

The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “1976/05/12 - Scholastic Achievement Award from Recording for the Blind, White House” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

PROPOSED REMARKS, Award to Blind Students, May 13, 1976

Your academic achievements and your triumph over blindness make you special examples of courage. Ernest Hemingway defined courage as "grace under pressure." You remind me of that description.

Because we all struggle with problems---we are uplifted by your success. I salute you for what you have done---and for what you will do.

PRESENTATION .

For immediate release
Wednesday, May 12, 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Ford will present three outstanding blind students with a \$500 Scholastic Achievement Award from Recording for the Blind on the State Floor at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 13.

Recording for the Blind is a voluntary organization that provides free, recorded textbooks for blind students throughout the Nation. The 1976 winners are Joanne T. Callahan, Steven R. Blow and Pamela F. Rotman.

Ms. Callahan, 22, from Brooklyn, New York, earned a B.A. from Radcliffe College in Latin American history and literature. Blow, 22, from Waverly, New York, will receive a B.A. in economics from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York. Both Ms. Callahan and Blow have been blind since birth.

Ms. Rotman, 20, from Chicago, Illinois, will graduate from the University of Illinois at Urbana with a B.A. in English and psychology. Ms. Rotman has been blind since age three.

#

Press pickup at 3:25 P.M.

Presentation of Awards to Blind Students, May 13, 1976

You have done well academically, and you have triumphed over a handicap. Your determination has made you an inspiration to others---both those who ~~can~~ see and those ~~who cannot~~ ^{who can't}. Your experiences make you unusually well-prepared to handle the problems ~~of~~ and challenges of life.

The three of you remind all of us ~~that understanding~~ ~~the will to achieve can overcome~~ great difficulties. I salute you for what you have done--- and for what you will do.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Awards to Blind Students, May 13, 1976

Your academic achievements and your triumphs over blindness make you special examples of courage [Ⓟ] ~~for all of us.~~ Hemingway defines ~~the~~ ~~idea~~ courage as "grace under pressure." And you remind me of that definition.

Because we all struggle with some handicap, ~~perhaps~~ not as great as yours, we ~~all~~ are uplifted by ~~your success.~~ your success.

I salute you for what you have done---and for what you will do.

~~PRESENTATION~~
PRESENTATION

~~THE THREE OF YOU REMIND THOSE OF US WHO ARE SIGHTED~~

You have done well academically, and you have triumphed over a handicap. As you continue your education or begin a career, your experiences make you ~~unusually~~ unusually well-equipped to handle the problems and ~~many~~ challenges of life.

The three of you remind those of us who are sighted that seeing ~~is~~ and understanding ~~begin~~ begin ~~in~~ in the mind and heart. I salute you for what you have done---and for what you will do with your lives.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 12, 1976

MRS. FORD:

Event: Presentation of the Recording for the Blind, Inc. 1976
Scholastic Achievement Awards

Date/Time: Thursday, May 13, 1976 3:30 p. m.

Place: Blue Room

Number of
Attendees: Approximately 26 guests

Principals: Mr. John W. Castles, III
President of the Recording for the Blind, Inc.
Mr. Stuart Carothers
Executive Director of the Recording for the Blind, Inc.

Schedule of

Events: 3:30 p. m. Your guests will arrive through the North Portico
and will be escorted to the Blue Room.

3:35 p. m. Maria Downs will escort you via elevator to the
State Floor Hall where you will greet Mr. Castles,
and Mr. Carothers.

Maria Downs will then escort you, Mr. Castles and
Mr. Carothers to the Blue Room.

You and Mr. Castles will then walk to the south
end of the Blue Room in front of the windows
where the three recipients will be standing.

Mr. Castles will introduce you to each of the
three recipients, Joanne T. Callahan, Steven R. Blow,
and Pamela F. Rotman.

You will make brief remarks and then present the Awards and checks to Miss Callahan, Mr. Blow and Miss Rotman respectively.

