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Drug-Free School Awards, 6/19/89

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nuns stood between the drug dealers and the children to protect them as they marched to the church. Sister Raeihle says, "We're very proud of the children. Even the little ones know what it's all about, which is a shame. We have goodwill and kids with a lot of hope. It's so hard for them and they have so much hope." God bless you, Sister, and God bless the children. (Applause.)

Roosevelt Vocational School, from Lake Wales, Florida -- local police -- (applause) -- say this school is "sitting in the middle of a drug supermarket." The students there are "high risk" for drug use, many with difficult disabilities. And yet some ride two and three hours to get to Roosevelt. Let me tell you why.

Less than 10 years ago, only 10 percent of Roosevelt's graduates got and held jobs. But students soon realized that in order to get the jobs they'd been trained for, they had to be drug free. So they looked to the Kennedy Space Center -- which you can see from the school windows -- and adopted the motto, "Aiming for the highest."

And they kicked drugs out of the school, stopped feeling sorry for themselves, turned their attention to others who needed help -- adopting a local family whose father has Lou Gehrig's disease and raising thousands of dollars to help them make ends meet. And now, 75 percent of the students are employed after graduation, and they aimed for the highest -- and made it. And they're here today, too. (Applause.)

In fact, I heard a story about the principal, Harold Maready, who made a bet with the students during Red Ribbon Week, when students who are drug free wear red ribbons and clothes. He bet them that if at least half the school wore red -- that is, were drug free -- he'd paint his bald head with the words, "Just Say No." Well, 225 out of 295 showed up in red -- (laughter) -- and guess what happened? I wore this red ribbon today and this red tie because I think Mr. Maready had a great idea, and I'm looking for for Marlin Fitzwater here somewhere. (Laughter.)

Finally, a story from out West. Live Oak, California -- (applause) -- is a small town that started as a railroad stop serving ranchers. The residents fill only five pages of the phone book. One traffic light. No hospital, no jail. Just a drugstore, a few restaurants, a post office. A quiet, small town? No. Not at all. Drugs arrived over the border, brought by transient workers. This county is now one of California's major producers of methamphetamines and a major contact area for drugs arriving from Mexico. The drugs got into the school and things went downhill fast. And during the last four years, however, this school developed a drug-free education program that is gradually influencing the face of the entire community. Students, parents, business leaders and teachers came together -- and changed it from what we used to call "the three R's" -- to "the four R's" -- respect, responsibility, recognition and recreation.

And what made the difference was a temporary principal, Mrs. Paula McIntire, assigned to the school for four months in 1985 -- temporary -- she's still there. (Laughter.) And one judge called her "the visionary dynamo behind the progress" at one of the most overwhelmed and understaffed schools around. She and a teacher, Michael Dahl, beat the odds by "vision, no-nonsense leadership, compassion and professional expertise." Mrs. McIntire and Mr. Dahl, thank you for making the trip today, all this way, and thank you for a job so well done. (Applause.)

As I look around here today, I see some of the top commandos in the war on drugs -- our teachers, principals, community leaders, parents and students. You're the ones winning this war because you are the ones looking to tomorrow. You're the ones who know that it takes a clear mind to get a good education and lead a productive life. You understand that students have a right to learn

MORE

in drug-free schools.

And I know that school's out for the summer, but there's one last lesson all America can learn from the courage and commitment and, yes, the downright stubbornness of each of these heroes here today who never gave up. Every school in this country can win. Every school in this country can be safe and drug free.

Thank you and God bless you all, and congratulations.

And now I'd like to welcome the students that are here from each school and join the Vice President and Secretary Cavazos in presenting these awards, or at least shaking hands before you get to the main event -- the award from our great Secretary of Education. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

10:13 A.M. EDT

6/12, 19, 26

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

May 17, 1989

TO: JOSEPH W. HAGIN, II
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR
APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: DAVID Q. BATES
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY TO
THE CABINET

REQUEST: Drug-Free Schools Recognition Ceremony

BACKGROUND: The Department of Education selects schools for successful drug prevention programs. Each of the schools selected has a clear "No Drugs" policy, which is based on committed leadership, established enforcement procedures and community involvement.

The President could address the group and present plaques to the 50 schools (approximately) who have demonstrated that they have prevented or have substantially reduced drug use by students, and have an ongoing plan to be drug free.

This event could also highlight Crime/Drug Week.

