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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, D.C. - March 30, 1982 - Two Kansas high school students have been selected as winners in the Japan-U.S. Senate Scholarship Program, Kansas Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Landon Kassebaum have announced.

The winners were chosen from among an outstanding field of semifinalists from schools across the state.

Senator Dole appointed Hillary Kircher of West 81st Terrace in Shawnee Mission, a junior at Shawnee Mission East High School.

Senator Kassebaum's appointee is Andrew Barron, a junior at Baldwin High School, from Baldwin City.

Barron and Kircher will spend two months in Japan this summer living as "members" of a Japanese family.

The scholarship program, run by the international student exchange organization, Youth for Understanding, is in its first of five years of funding by the Japanese government. It was unveiled last May by Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki.

Before leaving for Japan in June, the winners will travel here to meet with Senators Dole and Kassebaum, and the Japanese ambassador. In preparation for the trip, the students will spend several days reviewing Japanese culture and language.

The Japanese-U.S. Senate Scholarship is open to high school juniors nominated by their school. Selection committees recommend finalists for each state, and the state's senators make the final appointments.

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