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Series: Speech File Backup Files
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OA/ID Number: 13843
Folder ID Number: 13843-006

Folder Title:
Childrens' Letters, 1989-1990

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
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FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Bob Simon

Mr. Walt A. Mueller

1 Country Club Road

Lake Isabella, California 93240

THE PRESIDENT

April 19, 1989

Dear Walt,

Thanks for your great letter. Please pardon my long delay in answering it. We have received something like 546,000 letters, and yours just floated to the top.

I appreciate your kind words, and still think a lot about my Navy days.

Warmest best wishes.

Sincerely,

GB

ENCLOSE PHOTO



)ING

Rebecca Don Rhodes

To Walt Mueller -
with Best Wishes + Happy Memories
GB

4-19-89

Sincerely
Walt Mueller

"Voice from the past"

Walt A. Mueller
1 Country Club Road
Lk Isabella. CA 93240-1078

Dear George:

Never thought when I met you in the service that one day you'd be President of the U.S. Congratulations! I know you'll do a great job!

I was a tall skinny E.M. called "Buzz" (few knew my real name). Just before one of your flights I was repairing a wiring problem on your plane, when my W.O. said "Buzz hurry up we don't have all day!" you told him "I'd rather have it done right then in a hurry"

The Enlisted men liked you because you treated them like they had feelings too. We called most of the Pilots "3 J's" Jocks; Jerks; and Jackasses! They were always bragging about the planes & ships they had hit. and about all the beautiful women they had laid. In time the number of planes & ships grew! & Grew & Grew. and the women become more beautiful.

Three years ago I met one of the Pilots. He was still bragging!

I don't have any claim to fame; but I do share your love of hunting & fishing.
favorite Dove & Blue Pigeon spot Navajo Mexico Dec & Jan.
Big game fish Jan & Feb Cabo San Lucas Mexico
Great Barrier reef Jan & March.

Show them nice people can be great too

Sincerely
Walt Mueller

whataguy

FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Ms. Missy Scudder
968 Knollfield Way
San Jose, CA 95136



5-6-89

Dear Missy —

Some author you've got there! Please give the attached to Todd —

Thanks for your letter

G Bush

JB

THE PRESIDENT

May 6, 1989

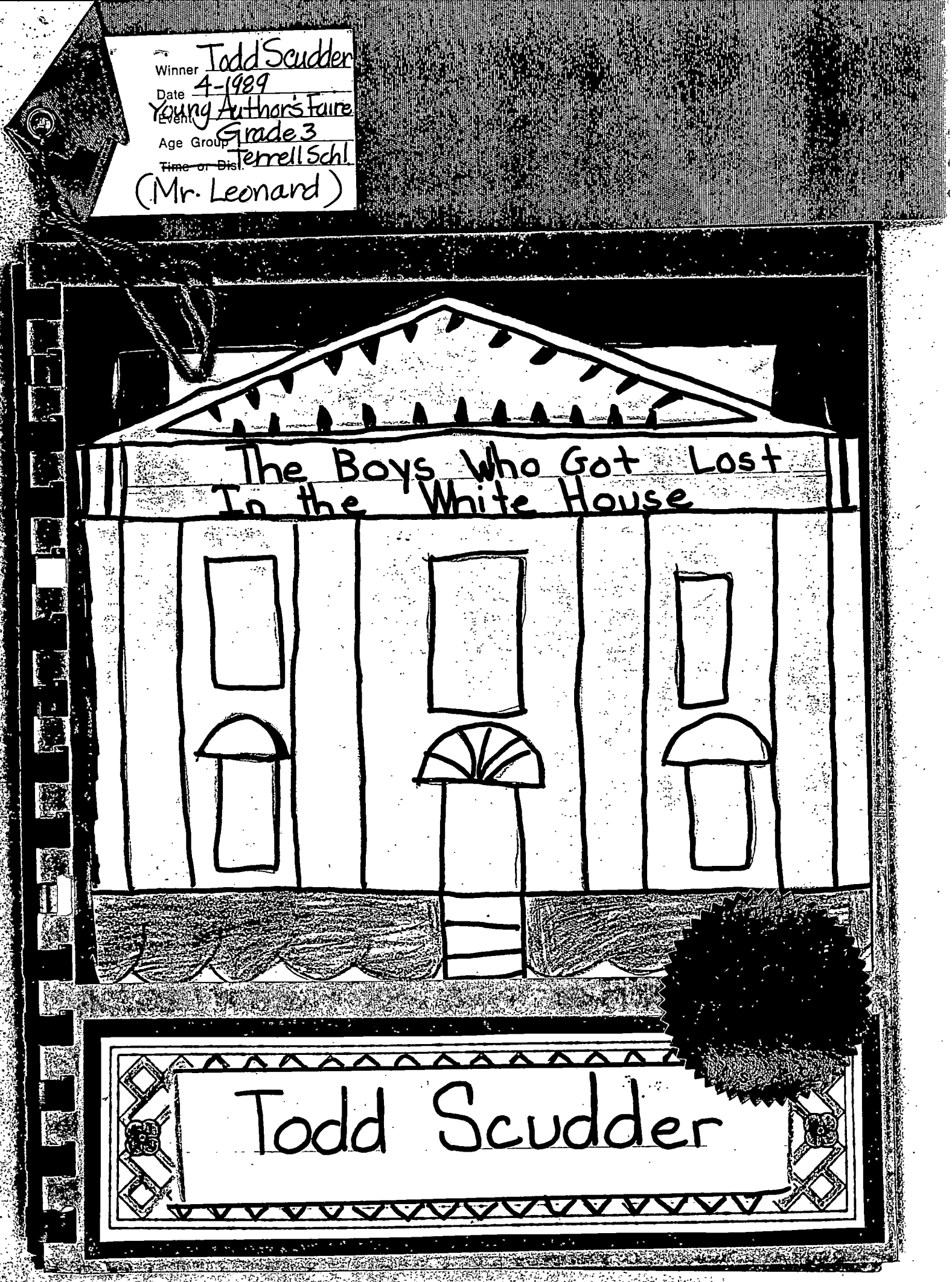
Dear Todd,

Your book is a very good one.

After I saw you and the other kid that night I finished my sprite, put me Teddy Bear to sleep with Millie, our dog; I gave my Blanky to Marshall my grand-daughter. Then I went back to sleep (just kidding!)

Thanks for sharing - now here's your book and a souvenir photo. Good Luck Geo Bush

Winner Todd Scudder
Date 4-1989
Event Young Author's Faire
Age Group Grade 3
~~Time or Dist.~~ Terrell Schl.
(Mr. Leonard)





To Todd Scudder – author,
good guy. With best wishes – G Bush

707 Jan Burmeister

Ancillae-Assumpta Academy

Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

2025 CHURCH ROAD
WYNCOTE, PA 19095-1124
(215) 885-1636

January 3, 1989

Honorable George Bush, President Elect
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20501

Attention: Thomas Collamore

Dear President Elect Bush,

Inspired by the recent presidential elections, my eighth-grade reading class "elected" to analyze the "American Spirit" in an historical and contemporary perspective.

Enclosed are five outstanding contributions from our students that we know will touch your spirit as you prepare to lead our great nation. One of our school-wide goals is the continual process of becoming creative problem solvers in our local and global environments.

We would appreciate your considering our students' thoughts and comments within your inaugural address, as we feel that their words reflect the spirit of the American people.

copies sent to speechwriter ... not necessarily to be considered

Congratulations on the mandate you have received from the American public. You will be in our hearts and prayers as you lead us toward a kinder, gentler society.

Sincerely yours,

Joanne Puglia

Joanne Puglia
Eighth-Grade Reading Teacher

Ancillae-Assumpta Academy

Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

2025 CHURCH ROAD
WYNCOTE, PA 19095-1124
(215) 885-1636

AMERICAN SPIRIT

To define what I think the American spirit is, I would use just one word: dreams. The American spirit is full of exuberant dreamers like the millions of immigrants who have fled their homeland to have a chance at freedom, or to have a more productive life. It has been the dreamers of the American spirit who have shaped and molded America into the strong and united country it is today. Famous politicians, artists and inventors are not the only contributors to the American spirit, but also the common folk; people who farmed the land every morning at the crack of dawn to feed the nation. Throughout history, there have been many men, women, blacks, whites and American Indians who have risked their lives and took an unknown step to a "New America." In the modern American spirit, Martin Luther King's contribution to our land is still alive today.

Nicole Farmer, 8th Grade

AMERICAN SPIRIT

The American spirit is a little flame inside the hearts of each and every citizen of this country; not only in Americans, but also in every heart that yearns for freedom and justice. It was this spirit that inspired our Founding Fathers to make up their minds to fight for freedom. It was this spirit that brought about our Constitution. It is this spirit that has brought our country to greatness, and made the lives we live here in democracy and freedom the envy of all of the world. It is this spirit that lets our country, which has been divided along many lines; rich and poor, man and woman, young and old, black and white, Republican and Democrat;live in harmony as one body.

The American spirit was alive in the first Pilgrims who landed in Plymouth Rock. It was alive in every colonist who set foot on our soil. It was alive in the men who fought to preserve freedom; men like Sam Adams, John Hancock and Patrick Henry, who stirred that little flame and kindled it into a fire, a fire that burned throughout the land.

The American spirit was alive in George Washington who never denied his country anything. "Command our army," America said, and Washington did. "Serve in our Constitutional Convention," America said, and Washington was president of the Convention. "Be our first President," America said, and Washington was unanimously elected to serve two terms.

Our next president has many problems to solve. He must pry the citizens of America from the grip of drugs and the national deficit. But our nation is strong now and steady on its feet, and our "American Spirit" will always be the source of the inconquerable strength of this great land.

