

Democracy Now!'s Amy Goodman To Write Weekly Newspaper Column

**King Features Set to Launch
"Amy Goodman: Breaking the Sound Barrier"
Tues., Oct. 24**



(NEW YORK – Investigative journalist Amy Goodman, host of the extraordinarily popular award-winning news program Democracy Now!, will bring her frank analysis of politics, the media and current affairs to print in a new nationally syndicated column for newspapers. King Features Syndicate will distribute "Amy Goodman: Breaking the Sound Barrier" weekly beginning Tues., Oct. 24, 2006.

Writing in her introductory column about the distinction her commentary might bring to an already crowded field of opinion writers, Goodman says, "My goal as a journalist is to break the sound barrier. To cut through the static and bring forth voices that are not usually heard. I am not talking about a fringe minority, or the 'Silent Majority,' but a silenced majority, increasingly restless, of people who are looking for alternative sources of information in a complex world.

"My column will include voices so often excluded, people whose views the media mostly ignore, issues they distort and even ridicule," she said.

>King Features managing editor Glenn Mott said, "Amy Goodman's syndicated column is unique, in that it brings an award-winning journalist and firebrand from independent media to the increasingly incessant media-doom of partisan talking heads.

"King Features Syndicate is proud to represent Amy Goodman in print because her energy and passion for the truth inspires and rouses readers young and old from across the political spectrum," Mott said. "Her unrestrained commentary from the front lines resonates with a generation that has an uncanny ability to spot the inauthentic in any discourse. Goodman's stories go where the silence is, to report on the people and places caught in the middle, the ones most directly affected by policy debates, war and social issues. Her frank analysis of the issues is fearless and cuts through the turbid static. "Goodman has said, 'I see the media as a huge kitchen table that stretches across the country, one where we all sit around to debate and discuss the most critical issues of the day: war and peace, life and death. Anything less than that is a disservice to a democratic society.' In practice, Goodman's is a civic journalism with a belief in the craft's obligation to public life. Her syndicated column is meant for people who want to read the news and analyze its content, not just for information's sake, but for thought."

Amy Goodman: Award-Winning Journalist

Amy Goodman began her career in journalism at Pacifica Radio's New York station, WBAI, where she produced WBAI's Evening News for 10 years. In 1991, Goodman traveled to East Timor to report on the Indonesian occupation of East Timor. There, she and colleague Allan Nairn witnessed Indonesian soldier gun down 270 East Timorese men, women and children during a memorial procession. Indonesian soldiers savagely beat Goodman and Nairn, fracturing Nairn's skull. Their documentary, "Massacre: The Story of East Timor," won numerous awards, including

the Robert F. Kennedy Prize for International Reporting, the Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia Award, the Armstrong Award, the Radio/Television News Directors Award, as well as awards from the Associated Press, United Press International and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

As co-founder, executive producer and host, Goodman helped launch Pacifica Radio's Democracy Now! in 1996. Today, the independent, award-winning news program airs daily on more than 500 public broadcast stations in North America. In 1998, Goodman and producer Jeremy Scahill went to Nigeria. Their award-winning radio documentary, "Drilling and Killing: Chevron and Nigeria's Oil Dictatorship," exposed Chevron's role in the killing of two Nigerian villagers who were protesting yet another oil spill in their community. In 1999, Goodman traveled to Peru to interview American political prisoner Lori Berenson. It was the first time a journalist had ever gotten into the prison to speak to her.

In March 2004, Goodman obtained the international broadcast exclusive of the return of Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide from his imposed exile in the Central African Republic to Jamaica, accompanying the Aristides with the delegation that retrieved them. Her coverage of the Haitian story scored more than 3.5 million hits on Democracy Now!'s Web site, ultimately forcing the story into the mainstream press in what Goodman describes as "trickle up" journalism.

In addition to writing her syndicated editorial column, Goodman is co-author, with her brother and investigative journalist David Goodman, of the book *Static: Government Liars, Media Cheerleaders and the People Who Fight Back* (Hyperion, 2006). The pair also co-wrote the national best-seller *The Exception to the Rulers: Exposing Oily Politicians, War Profiteers, and the Media That Love Them*. The book was chosen by independent bookstores as the No. 1 political title of the 2004 election season and ranked as one of the top 50 nonfiction books of 2004 by the editors of Publishers Weekly.

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