Heartland Labor Forum,  
Kansas City, Missouri

Carl Bryant, producer, Letter Carriers Today, TV 214  
San Francisco

Frank Emspak, co-producer, Labor Radio News  
Madison, Wisconsin

Ken Nash, Co-producer, Building Bridges: Your  
Community and Labor Report, WBAI Radio, New York

John See, producer, Minnesota at Work

Joan Lockwood, web worker, [www.uppnet.org](http://www.uppnet.org),  
Salem, Oregon

Julius Fisher, producer, working TV, Vancouver, Canada

Wes Brain, producer, OPEU Productions, Ashland, Oregon

Leo Canty, producer, First Tuesday, Connecticut

Larry Duncan, co-producer, Labor Beat, Chicago, IL

Myoung Joon Kim, participating international observer,  
Seoul, Korea

Steve Zeltzer, producer, Labor on The Job, San Francisco

Edward G. Downie

# Madison, WI *Capital Times* editorial defends WIN head Frank Emspak from State Rep. Ness attack

## Editorial: Nass' latest UW crusade

Aug. 22, 2006, The Capital Times—State Rep. Steve Nass is apparently undeterred in his campaign to ideologically cleanse the University of Wisconsin System, despite the fact that a little principle known as “academic freedom” always seems to get in his way.

After unsuccessful attempts to ban speakers and fire faculty, the Whitewater Republican now is going after a well-regarded radio and print news service called Workers Independent News, which is headed by Frank Emspak, a professor at the UW-Extension’s School for Workers.

The WIN service seeks to present information about issues of concern to workers and the struggles of labor unions, two topics that are underreported in U.S. media. As such, Emspak and his crew are producing an educational tool that is very much in the best tradition of the UW-Extension and the School for Workers.

For this, Emspak deserves praise.

Why? Because the Republican legislator has not been able to accept that ideas other than his own might have a place on university campuses.

Nass, a Republican with decidedly pro-corporate sympathies, is not complaining about the UW Business School or its publications, even though the Business School is every bit as friendly to the corporate sector as the WIN service is to the labor movement.

So it is not ideology or opinion or even bias to which Steve Nass objects.

Instead, Nass is objecting to ideas, open discourse and dialogue on the issues of the day the core components of a great university and the essential elements of higher education.

Published: August 22, 2006

[www.madison.com/tct/opinion/index.php?ntid=95785&ntpid=0](http://www.madison.com/tct/opinion/index.php?ntid=95785&ntpid=0)

[To find out more about Workers Independent News (WIN) visit [www.laborradio.org](http://www.laborradio.org)]

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# Oaxaca’s State TV station under popular control

## Women March to the Zocalo Against Governor and Take Over Channel 9 Studios

[www.narconews.com/Issue42/article1990.html](http://www.narconews.com/Issue42/article1990.html)

By Nancy Davies

OAXACA CITY, Mexico August 1, 2006—In the style of the *marcha de las caserolas* (cooking-pot march) made famous in Argentina, the women of Oaxaca took to the streets with their pots, frying pans and spoons to beat out the call “Ruiz fuera!”: “Governor Ruiz out!”

On Tuesday morning about 2,000 women gathered at the Plaza of the Seven Regions and marched toward the zocalo, a distance of five miles. Along the route they were greeted by cheering onlookers who handed them water and waved signs in support of the social movement that has set as its first and foremost goal the removal from office of Governor Ulises Ruiz Ortiz (“URO”). The women tapped out the rhythm of “ya cayó” (“he’s already fallen”) and used pan covers as cymbals. Many carried wooden spoons and drummed on their frying pans.



Photo: D.R. 2006 Nancy Davies

*First broadcast from occupied Channel 9*

Before the march dispersed at 12:30, somebody announced from the pavilion, “Women are going to Channel 9.” The location of the state television facilities is a bus-ride outside the downtown area, across from the Alvaro Carillo Theater.

Women have played a strong part from the beginning of the movement, as they comprise half of the teachers’ union and/or are mothers of students affected. As parents they have expressed rage against lack of decent schools and classrooms, and most recently against paying enrollment fees for public schools. Free education is guaranteed by the Mexican Constitution. Fees to register, as well as purchase of uniforms and books, appear to have fronted yet another method of state theft.

## First broadcast from occupied Channel 9

About 350 women marched into the state TV Channel 9 facilities at approximately 1:30 p.m. Nobody stopped them.

*continued on p. 4*

## Oaxaca State TV station taken over *Continued from p. 3*

Perhaps a thousand women and children more stood on watch outside the building. At 3:30 the channel went off the air. Within an hour, the women telephoned Radio Universidad, the radio station at the Benito Juárez Autonomous University of Oaxaca (UABJO), to say they had two radio stations working from the site, one AM and one FM, but no television. They reported that there had been no opposition, no struggle, and nobody was hurt. They asked the listeners for back-up—guards, food, water, and people who know how to operate television cameras.

By early evening some of the occupying force of women had returned to speak in person on Radio Universidad, while most remained at the television station.

“We are not afraid,” the spokeswoman said. “Whatever happens, happens. We are fed up with this situation. We are fighting for our children. We women cannot stay home.”

...at 7:00 this evening Channel 9 went back on the air. Terrible sound, full of static, but there was the APPO [Popular Assembly of the People of Oaxaca]. Seated in front of a movement banner, which read “When a woman advances there is no man who stays behind,” Daniela, a lawyer who works both with APPO and the civil rights commission CODEP, introduced half a dozen women (none introduced by name, I simply recognized Daniela). The women took turns with a hand-held microphone to demand that URO resign. “The women organized for a great march,” one said. “We are in the struggle. Thanks to Ulises Ruiz the people have risen up, with marches, and concentrations of citizens. Channel 9 never gave us information, only lies. The APPO is the people. In a peaceful way we have taken the channel which is the public channel.”

...After the women’s victory broadcast, Channel 9 briefly broadcast parts of videos by indigenous community members. At 8:30 all was quiet.

## Video stream: JwJ labor float in Ashland, Oregon



Stream: <http://rogueimc.org/media/2006/07/6912.mov>

UPPNET’s Wes Brain sent us a video clip of labor music troubadour Anne Feeney (left) atop the Jobs with Justice float with comedian-singer David Lippman. It’s at the July 4th Ashland, Oregon parade. It looks like a lot of fun, but we have to wonder if Anne was wearing enough sun screen that day. Hear Anne’s music at: [www.soundclick.com/bands/pagemusic.cfm?bandID=164922](http://www.soundclick.com/bands/pagemusic.cfm?bandID=164922)

## Oaxaca radio station attacked

By Rebecca Romero, Associated Press

OAXACA, Mexico—Jul. 24, 2006 Gunmen attacked Oaxaca’s university radio station, authorities said Sunday, the latest incident in a wave of confrontations and protests that have driven many tourists out of this historic Mexican city.