DATE: June 12, 19, or 26, 1989

TIME: To Be Determined

LOCATION: East Room or Rose Garden

PARTICIPANTS: Approximately 240 participants including students, school officials, community leaders, and parents.

MEDIA COVERAGE: Open

REMARKS: Yes

PROJECT OFFICER: Justine D'Andrea



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

APR 19 1989

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO : David Q. Bates
Assistant to the President/Secretary to the Cabinet

FROM : Bill R. Phillips *WRP*
Chief of Staff/Counselor to the Secretary

SUBJECT: "Drug-Free Schools Recognition Ceremony"

The U.S. Department of Education selects schools for successful drug prevention programs. Each of the schools selected has a clear "No Drugs" policy, which is based on committed leadership, established enforcement procedures, and community involvement.

Schools nominated undergo an extensive and rigorous review process. Judges conceded their success in:

- assessing the extent of drug use
- implementing a sound policy
- enforcing the policy
- teaching drug prevention
- involving students, parents, and the community

To participate in the recognition program, a school must demonstrate that it is preventing or has substantially reduced drug use by students, and has an ongoing plan to be drug free.

This year's program is based on approximately 50 schools being honored. Each school will be allotted four representatives -- reflective of the four components of a successful prevention program: a school official, student, community person (e.g. law enforcement), and a parent. The total number of projected participants would be 240. Each school would receive a recognition flag and a plaque.

Last year Mrs. Reagan presented the plaques in a ceremony in the East Room. We are requesting that the President either present the plaques or address the group either in the East Room or the Rose Garden. Our target date is May 22, but we can be flexible to President Bush's schedule.

Page 2--Mr. David Q. Bates

I have attached additional information on the program and appreciate your assistance with this request.

Attachments

TO: MK from: Ed Congrats!

1:30 P.M. NEWS UPDATE

PRESIDENT/YOUTH EVENT (Christopher Connell, AP) -- President Bush, opening a week of White House events focusing on youth, called for a day when every school in the nation will be "safe and drug free." At a Rose Garden ceremony, Bush honored schools for their efforts to rid their corridors and classrooms of drugs. A high school from each state was cited in the ceremony as part of the annual Drug-Free Schools recognition program, launched by drug policy coordinator Bennett when he was secretary of education in the Reagan administration. "As I look around here today, I see some of the top commandos in the war on drugs -- our teachers, community leaders, parents and students," the president said. "You're the ones winning this war, because you are the ones looking to tomorrow, you're the ones who know it takes a clear mind to get a good education and lead a productive life. You understand that students have a right to learn in drug-free schools."

(Thomas Ferraro, UPI) -- President Bush, devoting much of his day to America's youth, saluted 47 nationally recognized "drug-free" schools as evidence that all can win their respective wars against narcotics. "Every school in this country can be safe and drug-free," Bush told a sun-drenched ceremony in the White House Rose Garden attended by students, principals and teachers from the winning schools.... Later Monday, Bush, who has vowed to be an "Education President," was to give the commencement address at 105-year-old Cheltenham High School in the tiny community of Wyncote, Pa.... Bush was flanked by Vice President Quayle and Secretary Cavazos, who, as America's top educator, faces the problem of many schools that are losing their drug wars to rising crime, traffic and addiction.

ARMS TALKS (Geneva/AP) -- U.S.-Soviet talks on cutting long-range nuclear forces reopened after a seven-month recess with few prospects of an early breakthrough in the 4-year-old negotiations. While Washington reportedly planned to press Moscow over the inspection provisions of a future treaty, both sides have indicated no change in their stands on other major outstanding issues.... After the 30-minute session, [U.S. negotiator] Burt told reporters he had outlined "President Bush's overall approach to arms control, emphasizing the president's commitment to reducing the risk of nuclear war."

"I hope we will make some progress," [Burt] said. [Yuri] Nazarkin [the Soviet negotiator] said, "I'm satisfied. It was a good start." He did not elaborate.

AFGHANISTAN/JOURNALIST (Islamabad/Reuter) -- Afghan government troops have captured an American journalist covering the war in Afghanistan, a U.S. Embassy spokesman in Islamabad said. He identified the journalist as Tony O'Brien working for Life magazine. No further details about him were available, nor was it immediately known when or where he was captured.