Melissa Schapira, Grade 8
Ancillae-Assumpta Academy
Wyncote, Penna. 19095

AMERICAN SPIRIT

I think the American Spirit comes from the people who started our nation; George Washington, Paul Revere, the pioneers, and everyone who helped declare our freedom. Paul Revere, for example, risked his life to tell the colonists to be ready, the British were coming. George Washington started the nation and got the people to join and work together after our Revolution. Thomas Jefferson set up universities, organized and purchased Louisiana, and was our 3rd president. All these people had helped our American Spirit begin. Then, we the people continued it and expanded its horizons. We, every citizen of the United States of America, have the spirit within us and are always spreading it beyond its limits. In the poem, Thomas Jefferson, he says, "I died a debtor, but I died free-hearted, and that was better." Every person, no matter size, shape, color, or race, we all have the spirit and are working together in one world, one nation and every effort we put forth helps. Our American Spirit lives within us and unless we let it out, we are not using our abilities to our best. Not only does the American Spirit belong to our founders, but it belongs to us also, because we are the American Spirit for the future.

Bridget Rueter
8D

AMERICAN SPIRIT

I think that American Spirit is a form of peace and justice that symbolizes hope and courage throughout the world. I believe that George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, and many other presidents I have studied contain American Spirit. In my opinion, anyone who tries to make the United States a better place for all people contains American Spirit. Immigrants coming into the country are filled with American Spirit as they see the Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island as they come into New York.

I think that people in the 1980's have a different kind of American Spirit than the people who lived in the 1700's. For instance, take the issues that were brought up during the election this year. The nominees had to show a different kind of spirit than they have in past years. They had to prove to the American people that they contained a new type of American Spirit which would guide the country toward a better America in the years to come.

Years ago, American Spirit was used to keep the country together and on its feet. Today, American Spirit is used to guide our country into peace times.

I would just like to comment on one person whom I think has American Spirit today, in our times. His name is Jesse Jackson, and this year he proved that even though he did not win the election, he kept on speaking about what he believed in and wished for.

In conclusion, I believe that everyone in the country who contributes something that he or she has to make America a better place has American Spirit.

Nanette Foley
Grade 8

THE AMERICAN SPIRIT

To me the American Spirit is the sense of freedom and tranquillity in the people of our nation. Most of the time we take this freedom for granted, though we really wouldn't if we could understand the suffering that the early Americans endured to obtain this freedom, and the responsibility of keeping this nation on it's feet. To me the American Spirit is the blood, sweat and tears that were shed to make our country work, and I know that if the early Americans could see what they have helped to accomplish, they would be proud.

In contemporary American times, I really could not say that I see anyone as praiseworthy as the early patriots, such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, and the many other men and women that made our country great. To me, today's America is too caught up in arm's deals, drug deals, and not enough peace deals. Sometimes I wish it could be more like Early American times.

By: Gina Mercurio

(around 4/89)

Dear president Bush
I think you are the best president since Ronald Reagan. I am glad you are against abortion. I am glad that your dog is going to have pupes. I am glad you are going to bring children back to the white house. I heard that you are sick. I now how you feel because I had it before, and you are very popuer in my class. I go to a private schoole because there are to many kids in the puplic schools. I know you will make beter schooling. And I know you will lowere taxes.

from Kelly Ann

Karen Tucker
c/o Richard Rorzek (husband)
Amer. Marketing & Communications
Santa Barbara CA (805) 969-5823

COPPELL HIGH SCHOOL

JUDY WEYER

COPPELL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SECONDARY COMMUNICATIONS & FINE ARTS DEPT.

1301 Wrangler Drive
Coppell, Texas 75019
(214) 471-2002

1301 WRANGLER DR.
COPPELL, TEXAS 75019

(214) 471-2002
(817) 497-3551

February 16, 1989

Dear President Bush,

Your recent address to the nation has inspired this letter as I hope it has inspired and challenged educators across the country. Your incentive programs to motivate and encourage academic excellence and drug free schools sound like a positive shot in the proverbial arm. Having often been the "scapegoat" for parents' and administrators' demands for academic accountability, it simply feels good to have a helping hand extended in lieu of a scolding finger.

I am proud, however, to be among the fortunate educators already teaching in a highly motivated and progressive school district here in Texas, Coppell Independent School District. Although we are, like most districts, low staffed, overworked, and underpaid, we have created some exciting new programs designed to promote many of the ideals of which you so encouragingly spoke. Allow me to briefly share with you some of the pilots currently being tested in our schools. Perhaps they will add fuel to the fire you wish to ignite in the heart of the education community.

In reference to substance abuse in our schools, twelve of our staff members were sent to two, two-day seminars this fall at a local drug and alcohol addiction treatment center in the Dallas area. These intensive 4 days impacted us beyond any words I could describe in this letter. Our task upon return was to set up a core team to oversee a "student assistance program" which does everything from prevention, investigation, and identification to intervention, counseling, and administration. Some of the exciting results of BIONIC (Believe It Or Not I Care) are as follows:

1. Kids Saving Kids
2. After Treatment Group Sessions
3. Concerned Others Group Session
4. High Risk Group Session
5. Catch-all Group for depression, stress,newcomers etc.

All group sessions are led by a trained psychologist or counselor, and the format for the last four will borrow from solution-oriented twelve step programs. At present, it's too soon to cite results, and I can't say our track record is without its share of false starts, but I can tell you that we are off and running albeit slow at the start. We've done some interventions and have referred a few students to treatment. The Kids Saving Kids program has high school students providing role-models through monthly anti-drug messages presented to the lower grades. Enclosed is a sample of the behavioral checklists which give the teachers an opportunity to confidentially refer troubled students, and then the core team takes it from there. We are not about the business of diagnosis. We are, however, about the business of education which is being prevented unless some of these issues are addressed.

Concerning academic performance, Coppell High School ranks highly on achievement and standardized test scores throughout the state of Texas. Unlike many schools, we have seven class periods a day with extended credit points required for graduation. These extra hours have allowed us to offer and/or require certain courses to meet individual needs. For example, we have a required semester course in writing and composition designed to improve written composition skills. Although we are only a 3-A school classification, we have five levels of English offered in each grade in high school: Regular English, Honors English, Correlated Language Arts, Individual Progress, and, of course, Resource. Similar categories are available in math, social studies, and science. Designed within our curriculum is a SAT course to enhance the performance of our graduating students going on to college,not to mention an array of electives seldom seen in a school of this size (600 students). It is truly refreshing to teach in a Texas school that promotes not just a winning football team, but also sings the praises of its fabulous band, drama, industrial arts,and computer science departments whose insignias are worn with pride on letter jackets all over campus. Imagine lettering in academic achievement. That will be the ultimate next step.

Mr. President, I know this has gotten rather lengthy, but these issues are hard to encapsulate in thirty words or less. The point of all this is that we do need financial assistance in schools all over the country to promote the Kids Saving Kids campaign and to man the courses and group sessiona so desperately needed by our young people facing horrendous choices and problems in their lives. Children of the 80"s and 90's live in a much different world than what you and I experienced. My dream is to finish my counseling degree and start promoting these workable, success oriented programs in our schools. Believe me, your instincts are right on target; we must get inside the schools and adjust the attitudes of the youth of America. They, after all, are the ones who can and will make this dream a reality. And once again, it is our job as educators and leaders to light the way.

Enclosed are four samples of class essays of the kind of attitude I'm talking about. I think their ideal as well as their composition will impress you with the spirit we're trying to promote here at Coppell High School.

Thank you for your time and let me know if any of us can be of assistance as torchbearers on your behalf. We're counting on you.

Sincerely,

Judy K. Weyer

Judy K. Weyer
Secondary Communications and Fine Arts Department
Coppell High School

Education

Drugs

"A NATURAL HIGH-

BEAUTY IN THE NATURAL WORLD AROUND ME"

"A Natural High-Beauty in the Natural World Around Me"

There are many natural highs in the world around us. A natural high being a thrill achieved without the use of drugs. The beauties and thrills the miracle of life give and expose to us everyday are so much more realistic and rewarding than the false high associated with drug abuse. Listed in this paper are only a few of the natural highs experienced by non-drug abusers everyday.

In sports, the thrill of victory is one of the best feelings in the world. Knowing that you did your job better than the other person or team is a great feeling and gives one a sense of pride and confidence. Scoring the winning run in baseball, throwing the go-ahead touchdown in football, or winning a relay race in track, all can give an athlete a genuine high, not achieved by drugs. In the world around us, many natural highs can be obtained. Being around the fresh air, blooming flowers, chirping birds, and glowing sun found on a spring afternoon is a natural high in the world around us. Another wonderful experience is sky diving. The thrill of jumping out of an airplane, and falling freely towards the ground below is a natural high that could be relived in one's mind forever, whereas smoking marijuana or snorting cocaine gives a false high that cannot be cherished throughout a lifetime. Another natural beauty in the world is the golf course. When the grass is green, and a slight breeze whispers through the quiet trees of a golf course, the feeling is incredible. Probably the most rewarding and and best feeling possible is that of a strong

relationship with a friend. Having a friend is one of the most important things an adolescent needs for his or her successful social life growing up. If someone is caring, dependable, and trustworthy, it makes the other person feel special or like they are somebody. If a friend gives a good complement, or shows he or she cares in any way, it can give a person the greatest feeling in the world.

So, as you can see, the beauty and special things life has to offer is more than the neighborhood pusher on the corner has to offer. Things like playing sports, the thrill of winning, sky diving, a warm spring afternoon, or having a dependable, caring friend, are just a few of the experiences this wonderful world has to offer as a natural high other than drugs.

Matt Crouch
Coppell High School

"A NATURAL HIGH-BEAUTY IN THE NATURAL WORLD AROUND ME"

Our society has reached a point in time at which the use of harmful drugs has become more threatening than ever. Drug abuse has developed into an "epidemic". Drugs are so common that it is possible to buy them from junior high students. During my lifetime, I have chosen to avoid drugs. In their place is a much more beautiful aspect of the world. It is a thing that has evolved since the origination of civilizations. It has created in its followers a greater "high" than is possible with chemicals. This beautiful reason for avoiding drugs is the system of capitalism and the opportunities it presents.

