

For Immediate Release
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CPTV to Air New Documentary *Born to Lead: Jim Calhoun* Exploring the Life and Career of the Former UConn Men’s Basketball Coach

**Program Premieres on CPTV on Thursday, November 6 at 8 p.m., with Encore
Presentations Airing Sunday, November 9 at 7 p.m. and Monday, November 17 at 9 p.m.
on CPTV and Sunday, November 16 at 8 p.m. on CPTV Sports**

HARTFORD, Conn. (October 21, 2014) – Connecticut Public Television (CPTV) is pleased to announce that it will air the broadcast premiere of the new documentary *Born to Lead: Jim Calhoun* on Thursday, November 6 at 8 p.m. This film provides a unique look at the life and career of Jim Calhoun, whose powerhouse coaching legacy includes 26 years spent as head coach of the University of Connecticut men’s basketball team. Encore presentations of the film will air throughout the month on CPTV and CPTV Sports, CPTV’s 24/7 local sports channel.

Calhoun has come to be thought of as one of the greatest coaches in college basketball history, having led his UConn players to three NCAA titles in 12 years and making the UConn men’s basketball program one of the most accomplished in the country in the process. Calhoun’s leadership style, motivational tactics and run-ins with the media are the stuff of legend, as is the tough-love commitment he showed to his players. This new film explores his larger-than-life persona, but also provides insight into a softer side of the former coach not often seen by fans, and explores his past with archival materials never before shared with the public.

Born to Lead: Jim Calhoun features 70 percent original material, including interviews with more than 30 members of Calhoun’s “inner circle” — from Kevin Ollie, who succeeded Calhoun upon his retirement in 2012, to Ray Allen and Ben Gordon, former UConn players who went on to achieve professional basketball success.

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The film also includes footage of Calhoun being honored at the 2005 Basketball Hall of Fame Enshrinement Ceremony; a tour of Madison Square Garden with Calhoun, who reflects on the greatest shots in Big East history from the spots on the court where they took place; and much more!

Produced and directed by six-time Emmy Award winner Chris Martens and co-produced by screenwriter, producer and award-winning writer L.C. Cragg, *Born to Lead: Jim Calhoun* tells a story of underdog determination, human compassion and one very unique three-time NCAA champion.

The Broadcast Premiere Sponsors of *Born to Lead: Jim Calhoun* are Webster Bank and Hartford HealthCare.

About Connecticut Public Television

CPTV is a media service of the Connecticut Public Broadcasting Network (CPBN). It is a locally and nationally recognized producer and presenter of quality public television programming, including original documentaries, public affairs shows and educational programming. CPTV has built a reputation as a leader in children's programming, including playing an historic role in bringing *Barney & Friends*TM, *Bob the Builder*TM and *Thomas & Friends*TM to public television. The station offers 11.5 hours of positive, nurturing children's programs each weekday, reaching 450,000 households each week. The Connecticut Public Broadcasting Network also includes WNPR, an affiliate of National Public Radio, Public Radio International and American Public Media. WNPR serves 276,000 listeners weekly in Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island with news and information. Its award-winning local programming includes *The Faith Middleton Show*, *The Colin McEnroe Show* and *Where We Live*. CPBN also includes two affiliate channels: CPTV4U, a 24/7 television channel featuring award-winning drama, news and talk programming, concert performances, independent films, nature shows, British comedy and more; and CPTV Sports, Connecticut's only 24-hour local sports network, covering statewide high school, college, semi-professional and professional sports. CPBN also houses the Learning Lab, home to the Journalism & Media Academy Magnet School satellite campus and the Veterans Vocational Training Program. For more information, visit CPTV.org.

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