Assailants fired rounds of ammunition into the station’s windows while it was broadcasting late Saturday, the Oaxaca state government said. Nobody was injured in the attack.

Witnesses said the attack was carried out by at least 10 assailants wearing ski masks.

The university radio station has supported a wave of protests aimed at ousting Oaxaca state Gov. Ulises Ruiz, accused of rigging the 2004 election to win office and violently repressing dissent.

Teachers Union leader Enrique Rueda, one of the protest leaders, accused Ruiz of being behind the shooting. Ruiz “has always responded to popular protests with aggression, threats, repression and authoritarianism,” Rueda said.

However, Ruiz’s office condemned the attack and said the state government was trying to negotiate with the protesters.

Dozens of protesters, including teachers, students and leftist activists, went with sticks and stones Sunday to guard the radio station.

The protests erupted in late June after police attacked a demonstration of striking teachers looking for a wage increase. Since then, thousands of demonstrators have camped out in the center of Oaxaca, spraying buildings with revolutionary slogans, smashing hotel windows and building makeshift barricades.

The protests have paralyzed one of Mexico’s top cultural tourist attractions, where visitors normally browse traditional markets for Indian handicrafts, hike ancient pyramids and stroll along cobblestone streets to sample mole dishes.

Tourism is down 75 percent, costing the city more than \$45 million, according to the Mexican Employers Federation.

## Immigrant Rights National Strategy Convention, Chicago, August 11-13: Brief Report—Labor Beat

Stream: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-8475562554128985695&hl=en>



## The digital revolution and a labor media strategy LaborTech 2006

November 17, 18 & 19th, 2006

University Of San Francisco  
2130 Fulton St. (at Cole)  
San Francisco, California

[www.labortech.net/](http://www.labortech.net/)

The purpose of LaborTech is to bring together labor video, computer and media activists in the US and around the world to build and develop labor communication technology and media. The first conference was held in 1990 and they have been held throughout the United States as well as Canada, Korea and Russia. Building a labor communication media is a critical task for the labor movement that can tell our stories, which can break the corporate information blockade in every corner of the world.

### Themes for workshops and plenums

1. The Bosses' Use of Technology and Worker's Resistance (Surveillance, Union Busting, and Globalization)
2. Workers' Technology and Class Struggle Around the World (Labor Media and Internet Tools)
3. Democratic Communication Rights (Internet Access and Digital Divides)

### Workshops

- Community Internet, Wax-Fi and Net Neutrality
- Labor Culture and Technology
- Radio and Labor Media
- Web Sites, Blogs and Using Technology to Build Organizing and Information Networks
- Workplace Issues Internet Access and the use of the Internet on the job
- Labor Media, Education and Labor Culture
- Globalization For Workers Using Communication Technology
- Labor And Who Controls The Internet
- Embedding Workers and Spying On The Job & Off The Job
- How To Start A Labor TV Community Access Show
- Micro Radio and The Labor Potential
- Technology, Deregulation and Health and Safety
- Labor Networking, Democracy and the Internet: Lessons for Today and The Future
- Streaming Your Labor Rally or Conference and How To Do It
- WIN, Pacifica and Labor Radio Channels
- Development of regional labor portals and LaborNets Internationally
- Defense of Internet for high value content and for democratic control
- International labor media network

- Outsourcing, Technology and Labor & Organizing Tech Workers Here & Abroad
- Building International Labor Film & Video Festivals- Lessons On How To Do It
- Labor Journalists and Media Issues Within The Labor Movement
- Labor Boycotts/Solidarity Campaigns Using the Internet
- Pod Casting and Cell Casting

### Conference initial endorsers:

San Francisco Labor Council, OPEIU Local 3, NALC 214, SEIU 535, California Faculty Association, USF Media Studies Program, Laney College Labor Studies Program, San Francisco City College Labor Studies Program, San Jose Community College Labor Studies Program, SFSU Labor Studies Program, Union Producers and Programmers Network (UPPNET), Labor Video Project, KPFA Labor Collective, Letter Carriers TV 214, Computer Professionals For Social Responsibility (CPSR), Symbolic Systems Program Stanford University. USF Faculty Association, New College Of California Media Studies Department

### Partial List of Speakers/Participants:

Professor Art Shostack; Eric Lee-Labourstart; Myoung Joon Kim, Labor News Production Seoul; Nancy Brigham; John Parulis; Professor Michael Perelman; Sid Shniad, Research Director British Columbia Telecommunications Workers Union; Nick Yale, SEIU 1000; Martin Fishgold, AFSCME 371 Editor & past president of ILCA; Wes Brain, SEIU Local 503; Erica Zweig, LaborNet; John Taite, SEIU 2579; Todd Davies, Symbolic Systems Program Stanford; Joan Lockwood, SEIU 503 web master; Dick Meister, Labor Journalist; Jack Chernos, AFM 6 and Labor Musician; Professor Dorothy Kidd, Chair Media Studies USF; Francisco Cendejas, Stanford University; Jim Kelley, Chair San Jose City College Labor Studies Program; Fred Glass, Communications Director CFT; Frank Emspak; Workers Independent New WIN; Karin Hart, Chair Laney College Labor Studies; Carl Bryant, Producer TV214 NALC214; John Tate, San Francisco State University; Judy Miller, M.Ed PhilaVoice; Bob Crow, General Secretary UK RMT; John Orr, Journalist & Australian Playwright; Dean Baker, Co-Director Center For Economic & Policy Research; Donna Eyestone, Educator CCSF; Mary Ellen Churchill, Media Studies Director New College Of California; Frederic Dubois, APC Editor (\*Organizations for information only)

Please visit the conference web site ([www.labortech.net](http://www.labortech.net)) for important information on subjects ast Ads, Registration, Endorsers, Sponsors, Booths, Academic Papers, Strategy Proposals, Deadlines and other questions.

## Labor in the media analysis

# Why CBS featured Andy Stern

By Alan Benjamin, *Unity & Independence*, Summer, 06

On Sunday, May 14 Andy Stern, president of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), appeared in a 15-minute segment of “60 Minutes”—the widely watched CBS program. It is not every day that a major TV channel features a portrait of a trade union leader.

During the interview, Stern—who was characterized by Lesly Stahl as “labor’s savior”—said that unions must conform to globalization by seeking partnerships with giant corporations. For the past year, Stern has been repeating this theme ad nauseam.

In an interview published by Epoch Times last February 27, for example, Stern stated: “SEIU’s goal for 2006 is to go global and to bring unions and corporations together as partners, not enemies. I think that what we’re going to see happen within ten years, if not sooner, is a convergence of a global labor movement.”