NOTE: The 1976 Scholastic Achievement Awards will be framed scrolls and each check will be in the amount of \$500.00. The Awards and checks will be placed on a table nearby and a White House Social Aide will hand each of the Awards to you in the order stated above.

3:45 p. m. You will receive your guests informally and join them for refreshments.

You will then invite your guests to have a special tour arranged by Mike Farrell.

You will bid farewell and return to the Family Quarters.

NOTES: Military Social Aides will be present.

There will be open press coverage of the event.

A White House photographer will be present.

Your remarks will be recorded for Presidential Archives.

Guest list is attached.

Background information is attached.

Pat Howard

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1976

FOR: KAY

FROM: PAT

RE: Recording for the Blind
-- Presentation of Awards

Attached is a xerox of the information I have -- I did not give you a copy of the guest list, but if you need I will be happy to do so.

I will be preparing the scenario on May 12, 1976, as the event is on May 13, 1976 at 3:30 p.m..

Please note that they want full press coverage as this is a big event for them.

FACT SHEET
Mrs. Ford's Office

Event Presentation Ceremony/Reception/ Tour
Group Recording for the Blind, Inc. - Recipients of the 1976 Scholastic Achievement
DATE/TIME Thursday, May 13, 1976 Awards 3:30 p. m.
Contact Pat Howard Phone 2927
Number of guests: Total 20 - 25 Women x Men x Children --
Place State Floor
Principals involved Mrs. Ford
Participation by Principal yes (Receiving line) (will receive informally)
Remarks required yes
Background Mrs. Ford will present the 1976 Scholastic Achievement Awards to three of the Nation's ranking blind college graduates on behalf of the Recording for the Blind, Inc.

REQUIREMENTS

Social: Guest list yes (Pat Howard will distribute)
Invitations no Programs no Menus no
Refreshments yes (coffee, tea, tea sandwiches and pastries)
Entertainment no /
Decorations/flowers yes
Music yes
Social Aides yes (few)
Dress Business suits - short dresses for the ladies Coat check ?
Other --

Press: Reporters yes
Photographers yes
TV Crews yes (?)
White House Photographers yes Color yes Mono. ---
Other --

Technical Support: Microphones yes PA Other Rooms no
Recording yes
Lights no
Transportation Group will walk over to the NW Gate from the Sheraton Carlton (should it be raining, they will come by taxi cabs thru SW Gate)
Parking --
Housing --
Other -- (Risers, stage, platforms) --

Project Co-ordinator Pat Howard Phone 2927

Site diagrams should be attached if technical support is heavy.

FACT SHEET
Mrs. Ford's Office

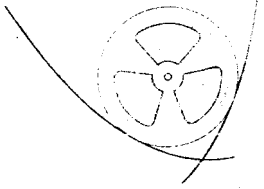
Event Presentation Ceremony/Reception/ Tour
Group Recording for the Blind, Inc. - Recipients of the 1976 Scholastic Achievement
DATE/TIME Thursday, May 13, 1976 Awards 3:30 p. m.
Contact Pat Howard Phone 2927
Number of guests: Total 20 - 25 Women x Men x Children --
Place State Floor
Principals involved Mrs. Ford
Participation by Principal yes (Receiving line) (will receive informally)
Remarks required yes
Background Mrs. Ford will present the 1976 Scholastic Achievement Awards to three of the Nation's ranking blind college graduates on behalf of the Recording for the Blind, Inc.