Capitalism has become one of the greatest motivational forces behind man. In an effort to be the best in a competitive business world has brought about the technology that allows people to travel half way around the planet in only a few hours, and which has placed man on the surface of the moon. The reason I have stayed away from drugs is so that I can be a part of this productive system. By avoiding the deadly game of drugs, I hope to one day be one of the people who capitalism rewards with an extreme "high": the combination of money and power. Money and power provide the greatest "highs" possible. The good thing about them is that they are available to anyone who is willing to work hard enough to achieve success in the business world. There also is no risk to one's life as there is with drug-induced highs. The "high" that success in the business world brings about is achieved not with a needle but instead with determination. Capitalism opens up free enterprise to

everyone, just as the junior high drug-dealer does with his merchandise. Anyone is free to work towards a "high" that is felt when a person goes to the bank to deposit a check in the six-digit numbers. Capitalism also offers the "high" created by power and authority. The chief executive officer of a major corporation surely feels a "high" while he sits in his plush office in a New York skyscraper and directs the daily activities of thousands of employees. When the independent company-owner boards his own private business jet, he too experiences a "high" unparalleled by crack or cocaine. Anyone of these "highs" can be achieved by any person under the beautiful system of capitalism.

In comparison to the highs created by drug abuse and the "highs" created by success in the business world, the drug alternative certainly seems to be the less enjoyable of the two. For this reason, I have chosen to avoid drugs so that I will be able to perform my best in the business world under the system of capitalism.

Brian Zomick

9th grade Coppell High School

"A NATURAL HIGH - BEAUTY IN THE NATURAL WORLD AROUND ME"

There are other alternatives for getting "high" than taking drugs. Look around and breathe the air. Life itself is a phenomona to which anyone can get a natural "high". Have you ever been to the mountains or the ocean, or have you heard the singing of the french horns in an orchestra. When surrounded by these special moods, one can feel free and safe and "high" on life.

To describe how to get "high" on life, we must first define "high". Being "high" means to have a happy, special sensation that makes you glow and feel like you're floating in the air in a sense. People get "high" on many different experiences. A healthy "high" is the safest and longest "high" possibly reached. In the following paragraphs, I'll take you to some special places and show you how to be "high" on life. Brace yourself.

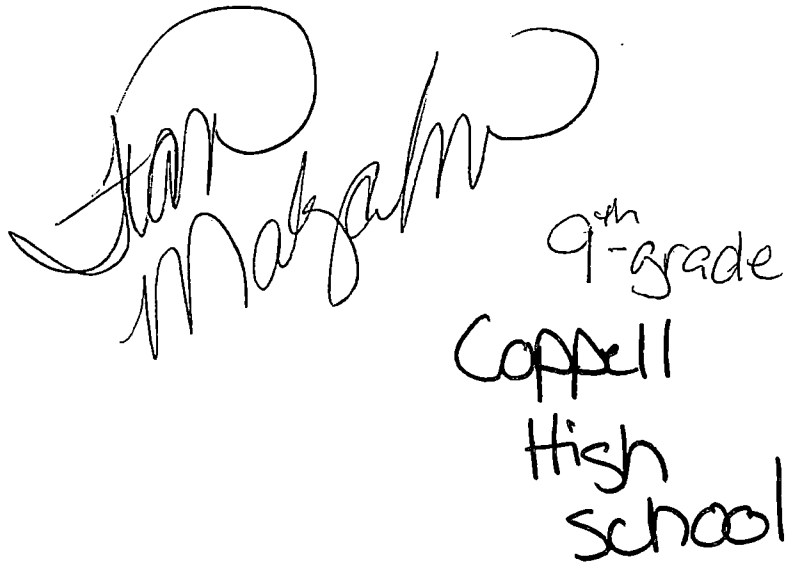
Walk with me out on the porch of a log cabin on the side of a majestic mountain slope. It is the middle of the night and the arm of the Milky Way is reaching out at us from the heavenly skies. Every inch of the sky is taken up with the radiant glow of a star. As the glowing balls of fire peep down on the mountain tops, the snow capped masses take the breath from my lips. When a slight zephyr brushes across my face, I breathe in the clean, fresh invisible drug that keeps me "high". The air is as pure as God's breath, and all of the inanimate objects around me come to life. The branches of the trees are arms reaching out to touch my hand, and the wind is whistling love songs into my ears. This experience is definitely the purest form of a euphoric sensation.

Some people get "high" on an aquatic sense of nature. Follow me now to the ocean rocking slightly back and forth as the waves ripple beneath the sail boat. During mid-day the sun is at it's highest peak, and we can see nothing but blue water from each direction. As the billowy, cumulus puffs of cotton blow by, different shapes, animals, and dreams flash before us. The massive sail is filling like a balloon as the wind is starting to make a fierce statement. Faster and faster, the wind carries us on top of the salty wall. Standing as leader of the world and king of the high seas on the bow of the massive boat, the wind wisps through our hair and stings our eyes. Then suddenly, the water splashes our faces and sends us soaring through the air higher than life.

Lastly, the voices of musical instruments playing together in perfect harmony can cause a tremendous "high". Now, open your eyes and heart and interpret the messages of the masters, Mozart, Bach, and Beethoven. As the smooth tones of the low brass caress the downbeat of each measure, we can feel the pounding of each heartbeat ricochet throughout our whole body. Listen closely and we can feel the beautiful vibrato of the flutes singing out like proud mother robins perched high in a tree. Following closely behind is the proud blare of the trumpets representing strength and defiance. Now the violins take the stage as they scream up and down scales faster and faster almost burning the strings until they finally settle into a soft sweet melodic mood. But then, when you thought the climax was reached, sneaks in the majestic, cool voice of a single French horn singing the most beautiful sustained phrase that fills your heart with love and joy and sends chills up your spine.

The masterpiece draws to a dramatic conclusion with an ascending scale that crescendoes to that final note that shakes the world with its fists! No drug can carry you so far into your mind as Mozart.

The simple fact is that we don't need drugs to make us feel good about ourselves or "high". There are so many other things in life that are rewarding. If you can't get away physically, reach deep into your heart and soul and remember the things that you have read. Get "high" on life. You can do anything you want to in life if you work hard, and keep your body healthy and lucid. Explore the secrets of nature and the fascinating depths of the mind. Breathe in the air around you and take a good long look at what God has given us. The world is a beautiful place if you'd just open your eyes.



A Natural High

There are many things in this world. A person can get high by doing just about anything, but taking drugs to get that high is the wrong way. One beauty of this world for me is a baseball game in August. Another is just looking at the great outdoors. Yet another is going to watch a college football game in the middle of December. These things are much more fun than drugs.

A baseball game in August is just what any fan lives for. Nothing is more exiting than going to see your home team play a Saturday afternoon game in hot weather. The smell of hot dogs and roasted peanuts, the man walking down the isles shouting the old phrase "beer here," and the crack of the ball off the end of a wooden bat. Baseball touches all of the senses in a certain way.

A second high for me is just walking outside and looking at the scenery. Driving and viewing the mountains, breathing in the fresh air, and feeling the cool mountain air slide over my face makes me feel wonderful. Anybody that lives in Texas can travel to East Texas in the fall and see the various colors of leaves on the huge trees. When a person takes drugs they cannot see beautiful things for what they really are.

Another great thing that raises my spirits is a college football game in the midst of December. A freezing stadium filled with eighty thousand screaming people watching a the home team battle their state rivals makes a football fan

feel right at home. Also, a person can sit down in front of the television with a bowl of popcorn and watch the game. A football fan doesn't need drugs to feel great.

Drugs impare the senses, unlike many other things. Baseball in August, the mountains and East Texas in the Fall, and college football in December are my natural highs. People don't need drugs to get high. The world around us is the best high anyone could ever get.

Barry Rose
9th grade
Coppell High School

1522 N 19th St.
Lafayette, IN 47905
February 27, 1989

Dear Mr. President,

I like the educational tools we have in our schools, but could lunches be better? Could you come to our school 1415 Ball St. Linnwood School Lafayette, IN 47905? How was your trip in Europe and Asia? I am in the 4th grade. I hope, you would send me a picture of the White House. It isn't fair that you compare the European school systems to our school system. They go all year around. It is no wonder that they are smarter than us. What is your favorite basketball team? Mine are the Boston Celtics.

Sincerely,

Brandon Golden

317 Center St.
Waukegan IL. 60085
March 22, 1989

Dear Mr. President,

I think schools are important to education because if we don't have education we would not be able to get a job, or money to pay the bills and money to buy food. I think you should spend more money on education because people need to learn about things. We can learn about chemistry, engineering and many more things.

Sincerely,
Sarah Durben

Schools

Education

303 Douglas Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60085
March 22, 1989

Dear Mr. President,

Please help our school raise more money so Andrew Cooke Magnet School can keep on teaching. If you gave us more money, it would help a lot. Education is important to kids in this school because they want to be educated.

Sincerly,

Mary Terese Vineski

P.S. Please write us back and thank-you for listening.

2635 Hyde Park
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Mar 22, 1989

Dear President,

I am writing this letter to ask for your help for all of the schools in the United States. As you know, education is the most important thing for children, and the better education helps our country. To give best education schools need a lot of money for teachers, good equipment, computers and labs.

I think we should not spend a lot of money on the defense. I would also like to see you do something about drugs in this country, which is hurting alot of families. There are many people in this country who are very poor and do not have food to eat and a place to stay. I would like you to do something about helping those families. I am eight years old and I have some money and I would like to help them, too. Please tell me where I can send money. I hope I can get a reply from you.

Sincerely yours,
Shailee Parikh

2730 Brookside
WKGN IL, 60085
March 22, 1989

Dear Mr. President Bush,
Can you help our Magnet Schools?
We will be pleased if you can.
Education is important for us and
if we don't have enough education,
we will not be smart like you.
Please help our schools.

Yours Truly,
David Irizarry

1906 North Shardenn
Waukegan IL 60087
March 22

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

I go to Cooke Magnet school in Waukegan, IL. I'm nine and in the 3rd grade. I have two brothers. My oldest brother, Karsten, is 12 and in seventh grade. My youngest brother Bjorn, is 3 months old. I hope you spend enough money on schools. I want my youngest brothe

to get a good education. I also hope you spend some money on the homeless people.