-more-

1:30 P.M. NEWS UPDATE Continued)

CHINA (Beijing/Reuter) -- Chinese state radio carried calls to intensify Marxist teaching as hard-line Premier Li Peng told the nation "quite a lot of rioters" remained at large and had to be seized and punished lest they stage a comeback. He added, however, that "the counter-revolutionary rebellion is basically over." Beijing Radio led its main evening news bulletin with a ringing call from a law professor to restore ideological purity after the "recent chaos in Beijing," when hard-line authorities called in troops with tanks to crush pro-democracy protesters. Thousands of troops pulled out of central Beijing during the day but martial law remained in force. Big lines formed outside Western embassies after China further tightened exit visa rules for its citizens.

(Beijing/AP) -- Authorities postponed indefinitely a special session of the national legislature that was scheduled before the pro-democracy movement was crushed with the intent of discussing the movement's demands. The move further deepens the mystery about what is going on inside Communist China's traditionally secretive leadership. The legislature may be waiting until the Communist Party holds an expected Central Committee meeting to formally oust party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang, who has reportedly already been stripped of power. Qiao Shi, the party official responsible for security, has emerged as a likely successor.

POLAND (Warsaw/AP) -- Solidarity continued its domination of Poland's national elections by winning eight of the nine seats still left open to the opposition in a parliamentary runoff. But voters demonstrated widespread apathy to races in which only communist candidates were competing. Only in races featuring Solidarity-backed candidates did turnout exceed 25%.... Also it was apparent from unofficial returns that progressive communists were besting hardliners in several races. "The post-election shock has brought about a need for a deep analysis of the situation," Politburo member Leszek Miller said in an interview with the Communist Party newspaper Trybuna Ludu. "The party is faced with the most serious problems in its whole history," [he added.]

GREECE (Athens/AP) -- Voters rejected Premier Papandreu's scandal-plagued socialist government, and thousands of people rallied in the streets to cheer the conservative opposition that finished first. But the center-right New Democracy party of Constantine Mitsotakis failed to capture a majority, meaning the conservatives will have to try to forge a coalition with other parties or else call new elections.... Official figures showed that New Democracy [Mitsotakis] received 2,655,580 votes, PASKO [Papandreu] 2,335,123 and the Coalition of the Left and Progress 775,403. Abstention was running about 21% of the 7.89 million eligible voters.

PHILIPPINES (Manila/AP) -- The military filed murder and attempted murder charges against a 27-year-old university employee and self-styled communist rebel in the slaying of a U.S. Army colonel. The charges were the first filed in the April 21 slaying of Col. James "Nick" Rowe, who was slain on his way to work at the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group in suburban Quezon City.... During a news conference, Donato Contiente, who was arrested Friday at the University of the Philippines, told reporters he was part of an elite, five-man rebel team that kept Rowe under surveillance since late January. But Contiente said he did not help kill Rowe, a decorated Vietnam War Veteran.

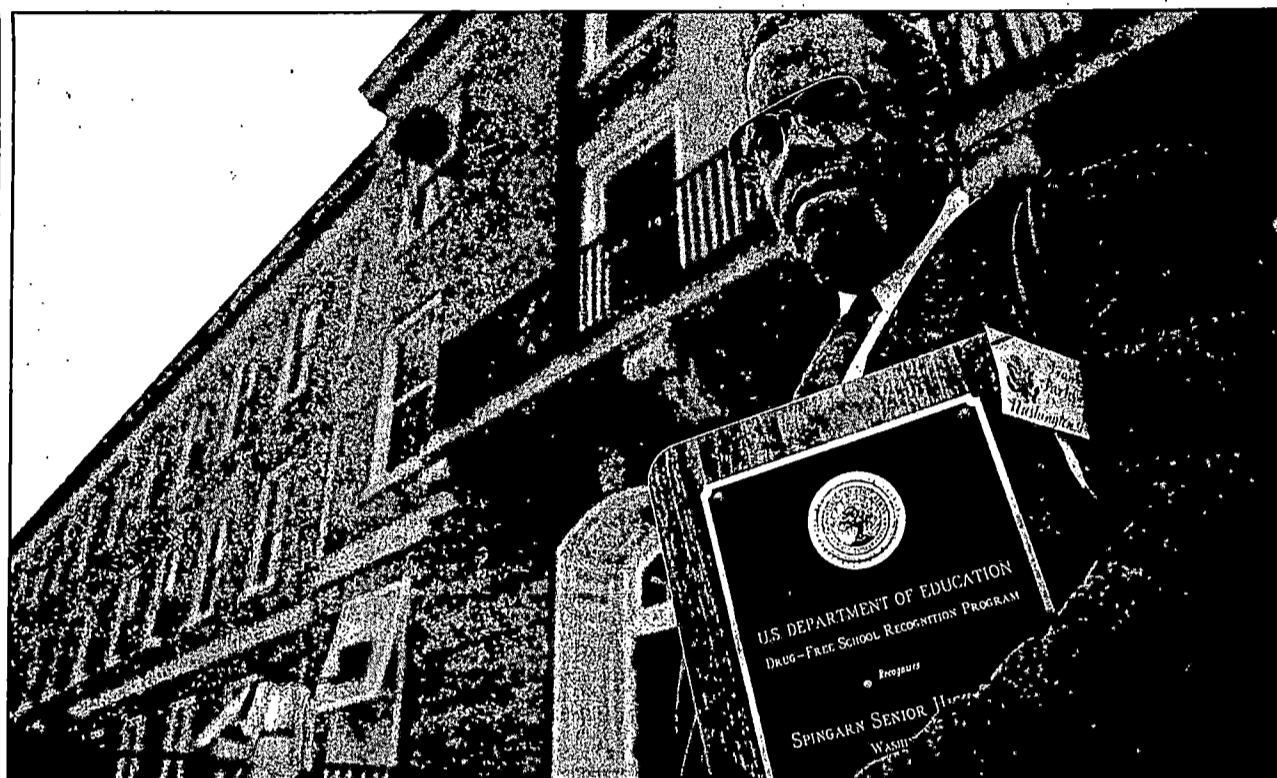
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The Washington Times