REQUIREMENTS

Social: Guest list yes (Pat Howard will distribute)
Invitations no Programs no Menus no
Refreshments yes (coffee, tea, tea sandwiches and pastries)
Entertainment no /
Decorations/flowers yes
Music yes
Social Aides yes (few)
Dress Business suits - short dresses for the ladies Coat check ?
Other --
Press: Reporters yes
Photographers yes
TV Crews yes (?)
White House Photographers yes Color yes Mono. ---
Other --
Technical Support: Microphones yes PA Other Rooms no
Recording yes
Lights no
Transportation Group will walk over to the NW Gate from the Sheraton Carlton (should it be raining, they will come by taxi cabs thru SW Gate)
Parking --
Housing --
Other -- (Risers, stage, platforms) --

Project Co-ordinator Pat Howard Phone 2927

Site diagrams should be attached if technical support is heavy.



Recording for the Blind, Inc.

Free Taped Educational Books for Blind
and Physically Handicapped Students

215 East 58th Street New York, N. Y. 10022 212-751-0860

April 26, 1976

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. Ranauld H. Macdonald
Honorary Chairman
John W. Castles 3d
President

David N. Bottoms, Jr.
Mrs. Leonardo Mercati
Mrs. Maurice Pate
Mrs. Frank K. Sanders, Jr.
Peter Putnam
Mead Stone
Vice-Presidents

Mrs. Lathrop Dauphinot
Secretary
David R. Sadtler
Treasurer

Mrs. Ralph Bunche
Mrs. Arthur Hugh Bunker
Mrs. Curtis Buttenheim
Mrs. Gilbert W. Chapman
Mrs. William Corpstein
Mrs. Peter Cusick
*Dr. John H. Dunnington
Dr. Peter C. Goldmark
F. D. Hall
George Roy Hill
Harold E. Krents
Mrs. Kenneth C. Lutz
William A. Lydgate
Allen H. Merrill
Mrs. Donald M. Oenslager
Mrs. Mario Pansa
Mrs. Yancey M. Robertson
Mrs. David T. Schiff
Mrs. Gerard A. Schwartzel
Oakleigh L. Thorne
Mrs. Helen C. Tweedy
*Emeritus

Stuart Carothers
Executive Director

RECORDING STUDIOS

Phoenix, Ariz.
Sun City, Ariz.
Claremont, Calif.
Los Angeles, Calif.
Palo Alto, Calif.
*Santa Barbara, Calif.
Denver, Colo.
New Haven, Conn.
*Washington, D.C.
Miami, Fla.
Athens, Ga.
Champaign, Ill.
Chicago, Ill. (2)
Naperville, Ill.
Orland Park, Ill.
Winnetka, Ill.
Anchorage, Ky.
Louisville, Ky. (2)
Lenox, Mass.
Williamstown, Mass.
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
Detroit, Mich.
Princeton, N.J.
New York, N.Y.
Oak Ridge, Tenn.
Austin, Tex.
Charlottesville, Va.
*In Formation

Contributions Are Deductible

Miss Maria Downs
Social Secretary to Mrs. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Downs:

We were delighted to learn that Mrs. Ford has graciously agreed to present this organization's 1976 Scholastic Achievement Awards to three of the nation's ranking blind college graduates on Thursday afternoon, May 13th, 1976, at 3:00 P.M.

Brief profiles of the winning trio - Miss Joanne Callahan, Steven Blow, and Miss Pamela Rotman - will be in your hands by May 1st, as well as the required information about all persons attending the presentation, a group of no more than 25. The ceremony itself, which usually attracts considerable media representation, should occupy Mrs. Ford for a minimum of twenty minutes.

~~Our group, from year to year, has been given a separately conducted White House tour. We would greatly appreciate such a tour early on Friday morning, May 14th.~~

Note: WH tour will follow reception on May 13

Sincerely,

Gilbert Field
Associate Director

GF/bh

NATIONAL SPONSORS COUNCIL

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Mrs. Gerald R. Ford | Sen. Jacob K. Javits | Hon. Elliot L. Richardson |
| Herbert Brownell | Mrs. Herbert H. Lehman | Hon. Russell E. Train |
| Art Buchwald | Archibald MacLeish | Sen. John V. Tunney |
| Sen. James L. Buckley | Sen. Charles H. Percy | Miss Barbara Walters |
| Miss Claudette Colbert | George S. Pillsbury | Hon. Caspar W. Weinberger |

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 21, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: MARIA DOWNS

FROM: SUSAN PORTER

On Thursday, May 13, 1976 at 3:30 p.m., Mrs. Ford will present the 1976 Scholastic Achievement Awards to a group of the highest ranking blind college students in the nation on behalf of the organization Recording for the Blind. This presentation since 1959 has had White House or Vice Presidential involvement. There will be approximately 25 people attending.