Sincerely yours,
Soren Hall

Ed

Sidney Elementary,
Sidney, Iowa 51652
March 2, 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

I am from Sidney, Iowa. I wanted to let you know that we learn about 11 new things a day. I watched the program you were on and you said that we didn't learn as much as most kids do. I wish that you would come to Sidney and see our fourth grade class. In school we got an article about you and I found out that your birthday was on the same day as my mom's birthday June 12, 1989. We learn alot of things in school. We are learning how to divide like 5 into 978. In Spelling we do lots of fun things and in Science we are learning a fossil fuels. In Social Studies we are

learning about Desert regions. We have computer time but I think we need alot more computers in our school. There are 21 students in my class. I think we need at least 4 more computers in our class because we now only have two. I think we also need more teachers and higher pay. Well I better go now.

Your friend,
Mindy
Snyder

Sidney Elementary
Sidney Iowa 51652
March 2, 1989

Dear President Bush,

I think kids education is real important to children. I think you should pay more money on schools. So schools can have new books. So we would be able to know the new information. I think there should be a subject that all you do is talk about whats happening in the world.

Sincerely,
Kari Kemper

Sidney Elementy
Sidney Ia.
February 22, 1989

Dear Mr. President,

There are schools that have
stdents learning to do
things. you don't look
at us. We're a small town
in the west part of Iowa.
Why don't you come to
towns like us?

We need schools for the elementy
grades. you made them for
the High Shcools.

Sincerely,
Stacy Thompson

Sidney Elementary
Sidney Iowa 51652
Feburary 22, 1989

Dear President Bush

Hi My name is David Briley. I am a fourth grade student in sidney iowa. we are studding about how we can get smarter. I think we need some encyclopeadics. so we can read of find an subject that we like. we have some but they are old. we need reading books some are realy old. we might need some harder reading books to read in our reading time. We can pick out the united states on a map and all others

your Friend,
David Briley

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

I disagreed with some of the things you said about American Education. We do know as much as other countries. We don't seem very smart but we are. We do very well in math and science. Maybe were not the best but were good.

I want to tell you what I think we need to improve in school. We need more money for computers and text books. More colleges that tell what a teacher does besides teach. They plan assignments, field trips, and meetings or special things. They grade report cards and make rules.

Thank you for your time,

Julie Monaghan

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Ia. 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

I live in Sidney Iowa. We are good in Science and math. I think that you should visit small schools like ours before you say we're doing bad. I also think teachers should be paid more. Some places need more teachers. To get more teachers I think they should show their professionalism. In little schools our education is great!

Sincerely,
Les Mack

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear Mr. President,

In my school we need new books. My name is Darlene. I go to Sidney Elementary School. Our school needs more teachers. We also need new work books. My school needs a bigger library. It is small. Will you help us?

Sincerly,
Darlene
Balquere

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

I think school education is important. I think our school year needs to be extended so we kids can learn more. At school the money that is put in to the school be for only the things needed not things like pop for the teachers lounge but things like computers, books, and paper.

I think all schools should let all of the elementary classes have thier own two computers. The teachers decide whether or not to leave them on or shut them off.

Yours truly,
Kimberly
Ann Henneman

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

Sidney has a small school with some old books and no money for new ones. People don't come around to our school because it's too small. We have a good education. There are forty-one students in fourth grade.

From,
Brent Lowe

Sidney Elementary
Sidney Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President

You say us kids don't do good in math and science. I got a 96% on my science so I got an A-. You should come over to small schools. We don't have drug problems here.

Your fan
Matt Thompson

Sidney Elementary
Sidney Iowa. 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

How are things in Washinton D.C.? How is Barbara Bush? Why I wrote is I would like to talk about the school education. I think it would help to have a computer on the right side of your desk and a pensil sarpener on the ather. Instead of a dictony you could have a Franklen Language Master it has a dictionary and a Thesarus. Thanks

Sincerely
Cody Tackett

Sidney Elmarty
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President,

I think every room in the school should have an apple computer, or any computer. And I think there should be up to 25 kids in a class room at a time. I think our education is good.

Sincerely
Marianne
Damatta

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Ia. 51602
Feburary 22, 1989

Dear President,

I think education would be better if you help pay their toistion's. People could get better World books. You could provide good books to learn from. Get better Science and Math books. Smaller class so people could learn more. School all day for Elementary kids. I think your going to be a good president.

Thanks for your time.

From,

Brian Spurlock

Didney Elemetray
Didney, IA 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

I think America needs more money. Are teacher has been talking about needing more money. What I mean is you need more courgeous more people to invent things. Some of the homeless need alot of money. And what about people how need money for operation that don't have it. One time Andy Lowe was collecting poptabs so a person could have the operation. Well that's all I have to say. I really enjoy writing.

Your frind
Kristy Fox

P.S. Write Back soon!!

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 21st

Dear President Bush,

I think we should give money to the homeless. We need more supplies for our school. I wish we had more computers and books. Teachers do more than teach. They help people out like my teacher does. We have some teachers that help people with math and reading. Some people go to a speacil class because of thier bask skils grade.

Your friend,
Alexis Yates

Sidney Elementary
Sidney Ia 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

I think to get a Collage Education we need shorter school hours. Also we need smaller classes. Then it wouldn't be as noisy so we could do the best we can when we are doing are work. We need shorter school hours because we hardly ever get snow days. We dont need as many rules to follow.

Your Friend,
Minnie
Baldwin

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear Mr. President,

I wish you would make colleges cost less to go to because, some people dont have enough money to get there children college educations. If they dont get a college education they wont be able to get a very good job. I want everyone to get a good job and to get that you must have a college education.

Sincerely,
Megan
Butterca

Sidney Elem.
Sidney, IA 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

I think to let America's school kids learn more we need more money for our text books and money for an expanded library. America's kids will know more about things and plus learn new things. We need money for new computers because we need to learn about them because when the year 2,000 comes most things will be running on computers and we need to know something about them.

Thats what we need to make America's school kids learn more about our feature and our past.

Sincerely,
Johnie Davidson

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear Mr. President,

I wish that there were smaller classes in the world. I would think it would be hard to teach with the big classes that some people in the world have. My mom is a fifth grade teacher. I am in fourth grade. She comes home every night to tell what all her kids did. Sometimes she says that they are good sometimes not. I wish you would come to Sidney Iowa. We have been doing alot on you. We have mostly little rooms. Whe you have big rooms you have to be very quiet. I like the size of our room. We have 21 in our room. In the fifth grade we have 12 in one of the rooms. It is a good size of class.

Your friend,
Jim Maher

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa 51652
February 22, 1989

Dear Mr. President,

Please come to Sidney, Iowa to see how you think we're doing in education. We need more money for a better playground. We need more money for more computers and books. Here at Sidney we're probly smarter than some of the other cities around us. Please send your autograph with a picture of the White House. We have a good Basketball Team and Football Team.

Sincerly,
Justin Myers

Sidney Elementary
Sidney, Iowa
February 22, 1989

Dear President Bush,

To help our schools we need more computers and we also need more teachers to have a good education. I know it costs alot of money but we need new school books too.

Yours truly,

Brandy Spivey

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mrs. Farrow:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter. I was pleased to learn of your husband's efforts in the war against drug abuse.

I am deeply moved by the dedication of those Americans in law enforcement who make so many sacrifices to fight illegal drugs. These men and women have chosen to take a stand for good, knowing full well the costs it might involve. Their courage and concern for others are truly inspiring. Indeed, that spirit of determination from all Americans is what will win this war.

Your husband and all our Nation's law enforcement officers have my thanks, and that of a grateful Nation, for their selfless efforts. I salute you and your children, too, for I know that you make many sacrifices yourselves.

Barbara joins me in sending our best wishes. God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stephen Farrow
6013 Oakhill Road
Watauga, Texas 76148

September 26, 1989

President George Bush
White House
1600 Pennsylvania
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

BWP

As I sit here all alone writing this letter my husband is out fighting the war on Drugs. His name is Stephen Farrow and he is an narcotics officer with the County of Tarrant, Fort Worth, Texas. We have been married for almost nine months and we very seldom see one another. His career keeps him away from home for long periods of time. He is very dedicated and determined to help fight this war. It seems that with each passing day it becomes more and more impossible to win the war on Drugs. We have three children, ages two, five, and nine, each day we pray that they will not become a part

of this growing problem. My husband talks with our children each day about drugs and the repercussions of using drugs. I believe that if everyone was as dedicated as you and my husband, there would not be a problem with drug abuse. It seems as if all drug users have an excuse for using illegal substances, but they have no true reason.

My husband has just returned from another drug trust where children were present. He says he feels helpless, but he is devoted to his career. It would be so uplifting if he could get personal encouragement from the President of the United States. If you could please take the time to drop him a line of encouragement it would mean so much to Stephen and I. Please let him know that he puts his life on the line for a good cause because I know that someday he may not come home to me and our children.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stephen Farrow
6013 Oakhill Road
Watauga, Texas 76148

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 12, 1989

Dear Mr. Henderson:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for the wonderfully supportive comments following his address to students regarding drug use. He also appreciated your sending a copy of your book and your videocassette tape.

The President is pleased to learn that you share his resolve to educate young people about the dangers associated with drug use. There is no more worthwhile service than trying to help them prepare for a healthy and safe future.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

Mr. Thomas Henderson
Post Office Box 3828
Costa Mesa, CA 92828

President,

My name is Thomas Henderson.
You may remember me as "Hollywood"
when I played outside linebacker for the
Dallas Cowboys. My reason for writing
is to express my thanks to you for
talking straight to the school kids
of America. You were so father
like today. I cried because
your message is one I wish
I'd heard when I was a kid.
Keep doing it, Mr President.
Every six months or so.
You were extremely effective today.
I went to prison for Cocaine related
sex charges in 1984.
I've been clean and sober since 11/8/85.
I lecture all over the country.
If ever you can use me please
call. I hope you see my video.
(714) 549-8908

Thomas Henderson

PRESENTING
THOMAS "HOLLYWOOD" HENDERSON

Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson was the number one selection of the Dallas Cowboys in the 1975 N.F.L. draft. A two time All American football star from a small college in Oklahoma, Henderson soon became the most flamboyant football player of the 70's. Considered by many the best Linebacker ever in the N.F.L.

