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MARCH 11, 1987

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RAHALL ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-W.Va.) today announced the four finalists in the 1987 Kerr Scholars Program which he sponsors in his district. The Kerr Program, funded and administered by the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations, sends graduating high school seniors to a country in the Middle East for the summer after their senior year.

The program is named in honor of the late Malcolm H. Kerr, assassinated president of The American University of Beirut, who Rahall explained exemplified the ability to understand and work with other cultures to promote a higher relationship with other countries.

Last year, Congressman Rahall's local selection committee, with the approval of the National Council's selection committee, chose Mr. Scott Walker, now a student at Marshall University to participate in the program. Rahall's committee this year has selected the following students to recommend to the National Council for final consideration:

Mr. Donald Keith Dalton of Gary, West Virginia; a senior at Mount View High School; participated in the American Legion Mountaineer Boys State and "Know Your State Government Day"; has been accepted as a student by Concord College.

Ms. Alethea L. Minnis of Keystone, West Virginia; a senior at Mount View High School; member of the Honor Society, French Club, Key Club and Yearbook Staff; has applied for admission to Berea and Bluefield State Colleges.

Mr. John F. Rahal of Huntington, West Virginia; a senior at Huntington High School; Student Body President; participated in the American Legion Mountaineer Boys State; has applied for admission to The American and West Virginia Universities and Hamden-Sydney College.

Ms. Juli A. Streets of Kenova, West Virginia; a senior at Buffalo High School; participated in the Model United Nations Program; a member of the Speech Team and Key Club; has been accepted as a student by Marshall University.

Congressman Rahall praised each of the students for their excellent academic credentials and their extracurricular activities. Rahall was particularly pleased that the interest in the program has grown over the last year.

"All of these students would be a shining representative of our state in participating in the Kerr Program," Rahall stated. "There is no question about the vital role the Middle East plays in our national livelihood. The more we are able to understand and relate to the people of the Middle East, the more I believe our nation will benefit. The Kerr Program is a first step in fostering this understanding."

Rahall expects the National Council to make its final decision within the next few weeks on the four finalists at which time he will announce the scholars chosen.