DAY, JUNE 20, 1989

WASHINGTON, D.C.

PHONE: 636-3000
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Photos by Kevin T. Gilbert/The Washington Times

Frank Parks, athletic director at Spingarn High School in Northeast, holds a plaque he received from President Bush honoring the "drug-free" school.

“As I look around here today, I see some of the top commandos in the war on drugs”

Bush cheers schools' triumphs

By Frank J. Murray
and Enrique J. Gonzales
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

President Bush lauded District teacher Frank Parks yesterday as "an American hero" who survived a fire-bombing and other setbacks to make Spingarn High School one of 47 schools recognized as being "drug free."

"He founded a program that worked. He found answers," Mr. Bush said of Mr. Parks as plaques were presented to representatives of each of the 47 schools at a Rose Garden ceremony yesterday.

"As I look here today, I see some of the top commandos in the war on drugs," the president said, canvassing the crowd.

Spingarn and the small, private MacArthur School at the Psychiatric Institute of Washington were the only metropolitan area schools picked for the honor in April from 300 nominated by state education departments. One hundred were inspected before selections were made.

The award to Spingarn was the first mentioned by Mr. Bush.

"One man, a teacher named Frank Parks, saw the drug dealers in the



Denise Lombardi (left) and Raquel Moss of MacArthur School in Northwest, the other local school among the 47 honored yesterday, talk after the White House ceremony. Raquel said she kicked cocaine and PCP addiction.

hallways, the expensive clothes, he smelled the marijuana in the bathrooms and the locker rooms so he started Operation SAND — Student Activities, Not Drugs," Mr. Bush said.

The president told how drug dealers, trying to scare Mr. Parks, tossed a Molotov cocktail into his office 15 months ago while he and two students were inside.

"It could have been death," Mr. Parks, 59, said. "The window is still bare but everything else is renovated. We're still in business. We've never been out of business."

It wasn't the only incident against him at the 585-student school at 26th Street and Benning Road NE. In 1986, a group meeting room was ransacked, throw pillows were slashed and Mr. Parks was ridiculed in a chalkboard diatribe.

But an undeterred Mr. Parks said yesterday he plans to continue the peer support group he founded in 1984 when he first smelled marijuana smoke in the building. It was the first time he had known of drug use at the school since he began teaching there in 1962.

"That's when it really drew my attention," said Mr. Parks, a native of

see **SCHOOLS**, page A11

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SCHOOLS

From page A1

the small coalmining town of Logan, W.Va. "I was really naive."

As athletic director, Mr. Parks in 1984 confronted about 60 of his athletes in a meeting. They told him, yes, there was a drug problem at the school, yes, there were drug dealers at the school, but none was willing to admit to drug use.

That's when Mr. Parks set out to start Operation SAND, which meets twice a week at lunchtime for confidential "rap sessions" on drug problems.