As outrageous as he was talented..."Hollywood" appeared on the cover of Newsweek and he was one of the stars of America's team, the Dallas Cowboys. Henderson played in three Super Bowls during his colorful seven year career as a top player in the N.F.L., the epitome of success with his athletic skill and his wit. Nevertheless, Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson was an alcoholic and cocaine addict. His brilliant career was nipped in the bud by alcohol and drugs. He lost his family, friends and career.

Always an interesting and eloquent speaker, Thomas Henderson relays his anti-alcohol and anti-drug message by means of his very sobering account of his obsession with alcohol and cocaine and his continuing efforts to stay "Clean and Sober".

He is also the author of the best selling book "Out of Control", his own autobiography done with Peter Knobler. Thomas makes available several hundred copies of his book "Out of Control" available for purchase when he does a lecture.

Thomas has first-hand knowledge of the treatment process for addicted people, as he went through several programs before he got sober himself. Clean and sober since 11/8/83, Thomas has a new life and loves sharing it. He has a strong interest in the educational process of recovery and relapse prevention, and he'll be available to you for one or two day programs and lectures.

As the first N.F.L. player to go public with his cocaine addiction in 1981, Henderson is most qualified to share his first-hand knowledge of the pain, suffering and helplessness one encounters in the midst of an alcohol or drug obsession and the miracle and wonderment of recovery and sobriety. He has been from Super Bowl to cell block with many horrifying stops along the way. Alcoholism and drug addiction almost killed him. Today he's a new human being. Working one family at a time. One person at a time. One day at a time.

For lecture information and fee's please write or call: P.O. Box 3828, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 (714)549-8908.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Thank you for your kind words about your niece's reaction to my speech to students on the dangers of drugs. I am pleased to learn that Marion not only understood the severity of the problem but also wanted to discuss the issue with her family.

While the speech applied to Americans of all ages, it was specifically addressed to students in the classrooms and the assembly halls. I tried to put myself in their place and imagine growing up faced with the task of making decisions that will shape the future. I wanted them to understand that those who let drugs make their decisions for them will hear the doors of opportunity slamming shut. The attitudes that once encouraged or excused drug use have changed, and that is a healthy change.

Our hope for this country's future now rests in the home and in the classrooms. If we help young people make the right decisions with regard to drugs, our Nation will be united, determined, and strong.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Ms. Vicki Johnson
226 East Bodley Avenue
Kirkwood, Missouri 63122

September 13, 1989

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Bush,

Congratulations on a fine speech to the schools yesterday. In case you wonder what impact it had, I want to share with you how my twelve-year-old niece Marion Randall reacted. She heard the broadcast at school, in seventh grade at Nipher Junior High School. I took Marion and her ten-year-old brother and her six-year-old sister out for dinner last night, and she gave us a ten minute run down on what you said. In fact, she was the one to bring the subject up. She related the stories you told in great detail, and it was obvious to me that she had been really touched by what you said. After she finished, I asked her what she thought about it, and she told me that she and her girlfriend had sat together in class during the speech and hugged each other because they were crying at the sad stories. Then she said it was important that if a kid was having a problem with drugs that they tell someone in order to get help, or that if a kid knew someone else was having a problem that they take action or they would be part of the problem.

Thanks for taking the time to lend a personal touch to a tough problem. As I read your speech text this morning I realize how you spoke to these kids in their language and in a way they could relate to. I know you hit home with Marion, and I hope you did with many others as well.

Sincerely,

Vicki Johnson

Vicki V. Johnson
226 East Bodley Avenue
Kirkwood, MO 63122

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Keith:

Thank you for your nice letter. I was delighted to learn that you want to help stop drug use in your school.

Police men and women play a very important role in the fight against drugs. However, I believe the best way you can help is to care for someone who is struggling with the problem of drugs or alcohol. Talk to them about it or talk to a teacher or other adult you can trust. Find a way to help that person realize that drugs aren't cool, that drugs can kill. You and your friends who are refusing to use drugs can encourage your classmates to say "no" when someone offers them illegal drugs. By setting a good example and by demonstrating your concern for others, you can make a difference in the lives of those around you.

Thanks again for helping in the fight against substance abuse. Mrs. Bush joins me in wishing you a good school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. Keith Hicks
12 Pine Lane
Williamston, South Carolina 29697

Dear President,

My name is Keith Hicks. I'm 11 years old and I've always wanted to be a cop. I really wrote this letter to ask you a big favor. I was wondering if you could make me a cop for the Palmetto Middle School. People smoke pot every day almost. So I want to put a stop to it. So I was asking you could have a badge from you. If you could I would like it in a black things that detectives carry there badges in. Pleas make me a cop Please Mrt. President. My adress is Williamston S.C 29697 12 Pine Lane)

Yours truly

Keith Hicks.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Rewold:

Thank you for sharing your thoughts and inspiring story with me. You and Mrs. Rewold are on the front lines, setting an inspiring example for all your fellow citizens.

Because you refused to acquiesce to drug use on your property, your community is a better place. You've said to your friends and neighbors, "I'm not going to look the other way." As more and more Americans follow suit, we are going to cut deeply into the demand for drugs. This is where, as you've pointed out, we start winning the drug war.

Our National Drug Control Strategy is a coordinated, cooperative effort to eliminate illegal drug use. It requires the commitment of all levels of government and society and the determination of parents, businesses, and community leaders to meet our goal. In light of your good work and interest, I am enclosing a fact sheet outlining the proposals contained in the National Drug Control Strategy.

Thank you for giving heart to our cause. God bless you, and God bless America.

Sincerely,

Mr. Bert L. Rewold
1171 Walnut Grove
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48064

SEPTEMBER 6,1989

Bert L.Rewold
1171 Walnut Grove
Rochester Hills, Mi 48064
(313) 656-3036

Dear President Bush:

I would like you to read this article, about my wife and I. As you can see there are people fighting the Drug War. It has cost us a lot ,in the last three years, but if we don't stop the Drugs our country and our kids have no future.

I served in Viet Nam and saw many friends fall to Drugs, not enemy fire. Drugs are all around us, not just in the cities, but also, the small towns. We lost the Viet Nam war, but we cann't loss the new Drug War. If we loss this war we have lost America. You cann't put a budget cost on something as important as war against America on American soil. It has to be all out war with all our resources to fight it!

We have many military base's that should have been closed years ago. Now is the time to convert them to a new military use, Drug Centers, and if need be, use the military to man them.

I feel if you spend all the money triing to get the big shot, he will just be replaced by another. They are makiing so much money there will always be one more in line.

We need not stop the supply, as much as we need to stop the demand. You stop the supply the cost will go up, profits will be greater and the pusher will make more money with less work. The users will need more money, which will increase crime. If you stop the demand, which means you have lettle or no user's, the price falls, the profit fall, and the Drug bussiness FAILS!

The Oxford Leader

The Second Front Page Wed., Feb. 18, 1987 3

Hummer

Boss to computer salesman: "Something small – I just want to replace an smart aleck."



At Lakeville tavern

Bert and Susan Rewold, owners of the Second Wind tavern (previously know as the Log Cabin Inn) in Lakeville were fed up with drugs in their establishment. They closed down to figure out how to keep illegal drugs away from their clientele and to remodel.

'We're cleaning up or closing down'

By DON RUSH
Leader Editor

Owning a business is tough, hopefully the business reflects the character of the owners. Owning a bar is tougher. There is a vast array of patrons, and just as many reasons for frequenting such an establishment.

In Lakeville, the new owners of the Second Wind, 1318 Rochester Rd. (previously known by the long standing name, Log Cabin Inn) found some of the reasons for going to their place was drugs.

"Maybe we were naive. I was told there wasn't a bar in Oakland County where you can't get cocaine. But, I don't want to be related to drugs," Bert Rewold said.

Rewold and his wife, Susan, both operate businesses in Rochester. They bought the Log Cabin Inn in October and decided to remodel and change the name to the Second Wind.

"We wanted to change the image. We wanted to get away from the ordinary. We told them before to get the word around we were either going to clean up or close down. Obviously, they didn't believe us," Rewold said.

Rewold said patrons had caught some of the help snorting cocaine in the lavatories. They tried to clean up without closing down. Among other things, they took out the pool table and the shuffle board.

"I even put a big light in the parking lot, it didn't bother people. They would park under it," Rewold said.

After closing down, Rewold found out that the sheriff's department had 12 pages of reports dealing with drugs and fights. "Why didn't Liquor Control say anything to us before they gave us our license?" he said.

They also called the narcotics division

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"Maybe we were naive. I was told there wasn't a bar in Oakland County where you can't get cocaine. But, I don't want to be related to drugs," Bert Rewold said.

Rewold and his wife, Susan, both operate businesses in Rochester, as a second family business they purchased the Log Cabin Inn, where Lakeville Road bumps into Rochester Rd.

"We use to come here all the time when we were kids. Bert kind of always liked this place. It was like a dream when we bought it, but it turned into a nightmare," Susan said.

Their first night of operation was Halloween, 1986. Their last day of operation was Super Bowl Eve, Saturday, January 24.

"Sue went outside to go home," Rewold recalled. "It was what, about midnight?"

"1 a.m.," his wife corrected.

"Well, she went outside and there were four guys in one car buying and selling drugs. She came in got me, and I threw them out of the parking lot. Not five minutes later she went back outside to go home and there was another car in the same spot with 2 guys in it selling drugs. I threw them out and that was it. We closed down," Rewold said.

"I was getting very uncomfortable with the whole situation," Susan said. "When I went out the first time I saw the bag of cocaine, I saw the spoon, and he saw me. He didn't care. He just smiled and said 'do you want some,' and then got on with the exchange. Just like it was an everyday occurrence."

