

News from Senator

BOB DOLE



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DOLES WISH SALLY RIDE GOOD LUCK ON HISTORIC SPACE SHUTTLE MISSION

FIRST WOMAN IN SPACE IS MARRIED TO FELLOW ASTRONAUT

STEVE HAWLEY OF SALINA

WASHINGTON -- America's first woman astronaut Sally Ride, whose husband is fellow Astronaut Steve Hawley from Salina, Kansas, today received a good luck telephone call from Kansas Senator Bob Dole and U.S. Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole.

"We just wanted to let Sally know how proud we were of her accomplishments and that we wished her good luck on Saturday's historic mission in space," Senator Dole said.

"I told Sally she was off to a good start by marrying a Kansan," Secretary Dole said. "Sally is certainly an inspiration to women everywhere."

Sally Ride is married to Steve Hawley, a 32-year-old native of Salina, 1973 graduate of the University of Kansas, and an astronaut since 1978.

Following the three-way conference call to the astronauts' quarters at Cape Canaveral, Senator Dole described the shuttle mission as "one small step for woman, one giant leap for womankind."

Senator Dole also noted that two other Kansans have played major roles in the U.S. space program:

- In December, 1972 Ron Evans of Topeka traveled to the moon on Apollo 17.

- In September, 1981 Joe Engle of Chapman piloted the space Shuttle Columbia's second voyage, the first time in history a space vehicle had returned to outer space.

"We are also very proud of Steve Hawley, another Kansan who is making his mark in the space program," said Senator Dole.