

U.S. MASS MEDIA—A PATHETIC COMMUNICATOR

“It is not the thing to do,” began Dr. Steven Porter in a statement from his home today, “to criticize the American media, particularly when one is in the political arena. But it is doing such a pathetic job at educating the public that comment is long overdue.”

Porter, who opposes Congressman Phil English in the 3rd district of Pennsylvania, referred to a TV program aired last night on the History channel. “Elizabeth Vargas narrated a report on the real dangers which face our planet,” said Porter. “The program counted down from the tenth most cataclysmic event to the first. Numbers ten through four were galactic or geological events over which we have little (albeit some) control: things like being hit by a meteorite or suffering a super massive volcanic eruption.

“World-famous scientists and political leaders were on commenting as the dangers were discussed one-by-one,” said Porter. “Stephen Hawking stated that the dangers posed by man himself were infinitely more serious than those posed by the cosmos, and it is the lack of reporting on these that shows how pathetic our media really is.

“The three most dire dangers which confront us today, according to the program,” said Porter, “are nuclear war, biologically manufactured plague, and environmental catastrophe. And these dangers are real and immediate. But unless one watches the History channel late on a Sunday night, we really don’t get the impact of the danger.

“So here’s the challenge, PA-03 media. Why not get the History channel program (entitled “The Last Days on Earth”), watch it in your corporate board rooms, and then start to report on it daily and with urgency to the American people. Forego the local fire on 28th St. or the jail time of Paris Hilton for a little while. Stop selling your irrelevancies and deal with the issues of critical global importance. And while you are at it, try publishing the contents of HR 676, the universal health care bill, and the list of those crimes for which the Bush administration might be impeached.

“Given a choice between the media in this nation and representatives like Phil English,” Porter concluded, “it is hard to choose which does more harm, they are both so pathetic.”