Stern continued: “Employers need to recognize that the world has changed and there are people who would like to help them provide solutions in ways that are new, modern and that add value to companies...A partnership between labor and corporations would be a step towards the intended goal.”

Then, addressing himself directly to the trade union movement, Stern added:

“On the other side of the coin, union members have to understand that companies are not their enemy, but must think about increasing shareholders’ wealth...Labor should ask itself, ‘how can I contribute to meeting those [shareholders’] expectations in a way that also meets mine?’”

## **Not Just Rhetoric**

For Stern, this is not just rhetoric. His first main project as a “labor savior” has been to build a “partnership” with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Tyson Foods and Walmart known as the Essential Workers Immigrant Coalition (EWIC). Together with these “partners,” Stern and SEIU drafted the outlines of what would become the McCain-Kennedy “immigration reform” bill—the essentially anti-immigration bill that was approved earlier this year by the Senate in a slightly amended form.

But this “corporate partnership”—at least in its most visible guise of EWIC and pro-corporate “immigration reform”—is being more and more challenged within Stern’s own union. In early June, for example, the Economic and Social Justice Caucus of SEIU Local 790 voted to endorse the statement by the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR), which is in direct opposition to Stern and the McCain-Kennedy bill. Many other SEIU locals also have taken positions at odds with the SEIU leadership on the immigration reform issue.

Stern is being given this publicity because his message is the one the bosses and the corporate sponsors of “60 Minutes” want us to hear. Prime-time TV for a union leader doesn’t just happen by accident. Never has, never will in capitalist America.

Stern, not surprisingly, is a big promoter of the upcoming

## Radio documentary project

# No Backward Step: The struggle for democracy in the Illinois coal fields



*State militia posted at a Peabody mine near Kincaid, IL, 1932*

Through the early 19th to mid-20th century, coal mining was the industrial engine of downstate Illinois. Workers organized under the banner of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) to win safe working conditions and better pay.

In the summer of 1932, thousands of Illinois miners split from the union after UMWA President John L. Lewis undermined a wage referendum and imposed a company-supported contract on the workers.

The dissident miners formed a new union, the Progressive Miners of America, in order to reclaim the rights of rank and file miners and reject Lewis’ autocracy.

*No Backward Step: the struggle for democracy in the Illinois coal fields* is a radio documentary produced by Greg Boozell which tells the story of the new union and the mine war that followed.

Listen: <http://minewar.org/listen.html>

international trade union merger between the ICFTU (of which the AFL-CIO is a member) and the Christian-based World Confederation of Labor.

This upcoming merger will take place openly in support of a “partnership” agenda with the global corporations. This will transform the ICFTU from an international trade union confederation with a bureaucratic misleadership into an openly “corporatist” anti-union outfit, much like the European Trade Union Confederation—which is a construct of the European Union bosses, not a body that emanates from the labor movement itself.

## **“Undermining Union’s Mission”**

Stern’s role, self-confessed, is to drive this “partnership” agenda not only for the Change to Win coalition but for the entire labor movement. That’s why Stern keeps hammering away at John Sweeney and the AFL-CIO leadership for holding to the “outdated concept of class struggle”—which, alas, is ever so far from the truth.

Stern is pushing to throw in the union towel altogether, to transform the unions from instruments defending work-

## US & Canadian Labor Broadcast Programs\*

### Show Title, Producer, City/Station, Phone No.

*Fighting Back*, Ralph Kessler, Berkeley, CA, 510-845-9285, KUSF 90.3 FM  
*David Bacon on Labor*, David Bacon, Berkeley, CA, 510-549-0291, KPSA 94.1 FM  
*Labor Line*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, SFLR 93.7 FM,  
*Working LA*, Henry Walton, Panorama City, CA, 818-894-4079, KPFF 90.7 FM  
*Talking Union*, Larry Dorman, Rock Hill, CT, 880-571-6191, WATR 1320 AM  
*Labor Express*, Jerry Mead, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, WLUW 88.7 FM  
*Labor Beat*, Larry Duncan, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, Chan. 19, cable tv  
*Illinois Labor Hour*, Bill Gorrell, Champaign, IL, 217-359-9338, WEFT 90.1 FM  
*AFSCME On-Line*, Dan Hart, Dorchester, MA, 617-266-3496, cable-tv  
*Heartland Labor Forum*, Judy Ancel, Kansas City, MO, 816-235-1470, KKFJ 90.1 FM  
*Minnesota at Work*, Howard Kling, Minneapolis, MN, 612-624-5020, MCN Cable  
*Building Bridges*, Ken Nash, New York, NY, 212-815-1699, WBAI 99.5 FM  
*Communique*, Bill Henning, New York, NY, 212-228-6565, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*It's Your City, It's Our Job*, Rudy Orozco, New York, NY, 212-815-1535, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*State of the Union*, Lillian Roberts, New York, Channels 34  
*America's Work Force*, Jerrod Sorkey, Eastlake, OH, 440-975-4262, WERE 1300 AM  
*Boiling Point*, Michael Wood, Cincinnati, OH, 513-961-4348, WAIF 88.3 FM  
*Talking Union*, John Lavin, Norristown, PA, 610-660-3372, WHAT 1340 AM  
*Labor on the Job*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, BUT Ch. 29 cable  
*Rhode Island Labor Vision*, Chuck Schwartz, Cranston, RI, 401-463-9900, Ch. 14, cable-tv  
*Talkin' Union Labor*, Rick Levy, Austin, TX, 512-477-6195 internet radio  
*Which Side Are You On?*, Hal Leyshon, Middlesex, VT, 802-223-4172, radio  
*Radio Labor Journal*, Bil Borders, Everett, WA, 425-921-3454, KSER 90.7 FM  
*WIN*, Frank Emspak, Madison, WI, 608) 262-0680, www.laborradio.org  
*LaborVision*, John Webb, St. Louis, MO, 314-962-4163, DHTV,  
*OPEU Productions*, Wes Brain, Ashland, OR, 541-482-6988, cable-tv  
*Labor Link TV*, Fred Lonidier, La Jolla, CA, 619-552-0740, cable-tv,  
*First Tuesday*, Leo Canty, Connecticut, 860-257-9782, cable-tv,  
*Letter Carriers*, Carl Bryant, San Fran., CA, 415-885-0375, Today TV 214, cable-tv,  
*726 Express*, Stewart Ransom, New York, NY, 718-761-6681, Staten Is. Cable  
*Rank-And-File*, Larry Maglio, New York, NY, N.A., Staten Is. Cable  
*Labor on the Line*, David King, Portland, OR  
*working TV*, Julius Fisher, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 604-253-6222  
*Labor Radio*, Bill Zimmerman, Portland, OR, 360-695-6552  
*PM Primetimes Labor Show*, Larry Johnson, www.gmptoday.org, Kokomo, IN  
*Working New York*, Mario Cilento, www.nysaficio.org, Albany, NY, 212-777-6040  
*Working; It with Jackie Guerra on Air America Radio*, Alexandra Lescaze, 917-696-2494

\*This list may not be complete. Additions contact:  
UPPNET News editor Larry Duncan at: [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)

### Andy Stern and CBS *Continued from p. 6*

ers' interests (which they still remain, despite the policies of the labor bureaucracy at their summit) into instruments to undermine and attack workers' interests.

