



## The Highly-Acclaimed Film, *Bobby 'Slick' Leonard: Heart of a Hoosier*, Arrives on WFYI Public Television This August

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Following more than 16 months of exhaustive research, on-location filming and marathon production sessions, Hoosier filmmaker Ted Green's highly-acclaimed film, *Bobby 'Slick' Leonard: Heart of a Hoosier* — featuring original music written and performed by **Dr. Tyron Cooper of Indiana University-Bloomington** — will make its broadcast debut on **WFYI Public Television** this August!

The film will premiere **Thursday, August 7 at 9 p.m.**, on **WFYI 1 Public Television** — on the eve of Leonard's formal induction into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. A special encore presentation of the film will air **Sunday, August 10 at 8 p.m.** The broadcast will feature LIVE in-studio segments hosted by the film's Emmy award-winning producer, **Ted Green**; **Bill Benner**, Senior Vice President of Corporate, Community and Public Relations for Pacers Sports & Entertainment; and **Lloyd Wright**, President and CEO of WFYI Public Media. During the two-hour broadcast event, DVDs of *Bobby 'Slick' Leonard: Heart of a Hoosier* will be offered exclusively to WFYI viewers as thank you gifts for contributions in support of the station. (The DVD is currently unavailable for purchase.) A brief preview of the program can be viewed online at [wfyi.org/slick](http://wfyi.org/slick).

Through captivating interviews and a rich collection of archival footage, *Bobby 'Slick' Leonard: Heart of a Hoosier* explores in vivid detail the epic events and historic milestones that helped shape the 82-year-old's extraordinary career in basketball. But for the film's producer, it was Leonard's remarkable charisma that he most wanted to capture with this film. "There's an aura about Bobby. He's really bigger than basketball. He's taken hold of this state," Green said, adding "the Bobby Leonard story is not so much a sports story, but rather a story with themes of family and heart — one that will bring people together."

Many Hoosiers know Leonard as the flamboyant coach who led the Indiana Pacers to championships and record-breaking seasons in the American Basketball Association. While a younger generation knows him as the colorful radio announcer who coined the iconic phrase '*Boom, Baby.*' And while these events may have helped shape Leonard's storied career; it was his tough childhood during the Great Depression, in Terre Haute, Indiana, that ultimately molded his character. As Green notes, Leonard was helped by many people during these challenging years. And he, in turn, has made it his life calling to help others.

**Bobby 'Slick' Leonard: Heart of a Hoosier** features an all-star cast that includes **Larry Bird, Jerry West, Reggie Miller, Senator Richard Lugar, Tommy John and Bob Pettit**. The film also includes rare interviews with Leonard's childhood friends, family, and his former high school, college and professional basketball teammates.

**Bobby 'Slick' Leonard: Heart of a Hoosier** is produced by Ted Green Films, in collaboration with WFYI Public Television. The film is presented by the Indiana Pacers, CNO Financial Group and The Samarian Foundation and The Herbert Simon Family Foundation. Contributing sponsors include: Donald Moffitt, Peter Obremskey, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, James Dye and Jeff Smulyan.

**About WFYI Public Media:**

For more than four decades, WFYI Public Media has served as a center of discovery for all ages. WFYI's diverse public radio and television programs and services provide a foundation for early learning, inspire curiosity and serve as a catalyst for lifelong learning. To learn more about WFYI Public Media's programs and educational services, visit the station's website — [www.wfyi.org](http://www.wfyi.org), "like" us on Facebook, or follow along on Twitter (@wfyi and @wfyinews).

**About Ted Green Films, LLC:**

Since 2010, TGFilms has produced, in collaboration with WFYI, five documentaries -- John Wooden: The Indiana Story; Hoosier Veterans: Faces of War; Naptown to Super City; Undeclared: The Roger Brown Story; and Bobby "Slick" Leonard: Heart of a Hoosier. (The first three were also in conjunction with The Indianapolis Star.) Green's work has been recognized with five regional Emmy Awards and numerous national honors. For more information, go to [tedgreenfilms.com](http://tedgreenfilms.com).

**About Pacers Sports & Entertainment:**

Pacers Sports & Entertainment (PS&E) is the corporate identity exemplified by the Indiana Pacers, Indiana Fever, Bankers Life Fieldhouse and Pacers Foundation, Inc. Its team of inspired and dedicated employees promises to deliver quality entertainment and unparalleled service. For more information, go to [www.pacers.com](http://www.pacers.com) or [www.bankerslifefieldhouse.com](http://www.bankerslifefieldhouse.com)

**About CNO Financial Group:**

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