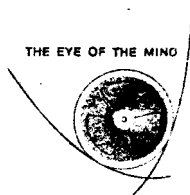
The contact is Mr. Gilbert Field, (212) 751-0860 or (212) 751-0862, who has been told that your office is handling this event. I am sure Kaye Pullen will want to take a look at the enclosed materials about the organization for remarks.

Thank you.

c: BF Staff
William Nicholson
Terry O'Donnell
Sara Massengale
Mike Farrell
Rex Scouten
Staircase

2-13

✓



Recording for the Blind, Inc.

Free Recorded Educational Books For Blind Students

1000 Wisconsin Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007 • (202) 338-5515

February 12, 1976

OSBORNE ATWATER DAY
Associate Director

Dear Miss Porter:

As I told you I would over the telephone on Thursday, I am sending along Mrs. Macdonald's request to Mrs. Ford.

You will notice that Mrs. Ford is one of our national sponsors. Also, in our Summer 1975 News Letter you will see that Mrs. Ford presented our organization with a check for \$1,000 on behalf of the Congressional Club.

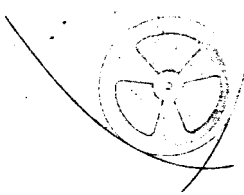
All of us at RFB hope very much indeed that Mrs. Ford will consent to present our Scholastic Achievement Awards for 1976.

Please let me know if I can provide you with any further information.

Sincerely,

Osborne A. Day
Osborne A. Day

du



Recording for the Blind, Inc.

Free Taped Educational Books for Blind
and Physically Handicapped Students

215 East 58th Street New York, N. Y. 10022 212-751-0860

Contact:

Mr. Gilbert Field
(212) 751-0860
-0862

January 26, 1976



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. Ranald H. Macdonald
Honorary Chairman

John W. Castles 3d
President

David N. Bottoms, Jr.

Mrs. Leonardo Mercati

Mrs. Maurice Pate

Mrs. Frank K. Sanders, Jr.

Peter Putnam

Mead Stone

Vice-Presidents

Mrs. Lathrop Dauphnot

Secretary

David R. Sadtler

Treasurer

Mrs. Ralph Bunche

Mrs. Arthur Hugh Bunker

Mrs. Curtis Buttenheim

Mrs. Gilbert W. Chapman

Mrs. William Corpstein

Mrs. Peter Cusick

*Dr. John H. Dunnington

Dr. Peter C. Goldmark

F. D. Hall

George Roy Hill

Harold E. Krents

Mrs. Kenneth C. Lutz

William A. Lydgate

Allen H. Merrill

Mrs. Donald M. Oenslager

Mrs. Mario Pansa

Mrs. Yancey M. Robertson

Mrs. David T. Schiff

Mrs. Gerard A. Schwartzel

Oakleigh L. Thorne

Mrs. Helen C. Tweedy

*Emeritus

Stuart Carothers

Executive Director

RECORDING STUDIOS

Phoenix, Ariz.

Sun City, Ariz.

Claremont, Calif.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Paolo Alto, Calif.

*Santa Barbara, Calif.

Denver, Colo.

New Haven, Conn.

*Washington, D.C.

Miami, Fla.

Athens, Ga.

Champaign, Ill.

Chicago, Ill. (2)

Naperville, Ill.

Orland Park, Ill.

Winnetka, Ill.

Anchorage, Ky.