That is why the defense of trade union independence, of the basic concept of trade unionism, must begin with an open rejection of Stern's so-called "New Unionism." In this sense, RoseAnn De Moro of the California Nurses Association was right on the mark when she told Lesly Stahl of "60 Minutes" that Stern's "partnerships with giant corporations would result in undermining a union's prime mission to defend and advance the interests of its members."

"Unions," De Moro said, "would have to make enormous concessions to get corporations to accept them as junior partners, to the detriment of their members."

This must be our message, as well, as we fight—slowly but surely—to reclaim the unions from all proponents of "partnerships" with the multinationals and from all proponents of support to the Democratic Party, which is the other side of this "partnership" coin.

*Readers comments on articles should be sent to:  
Larry Duncan, UPPNET News Editor: [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)*

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### UPPNET OBJECTIVES:

1. To promote and expand the production and use of television and radio shows pertinent to the cause of organized labor and the issues relevant to all working people.
2. To establish and promote the general distribution and circulation of this programming.
3. To address issues regarding the media and its fair and democratic use and accessibility by labor and other constituencies generally.
4. To encourage and promote the preservation of television and radio broadcasts pertinent to labor.
5. To establish a code of ethic governing television and radio production practices and other such matters UPPNET may determine as relevant to its work.
6. To require all productions to work under a collective bargaining agreement, secure waivers or work in agreement with any television or movie industry union having jurisdiction in the area.

[www.uppnet.org](http://www.uppnet.org)

### AFL-CIO and hi-speed Internet *Continued from p. 8*

16th in the world in terms of the availability of broadband for citizens. And Americans' access is slower and more costly: DSL averages \$30 to \$50 a month for speeds of 3 megabits per second or less while cable modems cost \$40 to \$50 for speeds of 3 to 5 megabits. In Japan, for instance, a connection with a speed of 26 megabits per second costs about \$22. And many Americans in rural and low-income urban areas don't have access to any high-speed connection.

"Union members develop the content, build and maintain the networks and service the customers of high-speed communications networks. We must take the lead to ensure universal, affordable access to high-speed networks, quality service and quality jobs, and responsible corporate practices and consumer protections," the statement said.

# AFL-CIO Joins CWA's campaign for universal high-speed broadband

[www.cwa-union.org/news/page.jsp?itemID=27826780](http://www.cwa-union.org/news/page.jsp?itemID=27826780)

August 11, 2006—The AFL-CIO has endorsed CWA's campaign to bring high-speed Internet access to all Americans, recognizing that the United States has fallen far behind other countries in connection speeds and affordability.

"A vibrant national economy depends upon world-class digital networks to stimulate job-creating innovation and economic growth. Moreover, investment in high-capacity networks by union employers creates opportunities for good

union jobs," the AFL-CIO Executive Council statement said.

CWA President Larry Cohen presented the resolution, "Speed Matters: High-Speed Internet for All," at the council's Chicago meeting this week.

The resolution calls for a national broadband policy in the United States. The goal is to make a digital network available to all Americans by 2010 with connection speeds of at least 10 megabits per second.

The resolution notes that the United States has fallen to

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**For UPPNET News back Issues:**  
[www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm](http://www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm)

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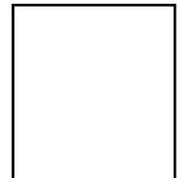
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## In Mexico: the media battle lines are drawn

In recent months, the growing crisis of oppression and corruption in the Mexican government has found expression in, among other places, the battle over the media: will the working class be able to get its message out despite the control of the media by corporate Mexico?

This struggle around the media became deadly with the October 27th murder in Oaxaca of Brad Will [see page 5], an Indymedia videographer, at the hands of what has appeared to many witnesses as pro-government paramilitaries.

The uprising of the people of Oaxaca was centered around the heroic strike of the teachers union there, but it expanded to encompass broader social causes. In that ongoing struggle, brave cadres of media activists, from Mal de Ojo Tv (<http://mexico.indymedia.org/oaxaca>) to Radio Plantón ([www.radioplanton.net](http://www.radioplanton.net)) and others, have remained steadfast at the electronic—and street—barricades, bringing to an

*continued on page 2*



Photo: corrugated films [www.corrugate.org](http://www.corrugate.org)

Radio Plantón covering the Oaxaca uprising



Photo: LaborTech

Jiyoung Lee, Pres. Labor News Production, Seoul, presents at LaborTech 2006 a report on the labor media movement in South Korea.

## Building a labor media movement in South Korea

by Jiyoung Lee

In this presentation I would like to make two points about our media strategy in Korea. The first point is how we have used media in the Korean labor movement and the second point is a brief introduction of our [Labor News Production] project for a workers' strategy on media [Labor movement media strategy].

The labor media movement in South Korea started with workers struggle. Since our beginnings, we have made videos to publicize workers' struggles from the workers' standpoint. At the same time we also made videos as an education tool to increase workers' class consciousness. Since the 1987 'nationwide great workers struggle', there has been a rapid growth in the workers movement. In the process of the growing consciousness of the workers in these struggles, labor activists have provided various education programs. The strikes themselves were a good education space for workers.

In the beginning, education was in the form of lectures. But with the advent of video, this technology was widely used for education and information sharing. Video was co-produced by professional teams (such as LNP) with trade unions. LNP has made more than 100 videos since 1989. Subjects of these videos were diverse: educational videos on job security, non-regular workers, mainstream media problem of censorship, labor law, neo-liberalism,

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## UPPNET News Editor Takes a Break



This Fall 2006 issue of *UPPNET News* will be the last issue that I will be editing. I have edited *UPPNET News* since the Winter 1997 issue, and I have respectfully decided, despite request from our UPPNET Board to continue, that it's time for me to take a break from the work involved so that I can spend

more time in producing the cable-tv series *Labor Beat*. I proudly remain an active Board member of UPPNET.

It has been an honor for me these past 10 years to act as editor of *UPPNET News*, and in looking over those 40 issues I am impressed with the variety, progress and scope of the fight for working class media which UPPNET member producers and other labor organizations have sustained over the decade. I will be converting the earliest issues to PDFs, and then compile the entire PDF collection of issues. This will provide a valuable and unique historic resource on the struggle for labor-oriented media since 1997. When this PDF collection of all issues is ready for distribution on a CD, I will announce it through UPPNET.

