For Immediate Release

Contact: N

Mike Serpe

202-225-3452

Wasington D.C. --- Fourth District Congressman Nick J. Rahall, has announced the selection of the "Editors' Choice Finalist" from the 4th District of West Virginia. "Editors' Choice" is a national program of recognition for Vietnam Veterans.

Charles W. Stores, Jr., 29 of Princeton is the award winner.

A veteran of the U. S. Marine Corps, Stores was nominated by Michael Woolwine, Manager of the West Virginia Department of Employment Security in Bluefield. The selection was made by representatives of local American Legion Posts.

Charles W. Stores, Jr. enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1966 after graduating from Bramwell High School. While on patrol 40 miles from Da Nang in 1967, Stores platoon came under heavy enemy fire and he received a gunshot wound to the head. The wound resulted in immediate paralysis from the neck down.

After extensive surgery, Stores was placed in vigourous physical therapy program through which he learned to walk with the aid of hip braces and crutches.

Released in 1968, Stores married his high school sweetheart and enrolled in business school for two years.

In 1973, he finally received employment at the W. Va. Department of Employment Security, and since he has worked his way to the position of Local Veterans Employment Representative for the Bluefield Job Service.

Stores is a member of the Disabled American Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He has also been involved with the White House Conference on the Handicapped.

In 1976, Charles Stores was named "Disabled Veteran of the Year in W. Va." He is also a recipient of the Purple Heart, Vietnamese Service Medal, and the Good Conduct Medal.