Louisville, Ky. (2)

Lenox, Mass.

Williamstown, Mass.

Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

Detroit, Mich.

Princeton, N.J.

New York, N.Y.

Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Austin, Tex.

Charlottesville, Va.

*in Formation

Contributions Are Deductible
For Income Tax Purposes

Mrs. Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Ford:

May I make a request on behalf of Recording for the Blind, the national voluntary educational resource which I was privileged to found twenty-five years ago. I am particularly gratified to note that your name heads the membership of our organization's National Sponsors Council.

My request concerns the presentation of Scholastic Achievement Awards to a group of the highest ranking blind college seniors in the nation. Without interruption since 1959, these coveted awards of \$500 each, made annually by Recording for the Blind, have been presented by the President or the First Lady, or by the Vice President. I attach accounts of the 1974 presentation by your husband, and the 1976 presentation by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller. Both President and Mrs. Nixon presented these awards in the years before.

More than a proud moment for the remarkable winning trio, this well publicized event in the White House also serves as an antidote to outdated public attitudes about blindness, and helps bring into focus the true capabilities of intelligent, goal-oriented young blind people who will not stop studying merely because they cannot see.

NATIONAL SPONSORS COUNCIL

Mrs. Gerald R. Ford
Herbert Brownell
Art Buchwald
Sen. James L. Buckley
Miss Claudette Colbert
James A. Farley

Sen. Jacob K. Javits
Mrs. Herbert H. Lehman
Archibald MacLeish
Sen. Charles H. Percy
George S. Pillsbury
Sen. Abraham Ribicoff

Hon. Elliot L. Richardson
Hon. Russell E. Train
Sen. John V. Tunney
Miss Barbara Walters
Hon. Caspar W. Weinberger

The directors of Recording for the Blind join me in hoping that you will agree to honor the 1976 awardees in a brief ceremony in Washington. With the problem of final exams and commencement, we suggest a date during the period from April 26th through May 14th. The entire presentation, usually involving the media, ~~_____~~ would take no more than 20 minutes. The group in attendance would include members of the awardees' immediate family, as well as representatives of Recording for the Blind, a group of approximately 30 persons in all. *

If possible an early affirmative decision would be deeply appreciated.

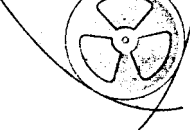
The latest annual report of Recording for the Blind, Inc. is also attached for your information.

Respectfully yours,

Ronald H. Macdonald

Mrs. Ronald H. Macdonald
Honorary Chairman

ATM:h
Enc.



THE VICE PRESIDENT AND A DISTINGUISHED TURNOUT SALUTE THREE OUTSTANDING COLLEGE GRADUATES AT RFB AWARDS CEREMONIES IN WASHINGTON



Vice President Gerald R. Ford congratulated the recipients of RFB's 1974 Scholastic Achievement Awards after presentation ceremonies in his office. The happy young winners were (from left) Dean L. Martineau of Tacoma, Washington; Elizabeth K. Gann of Austin, Texas; and Jacqueline M. Vieceli of Chicago, Illinois.

THREE of the nation's highest ranking college seniors who happen to be blind were honored on May 8th by Vice President Gerald R. Ford "in recognition of the extraordinary scholarship, determination and intellectual vigor" displayed in earning their degrees. The Vice President presented each, in the presence of their families and RFB representatives, with a \$500 Scholastic Achievement Award from Recording for the Blind. The winning trio was also hailed by 250 prominent Washingtonians at a gala dinner toastmastered by the nationally syndicated political satirist Art Buchwald and featuring guest speaker Harold Krents.

The Washington Post, covering the event on its prestigious editorial page, wrote: "The achievement of the three students was made possible—aside from their own heroic persistence—by Recording for the Blind's record of service. In the 1972-73 academic year, for example, its tapes were used by 96 per cent of the estimated 3,500 blind students enrolled in American colleges, and by more than 60 per cent of the 8,000 blind high school students."

