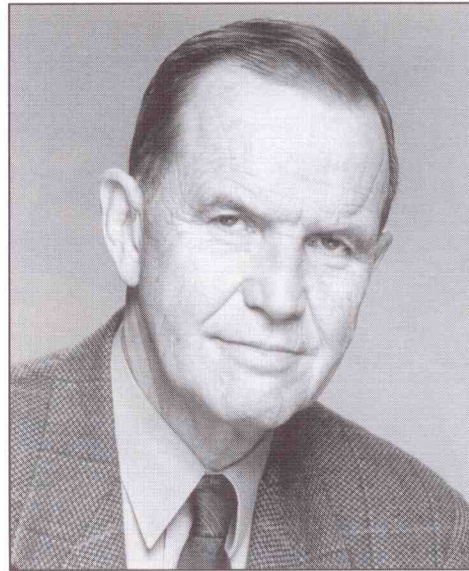


# John Drummond



John Drummond has a reputation for taking on stories like a Bulldog—which also happens to be his nickname. He is dogged, determined, a stickler for details, blessed with what he calls a freak memory. And he holds a Master's Degree in Political Science. That has made the difference.

Drummond was working on that Master's Degree at the University of Minnesota, when he got a chance to study at The Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. It was a summer program that changed his life, because it gave him on-the-job training in broadcast news. He began working for radio stations in Iowa, and got his first television job at WREX-TV in Rockford, Illinois--mainly because he poured beer well. That's what he had to do in live commercials for the sports news, sponsored by a beer distributor. He returned to Iowa to cover the legislature for WHO in Des Moines.

Drummond moved to Chicago to take a job with WIND Radio, and arrived in time to see the streets explode in demonstrations following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and during the 1968 Democratic Convention, and into the 1969 Days of Rage. That same year he joined WBBM-TV. He turned his reporter's eye from the violence in the streets to what he recognized as a paramilitary organization that had been operating in the region for 50 years. It was organized crime, and it made his career.

Drummond's reporting on the mob is legendary, covering Anthony "Big Tuna" Accardo and Joey "The Doves" Aiuppa. It is a difficult beat to cover because it takes a reporter who can understand its arcane organization, and has a great memory for detail. Drummond is that reporter. He has won six Emmy Awards and in 1997, he was inducted into the Chicago Journalism Hall of Fame.