NEWS FROM:

C-SPANERICA*S NETWORK

Suite 155 • 400 N. Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001

Release: IMMEDIATE

May 7, 1986

Contact: Kathy C. Murphy Susan Swain

(202) 737-3220

C-SPAN COVERS WHITE HOUSE NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS AWARDS DINNER

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- For the fourth consecutive year, C-SPAN plans <u>live</u> coverage of the White House News Photographers Awards Dinner. Beginning at 7:00 pm et on Thursday, May 15th, the cable network kicks off a 3½ hour program from Washington's Shoreham Hotel. Call-in programs will feature glimpses of this years prize-winning stills; there are also interviews with top award winners such as H. Darr Beiser of <u>USA Today</u>, Margaret Thomas of the <u>Washington Post</u>, Dennis Cook of the Associated Press, Darryl Heikes of <u>U.S. News & World Report</u> and Cox Newspapers' Rick McKay.

C-SPAN covers the annual photographers dinner as part of its continuing look at the news media. Prize winner Richard Kozak of the Washington Times (first place in the black & white picture story category) says of the competition, "anytime you win an award and are recognized by your peers it is an honor. Winning an award in the White House News Photographers competition is very important to me -- it makes me feel accepted in the Washington area."

This year's black tie gala -- honoring the outstanding still and video photographers of 1985 -- includes an address by President Reagan and appearances by past presidential press secretaries, dating back to President Harry S. Truman.

C-SPAN plans to re-air the entire ceremony on Saturday, May 17th from 1:00 - 4:30 pm et.

Nationally, C-SPAN can be seen in 24.5 million households via 2,250 affiliated cable systems.

Viewer Call-in phone numbers: EASTERN/CENTRAL (202) 628-2525
MOUNTAIN/PACIFIC (202) 783-2727

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