The couple had thought "something was wrong" prior to the January 24 incident. "When we bought the place we took on the help. We asked the help about drugs, they said they didn't know . . . didn't see anything out of the ordinary. We told them before to get the word around we were either going to clean up or close down. Obviously, they didn't believe us," Rewold said.

Rewold said patrons had caught some of the help snorting cocaine in the lavatories. They tried to clean up without closing down. Among other things, they took out the pool table and the shuffle board.

"I even put a big light in the parking lot, it didn't bother people. They would park under it," Rewold said.

After closing down, Rewold found out that the sheriff's department had 12 pages of reports dealing with drugs and fights. "Why didn't Liquor Control say anything to us before they gave us our license?" he said.

They also called the narcotics division of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. The couple were willing to let their establishment be "staked out."

"They (narcotics divison) were surprised we called. Usually bar owners don't want them around. Basically what they told us, if you own a bar you have to over look those problems. I don't think you have to.

"They are always trying to get the guys on the top (of drug deals), why not start at the bottom. I don't know why more bar owners don't get involved. It can't help business, especially liability. If someone walks in here, has 2 drinks, goes out in the parking lot and does drugs, then gets into an accident, it's coming back to the bar.

"Everybody thinks they should just turn their heads. Maybe it's time not to turn the other way. We don't want to be any part of it. We don't want to hide anything. We don't want to be associated with drugs," Rewold said.

The Rewolds are giving the Second Wind a "second chance" come spring. They are remodeling the inside, adding onto the kitchen, plan on paving the parking lot, and doing landscape work.

"There's potential here. We want a family atmosphere. A good dinner at reasonable prices. There are a couple of chefs interested in working here. We'll play down the alcohol part," Susan said.

"They say if we do that we'll lose business. I think there's a lot of people in this area who don't come here anymore because of the way it was going. This place has a lot of potential. The main thing is to get the word out that we're not putting up with drugs. We don't want that clientele," Rewold said.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Jennifer:

Thank you for your special letter. I can tell how deeply you feel about the evil of drugs, and I respect the concern that led you to write.

By writing to me and "New Kids on the Block," you have taken a first step toward helping free America from drugs. Your letters serve as pledges to yourself, to your family, and to your friends that you will not let drugs enter your life. I admire you for your commitment -- a commitment I share.

The clever slogan you've adopted, "users don't win; winners don't use," is right on target. I hope you will share it with your friends and classmates.

Mrs. Bush joins me in sending our warm best wishes and thanks for your support. God bless you.

Sincerely,

Miss Jennifer Casey
803 Smith Lane
Hillsboro, Illinois 62049

#3

803 Smith Ln.
Hillsboro, IL 62049
9/5/89 217-532-5080

Dear Mr. President,

My name is Jennifer Casey and I am a fourteen-year old freshman in high school. The school that I attend is about medium-sized in student population. The town I live in is fairly small, and anything that happens spreads quickly including drugs. Mr. President, I am very concerned about my friends. Some of them are getting involved with upperclassmen who use alcohol, and a few who use drugs. I thought it was bad enough in junior high, but now it seems to be getting worse.

Sir, it disgusts me. And I want to fight drugs in my community, county, state, country, and world. I'll do anything

to fight this. I want to be heard, Sir. But I need your help. In return, I will give you as much of mine as I can.

Recently I have taken quite a liking to a popular music group called "New Kid's On The Block". They are very much involved in the "Say No to Drugs" campaign. That is one reason why I like them so much. We stand for the same things. I've written to them expressing my concerns, but they're so busy that I don't really expect to hear from them. But sir, I think that I can get someone with you. I am really sincere about this, and I think we could help each other alot. Like I said before, I will do ANYTHING to stop drugs.

I have taken up enough time in your schedule. Thank you, sir. I hope to be hearing from you soon with more information, Mr. President. Thank you again.

Very sincerely-

Jennifer Casey

My personal slogan

↓

Users don't win; winners don't use

Just Say NO!

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

23
p. 324

1-30-90

Dearest President Bush (or the appropiate staff),

Regarding the War on Drugs

I know you're coming down on the drug situation and I respect what you're planning, but I think the White House should know what's going on in my midwest, honey poron.

There are very few people I know that arenot doing drugs. First, I thought only lower-income, abused, and ignorant people used drugs and then I re-thought my believes. I thought about the variety of people I'm exposed to: my co-workers do drugs, my friends do drugs, my college classmates do drugs. No, they don't do drugs everyday or every weekend, but drugs are used. Anymore, at get togethers, pot and cocaine are radomly passed or availble in a side room.

What can I do? I made the choice to be drug-free, but what about these average run of the mill people? I think our anti-drug programs need to be geared to the average, middleclass person involved

in a "good" lifestyle. Every commercial is geared to either simple minded folks or pre-med. students.

Please, I care about the people I come in contact with during my life. We have to reach all realms of drug abuse; from the daily abuser, to the once a year party goer. Is it possible for the propaganda machines to create something to touch the middle average group?

I love the people involved in my life. If there is anything I can do - please let me know.

Thank you.

LL Lerch-Liebsbar

Laura Lerch-Liebersbach
(but you can call me Babs
all my good friends do)

325. 14th Ave SE #301
St. Cloud, Mn 56304

LL Lynch - Luther Gack
225 14th AVE SE 301
St. Cloud, MN 56304

SAINT CLOUD, MN
PM
30 JAN
1990



President George Bush
the White House
Washington DC 20500

M
P.32A

January 10, 1990

President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20013

Dear President George Bush:

I am writing not only as an active student in leadership at Yosemite High School in Oakhurst, California, but as a concerned and prospective teenager. My thoughts and attitudes toward the following issue may have no apparent impact on you and your duties, and perhaps you've received many letters of similarity, however, I do need to remind you that the information I am about to give comes straight from the value system and mind of a typical 16 year old. I only ask that you try and take me seriously and consider my prospective.

Adolescent substance abuse has become widely recognized as a serious social problem during the past few years; however, the "solutions" our world has come up with to solve the problem have not proved to be sufficient. Drinking and drugs have always been an accepted part of the American culture and there has always been a small awareness of the problems that it can cause. WE KNOW WHAT IT DOES. We have heard it over and over a

again. From our teachers, from our parents, from almost everything we read these days. The problem is not a lack of education. The problem is the mind of the individual.

Adolescents these days can be set off by the simplest things. A guy I may like doesn't say hi to me. A friend ignores one of my comments. I receive a bad grade on a test. All of these things and more can make up for a bad day. When things such as these become a part of each of one's day, there is no doubt it may lead to depression. And what millions of teenagers are turning to as a "cure" for depression is drugs. Why not? If it makes them feel better, then who cares about what it can do to you. Besides, it's only bad if it goes on for a long period of time. And they're only going to do it once, right? Wrong. Once they start feeling good, they want to continue that feeling forever. So they take more drugs. And more. And more. Until finally, they're problems <u>are</u> over. Because they're dead.

So stop the problem where it starts. Forget peer pressure. It's a way of life. Teenagers look to their friends for the answers. And when they find them, it doesn't matter if they're right or wrong. Because <u>they're</u> doing it. Depression can be caused by many things. But the main reason for it is a lack of self-esteem. When people start to feel down on themselves- for any matter- whether it's their looks, their personality, or their grades, they become depressed. If we can, in some

way, develop a bit of self esteem in each individual, their need for drugs would be lessened, and the war on drugs would be much more simple.

Another factor which leads to drug use is the family. Problems at home, lead to problems in the child. A child needs to feel wanted. By lacking this, it may also, in no doubt, lower the child's self esteem. The family is a living body. It is the incubator and channeller of excitement and feeling. Teenagers want their parents to respond to them. If there is in an inadequate supply of love from their parents, the teenager may be forced to turn elsewhere for reassurance and comfort. And that is the point in which drugs begin to ruin both of their lives.

Though the war on drugs may never end, we can slow it down by using the right methods. All it takes is some way to help make adolescents happier. And it can happen. A few caring individuals working together can make it happen. It just needs such a person to begin.

Sincerely,

Brenda Walker

Brenda Walker

Brenda Walker
30751 Roaring River Drive
Coarsegold, CA 93614

FRESNO CA 937
PM
22 JAN
1990

ALWAYS
USE ZIP CODE

CHRISTMAS
USA 25
Carracci, National Gallery

President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20013

10 P-32A

27190 Parker Lane
Daphne, Al. 36526
January 24, 1990

Dear Mr. President,

I'm sorry to take up your time but I've wanted to write to you about drugs in our city and state.

Recently my husband and I went across the bay to Mobile to see some friends we hadn't seen in a while. While we were there I noticed everyone was acting differently from the last time I saw them. Before we left I was talking to one of my good friends and I asked her what made her change so drastic-ly. Then she tried to talk me into taking a pill she called "Extacy". I told my friend I've never heard of it and she told me, "It's like coke, except it's more intense." I told her I've never tried drugs and I don't plan to. She told me the only way it

could be detected was through a spinal tap and that ~~they~~ one would ever know. I told her I would. Then I walked away.

I was going to tell my husband but before I could he told me to go get in the car we were going home. When we got into the car he told me they had been doing ecstacy, acid, ice, crack and coke. It really shocked me.

Mr. President, I don't want to go to my friends funeral. I'm eighteen years old and they aren't much older. They're wasting there lives on drugs when they could live wonderful lives. Please get someone to do something before my friends kill themselves.

I'm sorry it's not very neat but I've been trying to word this right.

A concerned American,

Rosette Morrison

27190 Parker Lane
Daphne, Al. 36526

MOBILE, AL
24 JAN
1990



Office of the President
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

25
P. 32A

Bob Benson
1732 Candlewood Lane
Sylvania, Ohio 43560

Dear Mr. President

I realize that you cannot possibly read all or even a reasonable percentage of the letters written to you, but if this doesn't reach your eyes, I'm afraid my effort to reach you will probably have been a futile one.