In solidarity,  
Larry Duncan, retiring editor  
lduncan@igc.org



Photo: Meenu Bhardwaj

Janitors rally inside the lobby of the Houston Club where a Shell Oil meeting is taking place, November 8, 2006.

## Houston Justice for Janitors Turns YouTube into Strike Tool

The successful Houston Justice for Janitors campaign made extensive use of Internet video streaming in helping to bring about a strike victory in a prolonged and bitter campaign. View some of their YouTube videos at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pf\\_CJGWwHSc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pf_CJGWwHSc)

For more information: [www.houstonjanitors.org/](http://www.houstonjanitors.org/)

## Media battle lines in Mexico *Continued from p. 1*

international audience valuable Internet streams to counter the chloroform of lies and diversions by the Mexican and North American media goliaths.

*UPPNET News*, in solidarity with these independent media reporters in Mexico, reprints here "A Message from Independent Media Orgs in Oaxaca".

## A Message from Independent Media Orgs in Oaxaca November 6, 2006

An open letter from Independent media organizations working in Oaxaca to the Mexican Government, Mexican and International Human Rights agencies, and international civil society. To:

*Vicente Fox Quezada, Presidente de la República; Carlos Abascal Carranza, Secretario de Gobernación; José Luis Soberanes, de la Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos; la Comisión Internacional de los Derechos Humanos; los Defensores de los Derechos Humanos Independientes; la Sociedad Civil Nacional e Internacional*

Since the beginning of the conflict, in the state of Oaxaca, Mexico, the majority of the national and international media have systematically failed to tell the whole story of what is happening in Oaxaca, and especially with regard to the acts of violence carried out by the state government, and more recently by the federal police.

In recent weeks, many journalists covering the conflict for independent media have been subjected to all kinds of threats and harassment by paramilitary groups operating on behalf of the state government; by the pirate radio operating under the permission of Ulises Ruiz Ortiz; and now by the federal police as well. It's clear that the work of the independent media presents an obstacle to the repressive actions carried out by the State.



Brad Will, Indymedia documentarist, lies dying on the street in Oaxaca after being shot.

**On Monday, Oct. 30, a huge demonstration took place at the Mexican consulate in New York City to protest the murder of Brad Will in Oaxaca. Watch as the police steal a reporter's camera.**

<http://mirror.video.blip.tv/FluxRostrum-nothinToSeeHereFullScreen527.mov>

The death of the North American journalist, Brad Will, at the hands of municipal functionaries who sympathize with Ulises Ruiz Ortiz is a clear example of the above

*continued on page 5*

## **South Korean Labor Media** *Continued from p. 2*

effects of night work, criticism on government and so on. And historical videos on: “Hyundai heavy industry trade union”, “Korea’s democratic labor union movement”, news reel on “general strike in 1997”, “subway workers’ strike in 1994”, “Daewoo motor worker struggle in 2001”.

We also made feature-length struggle documentaries on “the fired workers”, struggle of Korea telecommunication contract workers and others. Another one is about Samsung anti-union policy and surveillance workers. entitled “There Is A Big Brother.” Another one is about a non-regular worker’s death and struggle of Hyundai heavy industry. Some of our recent programs are educational videos co-produced with the KCTU metal federation about forming an industrial labor union. Another one was with public federation about the same subject. This has being made in a serial form for internet (at public federation home page).

In addition to production, another important area of Korean labor activities is training video activist through various training program by LNP and other organizations. As a result of these training, now we have three important groups of labor video activists.

The first one is our professional team (such as LNP). The second group is workers video collectives. Now, in many unions, workers are producing their own videos. The third group is professional independent documentary film makers. These three groups are producing a lot of videos and distributing through various media.

Workers video collectives are particularly the most important forces in the labor media. We at LNP have been organizing these workers video collective since 1993. We have trained workers about how to make videos and have made efforts to build a nation-wide organization. A nation-wide organization has not yet been formed, but organizations with a regional basis have been built and they are very active. The Seoul International Labor and Film Festival was actually intended to share workers’ videos and to give momentum to their works.

Recent change of media environment brought us new opportunities. This change is based on capitalist development which at the same time has been providing new weapons for the labor movement. As a result of new communication technological developments, we have various distribution methods including: union education time based on the contract, various forms of screening, labor film festival, broadcasting, internet, and other new media.

Let me briefly explain how we make use of labor media.

### **Broadcasting at workspaces**

In the company level, there are also changes of media environment and trade union’s intervention in the structure. For example, after few years of struggle, Hyundai Motor Union can air their program during the lunch time for the workers once a week based on the contract. Its contents are the union news, workers’ issue and workers’ struggle. But right now the Hyundai Motor union broadcasting is suspended. In the contract on the company cable broadcasting tv, there is an agreement that they—the union and the company—don’t blame each other. There is an ongoing dispute over this issue. At first the company refused to air union programs about the money scandal of Jung Mong Gu (The president of Hyundai Motor). He embezzled money from the company and then used it for bribing officials. So

the union said if you don’t air our video neither can yours be programmed. It’s about censorship. In the end, there has been no cable broadcasting since last April by either side. At the same time, the union broadcasting team has been screening at the main gates of the factory so that the union members can watch these videos when they are arriving and leaving the factory.

### **Internet**

The Internet is important means of media in the labor movement. For example, there are many cases which prove that the Internet is a powerful tool in our struggles in the public arena. In 2002, when the power plant workers went on strike, their tactics were to scatter as a small groups so they could not be arrested easily by the government. What was at issue was how to share the information among workers participating in the strike and how to make their struggle public to the ordinary citizens and in the public space. So they established a Web site for internal communication and external communication with help from various media activists. Contents of this kind of web site included not only text but also photos, audio, and videos. Now many unions and activist organizations are streaming audio-visual content through the web site.

### **Public Access Channel**

On the issue of satellite television, there is a public access channel called RTV. This year, RTV has been structurally changed into a more progressive channel. One of the changes is to launch 5 new regular biweekly programs. One of the new regular programs is about the labor issues and is produced by LNP. Contents of this program are labor news, counseling about workers’ problems, field reports, and analysis of capitalism. What is more, programs related to labor issues are sent out on the air.

### **Labor Internet Broadcasting of LNP**

Now I would like to give a brief introduction of LNP’s labor media projects we are planning. This is Labor Internet Broadcasting and its name is *Geobooki*—it means turtle. Our slogan is:

*Geobooki* is internet broadcasting.

*Geobooki* is not fast.

*Geobooki* is workers’ own broadcasting.

*Geobooki* is small but,

*Geobooki* is all about us.

*Geobooki* is a new window of LNP to working class.

