

Lawmaker: Tobacco study targeted third-graders, others

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secret research documents show Philip Morris tracked hyperactive third-graders as potential future customers and gave electric shocks to college students to see if it would make them smoke more, a congressman charged Monday. One company report concluded smokers crave nicotine more than food, he said.

Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., unveiled stacks of documents from the world's largest tobacco company on the House floor, contending they illustrated unethical and possibly illegal research into nicotine.

"Philip Morris has targeted children and college students, the youngest segments of the market, for special research projects," said Waxman, who said he uncovered the documents during a congressional probe of tobacco.

"These documents make it crystal clear that we need regulation of tobacco to protect our children from becoming addicted to a life-threatening drug. ... I hope they will dissuade members of this body [Congress] from any legislative effort to block that regulation," Waxman said.

The Food and Drug Administration and the White House are discussing ways to curb childhood smoking, including banning cigarette vending machines and advertising attractive to children.

Tobacco-state lawmakers are mobilizing to block such regulation, but did not immediately react to Waxman's statements.

Philip Morris did not respond to repeated calls for comment. But Philip Morris chief William Campbell testified before Congress last year that tobacco is not addictive, and the company three weeks ago announced a massive anti-teen smoking campaign that includes ending its practice of mailing out free cigarette samples.

Waxman said his documents prove Philip Morris knew over a decade before the surgeon general did that nicotine is addic-

STRONGER than fiction

tive. He read a 1969 company report for Philip Morris' board of directors that concluded smokers need the "pharmacological effect" of tobacco. Company scientists wrote that the craving was so great, it "preempts food in times of scarcity on the smoker's priority list."

Waxman was more concerned about the research projects targeted to young people, saying some, particularly those involving shocking college students and injecting people with nicotine, appear unethical and possibly illegal.

Cable-knit sweater nets \$100 bar tab for this Hemingway look-alike

KEY WEST, Fla. (AP) — It took five years of trying. Now, Bill Fountain has finally proved himself, winning the main title, the \$100 bar tab and a chance to go mano a mano with the big man's own sparring partner.

Fountain out-machoeed 97 other contestants to win this year's Ernest Hemingway look-alike contest.

After four unsuccessful attempts, he credits his new cable-knit sweater with helping him win Saturday. It resembles one the Nobel laureate was often pictured wearing with his white beard and fishing cap while he lived in Key West.

"It's the first year I wore the sweater, and now I'm in the fraternity," said Fountain, 47, executive director of West Palm Beach's downtown development authority.

"The biggest prize is that you get to act like Ernest Hemingway for a year."

That, plus the bar tab at Sloppy Joe's, Hemingway's favorite local watering hole, a box of Hemingway cigars, and a front-end alignment for his car.

He also got a chance to put on boxing gloves and exchange some fun blows with Hemingway's sparring partner, 79-year-old Kermit "Shine" Forbes.

Key West's annual Hemingway Days Festival ended Sunday. Hemingway lived here throughout most of the 1930s, crafting classics such as *Green Hills of Africa*, *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *To Have and Have Not*.

Kidnapped man shoots carjacking abductor

CORAL SPRINGS, Fla. (AP) — A man who kept two handguns in the trunk of his car shot and killed a carjacker who had locked him inside, police said Monday.

Paul Brite, 53, was confronted by a gunman at a carwash and forced to climb into the trunk of his own Lexus, Sgt. Jeff Maslan said.

The kidnapper drove off. But, apparently fearing Brite had a cellular phone, he stopped and opened the trunk.

"The victim came out with two handguns that he had stored in his trunk," Maslan said. "He ordered the suspect several times to lie on the ground, firing two warning shots."

When the carjacker reached for his pocket, Brite shot him in the lower abdomen, Maslan

said. Carl Lee Reese, 21, died at a hospital.

An accomplice who had been driving a station wagon behind the two tried to run over Brite. Brite shot at the vehicle, and the driver sped away.

An officer arrested Reese's roommate, Mario Danele Sikes, 17, in a vehicle matching the wagon's description.

Without elaborating, police said Reese "had an extensive record of carjacking in Florida and South Carolina" and was wanted in Palm Beach County on a robbery probation violation.

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