

NET Television's "Mind Over Murder" Assesses & Analyzes Criminal Behavior

LINCOLN, Neb. (April 22, 2010) -- A troubled youth turns to violence in a crowded upscale department store. A pregnant woman is the victim of a heinous and brutal murder. Answering an ad, a man is kept captive and subjected to sadistic torture.

These are not fictional scenarios, but actual crimes. Crimes in which criminal profiling or behavioral analysis led to the capture of the perpetrator, or assisted in the understanding of the motivation behind the crime.

"Mind Over Murder," a new NET Television documentary premiering Wednesday, May 5, at 9 p.m. CT on NET1 and in high-definition on NET-HD, examines how behavioral research can team with old school detective work to get inside the criminal mind to prevent a crime.

Retired Nebraska State Patrol profiler and current Nebraska Wesleyan University (NWU) criminal profiling instructor Gary Plank recounts his involvement in two Nebraska-based cases -- a North Platte murder and dismemberment and a Wayne, Neb., imprisonment and sexual torture.

The hour-long program also follows NWU students through simulated cases to develop their techniques in behavioral research and criminal analysis.

Forensic psychologists Mario Scalora (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) and Reid Meloy (University of California, San Diego) discuss threat assessment and target violence training. Concern about the credibility of, and importance given to, psychological speculation in a courtroom is voiced by Creighton University School of Law professor Ranetta Mack.

Additional videos and educational materials relating to crime scene investigation are available at a special website: netNebraska.org/csiNebraska.

"Mind Over Murder" can also be seen on Monday, May 10, at 10 p.m. CT on NET1 and NET-HD, as well as Saturday, May 8, at 10 p.m. CT and Sunday, May 9, at 9 p.m. on NET2. The program contains frank discussions of crime and sexual violence. Viewer discretion is advised.

"Mind Over Murder" is a production of NET Television. NET1, NET2 and NET-HD are part of NET Television, a service of NET. For a complete television program schedule, visit NET's Web site (netNebraska.org/television).

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NET Television:

NET1 is Nebraska's first public television broadcast service and includes PBS and award-winning, locally produced public television programming. NET1 programming is also obtainable on Dish and DirectTV satellite networks in available areas; **NET2** offers live coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral, and other news and public affairs programming; **NET3** is a 24-hour channel featuring the most popular how-to, travel and lifestyle series; and **NET-HD** presents high-definition digital broadcast programming displayed in a wide-screen format.