#### *1. Background*

LNP is not only a labor movement group, but a media movement group which has devoted itself to a revolutionary social changes led by the working class. It has continued its works for 18 years. The *Geobooki* project starts with the need of expanding LNP’s activity, such as film making, education, and organizing workers video collective more openly. We don’t have many specified ideas, though we are trying to get into the process.

#### *2. Goals*

- a) To strengthen activities to meet working class directly.
- b) To expand contacts with the working class more closely to their daily lives.
- c) To deepen and widen understanding of working class interests.

*continued on page 4*

### 3. Activity

Firstly, we are planning video making. One thing we want to make is small video clips (5-10 minutes). Through these video clips, we would like to deal with current affairs, historical stories and people, family and love stories as well. The other thing is 'Somewhat Late News Clips' (2-3 minutes). We will deal with workers struggle and their problems through these news clips. We are planning to make small animations as well. The LNP has used many animations to make workers better understand their struggle. Workers like animations because they can understand them easily and enjoy them at the same time. There are some videos that are combined with animations and we have made a new video about 'What Capitalism is' using animations which has gained much popularity among workers.

Secondly, we are planning educational activities through the internet broadcasting. The education activities are intended to make 'workers video collectives'. Until now, education and training program for workers' video making was with face-to-face programs. Because of this limitation of face-to-face programs, workers in remote areas from Seoul couldn't easily get access to them. Even though workers completed the course, they felt it was still difficult to use their skills. Therefore, we felt we needed a new way of education and training which could keep the connection between instructors with workers on an ongoing basis. This on-line education and training program would give us more access to workers particularly who live far from Seoul on a regular basis.

Thirdly, we are making new distribution channels. We can distribute LNP's productions at first through the Internet. We've made more than 100. We will update them on the internet and share them. But we have not decided whether it would be free or not because distribution is the main source of fundraising for LNP. There are works of other workers video collectives as well. Through the Internet, we will try to share their works so that workers can assess them. We can also distribute labor video productions from abroad.

Fourth, we will make archives, including scripts, films and soundtracks.

Lastly, the opening of *Geobooki* would be in 2007. We are making the plans more concrete this year.

Neo-liberalism has attacked workers brutally, however I believe we can overcome these assaults. The past repression on workers created an engine of action by the workers' movement. Likewise, the neo-liberal attack makes workers unite even more strongly. Neo-liberalism gives workers a chance to make a defensive strategy. It also gives workers an opportunity to create a strategy beyond this capitalism and toward a new society. I believe at this time we should use this opportunity to make this new strategy with you as well. I hope we can fight together and make a labor media strategy against neo-liberalism. We in the LNP will do our best in solidarity with you. Thank you for listening.

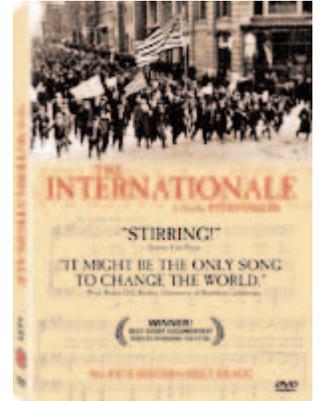
Jiyoung Lee, Chair  
Labor News Production  
[www.lnp89.org](http://www.lnp89.org)

## ***The Internationale:* A film by Peter Miller**

The Internationale chronicles the fascinating history of the legendary song written in 1871, after the brutal suppression of the Paris Commune. This rallying cry for all the oppressed and exploited people of the world to rise up and overthrow their masters was soon to be translated and sung in over a hundred languages throughout the world.

Featuring rare archival footage and performances and interviews with the likes of Billy Bragg and Pete Seeger, *The Internationale* explores the importance of ideals, the fate of the left, and the power of music as a force for change.

Winner, Best Documentary—Woodstock International Film Festival; Nominated for IDA Outstanding Documentary Achievement Awards in three categories



<http://firstrunfeatures.com/internationaledvd.html>

## **SaveJournalism.org Democracy Depends On It**



On Dec. 11, The Newspaper Guild-CWA members across the country joined together for a day of action to Save Journalism. They rallied, testified and focused members' and public attention on the harm that job cuts in the news industry causes to workers, communities, quality journalism and democracy itself.

TNG-CWA has launched a new web site, [www.savejournalism.org](http://www.savejournalism.org), with information about the jobs that have been lost and the effects these cutbacks have on quality news. The site also will include updates and other developments in the news industry.

**new video**

## ¡No Te Rajes!



Photo: ¡No Te Rajes!

Produced by Caitlin Manning and the Videoactivista collective, “¡No Te Rajes!” shows the movement of peaceful civil disobedience that took over the heart of Mexico City for 49 days July through September of this year. The movement was catalyzed by the fraudulent elections in July 2006. The documentary provides background and context for current wave of social movements in Mexico, and includes the Sept. 16 National Democratic Convention in El Zocalo in Mexico City which declared Obrador the true elected President.

Labor media activists will also appreciate one of the documentary’s sections that addresses Mexican media and the ‘dirty war’ in the media during the election campaign. “Many of the media outlets are in collaboration with the right. We are really sick of that”, one demonstrator says. Versions in either English and Spanish available. Contact for more info: [Caitlin\\_Manning@csumb.edu](mailto:Caitlin_Manning@csumb.edu)

**new video**

## The Virden/Mt. Olive Monuments: Honoring Coal Miner History



Photo: Labor Beat/Gary Brooks

*Detail of the new coal miners monument in Virden, Illinois.*

Video covers the Oct. 28th dedication of the monument for the Virden massacre in 1898 in Southern Illinois, with interviews, coal miner memorabilia, a fire-breathing speech by UMWA President Cecil Roberts, plus the commemoration ceremony at the Mother Jones monument only a few miles away in Mt. Olive, Illinois. 27 min. For a dvd, indicate title and mail \$15 to: Labor Beat, 37 S. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60607. For more info: [mail@laborbeat.org](mailto:mail@laborbeat.org), 312-226-3330.

## Independent Media Orgs in Oaxaca *Continued from p. 2*

mentioned situation. Despite the scandal generated by his death, the situation has become even more precarious for those of us working as organizations, collectives, and independent journalists.

Examples are: Calls for aggression against “foreign” reporters, on the so-called “Citizen Radio,” generating a xenophobic campaign against anyone who isn’t Oaxacan; direct death threats against journalists; the theft of their footage; physical attacks and threats with firearms.

As independent journalists we also condemn the interference of University Radio’s broadcast as a violation of university autonomy and the freedom of speech protected by the Mexican Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

We oppose the differentiation between officially accredited media outlets and the independent media, because we are all working to provide information.

For the above mentioned reasons, we hold Ulises Ruiz Ortiz and President Vicente Fox Quesada responsible for anything that might happen to any member of the below signed organizations and collectives, or to any other journalist.

