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Drugs, Eating Disorders, Pregnancy, Child Abuse Are Topics of New NEA Materials

A series of book on the most serious non-academic issues facing our nation's students during 1986-87 was announced here today by the National Education Association.

Titled "How Schools Can Help Combat..." the books address drug and alcohol abuse, teen pregnancy, eating disorders, child abuse, and teen depression and suicide.

For over a year now, NEA has been in the forefront of the struggle to reduce the nation's high school dropout rate, which is now over 30 percent. A million young people a year drop out of school before graduation.

"Being sensitive to the complex lives of those we teach will help teachers prevent a student from becoming another dropout statistic, or another cocaine fatality, or another teen who becomes pregnant," said NEA President Mary Hatwood Futrell.

"We're in the business of teaching, and we can't teach those students who are suffering from anorexia nervosa, or traumatized by physical abuse, or drinking themselves into oblivion."

Futrell cited statistics showing that—

- About one-fourth of all high school students regularly smoke marijuana — and more than two-thirds use alcohol. Eight percent of sixth graders use marijuana.

- If current trends continue, four out of 10 girls who are now 14 will get pregnant in their teens.

- Some 15 percent of young American women will be anorexic during part or all of their teenage years if today's trend remains steady.

- One out of three girls and one out of eight boys under 18 have reported incidents of sexual abuse.

- Suicide is still the third most common cause of death among young people 15 to 24 years old, after accidents and homicide, and the second most common cause of death among 15- to 19-year-olds.

The new NEA series includes:

- "How Schools Can Help Combat Student Drug and Alcohol Abuse," by Richard L. Towers, director of the interagency alternative and supplementary programs for the Montgomery County (Md.) public schools. The Montgomery County school district is one of the few in the country that runs its own

treatment program for teenage drug and alcohol addicts.

- "How Schools Can Help Combat Student Eating Disorders," by Michael Levine, a professor of psychology at Kenyon College, Ohio.

- "How Schools Can Help Combat Student Pregnancy," by counselors Nancy Compton and Mara Duncan and University of Massachusetts associate education professor Jack Hruska.

- "How Schools Can Help Combat Child Abuse and Neglect," by Cynthia Crosson Tower, an asso-

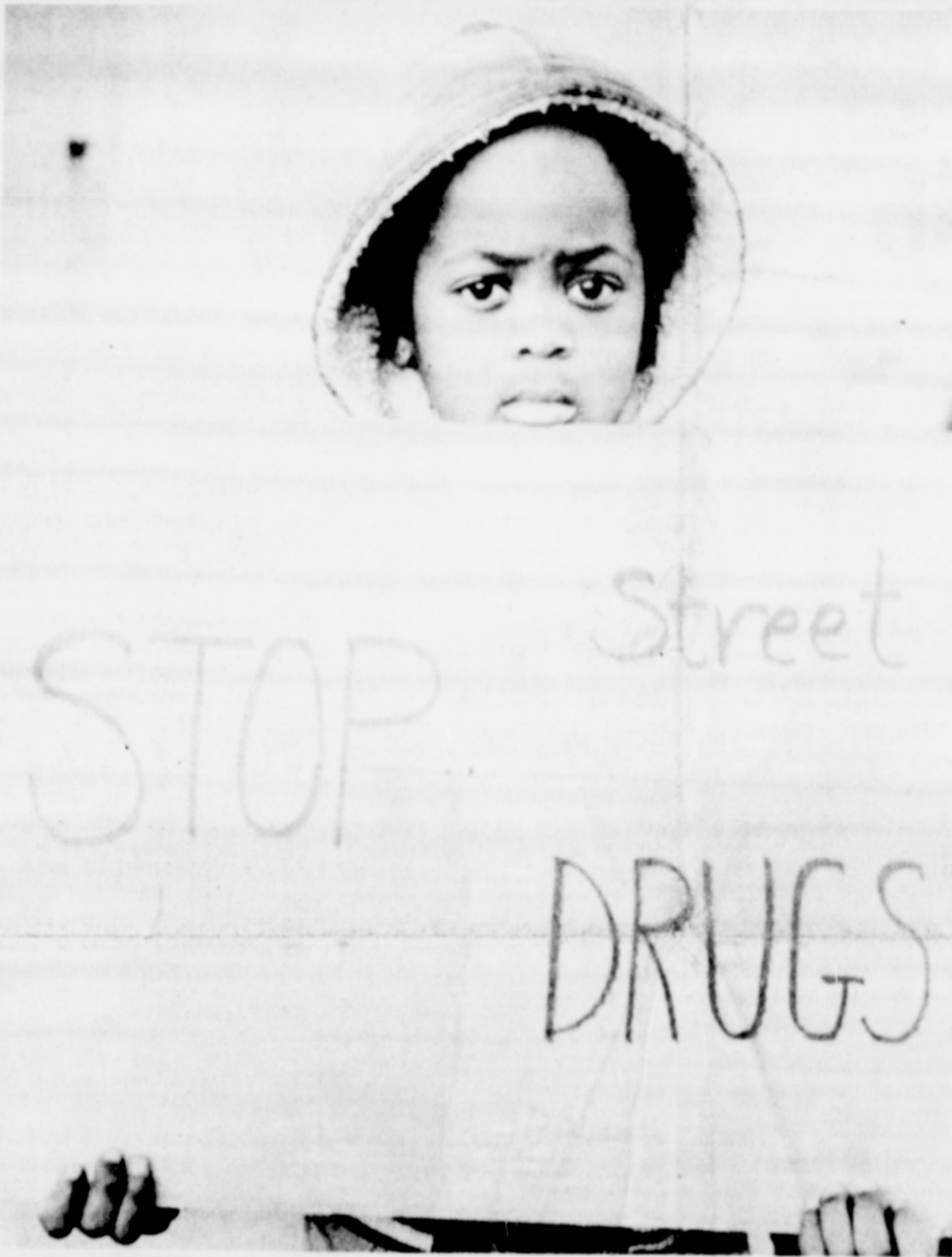
ciate professor in the human services program at Fitchburg State College in Massachusetts. Tower is also the author of NEA's training kit to help prevent child abuse released two years ago.