I have never written to a government official before and shame on me for that. However, I mention this to indicate the passion I am filled with regarding the issue of drugs and what I feel might be done to impact this problem in a positive way.

I recently watched all three segments of the made for TV movie/documentary, "Drug Wars:The Camarena Story" and was hit between the eyes with an idea which I think could have a huge impact on our fight against drugs. Before stating my idea, I will first list four conditions which I think give credence to my proposal.

(1) The question was asked during an interview following one or more of the segments if the movie might have any impact on at least the casual user. The DEA agent's answer was yes. He felt that if casual users were aware of the lives that were lost by DEA agents and also of those affected by friends and family members, they might consider quitting drugs. Also it may prevent some people from even experimenting with their first drug. I agree.

(2) If we could eliminate the growth of drugs in Columbia and every other country where they are presently grown and processed, and if we eliminated all present routes into the USA, as long as the demand exists,drugs will be grown and processed somewhere. And routes and means to get these drugs into our country will continue to exists.

(3) If I am wrong about (2), and plants used to produce drugs could be eliminated throughout the world, chemical drugs similar to what is now called crystal would be processed.

(4) Legalizing drugs in my opinion would be a mistake. Although there is certainly some convincing argument that favors legalization, how does one convince his/her daughter or son that drugs are poison when the law condones it. Moreover, those

kids with little or no parental guidance will have little chance. This is a cop out solution.

What must be done therefore is to eliminate or more realistically minimize the demand. This obviously is not a new idea. My proposal which follows, however, could at least help to accomplish this.

PROPOSAL: Commission an author to rewrite the book which preceded the movie discussed above at a reading level appropriate for fifth or sixth graders. Do the same at a reading level geared to ninth or tenth graders. As the President of the United States, you could then personally appeal to the educators of this country to include these books on their reading lists. This will accomplish several things. First most boys and girls will read about and reflect on the effect drug users have on innocent people. Second, the assigned reading will be accompanied by class discussion and book reports which will further drive home the message that drugs not only affect users and suppliers, but others as well. Also, it may be the tool which will give some young boys and girls the incentive to discuss incidents they may have witnessed or know about concerning the use or sale of drugs by other boys or girls.

I know that my proposal is simplistic and would require a great deal of analysis before implementation could be achieved, but it seems to me that a pilot program could be conducted in a carefully selected area to determine what modifications should be made before making it a national program. Thank you for listening keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Bob Benson

Bob Benson
7239 Candlewood Lane
Sylvania, Ohio 43560

TOLEDO, OH 436
PM
29 JAN
1990



President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20335

078283

SP589

FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Ms. Jan Borman
Assistant Principal
Gering Junior High School
1800 8th Street
Gering, Nebraska 69341

October 6, 1989

THE PRESIDENT

Dear Jan:

I was very moved by your letter of September 13th. I hope you will let me know how that case is resolved. It would be terrible if a courageous kid stands up and does the right thing, only to have the case dismissed.

Thank you so very much for all you are doing to help our young people. For my part, I plan to stay involved working with our drug czar, Bill Bennett, to help you and hundreds of thousands like you to win the fight.

Barbara joins me in sending our warmest best wishes,

George Bush

COPY

bcc: Governor Sununu
David Demarest

(in & out)

891006

00 8th Street
GERING, NEBRASKA 69341
(308) 436-3125 3123

William W. Lockwood, Ed. D. - Superintendent
Robert G. Waite - Assistant Superintendent for Business Services

September 13, 1989

President George Bush
White House
Washington, DC 20202

Dear President Bush:

I am a junior high assistant principal in Gering, Nebraska. I am writing to thank you for your efforts to combat drug usage. Today, our entire junior high school, 560 students and staff, watched your televised address to students. It was inspirational to those of us who are trying to help teens feel good about themselves and to stand up to peer pressure and avoid drugs. Your address was broadcast live here at 10:15 A.M. MTS, and at one of our lunch periods a student came and reported another student who was trying to sell drugs at school. The boy who had the courage to stand up to his peers commented to me that your speech was the impetus he needed to come and take a stand on drug usage by his friend. We were able to find the drugs and have the student arrested. We intend to follow this case through the court system to ensure that students do see that something is done to pushers and users and that there are consequences for their actions. What happens on this case is going to be a lesson to lots of families in our community. I hope that the consequences will be high for this visible case.

If your speech can move more teens to similar action throughout our country, then you have started the ripple in what I hope will be a wave of action by our future leaders to wash our country clean of drugs. I firmly believe that the hope for changing the direction of drugs lies with the youth as future parents and citizens with traditional values and pride in our country. As you know, the battle can only be won with a cooperative effort between law enforcement, judicial system, educators, businesses, parents and teens.

Again, thank you for your courageous leadership in this area. I thought you should know you are making a difference. Perhaps your speech should be sent to schools for future showings if they were unable to watch the live broadcast.

Respectfully,

Jim Borman

Jan Borman, Assistant Principal
Gering Junior High School

Student was suspended from school for a semester, but is now back. Was sentenced to probation.

JB/bas

P.S. I appreciated the letter from Secretary of Education, Lauro F. Cavazos, reminding us of the broadcast.

cc: Govenor Kay Orr
Lauro F. Cavazos, Secretary of Education (EDUCATION makes a difference)

Providing Quality Programs — WE CARE

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Thank you for your kind words about your niece's reaction to my speech to students on the dangers of drugs. I am pleased to learn that Marion not only understood the severity of the problem but also wanted to discuss the issue with her family.

While the speech applied to Americans of all ages, it was specifically addressed to students in the classrooms and the assembly halls. I tried to put myself in their place and imagine growing up faced with the task of making decisions that will shape the future. I wanted them to understand that those who let drugs make their decisions for them will hear the doors of opportunity slamming shut. The attitudes that once encouraged or excused drug use have changed, and that is a healthy change.

Our hope for this country's future now rests in the home and in the classrooms. If we help young people make the right decisions with regard to drugs, our Nation will be united, determined, and strong.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Ms. Vicki Johnson
226 East Bodley Avenue
Kirkwood, Missouri 63122

September 13, 1989

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Bush,

Congratulations on a fine speech to the schools yesterday. In case you wonder what impact it had, I want to share with you how my twelve-year-old niece Marion Randall reacted. She heard the broadcast at school, in seventh grade at Nipher Junior High School. I took Marion and her ten-year-old brother and her six-year-old sister out for dinner last night, and she gave us a ten minute run down on what you said. In fact, she was the one to bring the subject up. She related the stories you told in great detail, and it was obvious to me that she had been really touched by what you said. After she finished, I asked her what she thought about it, and she told me that she and her girlfriend had sat together in class during the speech and hugged each other because they were crying at the sad stories. Then she said it was important that if a kid was having a problem with drugs that they tell someone in order to get help, or that if a kid knew someone else was having a problem that they take action or they would be part of the problem.

Thanks for taking the time to lend a personal touch to a tough problem. As I read your speech text this morning I realize how you spoke to these kids in their language and in a way they could relate to. I know you hit home with Marion, and I hope you did with many others as well.

Sincerely,

Vicki Johnson

Vicki V. Johnson
226 East Bodley Avenue
Kirkwood, MO 63122

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Students:

Your principal, Dr. Patricia Ackerman, was kind enough to make sure that I received your special messages about my drug speech. Thank you for writing and sharing your thoughts on the problem of substance abuse.

I am heartened by your candor. I hope that these letters are the first indication that you will have ongoing debates among yourselves on how best to combat illicit drugs. As I said in my speech, you can make a difference -- for yourselves and those around you.

By working hard in school and in your community, you can make sure our country is well prepared for the 21st century. America's future is in your hands. I'm certain that you'll accept the challenges before you and put forth your best efforts.

Mrs. Bush and I hope that you'll have a rewarding school year. God bless you.

Sincerely,

The Students of Taylor Academy
14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Jan 9/13

This was given to
POTUS today in
one of his meetings

he has asked that
we prepare
ack.
he will sign
thanks p.

r

emy

September 13, 1989

President George Bush
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Yesterday, a volunteer group of my students and I viewed your televised message regarding drugs. Immediately following the presentation, students wrote their reactions to the broadcast and participated in a meaningful discussion about it.

Enclosed please find the sentiments expressed by students in an alternative high school for underachievers. A descriptive brochure about Taylor Academy is included. Now in its third year, Taylor Academy is a successful example of what can be done to impact at risk student populations positively.

Shortly, all Taylor Academy students will have the opportunity to view the broadcast and discuss it in their Social Studies classes. Since the program aired during our lunch hour, it was videotaped for later use with students.

Best wishes as you continue to actualize your role as "education President."

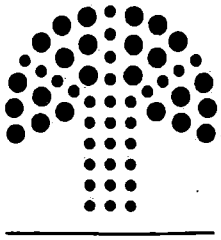
Sincerely,

Patricia A. Ackerman
Principal

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
Ohio 44118
(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal

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Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

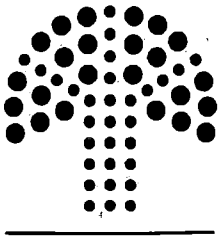
In my opinion, the speech Mr. Bush gave us was highly informative and educational to me. I rather enjoyed the last part about the law and his future plans to overcome the drug crisis in America.

David J. Weigand
16 years of age

14780 Superior Road
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Patricia A. Ackerman. Ph. D.
Principal



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

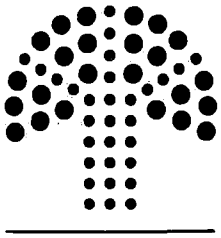
I feel that the President was a wonderful speaker, but he needs to be more specific and talk more about the people heavily into drugs and less about people like us who are clean, and drug free. Talk to the ones who are in need of a message and not us who need no help.

Chris Chruch
15 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
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(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

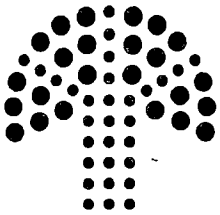
I feel that the President's address was okay. I think that he should have dealt more with the problem at hand instead of threatening today's drug dealers and users. As President, he should not abandon them.

