

Willamette Week

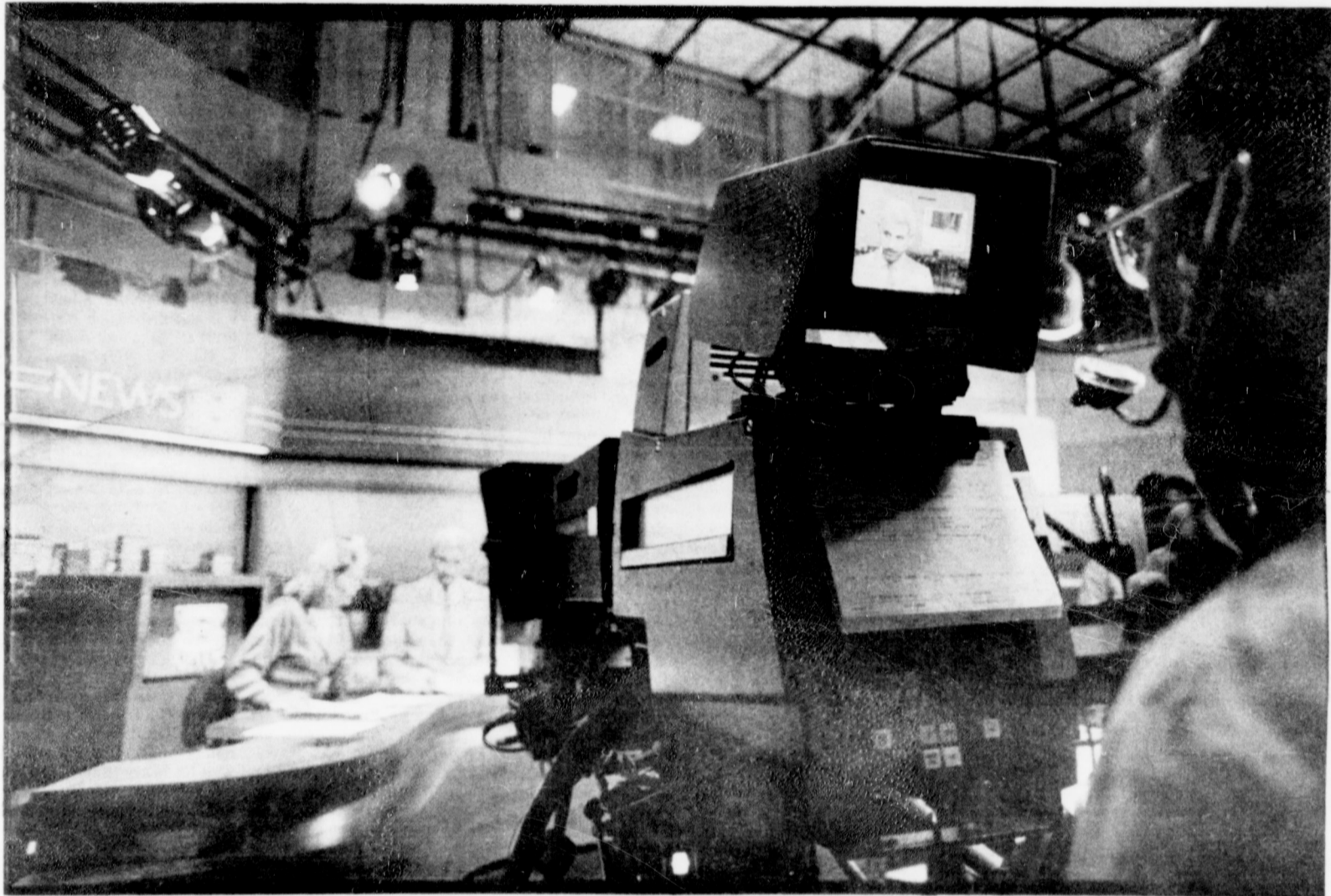
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MEDIA GUIDE '87



The News at

Behind the scenes at KGW news

By BRENT WALSH

ONLY MOMENTS before reporter Tim Storrs dashed out the door of KGW-TV's newsroom, he thought April 7 would be an average news day. The stories that were slated for that day included teachers strikes in Coos Bay and Eugene, pit bulls, liability insurance and another Rose Festival princess.

But when the call came from a source within the Police Bureau — "Clark just fired Davis" — Storrs, a pen in his mouth and his coat half on, flew into action.

From that moment on, April 7 would be anything but typical for Storrs and the KGW staff. The surprising news that Mayor Bud Clark had fired Police Chief James Davis and within hours named Richard Walker as Davis' successor altered the day's agenda in newsrooms across the city.

Over the next 16 hours, KGW would put together what was probably the day's most comprehensive coverage of the firing, including two

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special reports and a half-hour show that night. In all, KGW would devote nearly 60 minutes of air time to the story — twice as much as any other station and coverage as complete as the *The Oregonian's* the next day.

Despite its potential for such solid reporting, Please turn to page 9