The 1974 awardees, studying side by side with their sighted classmates, used hundreds of textbooks expertly taped by RFB throughout their undergraduate years. They were:

ELIZABETH K. GANN, 24, from Texas, blind since infancy, graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish. "Kathy" aspires to work in a local hospital as a Translator Aide and directed her studies toward that end. Her keen perception and erudition in interpreting advanced works in Spanish literature won her the admiration of her professors and peers.

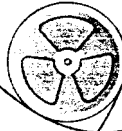
(Continued on page 2)



RFB President John W. Castles 3d addressed the dinner gathering in the capital. Among the guests were Senator Charles Percy of Illinois and Mrs. Donald M. Oenslager, RFB Board member and Patron of the annual awards.



Master of Ceremonies Art Buchwald, who kept them laughing, couldn't resist quipping that "Washington has given tapes a bad name." Mr. Buchwald is a new member of RFB's National Sponsors Council.



RECORDING FOR THE BLIND

NEWS

Free Recorded Educational Books for Blind Students

Vol. 20 No. 1

SUMMER 1975

INTRODUCING RFB'S NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Stuart Carothers

Stuart Carothers has been named executive director of Recording for the Blind, Inc. He succeeds Donald Staley, who has become RFB's new director of special projects.

Mr. Carothers has been secretary and counsel of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and has had extensive legal and administrative experience. A graduate of Princeton University and the St. Louis University Law School, he is a member of the New Jersey and Missouri bars, is married and has three children.

Mr. Staley, Mr. Carothers' predecessor, will now devote his fulltime energies to such priority tasks as the development of an RFB Job Referral Service; international consultation; and the pursuit of major funding.

For many students, the services of your organization have meant an uninterrupted education which, in some cases, has been the turning point in their lives. Access to educational material is often taken for granted by those of us who see. You



Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller in his office with the winners of Recording for the Blind's 1975 Scholastic Achievement Awards: (fr. l.) Linda Schneider, Trinity College, Washington, D.C.; Michael Levy, Columbia University-Jewish Theological Seminary of America, New York; and Caryn Navy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

RFB'S 1975 SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

"... to recognize talent wherever it is found and give that talent opportunity on the basis of equality"

RFB's three top Scholastic Achievement Award winners this year were narrowed down from over 50 students whose credentials all reflected high intelligence yoked to a determined spirit. For every time-worn assertion made about the limited capabilities of the blind there exists an exact and true denial. The 1975 awardees, who were given \$500 checks and saluted by Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller in Washington May 21st, once more bring into sharp relief the typical resourcefulness and intellectual vigor that distinguishes the performance of blind college students who live — and learn — primarily by sound. The three honored recipients, who used hundreds of RFB's recorded textbooks during their undergraduate years, were:

and thousands of volunteers who record for your organization have helped blind students to exercise their right to learn.

Caspar W. Weinberger,
The Secretary of Health,
Education and Welfare.

CARYN NAVY, 21, from Brooklyn, N.Y., graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a B.S. in Mathematics and the distinction of being the first blind woman undergraduate in M.I.T. history. Scoring in the top ten per cent of her class, Caryn's goal is to teach ad-

(Continued on page 5)

RECORDING FOR THE BLIND'S

1976 SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

JOANNE T. CALLAHAN, 22, from Brooklyn, New York, blind since birth, graduated from Radcliffe College of Harvard University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Latin American History and Literature.

A Dean's List honor student, Miss Callahan set challenging academic goals for herself, and realized them, at one of the nation's most demanding institutions. Mastering both the Spanish and Portuguese languages, she developed keen perceptivity in her study of Hispanic American literature, and produced an outstanding senior thesis which entailed a vast amount of reading, research, originality, and organization.