"As unusual as it may seem for a school to take on these issues, it's vitally important that we address these sensitive problems," Futrell said. "They are being brought into our classrooms. They affect learning."

"Troubled students can alter a school's learning environment," the

NEA president added. "Teachers care about all students' being able to learn effectively and creatively. We want to help students to believe in themselves, to develop self-esteem, to meet high standards—and not to fall victim to social pressures."

The books will be available beginning in September. For more information, write to the NEA Professional Library, 1201 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. The books will range in price from \$10 to \$12.



I Need Your Help



NEW CHIEF OF POLICE JAMES T. DAVIS (LEFT) AND MAYOR J.E. "BUD" CLARK (RIGHT). Photo by Richard J. Brown

Clark Names Davis as Chief

by Jerry Garner

Portland Mayor J.E. "Bud" Clark has named James T. Davis as permanent Chief of Police. As Chief of Police, Davis is responsible for 960 employees and an operating budget of \$48.6 million.

The announcement by Clark ends a 2-½ month search for a permanent Chief to head the Bureau. The Chief's position has been vacant since former Chief Penny E. Harrington resigned from office June 1st. Since this period, Robert M. Tobin has been serving as interim Chief.

Chief Davis was Captain of the Police Bureau's North Precinct and has been with the department for 22 years. He has served in patrol at North Precinct, Assistant Director of the Crime Prevention Bureau under Mayor Goldschmidt, and Commander of the Community Affairs Division of the Crime Prevention Unit. He has worked in Traffic, Central Precinct and Detectives.

Clark said in a written statement that "the Portland Police and the citizens of our city will find Jim Davis to be an effective, dedicated Chief with a strong commitment to help citizens fight back against crime in our City. Public safety will remain a top priority of this administration. Chief Jim Davis will serve a key role in achieving my goal of a city that is safe and secure for all its citizens," said Clark.

Clark said that the interim Chief, Robert Tobin, did a good job filling in until he named a permanent Chief. Clark said, "I want to take this opportunity to thank interim Chief Robert Tobin for 2-½ months of excellent work as an interim Chief. Bob has done an outstanding job this summer that I am sure will serve him well in the future. The Bureau faced some difficult times last spring and he pulled matters together effectively. I want to say that this appointment today in no way reduces my admiration for Captain Tobin's fine work."

Clark said the reason why Davis was selected was due to his support for public safety and youth; commitment to a community-oriented Police Bureau; his support of neighborhoods and members of the Portland Police Bureau; and for his maturity and broad range of experience to lead the Police Bureau effectively.

Multiarts Grants Deadline

September 15 is the deadline for applications to the Metropolitan Arts Commission's MultiArts grants program.

Community-based and traditional artists may apply for support for projects which emphasize the preservation of cultural traditions in the minority, inner city, rural and tribal communities.

A total of \$8,000 is available for such projects as performances, presentations, workshops and cultural celebrations.

Guidelines and application forms are available from the Metropolitan Arts Commission, 1120 S.W. 5th, Room 518, Portland, OR 97204. For additional information call Janet McMahon, Assistant Director at 796-5111.



COMMISSIONER MILDRED SCHWAB CUTS THE RIBBON DURING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE NEW PORTLAND CABLE ACCESS BUILDING. AMONG THE OTHER GUESTS THAT ENJOYED THE ENTER-

TAINMENT AND TOURED THE FACILITY WAS COMMISSIONER DICK BOGLE (L). THE LOCATION OF THE NEW FACILITY IS 2766 N.E. UNION.

Photo by Richard J. Brown