Sincerely,

Agencia Popular de Fotografía Lok’tavanej  
Bibaani, A.C.  
Canal 6 de Julio  
Centro de Información y Documentación Comunitaria  
Yagavila  
Centro de Medio Libres DF  
Colectivo Chanti Ollín  
Colectivo Radio Zapote  
Convergencia de Colectivos de la ENAH  
Editorial Lucía Zenteno  
Estéreo Comunal  
Frente Oaxaqueño de Comunicación Alternativa  
Indymedia Oaxaca  
Kehuelga Radio  
Mal de Ojo TV  
OaxacaLibre  
Ojo de Agua Comunicación  
Radio Bemba  
Radio Chapingo  
Radio Guetza  
Radio Maíz  
Radio Molocha  
Radio Nandiá  
Radio Pacheco  
Radio Plantón  
Radio Reforma  
Radio Sabotaje  
Radio Tupa Oaxaca  
Radio Universidad  
Red de Radios Comunitarias del Istmo  
(Radio Ayuuk, Radio Ikoots, Radio Umalalang, Radio Totopo, Radio Huave)  
Corrugated Films  
Indymedia Barcelona  
Indymedia NYC  
Kaos en la Red  
La Haine.org  
Organización Inglesa de Periodistas

## new book on media

# Urban Nightmares: The Media, the Right, and the Moral Panic over the City

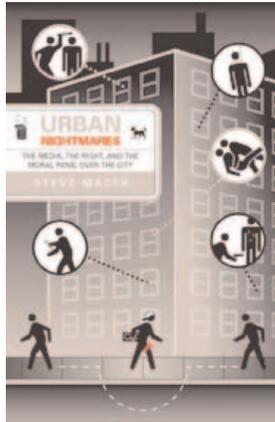
[www.upress.umn.edu/Books/M/macek\\_urban.html](http://www.upress.umn.edu/Books/M/macek_urban.html)

A hard-hitting look at the role of right-wing ideologues and the mass media in demonizing urban America, by Steve Macek.

“Sets out to prove that many of the negative stereotypes about cities are largely based on the biased coverage of an unrelenting media whose infamous macabre motto is ‘If it bleeds, it leads.’” —*Naperville Sun*

University of Minnesota Press.

Winner of the Urban Communication Foundation Publication Award.



## New Film on Women and Globalization in Asia

# Transnational Tradeswomen



*Kausar and Fatima, two sisters working as laborers at a construction site outside Lahore, Pakistan, 2005.*

[www.hardhatvideo.com](http://www.hardhatvideo.com)

Transnational Tradeswomen looks at issues facing women construction workers in 6 Asian countries: Thailand, Taiwan, India, Pakistan, Singapore and Japan. The film’s significance is to make connections among the conditions facing women workers in Asia and parts of the global North without resorting to universal categories or solutions. Transnational Tradeswomen examines the gendering of work in various economic and cultural contexts, as well as the impact of globalization on the employment of poor women who do manual labor. In this era of outsourcing and emphasis on call centers, etc., it’s important for people not to imagine that everyone is becoming middle class!

More info: Vivian Price, [vprice@csudh.edu](mailto:vprice@csudh.edu)

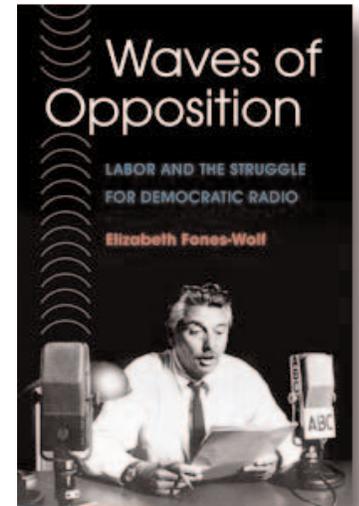
## new book on labor media

# Waves of Opposition: Labor and the Struggle for Democratic Radio

A riveting look at the rise and fall of labor radio in the U.S. by Elizabeth Fones-Wolf

[www.press.uillinois.edu/s06/fones-wolf.html](http://www.press.uillinois.edu/s06/fones-wolf.html)

In *Waves of Opposition*, Elizabeth Fones-Wolf describes and analyzes the battles over the powerful new medium of radio, which helped spark the massive upsurge of organized labor during the Depression. She demonstrates its importance as a weapon in an ideological war between labor and business, where corporations used radio to sing the praises of individualism and consumerism, while unions emphasized equal rights, industrial democracy, and social justice.



Organized chronologically, the work explores the advent of local labor radio stations such as WCFL and WEVD, labor’s anti-censorship campaigns, and unionist experiments with early FM broadcasting. Through extensive use of business and union archives, as well as broadcasting industry records, Fones-Wolf demonstrates how radio became a key component of organized labor’s efforts to contest businesses’ domination of political discourse throughout the thirties, forties, and fifties. *Waves of Opposition* concludes by claiming that labor’s virtual disappearance from American media today helps explain in part why unions have become so marginalized and offers important historical lessons to those seeking to revitalize organized labor.

This book is a volume in *The History of Communication* series, edited by Robert W. McChesney and John C. Nerone

Elizabeth Fones-Wolf is a professor of history at West Virginia University, and the author of the award-winning *Selling Free Enterprise: The Business Assault on Labor and Liberalism, 1945-1960*.

## **SEIU 503 educational video on what community access is and how to use it for labor**

This video produced by Oregon SEIU Local 503 shows how a union local or labor media activists can establish a regular labor TV show. 14 minutes

<http://indybay.org/uploads/2006/10/27/seiu503-howtostart.mov>

## US & Canadian Labor Broadcast Programs\*

Show Title, Producer, City/Station, Phone No.

