

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 21, 2008

For further Information, call Boys & Girls Club Administration (815) 972-5973

LOCAL TEEN NAMED BOYS & GIRLS CLUB YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Taylor Dixon is a true example of an extraordinary young man. At age 17, he has just been selected as the Youth of the Year for the Rockford Boys & Girls Club. Dixon is among hundreds of local Youth of the Year winners across the country recognized by Boys & Girls Clubs of America for his sound character, leadership skills and willingness to give back to the community.

Being named Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club member can receive. The title recognizes outstanding contributions to a member's family, school, community and Boys & Girls Club, as well as personal challenges and obstacles overcome. This program was founded over 80 years ago through the generosity of the Reader's Digest Foundation.

Taylor, a Rockford Lutheran student, has been a member of the Rockford Boys & Girls Club since 2000 and been a staff member for the last 3 years. He has been involved in various activities at the club including baseball, basketball, table tennis, Torch Club, a Teen Reach representative and was named Flodin Unit Youth of the Year in 2007.

"The club has become a place to share with others, helping other young people develop their own character and leadership skills, said Taylor. "Hopefully, I have inspired many young children's lives over the years and many kids have inspired me and have become a big part of my life."

"We are very proud of Taylor and pleased he was recognized as Youth of the Year. He's an inspiration to the youth of this community and a great representative of the clubs," said Clifford "Chip" Stoner, President and CEO of Boys & Girls Club of Rockford.

The Boys & Girls Club of Rockford is celebrating 100 years of service and offers a unique and wide variety of educational, recreational, cultural and social activities for youth between the ages of 6 and 18. Clubs nurture and enrich young lives by giving boys and girls opportunities for personal growth and achievement. There are presently 7 sites in the Rockford / Machesney Park area including a school site at Jackson School and an extended site at Our Saviors Lutheran Church..

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB