

Author and Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist Is Journalism Week Keynote Speaker Nov. 6

Contributed by Deborah Purnell
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Nick Kotz

OXFORD, Miss. - Nick Kotz, author and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, delivers the keynote address Thursday (Nov. 6) during fall 2008 Journalism Week at the University of Mississippi.

Kotz is slated to speak at 9:30 a.m. in the Overby Center auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

"We believe the best way to teach journalism in practice is to combine classroom and newsroom, so it's very important for us to get professionals to come to our students and our students to talk to top professionals in a classroom setting," said Samir Husni, journalism chair and Hederman Lecturer.

Kotz is best known for his 2005 book "Judgment Days: Lyndon Baines Johnson, Martin Luther King Jr., and the Laws that Changed America." Kotz won a Pulitzer Prize for national reporting in 1968 covering unsanitary conditions of meat packing plants, which helped ensure passage of the Federal Wholesome Meat Act in 1967.

As a freelance writer and as a reporter for the Des Moines Register and Washington Post, Kotz has won other honors, including the Sigma Delta Chi Award, Raymond Clapper Memorial Award and the inaugural Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Award. His study of American military leadership won the National Magazine Award for public service.

Kotz's other books include "Wild Blue Yonder: Money, Politics, and the B-1 Bomber," "Let Them Eat Promises: The Politics of Hunger" and "A Passion for Equality: George Wiley and the Movement" with wife Mary Lynn Kotz.

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