

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

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DOLE TO PRESENT CONGRESSIONAL AWARD TO WICHITA YOUTH

(Washington, DC) -- Kansas Sen. Bob Dole will present the Gold Congressional Award to the first Kansan ever so honored in ceremonies Thursday in the U.S. House of Representatives. The award's recipient, Kevin Hoppock, Wichita, is one of 115 young Americans from 22 states being honored for special accomplishments in volunteerism and personal achievement.

The Congressional Award is the Congress' highest civilian honor for voluntary and personal achievements by youth. It is the only medal to bear the imprimatur of Congress since the Medal of Honor was authorized in 1862.

Through the Congressional Award program, Congress and the private sector recognize the initiative, achievement and excellence of young persons who accomplish high goals in voluntary public service and personal development activities.

Congressional Awards - gold, bronze and silver - are twice the size of a silver dollar, and depict the Capitol dome on one side and the American eagle on the other. Gold medals are earned by persons aged 20 to 23 who accomplish at least 400 hours in community service and 400 hours in personal development activities.

Hoppock, 21, is a student at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. He has devoted a total of 1,795 hours during the last three years to voluntary community service, personal development and physical fitness programs. He has been active in the Boy Scouts, his school's fraternity program, church choir and theatre. In addition, Hoppock is an avid fitness enthusiast who enjoys swimming, hiking, weightlifting and other physical activities.

The awards ceremony will be held at 10:30am (EST) in the Cannon House Office Building's caucus room. CBS newsman Dan Rather will serve as master of the ceremony.