

## Network Anchor

BEING THERE

» A year ago, Cincinnati native and Fox News Channel anchor **BILL HEMMER** spent 10 days reporting from Haiti in the aftermath of the January 12 earthquake. Though not new to crisis coverage—he's reported on the Ft. Hood shooting; military conflicts from Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Iraq; the September 11 attacks; and Hurricane Katrina—he counts the Haitian story as one of the most dramatic and difficult.

**WHAT WAS REMARKABLE ABOUT THE HAITIAN EXPERIENCE** was that we were traveling to the moon. We had to bring everything with us. This is an island nation, surrounded by water, with no electricity, in absolute devastation. We were able to fly into Haiti with three small suitcases that contained a computer and a satellite uplink...and tell our story to the world.

**VERY FEW PEOPLE EVER WITNESS A TRAGEDY ON** that scale. It was street after street, block after block. You could drive for an hour or for eight hours and the images seldom changed. Concrete. Pancaked buildings. We see a lot of things in our business, but no one was prepared for the amount of destruction that hit Port-au-Prince.

**I TRIED TO TAKE VIEWERS THROUGH MY DAY: WE WOKE** up. We found this soccer field. In this soccer field, there were 3,000 people tucked beneath colored tents. There was one doctor to provide service to 3,000 people. We've seen a baby born. We've seen the amputation of a leg.

**THAT COUNTRY'S BEEN RIPPED OFF BY ITS GOVERNMENT** for decades. All the aid and all the help that's gone into Haiti has gone down a black hole. Will the government meet its promises? Will other countries, including the United States, continue with aid? I believe the U.S. will because it led the entire way in this effort.

**ALL TRAGEDIES ARE UNIQUE. KATRINA IS DIFFERENT** from a bridge collapse in Minneapolis. A bridge collapse is different from a war in the Middle East. The difference in Haiti is that the world shook for 30 seconds and the lives of an entire generation of people were altered forever.

— PATRICIA GALLAGHER NEWBERRY



### VITAL STATS

#### Morning in America

Hemmer co-hosts Fox's morning news show, *America's Newsroom with Martha MacCallum*. "I get up at 5. We run and gun right up until show time. If you're not hitting the door at 110 mph, your colleagues will fly right by you."

#### Career Plan

Hemmer tells college students to take a hike to get ahead. That's what the Miami University grad did at age 27, ditching sports reporting and anchoring positions at WCPO-TV, traveling the globe, and then, in 1995, parlaying his newfound world knowledge into a 10-year gig at CNN.

#### Mrs. Hemmer

**TBA**  
Now 46, Hemmer has four married siblings and 11 nieces and nephews. "My sisters and brothers have taken all the pressure off me," he says, regarding his own plans for family. His parents, both 71, provide the model for a happy marriage. "To be able to have that kind of relationship would be very special."

PHOTOGRAPH BY JONATHAN DENNIS