*Fighting Back*, Ralph Kessler, Berkeley, CA, 510-845-9285, KUSF 90.3 FM  
*David Bacon on Labor*, David Bacon, Berkeley, CA, 510-549-0291, KPSA 94.1 FM  
*Labor Line*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, SFLR 93.7 FM,  
*Working LA*, Henry Walton, Panorama City, CA, 818-894-4079, KPFK 90.7 FM  
*Talking Union*, Larry Dorman, Rock Hill, CT, 880-571-6191, WATR 1320 AM  
*Labor Express*, Jerry Mead, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, WLUW 88.7 FM  
*Labor Beat*, Larry Duncan, Chicago, IL, 312-226-3330, Chan. 19, cable tv  
*Illinois Labor Hour*, Bill Gorrell, Champaign, IL, 217-359-9338, WEFT 90.1 FM  
*AFSCME On-Line*, Dan Hart, Dorchester, MA, 617-266-3496, cable-tv  
*Heartland Labor Forum*, Judy Ancel, Kansas City, MO, 816-235-1470, KKFJ 90.1 FM  
*Minnesota at Work*, Howard Kling, Minneapolis, MN, 612-624-5020, MCN Cable  
*Building Bridges*, Ken Nash, New York, NY, 212-815-1699, WBAI 99.5 FM  
*Communique*, Bill Henning, New York, NY, 212-228-6565, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*It's Your City, It's Our Job*, Rudy Orozco, New York, NY, 212-815-1535, WNYE 91.5 FM  
*State of the Union*, Lillian Roberts, New York, Channels 34  
*America's Work Force*, Jerrod Sorkey, Eastlake, OH, 440-975-4262, WERE 1300 AM  
*Boiling Point*, Michael Wood, Cincinnati, OH, 513-961-4348, WAIF 88.3 FM  
*Talking Union*, John Lavin, Norristown, PA, 610-660-3372, WHAT 1340 AM  
*Labor on the Job*, Steve Zeltzer, San Fran., CA, 415-282-1908, BUT Ch. 29 cable  
*Rhode Island Labor Vision*, Chuck Schwartz, Cranston, RI, 401-463-9900, Ch. 14, cable-tv  
*Talkin' Union Labor*, Rick Levy, Austin, TX, 512-477-6195 internet radio  
*Which Side Are You On?*, Hal Leyshon, Middlesex, VT, 802-223-4172, radio  
*Radio Labor Journal*, Bil Borders, Everett, WA, 425-921-3454, KSER 90.7 FM  
*WIN*, Frank Emspak, Madison, WI, 608) 262-0680, www.laborradio.org  
*LaborVision*, John Webb, St. Louis, MO, 314-962-4163, DHTV,  
*OPEU Productions*, Wes Brain, Ashland, OR, 541-482-6988, cable-tv  
*Labor Link TV*, Fred Lonidier, La Jolla, CA, 619-552-0740, cable-tv,  
*First Tuesday*, Leo Canty, Connecticut, 860-257-9782, cable-tv,  
*Letter Carriers*, Carl Bryant, San Fran., CA, 415-885-0375, Today TV 214, cable-tv,  
*726 Express*, Stewart Ransom, New York, NY, 718-761-6681, Staten Is. Cable  
*Rank-And-File*, Larry Maglio, New York, NY, N.A, Staten Is. Cable  
*Labor on the Line*, David King, Portland, OR  
*working TV*, Julius Fisher, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 604-253-6222  
*Labor Radio*, Bill Zimmerman, Portland, OR, 360-695-6552  
*PM Primetimes Labor Show*, Larry Johnson, www.gmptoday.org, Kokomo, IN  
*Working New York*, Mario Cilento, www.nysaficio.org, Albany, NY, 212-777-6040  
*Working; It with Jackie Guerra on Air America Radio*, Alexandra Lescaze, 917-696-2494

\*This list may not be complete. Additions contact:  
UPPNET News editor Larry Duncan at: [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)

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Wes Brain, producer *OPEU Productions*, Ashland, OR, [brain@mind.net](mailto:brain@mind.net)

Leo Canty, producer *First Tuesday*, Connecticut, [unionleo@aol.com](mailto:unionleo@aol.com)

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Ken Nash, Co-producer *Building Bridges: Your Community and Labor Report*, WBAI

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John Speier, 616-375-4638, producer, *Solidarity*, [Acclaimvideo@igc.org](mailto:Acclaimvideo@igc.org)

Steve Zeltzer, producer *Labor on The Job*, San Francisco, [lvpsf@labornet.org](mailto:lvpsf@labornet.org)

Myoung Joon Kim, participating international observer, Seoul, Korea, [mjikim@mediact.org](mailto:mjikim@mediact.org)

For more information about UPPNET:

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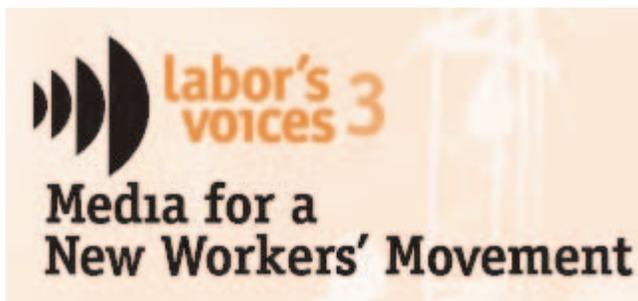
e-mail address: [jsee@csom.umn.edu](mailto:jsee@csom.umn.edu)

UPPNET News editor: Larry Duncan, [lduncan@igc.org](mailto:lduncan@igc.org)

## UPPNET OBJECTIVES:

1. To promote and expand the production and use of television and radio shows pertinent to the cause of organized labor and the issues relevant to all working people.
2. To establish and promote the general distribution and circulation of this programming.
3. To address issues regarding the media and its fair and democratic use and accessibility by labor and other constituencies generally.
4. To encourage and promote the preservation of television and radio broadcasts pertinent to labor.
5. To establish a code of ethic governing television and radio production practices and other such matters UPPNET may determine as relevant to its work.
6. To require all productions to work under a collective bargaining agreement, secure waivers or work in agreement with any television or movie industry union having jurisdiction in the area.

[www.uppnet.org](http://www.uppnet.org)



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**April 26-28, 2007**

**CUNY Graduate Center**

**34th Street and Fifth Avenue, New York, NY**

Join hundreds of grass roots activist, journalist, organizers, labor communicators and media-makers who are organizing workers and communities into a new and vital movement. Labor's Voices 3 is an opportunity to:

- Explore media's role in organizing and building a new workers' movement;
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- Discuss labor media and media reform to amplify workers voices;
- Develop a national labor media strategy.

In 2000 and 2002, Labor's Voices Conference 1 and 2 challenged labor communicators to become more relevant to union members and unorganized workers by engaging them through a democratic media.

[www.laborsvoices.org](http://www.laborsvoices.org)

# The Brain Labor Report

Monday - Friday 7 am

Wes Brain, Producer; Jason Houk, Engineer

We are pleased to announce a new radio program which quietly started on November 8, 2006. We did our first three shows already, yahoo! The Brain Labor Report is live every morning Monday thru Friday for 1/2 hour at 7:00 a.m. through the awesome community services of KSKQ. We can be listened to each morning on the internet, streaming radio at:

[www.kskq.org](http://www.kskq.org)

## The Brain Labor Report looks like this:

Workers Independent News is the anchor for our daily show. [www.laborradio.org](http://www.laborradio.org)

We play labor songs. Anne Feeney's "War on the Workers" opens up each show right at 7:00 a.m. [www.annefeeny.com](http://www.annefeeny.com)

We talk about the many struggles of working people reporting the stories and perspectives of the working class that are ignored by mainstream media.

We have interviews each day usually with local, but sometimes with national community leaders, activists, students, union and a wide assortment of ordinary working people.

**For UPPNET News back Issues:**  
[www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm](http://www.laborbeat.org/3/uppnetnl.htm)

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