On campus, Miss Callahan is well known for her involvement in Radcliffe affairs and service projects in the surrounding community. She has tutored Spanish-speaking prison inmates in English and has worked in a bi-lingual day-care center. A group leader with Projecto Amistad the summer of 1974, she taught in a school for the blind and handicapped. Her leadership qualities won for her the University's prized Ames Award for 1975.

Joanne will work toward a master's degree in Latin American Studies and is determined to work some day with a governmental agency devoted to advancing Latin American economic and cultural life.

STEVEN R. BLOW, 22, from Waverly, New York, blind since birth, graduated from Hamilton College, Clinton, New York, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics.

Emerging 22nd in his class of 225, Steven's high standing mirrors an unusually probing mind capable of the diligence and insights that were essential to the understanding of a full range of difficult courses in an especially competitive academic environment.

Not only excelling in his major subject of economics, he demonstrated an outstanding ability in learning the Russian language and preparing his assignments on a Cyrillic typewriter.

An active contributing member of the Hamilton College community, Steven is a member of the Root-Jessup Public Affairs Council, and the Christian Fellowship. He plays a mean saxophone. His next goal, well within his grasp, is to become a lawyer.

PAMELA F. ROTMAN, 20, from Chicago, Illinois, blind since the age of three, graduated from the University of Illinois, Urbana, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Psychology.

Successful because of her own determination and the high scholastic standards she established for herself, Miss Rotman entered the University when she was sixteen and graduated 265th in a class of 2,200 students at one of the top ten state universities in the United States. Carrying a double major, she also chose to study for a semester at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, adjusting independently to the rigorous demands of a new environment.

Apart from her studies, Miss Rotman tutored a blind retarded child and has been active in the Disabled Students Organization; Students for Environmental Concerns; and the Pre-Law Club. She is a member of two honorary societies: Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Kappa Phi. Her dream is to become a lawyer, and based on the positive results of her Law School Admissions Test and her proven tenacity, Pamela is confident of succeeding.

Recording for the Blind, Inc.

News Release

National Headquarters
215 East 58th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) 751-0860

Contact: Gilbert Field

FOR RELEASE: UPON RECEIPT

THE FIRST LADY WILL HONOR THREE OF NATION'S TOP BLIND STUDENTS

Three of the nation's highest ranking college seniors who happen to be blind will be honored in the White House on May 13th by Mrs. Gerald R. Ford "in recognition of extraordinary scholarship, determination, and intellectual vigor." The First Lady will present each with a \$500 Scholastic Achievement Award from Recording for the Blind, the voluntary organization that provides free, recorded textbooks for blind students throughout the nation. The three 1976 winners who rose above their handicap to top standing in their graduating classes are:

JOANNE T. CALLAHAN, 22, from Brooklyn, N. Y., blind since birth, who has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Latin American History and Literature from Radcliffe College of Harvard University. Joanne mastered both the Spanish and Portuguese languages and has traveled to Peru to teach in a school for the blind and handicapped. Her goal is to join an international agency devoted to advancing Latin American economics and cultural life.

STEVEN R. BLOW, 22, from Waverly, N.Y., blind since birth, is receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y. Not only excelling in his major subject of economics, Steven learned to speak and write the Russian language, and has been active in every phase of a highly competitive college life. His next goal, well within his grasp, is to become a lawyer.

PAMELA F. ROTMAN, 20, from Chicago, Illinois, blind since the age of three, graduating from the University of Illinois, Urbana, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Psychology. Pamela entered the University when she was

(continued on next page)

only sixteen, carried an unusually heavy curriculum, and also studied for a semester in Israel, adjusting independently to the rigors of a new environment. She plans to go on to law school next.

Recording for the Blind, sponsor of these annual awards, supplies tape recorded educational books, free on loan, to visually, physically and perceptually handicapped students in all 50 states. Supported by contributions from the public, in the last school year, RFB delivered over 1,500,000 hours of recorded reading to 10,995 blind and otherwise handicapped users.