"They [other students] come to you with problems," said member Carrie Weaver, a 16-year-old who will be a senior next school year. "We just counsel the students. They counsel each other."

In the past two years, the program has drawn attention from visiting school officials from as far away as Brazil, Colombia and the People's Republic of China, Mr. Parks said.

During the summer, about 40 participants are hired at minimum wage under the District's youth jobs program. The students work six hours a day for four days a week as counselors at city recreation facilities and take part in Mr. Parks' training sessions for six hours one day a week at Spingarn.

"It's training for the rest of your life," Miss Weaver said. "It's something that goes on with you through life. It's a great feeling if we can stop

someone from selling drugs, from taking drugs."

Metropolitan Police, who have an officer on duty there, as in many other schools, during day and evening classes, did not dispute the Spingarn success.

"It's not considered by any means a big problem to us," police spokesman Sgt. Joe Gentile said yesterday, adding the department is unaware of any recent arrests or complaints at the school.

D.C. school security officials could not be reached for comment yesterday.

The other area school to win recognition was MacArthur, a private institution in the 4400 block of MacArthur Boulevard NW. About 50 students undergo drug and alcohol rehabilitation in addition to regular classes there.

Raquel Moss, a student there who described herself as an addict who used PCP and cocaine but now maintains her sobriety, accepted the school's plaque from Mr. Bush.

About 14 teachers and three social workers provide individualized attention to the adolescents, who usually attend the school for one or two years.

"We work hard to get them back in the less restrictive environment ... back in the mainstream of things," said education director Sally Seawright, explaining that the school is very tightly structured and administers weekly random drug tests.

Jim Betters, who coordinates a Department of Education task force

on drugs, said eligible schools strongly enforce policies banning drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

"What they all have in common is indicators of success" in seven areas that include drug education, staff training and student involvement such as peer counseling and turning in violators.

After beginning with Spingarn, Mr. Bush told horror stories about schools from Florida to California and introduced members of the audience who overcame long odds to shut drugs out of their schools.

Among them was Sister Mary Jane Raeihle whose Brooklyn office safe was cracked by drug dealers, Mr. Bush said. "They left the money on her desk like a warning," but nuns physically stood between dealers and students walking to the church to rehearse for graduation.

"Every school in this country can win. Every school in this country can be safe and drug free," Mr. Bush said.

Mr. Bush did not mention that Mr. Parks bypassed retirement three years in a row, persuaded by Principal Ann Thomas, to continue the anti-drug effort at the school where he has spent the last 27 years.

During an interview at the White House, Mr. Parks insisted, "There's no known one at our school using drugs. If anyone was using, I would know about it."

Mr. Parks cradled the plaque and then said he would stay at the school "one more year."

• *Sonsyrea Tate contributed to this report.*

Bush salutes drug-free Brooklyn school

By DEBORAH ORIN
Bureau chief

WASHINGTON — President Bush yesterday hailed a Brooklyn parochial school as "a total drug-free oasis in a sea of crack dealers."

Bush's praise for St. John the Baptist School in Bedford-Stuyvesant came at a Rose Garden ceremony honoring the "downright stubbornness" of students at 47 drug-free schools

across the U.S. who do more than just say no — they fight drugs.

"This crusade to be a beacon of hope in a neighborhood of burned-out buildings and frequent killings is taken with serious risk," the president said of St. John the Baptist.

"The school is almost the last life raft available to families whose neighborhood's peace and quiet has been overturned by the

violence of alcohol and drugs," he added.

Bush especially praised the school's principal, Sister Mary Jane Reilly, saying that "this brave nun" has used her own body to stand between her students and local drug dealers.

In fact, Bush said, drug dealers even broke into Sister Mary Jane's office safe — and left the money they found on her desk as a

warning to the school to stop its anti-drug efforts.

Among the school's efforts is notifying city officials of the location of crack houses in hopes of getting them cleared out of the area.

Also cited by Bush was Theodore Roosevelt HS in The Bronx.

For the event, the President sported a red tie and ribbon, which he said was copied from a Florida principal who used them

as symbols for those who don't use drugs.

"He bet [his students] that if at least half the school wore red — that is, were drug-free — he'd paint his bald head with the words, 'Just say no,'" Bush recounted.

"Well, 225 out of 295 showed up in red — and guess what happened."