Jason Coleman
17 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
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Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

My feelings on Mr. Bush's speech, are that he spoke on how the laws said you would be punished if caught. He also spoke on how he wishes that this could stop. But he never spoke on what he should do about it. I feel that if he could help Colombia, then he should help America because I know they need help, but we also need help. I also feel that for drug dealers and drug users who might have listened to what he had to say, it only went through one ear and out the other. They feel that they need this. They don't care what you have to say. They are going to do what they want even if it means breaking the law.

Kim Rusely
15 years of age

14780 Superior Road
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Ohio 44118

(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal

Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

The President's speech on drugs had a very heavy impact on the drug trafficking, selling and abusing this year.

Because, in my opinion, if he says that the law will be breaking down on crime, I believe him. Just the other day, in one of my classes we were talking about legalizing drugs, and we were exchanging our ideas. I said it was wrong! Because I don't agree with drugs anyway! I just hope drugs get busted before the little kids of today grow up on drugs. I sure wouldn't want my kids on drugs. Even my football heroes are dying and going to jail!

I think that the President should make an army of robocops to crush out drugs. Alcohol killed my Grandfather before I was born and drugs kept me and my Grandfather from knowing each other.

Madison Brooks
15 years of age

14780 Superior Road
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Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal

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University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

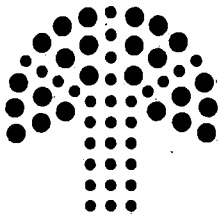
I think that Mr. Bush had a lot of good points, but I would have to disagree with his views on how to deal with occasional users. I really don't think that he should cut the occasional user off from the privileges that a non user has.

I do agree with Mr. Bush on the way he would deal with big time dealers of our great country. Also, I agree with his thoughts on how we can view drugs, and how our friends can help us with our drug problems.

Chris Mlynowski
16 years of age

14780 Superior Road
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(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

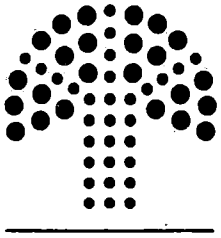
I, as well as many, think this problem should have been addressed long before now. I think that President Bush really needs to know what it is really like. If he isn't there, there is only so much that he can understand. He seemed really concerned about those who don't deal with drugs at all. He said nothing to those who use and sell drugs. They are the ones that need help. Those of us who don't deal with them have all the help we need. We just need to be reminded now and again. But over all, I liked his speech and I hope that we can end all of this madness.

Tiffany Ann Nichol Sweeney
15 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
Ohio 44118

(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

The narcotics drive is very strong today. Human beings are killing and hurting each other for drugs. President Bush's comments were true and helpful, but like they say "ya had to be there." The President only knows so much because he himself isn't living in a heavily drug related environment. When you experience these things, then there is a good chance that you truly know what the problem is and the extent of the problems.

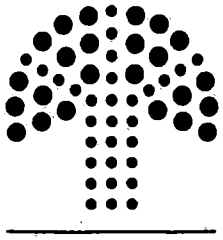
I know from experience that some of the people selling drugs get away with it. They pay off policemen and have others buy their court cases. As long as they think they can get away with it, they will continue to take part in the sale of drugs. As far as the users of drugs, if there were no sellers, there would be no buyers. We really need to end this madness before it ends us.

Richell Sims
16 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
Ohio 44118

(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

As a result of drugs, lives are being destroyed and our country is losing its power and world status. The idea of our nation's youth speaking to the youth is an ideal project but you cannot allow the youth to do all the work. The schools, parents and neighbors must all contribute in our fight against drugs.

The idea of drug testing for athletes is a good idea but is not acceptable to many people such as myself due to the fact it makes people like myself who do not use drugs or alcohol feel too guilty. They are the most susceptible people to drugs.

Also the Just Say No slogan for drugs will not work. It is not forceful enough. Drugs need a slogan such as "You Use, You Die," but force is needed in the drug fight.

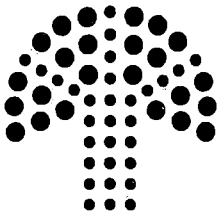
Sincerely yours,

Michael Buchanan
17 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
Ohio 44118

(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

I disagree with what he said about slamming the door on drugs, because too many people are using and selling them. Unless they get more police on the force, then maybe they could stop them. In Los Angeles the L.A.P.D. cannot even handle the two most powerful gangs. There are more Crips than the L.A.P.D., and the Crips have more powerful weapons.

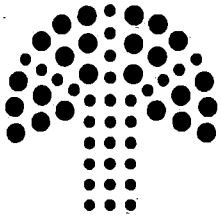
If drugs weren't stopped two years ago, what makes people think they are going to get them off the street now?

Peppard Miller
15 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
Ohio 44118

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Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

When the President was talking, he obviously didn't know what he was talking about or what's going on. It seems like he was just continuing the "just say no" program which is nonsense. The whole program is ridiculous. T.V. stars can't tell anybody anything, because who believes them? They do drugs too!

More jails is not the solution. In another 20 years or so, half the people in the U.S. will be locked up, and the other half will be watching them. People are not going to stop doing drugs period. Just like cigarettes and alcohol, when people get addicted, they are addicted. You can't just stop freebasing "cold turkey." Gimme a break!

People that do drugs, do drugs because they have something depressing on the mind or in their lives. All it takes is one "hit," after that, you are gone. The people that sell it are just supplying the demand, just like the California vineyards are supplying the alcohlics. The President must take a drink now and then.

No, I don't believe raps because if they don't do it they might sell it. One or two popular people talking isn't helping anything. This program just insults the intelligence of teenagers, and everyone who sees this happening.

Hayes Hood
17 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
Ohio 44118

(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal

Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

My initial reaction to President Bush's speech is that finally real effort will be put into stopping drug abuse/trade.

In my opinion, Mr. Bush is in the right to deny privileges to users of drugs. These people are only helping to corrupt America by contributing to the drug problems. I think that the consequences should be more extreme than denying privileges.

I believe dealers should be sentenced to death as earlier suggested by President Bush.

Phillip Haden Emerson
15 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
Ohio 44118
(216) 371-7463

Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal

Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

My reaction to President Bush's speech was that he is really just trying to say not to do drugs. But he did not say anything about how he would control the gangs in Los Angeles or Washington, and how he would stop the export and import of drugs. When the President finds an idea about that, drugs will go down.

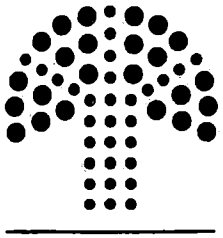
David Dicus
14 years of age

14780 Superior Road
Cleveland Heights
Ohio 44118

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Patricia A. Ackerman, Ph. D.
Principal

An Equal Opportunity Employer



Cleveland Heights-
University Heights
City School District

Taylor Academy

I think the President should make the drug dealers spend at least ten years behind bars. For people to know how long they will spend time in jail will make them think twice about selling them or using them. I don't think the President can stop drugs, because once one drug dealer is gone another is born.

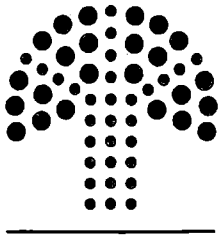
If he was to raise the minimum wages to $5.00 an hour, that would make people want to get a job rather than sell drugs.

Charles Wardlaw
17 years of age

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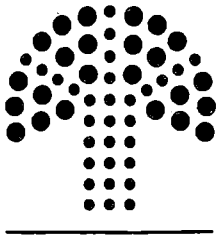
I feel that President Bush's message wasn't true. How are you going to get thousands and thousands of drug dealers off the streets? I think you need a lot more self-esteem, and self-control. I don't think drug dealers and drugs are over. By the time drugs are over, more people will be addicted. Just by you saying no, is not going to make you have anything to do with drugs. I don't think there should be a drug test because that is your personal business. If students are using drugs what will you do with them? Put them in jail, rehab. centers or what?

Yvette Chandler
16 years of age

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I feel that the presentation President George Bush presented today eased the minds of a lot of America's teenagers. But, I feel that the President needs to put his actions to work and quickly. Day after day, people are dying and getting hurt over drugs. I feel our government really needs to crack down. I also really believe that they need to start back with that "Scared Straight" program, and check all students for any drug use, and especially drug sellers.

Tracie Potts
16 years of age

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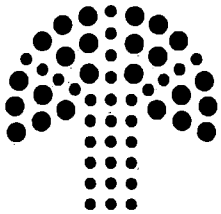
I think the effect of President Bush trying to stop the selling and usage of drugs is good. But if you try to stop one drug dealer, two more will come. And if you do stop the dealers, there is always going to be one who sells and the people who use the drugs are going to want some. Then someone is going to see all the money they can make, and then there is another person selling drugs. The chain will go on and on. How do you break the chain?

Shanton Cassell
16 years of age

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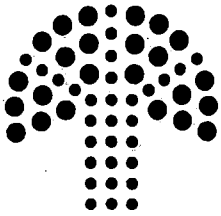
Drugs and alcohol are what the teenagers of today are thinking of. We, as teenagers, don't really know what we want. When there is a problem and we cannot solve it, some of the teenages turn to drugs. We believe that that is the only thing that can help us, but the drugs are what's bothering us. Some of the drug users take things to help contribute to the addiction. Maybe, the school systems in the United States should make a class for drugs and tell students how drugs really can hurt them. Show them pictures of drug users and how drugs make people turn out to be. Students may realize that drugs, sex, teen pregnancy aren't the thing. The thing is to get a high school diploma and to be in a drug free world.

Sharae Williams
15 years of age

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I feel the President meant well by the way he presented his speech. The only thing is, everyone who is in politics talks about his way of stopping drugs but they have yet to prove their action, or should I say words. The police seem to worry more about the little dealers. What about the big guys who send the younger kids to sell for them? Also, for every one little dealer caught there are three more out there. People are sitting there yelling about the dealers, but yet they turn their backs and refuse to get involved.

Melissa Lenzo
17 years of age

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