Bush then added that he thought this was "a great idea," and then looked

around for his own balding press secretary, saying: "I'm looking for Marlin Fitzwater here somewhere."

The White House event yesterday was the start of a week in which Bush plans to focus on events involving young people — and Thursday, in New York, he will officially launch his youth volunteer program, "Youth Entering Service."

School scores in drug battle

By FRANK JACKMAN

News Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — President Bush yesterday paid special tribute to a Brooklyn parochial school he called a "drug-free oasis in a sea of crack dealers" during a ceremony honoring schools around the nation for their efforts to rid corridors and classrooms of drugs.

Singling out St. John the Baptist School on Lewis Ave. in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Bush called for a day when every school in the nation will be "safe and drug-free."

The President told how, in an attempt to intimidate the school, drug dealers had ransacked the office of the principal, Sister Mary Jane Raeihle, breaking into a safe where the school's money is kept.

"They left the money on her desk as a warning, as a message to the school to stop its activities," Bush said. "But St. John's has not stopped."

The President noted that last week, during practice for graduation exercises at St. John's, "The brave nuns stood between the drug dealers and the children to protect them as they marched to the church."

The Education Department described the school as "almost the last life raft available to families whose

'The brave nuns stood between the drug dealers and the children to protect them as they marched to the church.'

— President Bush

neighborhood peace and quiet has been overturned by the violence of alcohol and drugs."

The department said, "If this school is not a model of a drug-free school, then no such model exists."

Bush quoted the principal, who was present at the ceremony, as telling him, "We're very proud of the children. Even the little ones know what it's all about, which is a shame. We have good will and kids with a lot of hope. It's so hard for them and they have so much hope."

St. John the Baptist was one of 47 schools from 24 states and the District of Columbia to be honored in the Education Department's second annual Drug-Free Schools recognition pro-

New York, N.Y. 10017. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y. and additional mailing office. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to 117 Kingston, N.Y. 12401. Phone in N.Y. State: 800-638-3048; Outside N.Y.: 609-431-3052. Tuesday, June 20, 1989. Vol. 70 No. 308

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 19, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS
RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The Rose Garden

10:04 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Secretary Cavazos. Mr. Vice President, students, parents, teachers and friends, welcome to the White House -- the steamy Rose Garden. We're delighted you're here.

I thought long and hard about what to say today -- how to talk about the importance of drug education and prevention, and of how we can save our schools and our children from drugs. And then I read the judges reports about this year's Drug-Free Schools Award winners, and these reports were simply incredible. So today, I'd like to just tell some American stories -- stories about drug-free schools and really some American heroes.

Let's start with Spingarn High School, right here in Washington, D.C. (Applause.) Spingarn is in one of Washington's worst drug areas -- a tough area -- and one teacher said, "Five years ago, teachers were afraid to go out in the hall between classes. There's no fear here now." One man, a teacher named Frank Parks, saw the drug dealers in the hallways, the expensive clothes -- he smelled the marijuana in the bathrooms and the locker rooms. So he started Operation SAND -- Student Activities, Not Drugs -- and recruited popular athletes as peer counselors. And he set up these "Rap Rooms" for kids to confidentially talk about the drug problems. And he founded a program that worked. He found answers.

And he's here today, and despite the fact that his office was bombed a year ago. And I'm told he and his wife are available 24 hours-a-day for the kids, as they have been for years. And I hope that the students will be lucky enough to have him for years to come. Mr. Parks, thank you, and congratulations. (Applause.)

And next, let me tell you about St. John the Baptist School in Brooklyn, New York. (Applause.) Here's what one of the judges who visited the school wrote: "This school is a total drug-free oasis in a sea of crack dealers. This crusade to be a beacon of hope in a neighborhood of burned out buildings and frequent killings is taken with serious risk. The school is almost the last life raft available to families whose neighborhood peace and quiet has been overturned by the violence of alcohol and drugs. And if this school is not a model of a drug-free school, then no such model exists."

But keeping their school drug free was not enough for the St. John's students. They've asked Mayor Koch to deliver the neighborhood a drug-free community -- to declare it a drug-free community, telling him about the crack houses and of the horror and despair they see during breaks. Drug dealers recently broke into the office of Sister Mary Jane Raeihle, the principal, ransacking it, breaking into the safe where the school's money is kept. But they left the money on her desk like a warning -- as a warning -- as a message to the school to stop its activities. But St. John's has not stopped.

And just last week, during graduation practice, the brave

MORE